VNR-VLR Studio “Evidence-based approaches to the development of the Voluntary Local Reviews: experiences and best practices”

3 October 2023 from 18:20 to 20:00 CET

Venue:

The side event is in person at the Global Cities Hub (Villa Rigot, previously Geneva Cities Hub, Av. de la Paix 9, 1202 Genève). A recording of the event will be available on You Tube. Kindly note that places are limited, and attendance is subject to availability of space

Language:

English

Registration:

To participate in this side event, please register by 25 September 2023 online at https://forumofmayors.unece.org/

The VNR-VLR Studio “Evidence-based approaches to the development of SDG Voluntary Local Reviews: experiences and best practices” will be organized as a side event to the UNECE Urban Resilience Week 2023 (Geneva, 2-6 October 2023). The VNR-VLR Studio is organized by the UNECE in cooperation with UN DESA, UN-Habitat, Union of Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), the partners in the project “Voluntary local reviews: evidence for greener, resilient, and sustainable urban recovery in Eastern European and Central Asian countries in transition”; the Global Cities Hub and the University of Geneva. It is supported by the Swiss Confederation.

The VNR-VLR Studio will:

(1) inform on the latest developments on localizing the SDGs in the UNECE region;
(2) discuss experiences in the use of the data for evidence-based policymaking by cities;
(3) draw from concrete examples on cities’ administrations and UN agencies and allow for a more formal and informal debate. The event will continue with more detailed discussions with UN regional commissions and other interested stakeholders.
## Draft Programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18:20 - 18:30</td>
<td>Welcome Reception</td>
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</tbody>
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| 18:30 - 18:40 | Opening  
Moderator: Ms. **Gulnara Roll**, Secretary to the Committee on Urban Development, Housing and Land Management, UNECE |
| 18:40 - 18:55 | Welcome from Co-Organizers  
- **Mr. Markus Reubi**, Chair, the 2030 Agenda Steering Committee for Switzerland; and Delegate of the Federal Council of Switzerland for the 2030 Agenda, Switzerland  
- **Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin**, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE  
- **Mr. Michal Mlynar**, Deputy Executive Director, UN-Habitat |
| 18:55 - 19:05 | Updates on key activities in localization of the SDGs by partner organizations  
- **Ms. Shipra Narang Suri**, Chief, Urban Practices Branch, Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat; and Head of the Local2030 Coalition’s Secretariat  
- **Ms. Paola Deda**, Director, Forests, Land and Housing Division, UNECE  
- **Mr. Curt Garrigan**, Chief, Sustainable Urban Development Section, UN ESCAP  
- **Mr. Stefano Marta**, Coordinator, Territorial Approach to the SDGs, Cities, Urban Policies and Sustainable Development Division, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris, France  
- **Ms. Sara Hoeflich de Duque**, United Cities and Local Governments World Secretariat, Barcelona, Spain |
| 19:05 - 19:25 | Panel discussion - Experiences and best practices in the use of the data for evidence-based policy making in the SDG Voluntary Local Reviews  
- **Mr. Vakhtang Lomjaria**, Head Municipal Department of Economic Development, Tbilisi city government, Georgia  
- **Mr. Hélder Souza Silva**, Mayor of Mafra, Portugal  
- **Mr. Davis Mwamfupe**, Mayor of Dodoma, Tanzania |
| 19:25 - 19:30 | Closing  
Ms. **Kamelia Kemileva**, Co-Director, Global Cities Hub, Geneva, Switzerland |
| 19:30 - 20:00 | Drinks / Reception                                                        |