

“LOCALIZING THE 2030 AGENDA IN MEXICO: VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEWS FOR A SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY”

Side Event - High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
Wednesday, 14 July, 2021 | 18:00-19:30 hrs (NY) | 17:00 – 18:30 hrs (Mexico City time)
<https://bit.ly/3eaJ5b8>

Main aim

The event seeks to present the methodologies, findings, and innovations of six Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR's) that were developed in the Mexican context, and within the framework of a multi-actor and multidisciplinary knowledge hub that articulates the three levels of governments, academia, and international organizations for conducting the reviews and promoting peer learning with other entities and cities in Mexico and the Latin American region. This is an unprecedented exercise that besides influencing the localization of the 2030 Agenda, enables progress towards the materialization of the “Build Back Better” principle by putting at the center of the analysis the impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic poses on the achievement of the SDGs.

Background information

To advance in the attainment of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the achievement of the “localization” of the 2030 Agenda is pivotal, thus it is crucial to recognize subnational governments as catalysts due to their strategic position towards developmental challenges and opportunities, and their ability to translate global targets into local actions. In the Mexican context, progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the state and municipal level has been remarkable in terms of governance and public policy. Regarding the former, Monitoring and Implementation Bodies for the 2030 Agenda (OSIs) have been consolidated in the 32 states and some of its municipalities. For the latter, subnational entities have developed innovative tools and approaches for mainstreaming the sustainability approach in their actions.

Furthermore, Mexico has been a global pioneer in promoting the development of voluntary reviews from local contexts. To date, the states of Oaxaca, Yucatán, and Mexico City have presented their Voluntary Local Reviews (VLR's), while national guidelines were published in 2020 to guide the development of VLR's according to the particularities of the Mexican context. In a similar vein, a global and multi-actor collaboration project called “Knowledge Hub” was launched to provide *ad hoc* technical assistance to six sub-national governments in Mexico for the conduct of their VLRs during 2021. The hub counts with the participation of instrumentation partners from academia, government, and international organizations that provide support to promote exchanges and peer learning with cities and states of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The project is led by the "2030 Agenda Initiative" of the GIZ and Partners for Review, in collaboration with the Technical Secretariat of the National Council for the 2030 Agenda (Ministry of Economy), the Ministry of Foreign Relations (SRE), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education (TEC) on behalf of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network in its Mexico Chapter (SDSN), the DeLoG Secretariat, and the Latin American Federation of Cities, Municipalities and Municipal Associations (FLACMA).



Description of the side event

The thematic focus of the event is the follow-up, monitoring, and accountability in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the state and municipal level through the development of VLR's as a tool to catalyze the fulfillment of the 17 SDGs in the framework of a sustainable recovery after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The event will allow the states and municipalities in Mexico that prepared their VLR in 2021, as well as other entities that have more years of experience in the matter, to share methodologies; experiences; innovations; results and lessons learned regarding the localization of the 2030 Agenda, the development of VLR's, and sustainable recovery. In a similar vein, the innovative operation of the Knowledge Hub, and its relevance for the localization of the 2030 Agenda in other states and cities of the world will be exposed. The event is divided into three main milestones: the presentation of the Knowledge Hub, the presentation of the VLRs, and the sharing of experiences of states with relevant expertise in the localization of the 2030 Agenda.

Within the framework of the presentation of the third Voluntary National Review of Mexico and the work of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), the event seeks to contribute to the decentralization of the 2030 Agenda in other States in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as in other regions of the world through the exchange of innovative methodologies and substantial reflections to advance in the localization and mainstreaming of the sustainability approach in public policies at the subnational level.

The event will be a starting point to encourage a greater number of entities and cities to join in the presentation of Voluntary Local Reviews and peer learning, in order to evaluate progress on the SDGs and rethink the future from a plural and local perspective after the impacts generated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Similarly, it is expected to have an exchange with the participants regarding their experiences in linking diverse stakeholders from a comprehensive perspective and in connection with the processes carried out at the country level.

Organizers: Government of Mexico (Ministry of Economy and Ministry of Foreign Affairs), in collaboration with the GIZ Mexico and Partners for Review.

Moderator: Ambassador Juan Sandoval, President of the Group of Friends on Voluntary National Reviews, Follow-up and Review, and Vice President of the ECOSOC

AGENDA

Stage	Participants	NY Time
Opening Keynote Speeches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tatiana Clouthier, Secretary of Economy, in her capacity as head of the Executive Secretariat of the National Council of the 2030 Agenda • Martha Delgado Peralta, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs • Marita Brömmelmeier, Resident Director of the GIZ in Mexico 	18:00-18:10 h (10')
Presentation of the Knowledge Hub for the development of the VLR's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sabrina García, Director of the 2030 Initiative, GIZ Mexico • Miguel Ruiz Cabañas, Director of the SDG Initiative, Tecnológico de Monterrey • Karina Cázarez, Responsible for the peer learning section, Partners for Review 	18:10-18:20 h (10')
Panel I: Presentation of Voluntary Local Reviews developed in Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eduardo Fabián Martínez Lomelí, Acting Municipal President of Guadalajara • Alejandro Iván Ruz Castro, Municipal President Municipal of Mérida • María del Rosario Castro Lozano, Chief of Staff of the Governor of Durango • Eriko Flores Pérez, Technical Coordinator of the Mexican State Staff • Gary Leonardo Arjona Rodríguez, UnderSecretary of Sustainability and Climate Change of Tabasco 	18:20-19:00 h (40')
Panel II: Innovation and lessons learned in the development of Voluntary Local Reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diana Alarcón, Coordinator of International Affairs of Mexico City • María Dolores Fritz, Secretary General for Government of Yucatán 	19:00-19:16 h (16')
Q&A session	Assistants and representatives of local governments	19:16-19:31 h (15')
Closing of the event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Riina Jussila, Sustainable Development Officer, National Strategies and Capacity building Branch, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, DESA 	19:31-19:36 h (5')