

# VLR-VSR Days Second Edition: Official launch 13 July 2023, 16h30-17h45 EDT Millennium Hilton One UN Hotel, NYC

## Background:

Local and regional governments are key to the successful achievement of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) and Voluntary Subnational Reviews (VSRs) are key policy, monitoring and reporting processes underpinning the contribution of local and regional governments towards sustainable development.

At the upcoming 2023 HLPF, a significant milestone will be reached as more than 200 VLRs and 34 VSRs will have been produced across various regions worldwide. VLRs and VSRs are accelerating local and regional governments' efforts to localize the SDGs from the bottom up. By measuring evidence, they provide opportunities for multilevel governance and dialogue around decentralization as well as inclusive and innovative service delivery, and also to address upcoming challenges of the territories, such as complex emergencies, and to support policy shifts. To mark this achievement and propel the momentum surrounding SDG localization, the official launch of the second edition of the VLR-VSR Days will take place on 13 July 2023, co-organized by UN-Habitat, UNDESA and UCLG.

UN-Habitat UN DESA and UCLG have supported local and regional governments around the world to develop VLRs and VSRs by producing cutting-edge knowledge, technical assistance and opportunities for knowledge exchange.

# Objective of the session:

Bringing together high-level representatives, including mayors and governors from around the world as well as supporting international organizations, national governments and partners, the primary objective of this event will be to acknowledge and foster the transformative potential of VLR and VSR processes and the importance of joint, long-term advocacy for SDG localization and reporting. Participants will consider the progress made thus far, embark on collective reflection for transformative reporting and action, and enhance the commitment and collaborations of participating organizations.

# Agenda:

(16h30 - 16h45) Introductory words:

Maimunah Mohd Sharif (Executive Director, UN-Habitat)









- Emilia Saiz (Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments)
- Maria-Francesca Spatolisano (Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UN DESA)

(16h45 - 17h40) High-Level Panel: Propelling VLR and VSR processes for improved policymaking

- Moderator: Shipra Narang Suri (Chief of Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat)
- Leonardo Orlando (Governor, Manabí province)
- Patrick Ole Ntutu (Governor, Narok County)
- Anni Sinnemäki (Deputy Mayor, City of Helsinki)
- Mariana Cammisa (International Cooperation Manager, Buenos Aires)
- Wim Dries (President, Association of Flemish Cities and Municipalities)
- Andrea Innamorati (Senior Policy Advisor, General Directorate for European and International Affairs, Ministry of the Environment and Energy Security of Italy)
- Yuriko Koike (Governor, Tokyo) [video recording 1:30 min, https://we.tl/t-8JFed4Fwhu]

# Open floor

(17h40-17h45) Concluding remarks:

• Lucy Slack (Secretary General, CLGF)





