



## **Local and Regional Governments Forum**

***Action and leadership from the ground up towards the rescue plan for people and the planet***

### **SDG Summit Mobilization Day**

**16 September 2023**

**12:00-14:00**

**16:00-18:00**

**EDT**

**Special High-Level Event on the occasion of the 2023 SDG Action Weekend**

### **Concept Note**

#### **Background**

Local and regional governments have been at the forefront of policies supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, caring for people and the planet, through public service provision, local policy fostering social inclusion, local economies, ecological transformation, and the creation of alliances and partnerships.

The Local and Regional Government Forum (LRGF) at the SDG Action Weekend will highlight the commitments of the local and regional government constituencies towards the 2030 Agenda, with a special focus on local acceleration and local accountability through the lenses of the 6 SDG transitions, 5 means of implementation and 1 crosscutting enabler of the High-Impact Initiatives and their relationship with action taking place at sub-national level. A special emphasis will be placed on how these actions contribute to the High-Impact Initiative on SDG Localization by showcasing how local and regional governments are driving progress on the Goals. The aim is to inspire and scale up efforts to deliver the transitions, demonstrating that a new trajectory for the SDGs is possible through local-led solutions.

High-impact localization policies and partnerships currently in place to advance the Goals and new innovative commitments will also be announced as well as the specific localization needs and aspirations of local and regional governments to bring SDG implementation back on track. Likewise, coalitions led by constituencies that have multiplier effects and build on local-global partnerships, international cooperation, and solidarity will be presented.



The Local and Regional Governments Forum will therefore bring together local, regional, and national governments as well as representatives from the United Nations and other stakeholders to announce strong commitments, present coalitions for policy change, and illustrate high-impact localization policies. The Forum will also reflect on the importance of Voluntary Local and Voluntary Subnational Reviews in the acceleration of the implementation of the SDGs as reporting tools but also policy tools. The Forum will provide reflections on the constituency's priorities and aspirations for the UN Summit of the Future in 2024 and the World Social Summit in 2025.

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of the Local and Regional Government Forum at the SDG Action Weekend are to:

- Announce voluntary actionable and scalable commitments by local and regional governments towards the acceleration of the 2030 Agenda that will contribute to realizing the SDG transitions and the 12 high-impact initiatives.
- Present existing coalitions led by the local and regional government constituency that have multiplier effects and illustrate high-impact localization policies from local and regional governments to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs that will both contribute to the High-Impact Initiative on Localization.
- Reflect on the priorities and aspirations of local and regional governments towards the SDG Summit and the UNGA high level week.

### **Organization and Participants:**

The event will be led by the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments, facilitated by United Cities and Local Governments, UN DESA, UN-Habitat, UNDP and the Local2030 Coalition. Where appropriate, global networks of regional and local governments and other stakeholders will be engaged through the core group of partners.

Considering the High-Level nature of the SDG Summit, all special events organized at its margins will promote the highest possible level of inclusivity, participation and engagement from interested stakeholders, including through transparent selection processes for participation in the event.