

## UN Global Goals Triggering a wave of local actions in Europe and beyond

*a joint CEMR-PLATFORMA event*

[#localizingSDGs](#)

**Date:** 29 May 2017, 10:00-12:30 (open event), 13:30-18:00 (learning workshops for members)

**Location:** Brussels, venue tbc

**Organisers:**

CEMR – Council of European Municipalities and Regions

PLATFORMA – The European voice of local and regional governments for development

### 1. Background

The United Nations' Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development has identified 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which address many policies that are designed and/or implemented at the local level (such as social, gender equality or environmental issues, etc.). These goals are universal and need to be localised across the world. Local and regional governments have a key role in achieving the global goals.

Raising awareness on the importance of SDGs and on the modalities of their implementation at the local and regional level is key. Indeed, it is likely that the future Europe 2030 strategy will largely be based on the Global Goals. Moreover, local and regional governments' voices should be heard at the EU and global level in order to advance in a coordinated multi-level and multi-stakeholder approach: they have particular challenges and experiences to share!

Member associations of CEMR and partner organisations of PLATFORMA are eager to engage and to increase their engagement in the localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals and to integrate them in local actions - while also stepping up efforts to accompany local and regional governments in non-EU countries in tackling the same goals in different contexts. Meanwhile, the work on SDG localisation demonstrates the urgent need for associations of local and regional governments to build (technical and advocacy) capacities to enable LRGs to contribute to the national voluntary reporting processes.

### 2. Objectives

1. **Showcase** the important role of local and regional governments in the successful implementation of the SDGs in Europe and partner countries.
2. **Introduce** the challenge to localise the Sustainable Development Goals: provide tools for cities, regions and their associations to lead the local implementation and the political processes of dialogue with other tiers of government and other stakeholders in society.
3. **Inspire** European local and regional governments and their partners to engage in the localisation of the SDGs, and **empower** those that are already active on one or different aspects of the localisation of global goals to go further.
4. **Strengthen** advocacy tools of associations of local and regional governments towards national governments – particularly in view of the local dimension of national voluntary reporting.

### 3. Structure of the event

(10:30 – 12:30)

#### Plenary session: inspirational speakers and visionary examples from the local level

- a. Introduction: Mr Frédéric Vallier, Secretary General CEMR
- b. **Keynote speakers:** DG REGIO; member of Cabinet's VP Timmermans; Linda McAvan MEP (invited); champion mayor (invited); DG DEVCO
- c. **Best practices** (along workshops lines)
  - moderated by Mr Wouter Boesman, Policy Director PLATFORMA
  - **Awareness Raising**
    - National association of local and regional government: Mr Peter Knip, Executive Director VNG international (invited), Mudīte Priede, Secretary General of the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LALRG)
    - Local or regional government: Mrs. Christianne Overmans, Deputy Mayor City of Bonn (invited)
    - NGO (i.e. FTAO)
  - **Monitoring and local implementation**
    - National association of local and regional government: Werner Gabriel, Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (invited)
    - Local or regional government: Mr Hilmar von Lojewski, German Association of Cities (confirmed), Betty De Wachter, Association of Flemish Cities and Municipalities (invited)
    - Said El Khadraoui, European Policy Strategy Centre (invited)
  - **International Cooperation for the localisation of the SDGs**
    - National association of local and regional government: Juana Lopez, Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (invited), Carla Rey, Italian Association of the CEMR.
    - Local or regional government
    - NGO (i.e. 2030 Watch)
- d. **Inspirational keynote speaker:** Mitchell Toomey, SDG Action Campaign Director (invited),

(13:30 – 17:30)

#### Parallel learning workshops between experts

[CEMR members and PLATFORMA partner organisations only]

Session 1 (13:30 – 15:00)
1. UCLG training - modality introduction
2. Monitoring and Data collection
3. Awareness raising of citizens, local politicians, national governments

Session 2 (15:30 – 17:00)
4. UCLG training - modality introduction
5. Concrete implementation of SDGs at the local level
6. Supporting localisation of the SDGs through international cooperation