



*Advancing the local implementation of the  
SDGs  
High Level Political Forum, 14 – 16 July 2021*

***Voluntary Subnational Reviews Session, July 15<sup>th</sup> 15:00 – 17:00***

**Context**

New modalities of local and regional government involvement in monitoring and reporting are being developed. Eight countries prepared Voluntary Subnational Reviews (VSRs) or Local Governments Voluntary Reviews in 2021: Cape Verde, Germany, Indonesia, Mexico, Norway, Sweden, Tunisia and Zimbabwe. These reports build on the experiences of the six countries in which VSRs were developed in 2020. In total, fifteen VSRs have been elaborated in two years, since Ecuador has prepared two VSRs. The VSRs', which are led by local and regional governments' associations, advance an innovative approach to SDG monitoring and reporting. This innovative approach differs from Voluntary Local Reviews in that VSRs provide country-wide analyses of subnational efforts and challenges to localize the SDGs. VSRs analyse the efforts of local and regional governments to align the SDGs with local development plans and present an assessment of the extent to which institutional environments enable SDG localization—which includes the evaluation of the means of implementation available to support these localization processes. VLRs and VSR are revamping the dialogue between LRGs, their associations, national governments and international institutions.

The aim of this session is to present the main findings of the VSR developed in 2021, and to allow representatives from national governments and partners to share their first reactions to the reports.

**Proposed Agenda:**

-Introductory words

- Carlos Martínez Mínguez, Mayor of Soria, UCLG Envoy for the New Urban Agenda
- Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director of UN Habitat

- Presentation of VSRs

- Cape Verde
  - Dr Herménio Fernandes, President of the National Association of Municipalities of Cabo Verde (ANMCV)
  - Respondent: Dr Gilson Gomes Pina, Director of National Planning Department
- Germany
  - Sabine Dress, Department of European and International Affairs, German Association of Cities
  - Respondent: Marco Wolinda, Manager Transfer and Scale, Bertelsmann-Stiftung
- Indonesia:
  - Dr. Bima Arya Sugiarto, M.A., Mayor of Bogor City and President of the Association of Municipalities of Indonesia (APEKSI).
  - Respondent: Dr. Vivi Yulaswati, MSc. – Head of the National SDGs Secretariat of Bappenas (Ministry of Planning)
- Mexico:
  - César Garza Villarreal, Mayor of Apodaca, President of the National Conference of Municipalities of Mexico (CONAMM) and Co-President of FLACMA.
  - Respondent: Alfredo González Reyes, Responsible of the Agenda 2030 of Mexico, Government of Mexico

- Norway
  - Mr. Bjoern Arild Gram, President of the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
  - Respondent: H.E. Mr. Nicolai Astrup, Minister for Local Government and Modernization
- Sweden:
  - Carola Gunnarson, Mayor of Sala, Vice-President of the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR),
  - Respondent: Mia Crawford, Deputy Director at the Global Agenda Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- Tunisia:
  - Mr. Adnen Bouassida, Mayor of Raoued, President of the National Federation of Municipalities of Tunisia (FNCT)
  - Respondent: Mokhtar Hammami, Former Minister of Local Affaires and Environment
- Zimbabwe
  - Mr Alderman David Guy Mutasa, President of Zimbabwe Local Governments Association (ZILGA)
  - Respondent: Mr. July Moyo, Ministry of Local Government and Public Works (tbc)

**Closing remarks (5')**

- Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of UCLG