

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

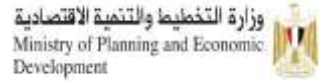
Concept Note

**How can localization of SDGs contribute to
“Leaving no one behind”?**

Thursday, 8th of July, 2021

07:30-09:00 ET

11:30-13:00 GMT



Introduction:

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide an opportunity to address complex and profound challenges to achieving development and eradicating poverty through clear and compelling goals, participation of all stakeholders, targeted long-term policies, and public-private investments.

Localization of SDGs refers to the process of adapting, implementing, and monitoring the SDGs at the local level, whilst ensuring that the key principles of “Inclusive Growth” and “*Leaving no one and no place behind*” are implemented.

Initiating a bottom-up approach to achieve SDGs empowers local and regional governments to actively engage in the process of planning, monitoring the implementation and identifying gaps to achieve the SDGs. This may leapfrog traditional development trajectories and raise awareness at the local level for the specific developmental needs of different governorates.

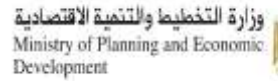
Localizing SDGs in Egyptian Governorates:

Guided by the principle of “*Leaving no one behind*” and committed to realizing “Egypt’s Vision 2030” and 2030 Agenda, Egypt has prioritized tackling developmental gaps at the governorates level to reduce poverty, provide quality education, ensure good health services, and eradicate inequality in all its forms. Therefore, all relevant stakeholders – public and private, domestic, and international – should have their contributions.

In the Egyptian context, “Hayah-Karima” (Decent life initiative) is a clear example of these efforts. It is considered a large-scale initiative which aims at enhancing the quality of life in 5000 of the poorest villages in Egypt within three years, through an integrated and comprehensive approach to address the three dimensions of sustainable development

Furthermore, the direction of reducing and tackling developmental gaps was further reinforced in the context of the response measures to Covid-19 pandemic. Such impact did not only affect vulnerable groups, but also the progress towards achieving SDGs. The government of Egypt, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders continue its efforts to implement evidence-based policies to achieve SDGs, especially at the local/sub-national level and to respond to the impact of the pandemic as follows:

1. The GoE, in partnership with UN Population Fund (UNFPA), exerted significant efforts to produce **27 reports for localization of SDGs** for each of the governorates for the first time which helped addressing the challenge of data availability, especially disaggregated data, that was identified among the four main challenges in Egypt’s 2nd VNR.
2. To improve the national competitiveness of Egypt, the GoE embarked on an ambitious project to develop the 1st Egyptian Governorates Competitiveness Index, which will help considerably in identifying and addressing development gaps among various governorates, as well as pinpointing and guiding policies, measures, and interventions to increase their



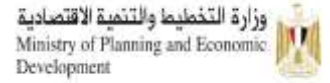
- productivity and provide a suitable environment for investment, enhancing their growth and contributing to the overall development and competitiveness of the country.
3. Additionally, the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MPED) developed the funding formula for the governorates aiming at a fair and objective allocation of public investments among the different governorates, while taking into consideration the different socio-economic characteristics and circumstances of each by looking at numerous criteria such as the population & demographics, culture, poverty rate and the geographical location, main economic activities, relevant stakeholders on the ground, among others.

Localization of SDGs in India:

India, together with the world, has marched into the “Decade of Action” to achieve the SDGs. With less than ten years left to achieve the SDG, nations are accelerating the design and implementation of sustainable solutions to the world’s biggest challenges - ranging from poverty and gender inequality to climate change. India has been driving an array of SDG initiatives in the past six years. At the national, sub-national and local levels, governments have adopted SDGs as a guiding framework to steer development action. The SDG India Index & Dashboard, designed and developed by National Institution for Transforming India, has become the official and principal tool for SDG monitoring at the national and local levels. The Index, using a globally accepted and robust methodology, measures the progress achieved at the country and at local levels, thereby offering invaluable insights to policymakers on the remaining distance to travel, gaps, and data and statistical challenges. The utility of the Index extends beyond progress monitoring - it has implemented cooperative and competitive federalism in true spirit, by facilitating peer learning and healthy competition among various states of India. SDG-focused initiatives and their progress monitoring are more relevant than ever in today’s world. The initiatives have steered in terms of developing SDG vision documents and roadmaps, creating State and Local Level Indicator Frameworks, instituting robust review and follow-up systems, and building capacities across levels.

The Event:

This event is organized in a partnership between MPED, the permanent missions of the Republic of India, the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of Kenya to the UN HQ in New York and UNFPA Egypt’s Country Office. It will provide a valuable contribution to the HLPF through enhancing dialogue among relevant stakeholders and interested partners, sharing experiences, best practices and lessons learnt, besides exploring innovative tools to identify and address different challenges hindering the process of localizing and implementing the SDGs at the sub-national level. These challenges include data collection and processing, building capacities and raising awareness of sustainable development at the local level, in addition to capitalizing on the competitive advantage of local communities to reach inclusive growth, and implementing SDGs while eradicating inequalities, especially in developing countries, while accentuating the importance of partnerships to face inequality in all its forms.



Agenda

- **Host:** Egypt, interested member states, UNFPA, relevant stakeholders & Development Partners.
- **Date:** Thursday, July, 8th, 2021
- **Time:** 07:30-09:00 (New York Time)/ 11:30-13:00 GMT / 13:30-15:00 Cairo Local Time
- **Location:** Virtual through the following url:

https://teams.microsoft.com/registration/CD8mgpydXU-0FU_0Fm3_Q,0VhyrqlmJ0eb68MjqMLDNA,bjvOTPq27EiVP-uB4GD06Q,YEMMokxXR065I8wkmRVkGA,5Uz9o5BMv0GjbvvySPrzUA,8Pxis-vJcEetz3S13cyCcg?mode=read&tenantId=82263f08-9d9c-4f5d-b415-4ff41669f7fd

Please note that this URL will connect you directly to a registration form, once you register for the event, you shall receive an automatic confirmation email which contains another URL in order to access the side event.

For technical support, please contact the following email: itsupport@mped.gov.eg

Duration	Topics and speakers
3 - 5 mins	Opening statement by H.E Dr. Hala El Said, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt
35 mins	<p>Panel discussion: Implementing and localizing the SDGs at the sub-national level - Sharing the experience of Egypt and showcasing SDGs localization at the level of the governorates</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. Magued Osman, CEO, BASEERA</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ H.E. Ambassador Mr. T. S. TIRUMURTI, The Permanent Representative of the Republic of India to the United Nations. ▪ H.E Dr. Manal Awad Mekhail, Governor of Damietta, Egypt. ▪ H.E Mr. Wen Guohui, The Mayor of the People's Government of Guangzhou, China. ▪ Mr. Luiz Augusto Silva, Chief of Staff of the Governor of the State of Parana, Brazil. ▪ Senior official of the Republic of Kenya, TBC. ▪ Mrs. Frederika Meijer, Egypt's country office of the UN Population fund (UNFPA).
20 mins	Q&A
10 mins	Final remarks (by moderator and speakers)