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# UN HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2021

## Side event on “Visualizing SDGs in the city”

8 July 2021 – 13:30 – 15:00pm CEST

#Listen2Cities  
#HLPF2021



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## Session on “Visualizing SDGs in the city”

Organized by UCLG, AICCRE, UN-Habitat, UNDP and UN SDG Action Campaign  
within the framework of HLPF21

### Brief Description:

The Venice City Solutions Series is a yearly event addressing issues that are central to the implementation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at local level, with specific focus to the role of local and regional governments as key drivers of the 2030 Agenda. In 2020, the event focused on how the SDGs are becoming a tool for cities to plan and communicate local action.


Venice goes beyond an event, is also a yearly process to generate new ideas, partnerships, elements for the political narrative about Agenda 2030. In 2018, we explored the need to finance the SDGs at local level, focusing on the dialogue between ministries of finance and local governments. In 2019, we assessed how the SDGs could help local governments to generate citizenship and engage with their population.

With the concept of "VISUALIZING" the Agenda 2030 in cities, the 2020 edition of Venice City Solutions aims to offer local governments tools about how the SDGs can help them analyze what happens in the city, how the different SDGs interact, what are the involved stakeholders and how to use such data to elaborate better policies for a more efficient delivery towards the year 2030. This, somehow "new" use of the term "visualizing" involves a number of elements for the urban dimension of the SDGs:

1. how the different SDGs are coming to life in the **unique space** that are our cities and towns;
2. how the SDG **interact with each other** and to the action of different stakeholders;
3. how can the SDG help to **better plan, imagine, co-create and govern** the city to face current and future challenges, and finally;
4. how the SDG can become a transformative mechanism towards year 2030 **(in time)**.

Building on the discussions and conclusions of the 2020 edition of the Venice City Solutions Series, the 2021 HLPF side event will be the opportunity to showcase how local governments are using SDGs as a tool to visualize local action and bring together SDGs in the city.

The event will gather representatives of local and regional governments, their associations, Mayors, Governors and other governmental representatives and selected partners to discuss the way ahead for SDG implementation at local level.



**Agenda:** (90 minutes)

15 min	<b>Opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Emilia Saiz</b>, Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments</li><li>• <b>Stefano Bonaccini</b>, President of AICCCE and President of the Emilia Romagna Region, Italy</li></ul>
60 min	<b>Thematic discussions</b> <p>Moderator: <b>Xavi Longan</b>, Lead for Partnerships and Operations, UN SDG Action Campaign</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SDGs interactions and connections in the city framework – <b>Gift Ntuli</b>, Head of Experimentation, UNDP Accelerator Lab, Zimbabwe</li><li>• The vision for the future: strategic planning and imagining a sustainable city in time – <b>Remy Sietchiping</b>, Chief: Policy, Legislation and Governance Section, UN-Habitat</li><li>• Linking SDGs to the territory: mapping local actions in space – <b>Petr Suska</b>, Team Leader, Urban Economy Innovation, Fraunhofer Institute</li><li>• Celebrating UCLG's new initiative, the Local4Action HUBs: Local actions transforming global dynamics – <b>Pilar Díaz</b>, Deputy to the Presidency and Delegate for International Relations of the Barcelona Provincial Government and Mayor of Esplugues de Llobregat</li></ul>
15 min	<b>Final remarks</b> <p>What did we learn in 2020? Presenting the recommendations of Venice City Solutions 2020 edition - <b>Carla Rey</b>, Secretary General AICCCE</p>

