



UN-HABITAT

# Advancing cooperation with Local and Regional Governments

69th meeting of the AHWG on programmatic, budgetary and administrative matters.

---

Sébastien Vauzelle,  
Head, Local2030 Coalition Secretariat

15 October 2025

# Introduction 1/2: LRG engagement

Local and regional governments are already driving solutions for systemic change and SDG implementation...



**+150 cities engaged**  
through SDG Cities

**+400 VLRs**

**Normative & operational**  
activities worldwide.

... yet challenges remain:



Data and knowledge



Policy coherence



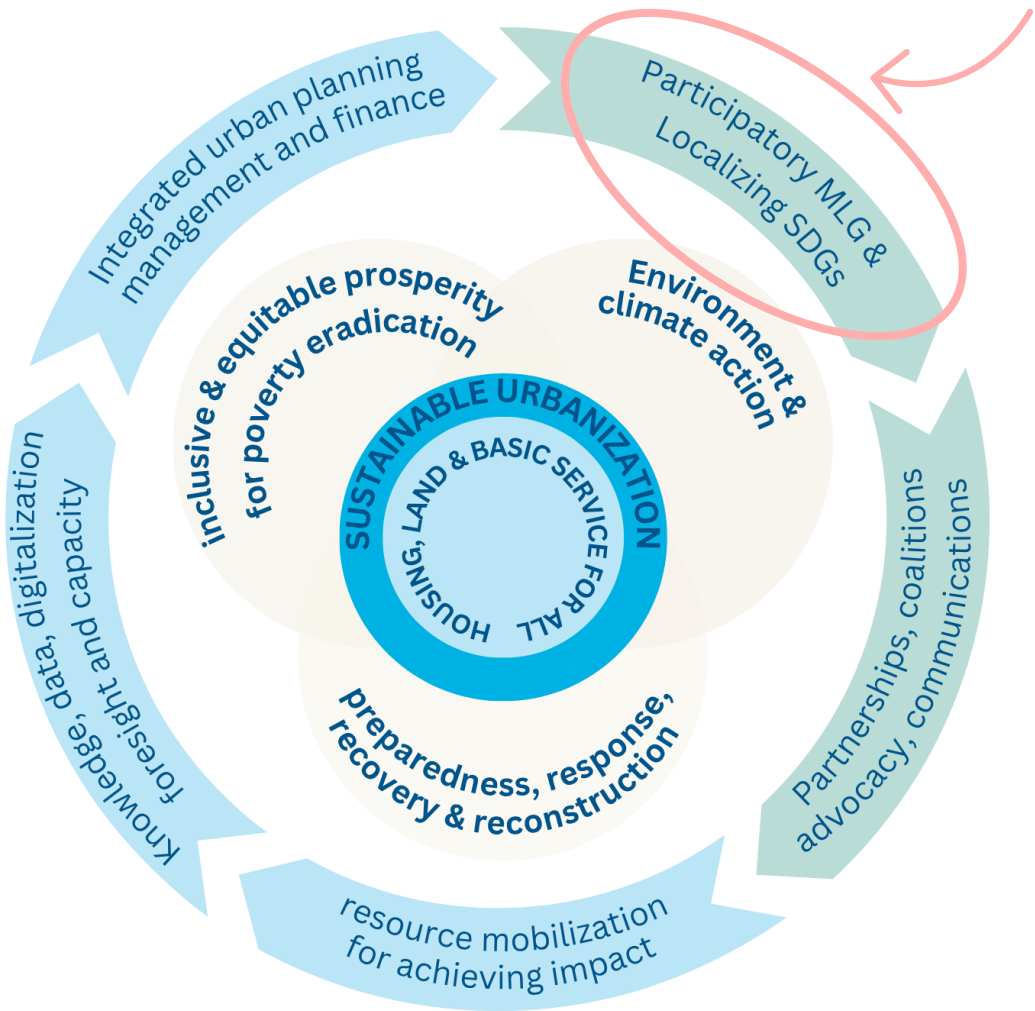
Capacities and financing



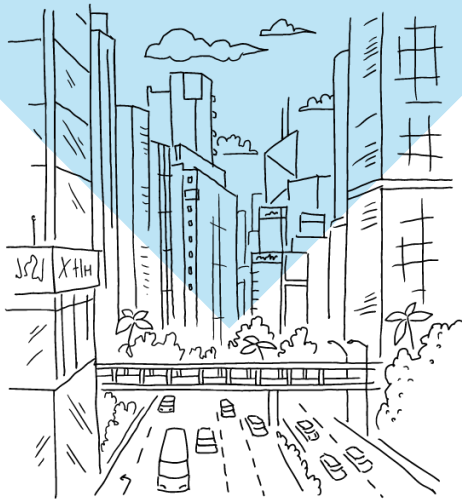
Multistakeholder territorial  
approaches

# Introduction 2/2: UN-Habitat's reaffirmed commitment

Localization and participatory governance to access adequate housing, land and basic services for all.



**VISION:**  
Systemic alignment,  
effective multilevel  
governance and  
integrated local  
development for  
transformative change  
at the local level.



The 2030 Agenda  
for Sustainable  
Development

The New Urban  
Agenda

Pact for the Future  
(Sept 2024)

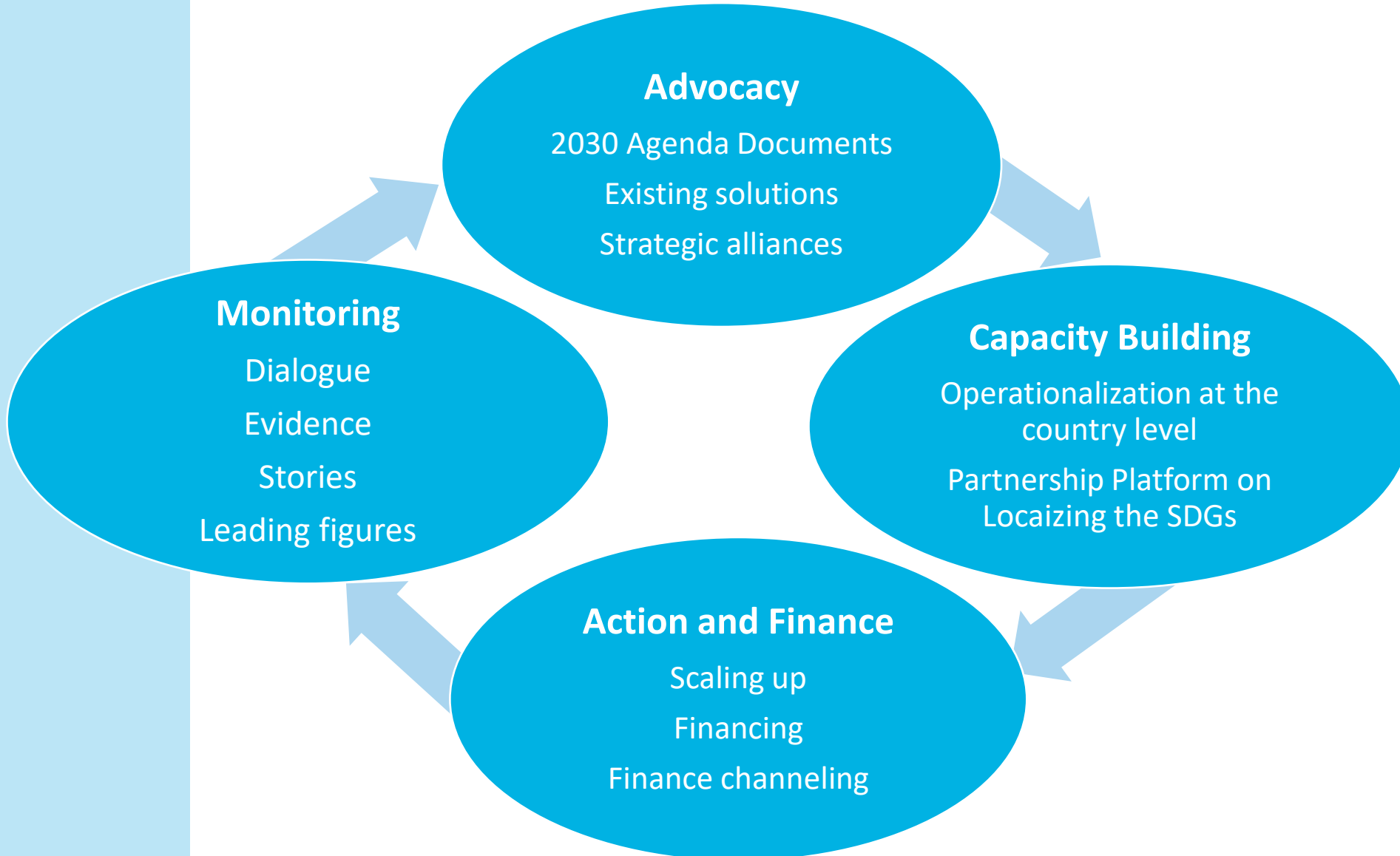
Resolution 2/6:  
Localizing the SDGs  
United Nations Habitat  
Assembly (June 2023)

# I. Facilitating UN-wide engagement, capacity-building and advocacy




# I. Facilitating UN-wide engagement, capacity-building and advocacy

## LOCAL2030'S POLICY CYCLE



# I. Facilitating UN-wide engagement, capacity-building and advocacy

## *‘Road to Seville: the Local Way’*



**Local leadership workshops for members of the Coalition**  
*February to June*



**Session on financing localization. City-city alliances**  
*17th April*



**Session on financing localization. City-city alliances**  
*17th April*




**EU-UN dialogues on localizing the SDGs**  
*13<sup>th</sup> May*




**Financing for Sustainable Development**  
*30<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> July*



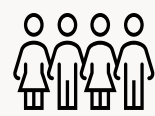
**Presentation of the Seville Platform for Action (SPA)**  
*2nd July*



**Regional consultations co-organized by the Local2030 Coalition, Regional Economic Commissions, The Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, and others.**  
*March to June*



**Sessions of the Preparatory Committee for FFD4 (Prepcoms)**  
*July 2024 to May 2025*



**Youth consultation (online)**  
*23<sup>rd</sup> April*



**Private sector consultation convened by the BBK foundation**  
*26<sup>th</sup> May*



**Publication of the Road to Seville**  
*June*

# I. Facilitating UN-wide engagement, capacity-building and advocacy

## *Ongoing and Upcoming 'Road to: ...The Local Ways'*



**WSSD2**  
**Qatar**  
4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> November  
2025



**COP30**  
**Brazil**  
10<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November  
2025

**WORLD  
URBAN  
FORUM**



**WUF13**  
**Azerbaijan**  
16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May  
2026



**HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM  
ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**HLPF2026**  
**UNHQ**  
6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> July 2026



**COP31**  
**Host country TBC**  
November 2026. Days  
TBC



**UN Water Conference**  
**Saudi Arabia**  
2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> December  
2026

2025 – 2026



## II. Addressing local financing gaps

### BILBAO LOCAL FINANCE DESIGN SPRINT

Hosted by the Basque Government, the UN Local2030 Coalition and the UN Joint SDG Fund



#### The Bilbao Blueprint

- Developed by the UN Local2030 Coalition, the UN Joint SDG Fund and the Basque Government
- Strategic and practical tool to complement the SDG Localization Marker
- Designed to help co-create financing solutions for territorial transformation towards sustainable development through a systemic approach.



Scan to access this tool and marker





# III. Country level operationalization

## Partnership Platform on Localizing the SDGs

Embedded in the Local 2030 Coalition, it promotes the design of **National SDG Localization Frameworks** for enabling multilevel governance systems to drive systemic change at the local level.



Ghana



Costa Rica



Nepal



Zambia



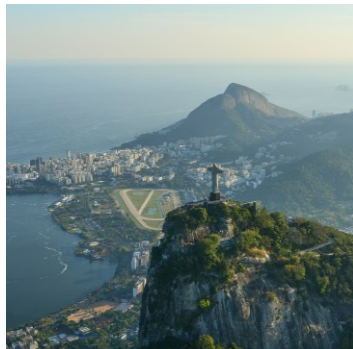
Tunisia



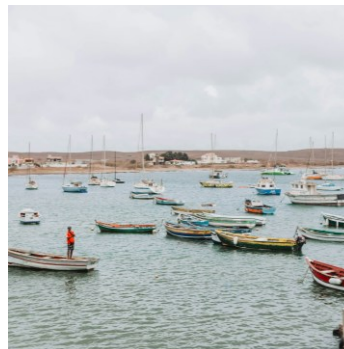
Finland



Georgia



Brazil



Cabo Verde



Senegal

## IV. Putting local-level transformations into action



# SDG Cities

UN-Habitat's holistic approach to city development –  
aimed at transforming 1,000 cities and improving the  
lives of 1 billion people



**Makes things easy for cities** —  
simplifying their path to  
prosperity through integrated  
urban development.

Brings together UN-Habitat's  
services to cities under **a  
coherent and demand-driven  
framework.**

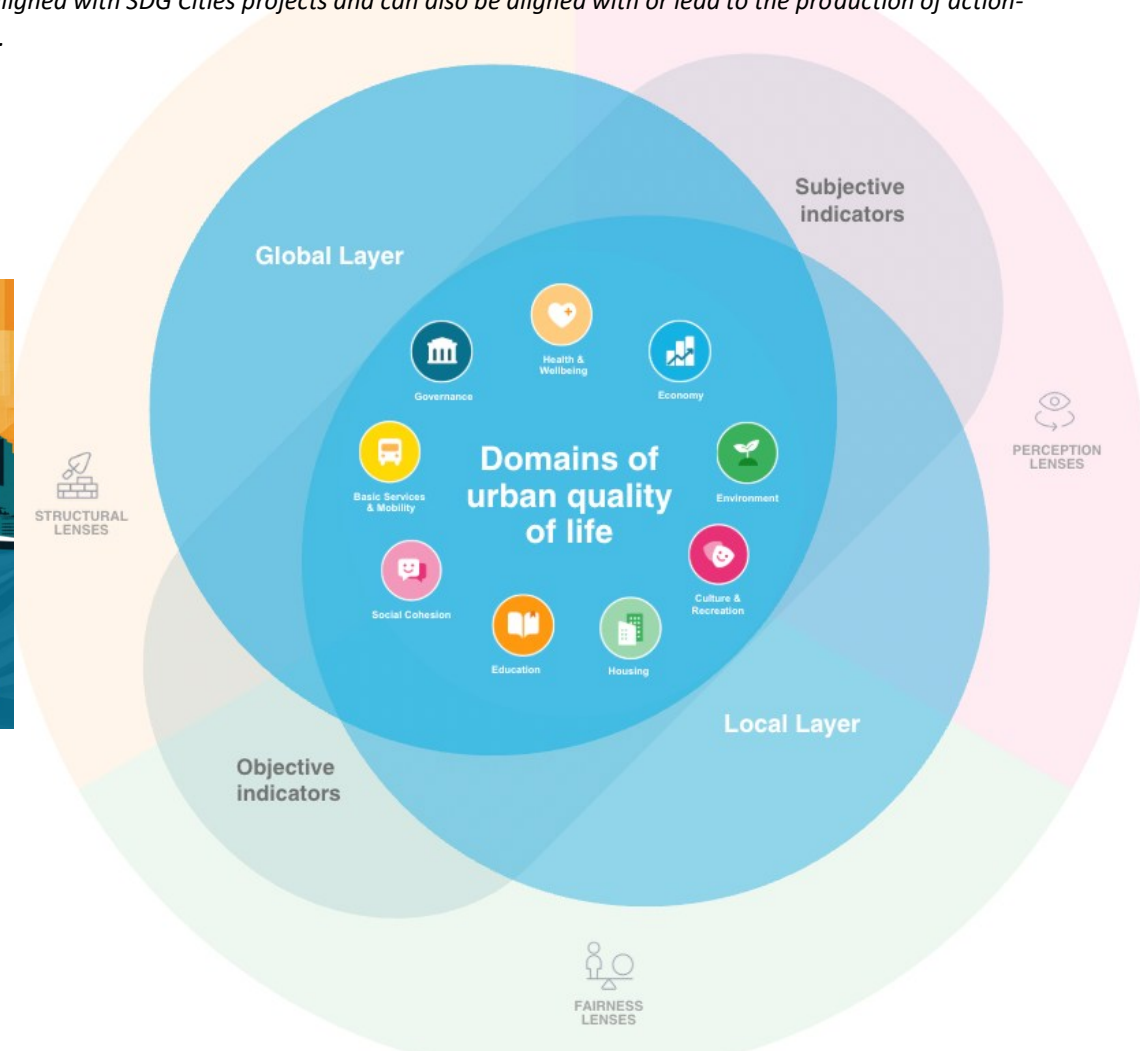
Strengthens **cities capacities to  
plan and investment** where  
they can generate the greatest  
systemic and sustainable



# IV. Putting local-level transformations into action



**Quality of Life Initiative:** subnational and city-level support for **measuring and enhancing quality of life in cities**. Launched in 2023 and funded by the Quality of Life Program of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Initiative is steadily **expanding to over 100 cities**. It integrates existing frameworks, such as the Global Urban Monitoring Framework and the New Urban Agenda, with local indicators that reflect specific lived experiences and perceptions, through a new people-centred approach. The Quality of Life Index is a **scalable framework, accompanied by an innovative Platform, which can be embedded in broader project support initiatives to drive evidence-based policy and investment decisions**. For instance, it can be integrated into or aligned with SDG Cities projects and can also be aligned with or lead to the production of action-oriented voluntary local reviews, policy recommendations and project plans.



## IV. Putting local-level transformations into action



**UN-HABITAT**

UN-Habitat supports LRGs through multiple other initiatives, including ...



City Resilience Global  
Programme

Cities Investment  
Facility

The Global Urban  
Monitoring  
Framework

# Thank you!



[unhabitat.org](https://unhabitat.org)