THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
WHAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS NEED TO KNOW
WHAT LOCAL GOVERNMENTS NEED TO KNOW

PREFACE

On 25 September 2015, the Member States of the United Nations agreed on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Post-2015 Development Agenda. The SDGs build on the Millennium Development Goals, the global agenda that was pursued from 2000 to 2015, and will guide global action on sustainable development until 2030.

The SDGs are a cause for celebration by local and regional governments the world over. Even before the confirmation of the final 17 goals, the inclusive nature of the Post-2015 process itself represented a major victory for all stakeholders.

The UN carried out the largest consultation in its history on the Post-2015 Agenda. Throughout the process, UCLG, facilitating the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, advocated for a stand-alone goal on sustainable urbanization and called for all goals and targets to take into account the different contexts, opportunities and challenges at sub-national level.

The inclusion of Goal 11 to “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” is, in large part, the fruit of the hard-fought campaign by local governments, their associations and the urban community. SDG11 marks a major step forward in the recognition of the transformative power of urbanization for development, and of the role of city leaders in driving global change from the bottom up.

However, the role of local administrations in the achievement of the Agenda goes far beyond Goal 11. All of the SDGs have targets that are directly or indirectly related to the daily work of local and regional governments. Local governments should not be seen as mere implementers of the agenda. Local governments are policy makers, catalysts of change and the level of government best-placed to link the global goals with local communities.

UCLG’s members are committed to actively contributing to a new global partnership between international institutions, national governments, civil society, the private sector and, of course, local and regional governments. We will continue to use global platforms to speak out for the potential of local action to drive development and to call for appropriate legal and financial frameworks to support all local and regional governments in playing our part in the achievement of this ambitious, integrated and universal agenda.
Why does SDG 1 matter to local governments?

SDG 1 takes a multi-dimensional view of poverty and therefore requires multiple, coordinated responses. Local governments are in the ideal position to identify people living in poverty on the ground, and to target resources and services to help them escape it.

Our responsibilities for local basic services, such as water and sanitation, make us key partners in the achievement of SDG 1. We can also play a role by developing local economic development strategies to create jobs and raise incomes, and by building the resilience of our communities to shocks and disasters.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Financing for Development
- Habitat III
Why does SDG2 matter to local governments?

Local and regional governments’ management of natural resources in rural areas, particularly land and water, underpins food security for the surrounding territory. Local governments can support agricultural production and local economic growth by strengthening transport infrastructure and markets to promote local food chains.

In urban areas, local governments must ensure that people are able to purchase and cook safe, affordable, nutritious food. Urban planning can play a major role in waste reduction and food security by facilitating effective food-related transport and storage, access to clean water and sanitation. They can also promote urban agriculture on both public and private land.

Local governments can use healthcare services and schools to identify and tackle child malnutrition.

Rural local governments can manage collective resources and reform land tenure in ways that protect the rights of the poorer groups, including secondary right holders.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Financing for Development • Beijing +20 • Climate Change

RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

2.1 by 2030 END HUNGER and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round

2.2 by 2030 END ALL FORMS OF MALNUTRITION, including achieving by 2025 the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under five years of age, and address the nutritional needs of adolescent GIRLS, PREGNANT AND LACTATING WOMEN, and older persons

2.3 by 2030 double the agricultural productivity and the incomes of SMALL-SCALE FOOD PRODUCERS, particularly women, indigenous peoples, family farmers, pastoralists and fishers, including through SECURE AND EQUAL ACCESS TO LAND, other productive resources and inputs, KNOWLEDGE, financial services, MARKETS, and opportunities for value addition and NON-FARM EMPLOYMENT

2.4 by 2030 ensure SUSTAINABLE FOOD PRODUCTION SYSTEMS and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters, and that progressively improve land and soil quality
Why does SDG3 matter to local governments?

The provision of clean water and sanitation is essential to lowering infant, child and maternal mortality. Local governments in urban areas must be particularly vigilant as urban rates of child mortality are stagnating in many countries. Local governments can address this by slum improvement programmes and by increasing access to basic services for the urban poor.

HIV/AIDS are increasingly being understood as a local governance issue. Urban areas are often the nexus for the spread of HIV/AIDS because of their high population density, transport hubs, and prevalence of vulnerable groups. Local governments can play an important role in identifying local needs, mainstreaming HIV/AIDS activities across departments, and coordinating prevention and response activities. Many local governments provide education and information and services to prevent HIV/AIDS.

Local governments can use urban planning and public transport to reduce air pollution, foster healthy lifestyles and prevent deaths from road traffic accidents.

Local governments can contribute to the reduction of deaths caused by water and soil pollution through effective natural resource management and environmental protection.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
• Financing for Development • Beijing +20 • Habitat III • Climate Change
What does SDG4 matter to local governments?

Education, particularly at primary level, is a direct responsibility of local governments in many countries. This means local governments will be called on to help achieve SDG4.

Local governments are well-placed to identify and tackle the barriers to school attendance in our communities.

Local governments can integrate technical and vocational training programmes into local economic development strategies, making sure training is valuable to labour market opportunities into account.

Local governments are particularly well-placed to reach out to vulnerable and marginalized individuals and communities and to ensure they have access to education and training that meet their needs.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:

- Financing for Development
- Beijing +20
- Habitat III

RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

4.1 by 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes

4.2 by 2030 ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT, CARE AND PRE-PRIMARY EDUCATION so that they are ready for primary education

4.3 by 2030 ensure EQUAL ACCESS FOR ALL WOMEN AND MEN to affordable quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university

4.4 by 2030, increase by x% the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL SKILLS, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

4.5 by 2030, eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure EQUAL ACCESS TO ALL LEVELS OF EDUCATION and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and children in vulnerable situations

4.7 by 2030 ensure all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development

4.a A BUILD AND UPGRADE EDUCATION FACILITIES that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all
SDG 05

This goal is about ending violence and discrimination against women and girls and making sure they have equal opportunities in all areas of life.

Why does SDG5 matter to local governments?

Local governments can act as a model for gender equality and the empowerment of women through non-discriminatory service provision to citizens and fair employment practices.

Local governments are on the frontline of identifying and tackling violence and harmful practices against women. Urban planning (particularly the creation and maintenance of public spaces) and local policing are both essential tools in tackling these issues. Local governments also have a role to play in providing services to women affected by violence.

Regional and governments and rural municipalities can identify and tackle barriers to women’s equal access to land control and ownership.

Getting more women into elected office at local level is a top priority in terms of empowering women, both as a goal in its own right, and because local politics is often the first step to regional and national office. Female leaders in local government can challenge gender stereotypes and set an example to young girls.

Local governments can mainstream gender equality across all areas of their work in order to tackle the multiple barriers to women’s empowerment.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
• Financing for Development • Beijing +20 • Habitat III

RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

5.1 end ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION against all women and girls everywhere

5.2 eliminate all forms of VIOLENCE AGAINST ALL WOMEN and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

5.3 eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and FORCED MARRIAGE AND FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATIONS

5.4 recognize and value unpaid care and domestic work through the PROVISION OF PUBLIC SERVICES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICIES, and the PROMOTION OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY within the household and the family as nationally appropriate

5.5 ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership AT ALL LEVELS OF DECISION-MAKING IN POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND PUBLIC LIFE

5. a undertake reforms to give women EQUAL RIGHTS TO ECONOMIC RESOURCES, as well as access to OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL OVER LAND and other forms of property, financial services, inheritance, and natural resources in accordance with national law

5. c adopt and strengthen SOUND POLICIES AND ENFORCEABLE LEGISLATION for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels
Why does SDG6 matter to local governments?

Ensuring access to clean water and sanitation is usually a responsibility of local governments, and relies on effective local governance, natural resource management, and urban planning.

The challenges involved can vary hugely at sub-national level, particularly between urban and rural areas.

In urban areas, the main challenge is often a lack of access to basic services in informal settlements, or high prices and a lack of quality control of water from private vendors. In rural areas, water may be free, but it may involve long journeys to and from the source, and may be contaminated.

Local governments have a role to play in improving water quality through environmental protection measures and sustainable solid waste management.

Integrated water resources management requires horizontal cooperation in planning and environmental policy between municipalities and regions across borders. Local governments are ideally placed to support participatory management of water and sanitation by communities, including slum-dwellers.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
- Financing for Development
- Climate Change
- Habitat III
SDG 07

This goal is about making sure everyone has access to green energy

RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

7.1 by 2030 ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, and modern energy services

7.2 increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix by 2030

7.3 double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency by 2030

ENSURE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND MODERN ENERGY FOR ALL.

Why does SDG7 matter to local governments?

Local governments are often best placed to identify gaps in access to affordable energy among vulnerable groups in our communities.

Local governments can contribute to energy efficiency directly by investing in energy efficient buildings and green energy sources in public institutions (government offices, schools, etc.) and by introducing sustainability criteria into our procurement practices. Such initiatives can have the added advantage of reducing public spending on energy.

In cities, local transport and urban planning policies, as well as new ‘smart city’ technologies, can have a significant impact on energy efficiency and carbon emissions.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:

• Financing for Development • Climate Change • Habitat III
Why does SDG8 matter to local governments?

Local governments can generate growth and employment from the bottom up through local economic development strategies that harness the unique resources and opportunities in our territories.

Local governments can identify children at risk of child labour and work to ensure they attend school. We can also work in partnership with the informal sector to improve their working conditions and social protections, and to encourage formalisation where appropriate.

Local governments can act as an example in providing safe and secure working environments, and in guaranteeing equal pay for equal work. We can also include these practices as part of our procurement criteria when working with the private and third sectors.

Local governments are best placed to work with communities to assess the benefits and costs of tourism in our areas and to develop strategic plans to ensure activity in this sector is sustainable.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
- Financing for Development
- Beijing +20
- Habitat III
- Agenda 21 for Culture

RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

8.3 promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, **DECENT JOB CREATION**, entrepreneurship, **CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION**, and encourage **FORMALISATION** and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises including through access to financial services

8.5 by 2030 achieve full and productive employment and **DECENT WORK FOR ALL WOMEN AND MEN**, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and **EQUAL PAY FOR WORK OF EQUAL VALUE**

8.6 by 2020 substantially reduce the proportion of **YOUTH not in employment, education or training**

8.7 take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of **CHILD LABOUR**, eradicate **FORCED LABOUR**, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms including recruitment and use of child soldiers

8.8 protect labour rights and promote **SAFE AND SECURE WORKING ENVIRONMENTS** of all workers, including migrant workers, particularly women migrants, and those in precarious employment

8.9 by 2030 devise and implement policies to promote **SUSTAINABLE TOURISM WHICH CREATES JOBS, PROMOTES LOCAL CULTURE AND PRODUCTS**
**Why does SDG9 matter to local governments?**

Regional and metropolitan governments are particularly important in developing and maintaining infrastructure to serve urban areas and to link them up with their surrounding territories.

Local governments can include the promotion of small-scale industry and start-ups in their local economic development strategies, taking into account local resources, needs and markets.

We can identify gaps in access to ICT and the internet in our communities and take steps to bridge them, particularly through provision in public spaces such as libraries.

**OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:**

- Financing for Development
- Habitat III
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- Climate Change

**RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

**9.1** develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient **INFRASTRUCTURE**, including regional and trans-border infrastructure, to support economic development and human wellbeing, with a focus on **AFFORDABLE AND EQUITABLE ACCESS FOR ALL**

**9.3** increase the access of small-scale industrial and other enterprises, particularly in developing countries, to financial services including affordable credit and their **INTEGRATION INTO VALUE CHAINS AND MARKETS**

**9.C** significantly increase **ACCESS TO ICT** and strive to provide universal and affordable **ACCESS TO INTERNET** in LDCs by 2020
SDG 10

Why does SDG10 matter to local governments?

Local governments are essential to the reduction of inequality within countries. It will be vital to channel resources to local governments in the most deprived areas, and to build our capacities to identify and tackle poverty and exclusion.

Local governments have a particular role to play in political inclusion at local level. We can promote the participation of minority and traditionally underrepresented groups in public consultation processes, and in standing for elected office.

Local governments can implement best practices in terms of equality and non-discrimination in our own institutions and operations, as well as making these criteria in our procurement of goods and services. We also have the responsibility to provide public services in a non-discriminatory way.

Local governments can include progressive local taxation in our fiscal policy and dedicate local budgets to boosting the employment opportunities and income of the poorest households in our communities.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:

- Financing for Development
- Habitat III
- Beijing +20

RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

10.1 by 2030 progressively achieve and sustain INCOME GROWTH OF THE BOTTOM 40% of the population at a rate higher than the national average

10.2 by 2030 empower and promote the SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL INCLUSION of all irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status

10.3 ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including through ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATORY LAWS, POLICIES AND PRACTICES and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and actions in this regard

10.4 adopt policies especially FISCAL, WAGE, AND SOCIAL PROTECTION POLICIES and progressively achieve greater equality

10.7 facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible MIGRATION and mobility of people, including through implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies
Why does SDG11 matter to local governments?

This goal directly calls on mayors and city governments to play our role in the Post-2015 Agenda. The rapid urbanization of many cities in the global south has led to the growth of slums. City governments must develop strategic urban plans to prevent their growth and work with slum-dwellers to improve conditions and provide basic services where slums already exist. Access to affordable housing is also an issue in many of the richest cities in the world; city governments must regulate land and housing markets to guarantee the right to housing to their poorest residents.

City governments have responsibility for promoting the use of public transport in urban areas in order to improve road safety and reduce emissions. It is also our job to provide citizens with safe, green public spaces, such as parks, squares and gardens.

In the context of rapid global urbanization, participatory urban planning is more important than ever if we are to prevent urban sprawl, tackle segregation, and reduce carbon emissions in cities. Sustainable solid waste management, with an emphasis on reuse and recycling, is also vital to the reduction of cities’ environmental impact. Many cities are treasure troves of cultural heritage. Local governments are vital in defining, identifying and protecting tangible and intangible urban cultural heritage for future generations.

Cities, particularly coastal cities, are already facing the impact of climate change. It is vital that local governments take action to mitigate the effects of climate change and to protect the most vulnerable in our communities from the effects of natural disasters.

Finally, we know that no city is an island. Urban governments must cooperate with our rural and regional counterparts to make sure that cities work in harmony with the rural areas on which they depend for food and natural resources.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
• Financing for Development • Habitat III • Climate Change • Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 • Agenda 21 for Culture
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<tr>
<th>SDG 11</th>
<th>RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>by 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable <strong>HOUSING AND BASIC SERVICES</strong>, and upgrade slums</td>
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<td>11.2</td>
<td>by 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding <strong>PUBLIC TRANSPORT</strong>, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons</td>
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<td>11.3</td>
<td>by 2030 enhance inclusive and sustainable <strong>URBANIZATION</strong> and capacities for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement <strong>PLANNING</strong> and management in all countries</td>
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<td>11.4</td>
<td>strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s <strong>CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE</strong></td>
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<td>11.5</td>
<td>by 2030 significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of affected people and decrease by y% the economic losses relative to GDP caused by disasters, including water-related <strong>DISASTERS</strong>, with the focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations</td>
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<td>11.6</td>
<td>by 2030, reduce the adverse per capita <strong>ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF CITIES</strong>, including by paying special attention to <strong>AIR QUALITY</strong>, municipal and other <strong>WASTE MANAGEMENT</strong></td>
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<td>11.7</td>
<td>by 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, <strong>GREEN AND PUBLIC SPACES</strong>, particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities</td>
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<td>11.a</td>
<td>support positive economic, social and environmental <strong>LINKS BETWEEN URBAN, PERI-URBAN AND RURAL AREAS</strong> by strengthening national and regional development planning</td>
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<td>11.b</td>
<td>by 2020, increase by x% the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to <strong>CLIMATE CHANGE</strong>, <strong>RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS</strong>, develop and implement in line with the forthcoming <strong>Hyogo Framework holistic DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT</strong> at all levels</td>
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<td>11.c</td>
<td>support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, for sustainable and resilient <strong>BUILDINGS UTILIZING LOCAL MATERIALS</strong></td>
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Why does SDG12 matter to local governments?

Local and regional governments can support short supply chains, thereby reducing transport and carbon emissions, through land management, infrastructure, urban planning, education and training, and public markets.

We have a particular role to play in fostering the sustainable consumption and production of energy and water, which we can do using a wide variety of tools, from urban planning to the use of block unit pricing mechanisms.

As consumers of goods and services, local and regional governments can establish procurement criteria that take waste and carbon emissions from potential providers into account.

As the level of government closest to the people, we are well-placed to raise citizens’ awareness of the importance of sustainable production and consumption and to equip them with the knowledge and tools to reduce their environmental footprint.

Local and regional governments should be key partners in developing and implementing tools to monitor the impact of tourism in our jurisdictions, and in working to make sure tourism creates jobs and promotes local culture while limiting waste and carbon emissions.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:

• Financing for Development, Habitat III • Climate Change
• Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030

RELEVANT TARGETS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

12.2 by 2030 achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources

12.3 by 2030 halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer level, and reduce food losses along production and supply chains including post-harvest losses

12.4 by 2020 achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle in accordance with agreed international frameworks and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment

12.5 by 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling, and reuse

12.7 promote public procurement practices that are sustainable in accordance with national policies and priorities

12.8 by 2030 ensure that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness for sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature

12.6 develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism which creates jobs, promotes local culture and products

This goal is about reducing our impact on the planet by only producing and consuming what we need.
Why does SDG13 matter to local governments?

Local and regional governments, especially in cities, are often on the frontline of dealing with the effects of climate change. It is vital that our capacities to deal with climate related hazards and natural disasters are strengthened so that we can protect our communities, particularly the most vulnerable.

Local leaders have a history of leading from the bottom up in combatting climate change and of raising awareness at local level.

It is essential that local governments, particularly in the most vulnerable cities, integrate climate change adaptation and mitigation into urban and regional planning to reduce the emissions of our cities and increase their resilience to environmental shocks.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
- Financing for Development • Habitat III • Climate Change
- Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- carbonn Cities Climate Registry (cCCR) • Compact of Mayors
Why does SDG14 matter to local governments?

Almost 80 per cent of the pollution in the oceans comes from land-based activities, both in coastal areas and further inland.

Many of the world’s largest cities are located on the coast and many coastal cities discharge sewage, industrial effluent and other wastewater directly into their surrounding seas.

However, protecting our oceans and coasts is not just the responsibility of coastal cities. Any urban activity within river basins can affect the oceans, such as the discharge of sewage or industrial wastes into rivers.

Worldwide, two-thirds of the sewage from urban areas is discharged untreated into lakes, rivers and coastal waters. Urban sanitation and solid waste management are essential to reducing coastal zone pollution, as is collaboration between municipalities and at regional level.

Coastal cities must develop and implement planning and building regulations to prevent construction in unsuitable areas of the coast.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
• Financing for Development, Habitat III • Climate Change
• Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
Why does SDG15 matter to local governments?

Local governments’ role as service providers (especially of water, sanitation, and solid waste management), coupled with our ability to incentivize behavioural change in our communities, puts us in a unique position to protect natural resources and habitats.

We are in a unique position to coordinate the partnerships with the private sector and communities that are necessary at local level for the complex task of integrated water resources management.

Local and regional governments should ensure that biodiversity conservation is an integral part of urban planning and development strategy. We should also use our local knowledge to help to implement the ‘polluter pays’ principle on the ground.

Biodiversity conservation often requires cooperation between municipalities across their borders, for example in the creation of transboundary, biodiversity and wildlife corridors.

Community-based participation and management, facilitated by local governments, is a powerful tool to halt biodiversity loss and prevent extinction.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
• Financing for Development • Climate Change • Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
Why does SDG16 matter to local governments?

This goal calls on local governments to become more effective and accountable to our citizens. This requires us to tackle corruption and increase the public’s access to information.

For decades, local governments have led the way in experimenting with new forms of participatory decision-making, such as participatory budgeting and planning. This goal calls on us to expand these efforts and become even more responsive to our communities, making sure no group is excluded.

In an increasingly urbanizing world, reducing violence in urban areas will be increasingly important in the quest for global peace and security.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
• Financing for Development • Habitat III
Why does SDG17 matter to local governments?

Local tax and revenue generation must play its part in financing sustainable development.

It is at the local level that coherent policies can be developed to address the multiple challenges of poverty reduction and sustainable development.

Local governments are in the ideal position to encourage and facilitate partnerships between public bodies, the private sector and civil society in our communities.

Local governments have been collaborating internationally for over one hundred years as part of the international municipal movement. We are ready and willing to take a seat at the global table.

Reliable local data will be an essential tool to monitor sub-national variations in progress and in targeting resources to make sure that no-one is left behind.

OTHER RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL AGENDAS:
* Financing for Development • Habitat III
ALL SDGs ARE LOCAL: TOWARDS AN ACTION AGENDA IN HABITAT III

NEW YORK 27 SEPTEMBER 2015

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT NETWORKS GATHERED AROUND THE GLOBAL TASKFORCE
Recalling the statements of the Global Taskforce from 2012 to 2015, in particular our joint statement with all Major Groups on the need for stand-alone goal on sustainable urbanization, the recommendations of the Global Consultation on Localization, our work together under the Urban Campaign, and the Lyon Declaration on Climate and Territories,

We want to share with you, the citizens we serve, the international community, our partners and our governments, the following commitments and convictions:

Territories are where livelihoods are guaranteed
We emphasize that cities and territories are where women and men, girls and boys, live, where they work to create their livelihoods and where dreams are made. They are where poverty and inequalities are tackled, where health and education services are provided, where ecosystems are protected, and human rights must be guaranteed.

The achievement of all SDGs requires local action
We, local and regional leaders the world round, are convinced that, by giving specific attention to the localization of all goals, particularly to sustainable urbanization in SDG 11 and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions under SDG 16, the new agenda is triggering the type of transformation in our joint action that will lead to the world we want.

All the SDGs have a local dimension that is essential to their achievement. We, as political leaders, with a direct mandate from citizens, have a responsibility to contribute to the achievement of all of the SDGs.

The 2030 Agenda is a product of unprecedented global consultation and dialogue, in which local and regional governments have actively participated. Acknowledging the vital role of local and regional governments in the achievement of the Agenda will enable us to mobilize local stakeholders and to create new partnerships, based on a common understanding of our shared humanity.

Local governments and their associations need to be strengthened to engage in the implementation process, both in the definition and implementation. All local governments need to have the means and the capacity to improve administration, anticipate demands, plan and implement solutions. Peer-to-peer review among local governments has proven to be a very effective way of achieving strengthened local governments. The challenges faced are universal and need to be addressed together by all territories big and small and in all countries, including small island developing states (SIDS).

Citizens in the driver’s seat
We will need to ensure that citizens are involved in the decisions that affect their future. “Effective, accountable and transparent institutions” and “responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels” require a clear institutional framework, reinforced management and planning capacities, participatory mechanisms and regular financial negotiations between all levels of government and local communities to define priorities and move to action. Subsidiarity must be promoted as a vehicle to strengthen democracy and territorial cohesion in strong partnership with civil society and other stakeholders, including the private sector.

No success without a fairer distribution of resources and investment
We know that massive public and private investments will be necessary to improve resilient infrastructures and access to basic services in cities and territories, address inequalities, support local economies, promote culture as driver of development, cope with the impact of climate change, and build the cities that will host 2.5 billion new urban residents over the next three decades, mostly in developing countries. The “city must be able to better finance the city” through the mobilization of endogenous resources and improved access to financing. This includes the need for all residents, including local and international businesses paying their fair share of national and local taxes. This includes also access for local governments to new financing mechanisms, in partnership with private sector and local communities. However, public financing will continue to play a critical role.
We accordingly welcome the commitment to scaling up international cooperation to strengthen capacities of municipalities and other local authorities and the strong focus on sub-national financing mechanism in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which forms the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda. We look forward to governments, at national and international level, giving concrete effect to this commitment.

Solidarity, dignity and peace
We believe the 2030 Agenda should enable individuals to live and be what they choose, and encourage them to be mindful of the consequences of their actions and their responsibility towards the commons. This will only be possible if we bridge the distance between citizens and their governments, building trust between people and government, through a dialogue that leads to tolerance, understanding and sustainable peace.

Citizens understand that the cities and territories they live in do not exist in isolation, but are influenced by global phenomena, particularly environmental challenges. There is a new understanding of citizenship with a strong global dimension that links our destinies and needs to be anchored locally. Constructing societies based on cultural diversity, solidarity, equality and accountability from the bottom up will be a guarantee of resilience and sustainability. It will help us face humanitarian crises that will need to be addressed all over the world if the sustainable development goals are to be met.

From goals to actions; localizing the agenda
We need to transform the 2030 Agendas into policies and concrete actions at local level. We will tirelessly work to improve the management of our territories, and we will continue innovating and learning from one another. This will also be critical in the follow-up and review process to the 2030 Agenda, and the envisaged review of progress at sub-national level. We will bring the lessons we have learned to the Climate Negotiations in COP 21 and to the Habitat III Conference in Quito, through the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

The Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments
We, the inheritors of the hundred-year-old international municipal movement, created by and for local governments, are organizing the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments in 2016. The Assembly will build on the capacity of cities with longstanding international traditions of decentralized cooperation, and on the independent national, continental and global associations of local governments. The Assembly will be organized through our democratic structures of representation and will be a joined-up platform where local voices can be transmitted and where recommendations and decisions will be made on relevant global agendas.

New partnerships with local leadership
We call for the national governments, international institutions, the academic world and our development partners, to join us and to foster new partnerships with local political leaders and civil society in decision-making.

We, local and regional government leaders gathered in New York today, are fully committed to the success of the 2030 Agenda and, call for a new Global Governance Architecture under a renewed United Nations System with enhanced participation of stakeholders in general, and the recognition of local and regional governments as governmental stakeholders in particular.