

SOUTH AFRICAN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

SALGA

**Sustainable Development Goal's
(Volhoubare Ontwikkeling Doelwitte)
through**

Volunteer Local Reviews (VLR)

Volunteer Subnational (VSR)

Volunteer National Reviews (VNR)

09 October 2024



www.salga.org.za

- 1. What are Sustainable Development Goals**
- 2. MDGs to SDGs**
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- The Sustainable Development Goals are a universal call for action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people live in peace and prosperity.
- The SDGs address critical issues facing the world today, including the eradication of extreme poverty, tackling global inequality and climate change, promoting sustainable urbanization and industrial development, protecting natural ecosystems, and fostering the growth of peaceful and inclusive communities and governing institutions.
- SDGs Video at a glance: the 17 goals
<https://youtu.be/0XTBYMfZyrM?feature=shared>
- The Agenda 2030 consists of three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental – **are addressed through 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, which are measured by 231 indicators.**







- Despite the global commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, the progress towards their attainment remains uneven and inadequate at the local level in many regions.
- While international efforts have set ambitious targets and frameworks, there is a significant gap in translating these global goals into actionable plans and initiatives at the community level.
- The lack of effective localization of SDGs poses a major hindrance to sustainable development, as local contexts, challenges, and opportunities are not adequately addressed, leading to missed opportunities and unmet needs.
- To bridge this gap and accelerate progress, there is an urgent need to focus on localizing the SDGs and empowering communities to play an active role in achieving these objectives.
- **THEREFORE**, SALGA Localisation of SDG through VLR Support Program is to create awareness, mobilize and commit public and local governments to the construction of fair and sustainable cities, considering a development based on the fight against inequalities, promotion of human rights and social control.





Constitution of the Republic provides for 3 Spheres of government, having specified powers and functions, but are:-

- Distinctive;
- Interdependent; and
- Interrelated

Local Government, as one sphere, plays a crucial role

The Intergovernmental Relations Framework (IGRF) is designed to facilitate cooperation and coordination among the different spheres of government: national, provincial, and local.



1. Voluntary National Review (VNR)

Scope: This is a country-level review conducted by national governments.

Purpose: It assesses a nation's progress toward the SDGs, highlighting achievements, challenges, and lessons learned.

Audience: VNRs are presented to the UN High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) as part of the global monitoring framework for the SDGs.

Relation: National governments gather inputs from subnational and local levels to inform the VNR. It provides a broad picture but often needs a more detailed view of regional or local implementation.

2. Voluntary Subnational Review (VSR)

Scope: This review is conducted at the subnational level (regions, provinces, or states within a country).

Purpose: VSRs focus on how regions or provinces are progressing toward the SDGs. These reviews can help bridge the gap between national and local levels by showcasing regional strategies and challenges.

Audience: includes national governments, regional authorities, international organizations, civil society, and development partners, all of whom use the VSR to understand regional progress and challenges in achieving the SDGs.

Relation: VSRs can feed into the VNR, offering more granular insights into SDG implementation. They may also aggregate data from multiple local governments. VSRs may be more aligned with regional development plans and policies.

3. Voluntary Local Review (VLR)

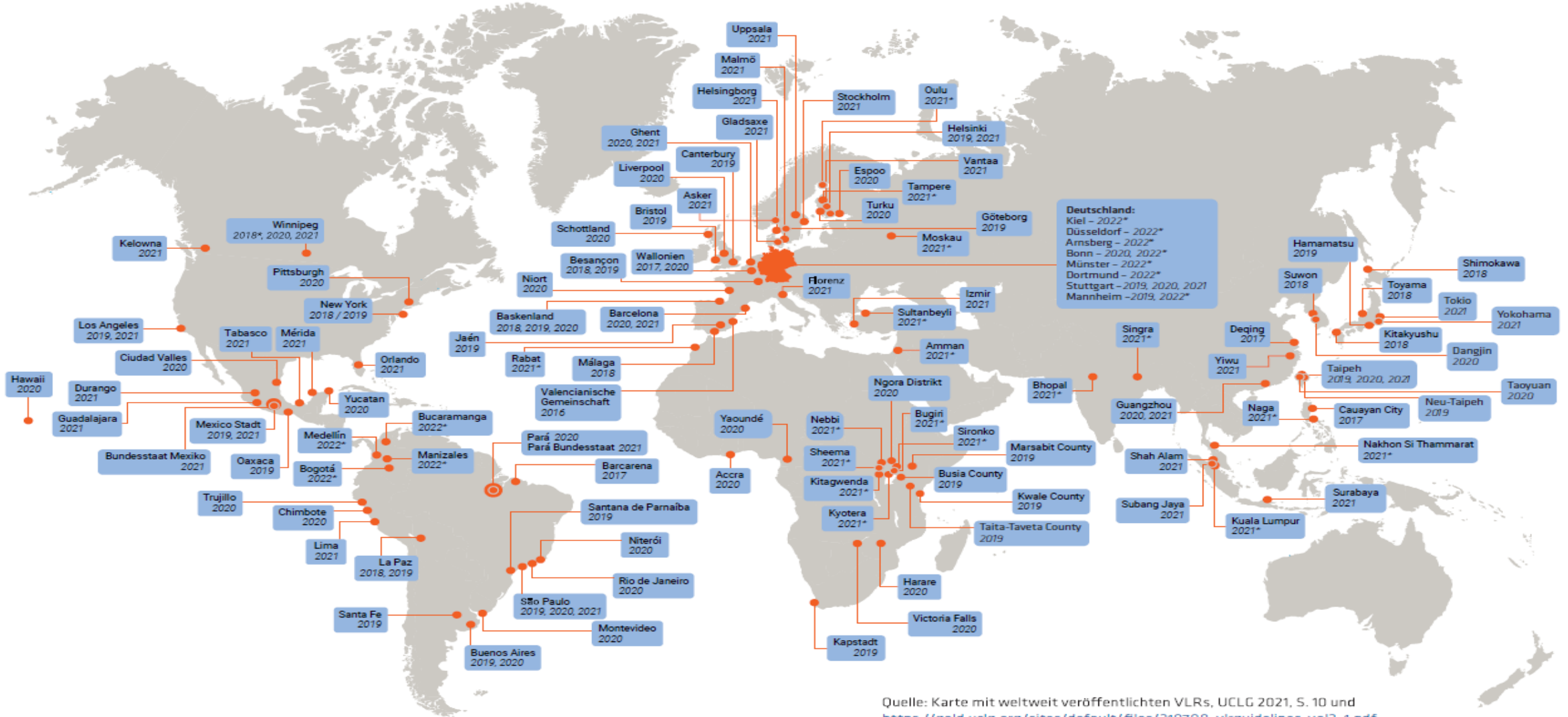
Scope: This is conducted by local governments (cities, municipalities, or districts).

Purpose: VLRs provide a detailed review of SDG progress at the local level. They are essential for demonstrating how urban centers and smaller municipalities are integrating SDGs into local policies and actions.

Audience: is aimed at local governments, national authorities, international bodies, civil society, businesses, and local communities, providing insights into how cities and municipalities are advancing toward the SDGs and fostering transparency, accountability, and collaboration.

Relation: VLRs are the most localized form of SDG review, offering bottom-up insights. Local governments can feed their data and findings into the VSR and VNR, ensuring that local efforts are recognized at higher levels of governance.

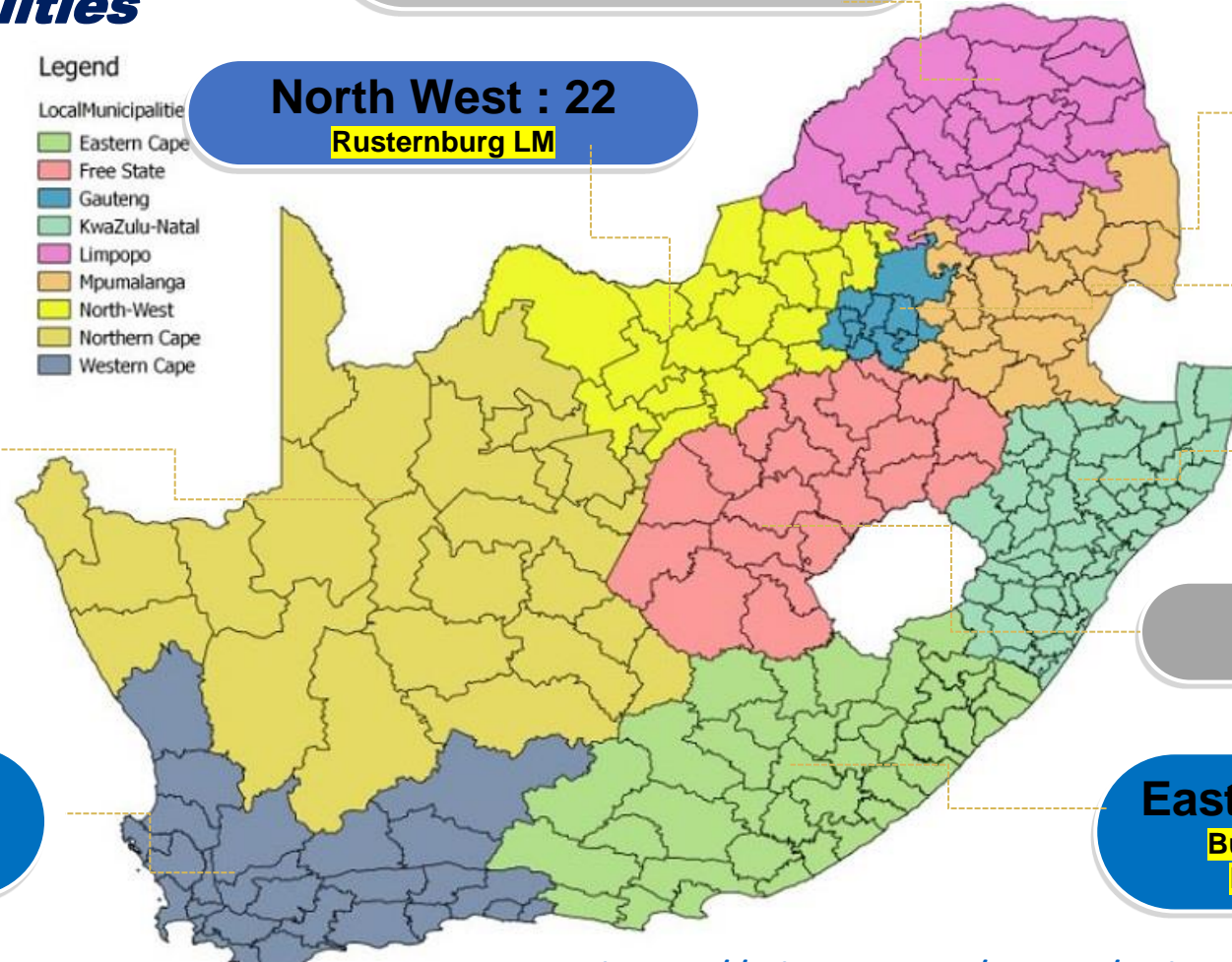




Quelle: Karte mit weltweit veröffentlichten VLRS, UCLG 2021, S. 10 und https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/210708_virguidelines_vo12_1.pdf

8 Metros
44 District Municipalities
205 Local Municipalities

- Legend
- LocalMunicipalitie
- Eastern Cape
 - Free State
 - Gauteng
 - KwaZulu-Natal
 - Limpopo
 - Mpumalanga
 - North-West
 - Northern Cape
 - Western Cape



<https://sdgs.un.org/topics/voluntary-local-reviews>

- Improved localization and implementation of SDGs
 - Increased impact and achievement of SDG targets
 - Enhanced sustainable development outcomes for South Africa

Assumptions:

- Local governments have a critical role in achieving SDGs
- Capacity building and resource mobilization are essential for effective localization
- Collaboration and partnerships are key to achieving SDGs (especially National and Provincial departments, COS and Private Businesses)

11.1 by 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable **HOUSING AND BASIC SERVICES**, and upgrade slums

11.2 by 2030, provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding **PUBLIC TRANSPORT**, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons

11.3 by 2030 enhance inclusive and sustainable **URBANIZATION** and capacities for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement **PLANNING** and management in all countries

11.4 strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's **CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE**

11.5 by 2030 significantly reduce the number of deaths and the number of affected people and decrease by y% the economic losses relative to GDP caused by disasters, including water-related **DISASTERS**, with the focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations

11.6 by 2030, reduce the adverse per capita **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF CITIES**, including by paying special attention to **AIR QUALITY**, municipal and other **WASTE MANAGEMENT**

11.7 by 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, **GREEN AND PUBLIC SPACES**, particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities

11.a support positive economic, social and environmental **LINKS BETWEEN URBAN, PERI-URBAN AND RURAL AREAS** by strengthening national and regional development planning

11.b by 2020, increase by x% the number of cities and human settlements adopting and implementing integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to **CLIMATE CHANGE, RESILIENCE TO DISASTERS**, develop and implement in line with the forthcoming Hyogo Framework holistic **DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT** at all levels

11.c support least developed countries, including through financial and technical assistance, for sustainable and resilient **BUILDINGS UTILIZING LOCAL MATERIALS**

- The Sustainable Development Goals enable a sustainable vision of urban development.
- This vision ensures equal opportunities for all citizens, promotes a healthy living environment and is resilient to crises and climate changes.
- Municipalities are directly responsible for the implementation of a considerable number of tasks for the realization of the SDGs, in accordance with the commitments of the national governments.
- Around 65 percent of the Agenda 2030 goals could not be realized fully without the contributions of regional and local governments



- The SDGs help increase prosperity, promote social inclusion, respond to climate changes, and improve environmental sustainability in the municipality. A better life for citizens should be the main impact of the Agenda 2030.
- The SDGs present a practical and useful agenda for political and administrative leaders in municipalities.
- With the SDGs, municipal strategies can be evaluated and further developed based on global goals, indicators, and challenges. In this process, potential blind spots in the local strategy might be discovered.
- A new culture of partnership between municipal administration, elected officials, stakeholders, and citizens can be established to deal with global and local challenges.
- The municipality will gain new partners and increase its international network.
- New opportunities for the funding of municipal activities are connected with SDGs.

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SDG LOCAL ACTION: EALGA, CLGF AND UNDP PARTNER TO TELL AFRICAN STORIES

The East African Local Governments Association (EALGA) together with the Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF), supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have since February 2023 been implementing the SDG Local Action Project which is part of the UN SDG Action Campaign.

The UN SDG Action Campaign was established by the UN Secretary General to inspire people and organizations from all backgrounds and every part of the world to take actions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, while holding decision-makers to account for progress society-wide.

The Campaign aims to showcase how cities and local governments are actively contributing towards the implementation of Agenda 2030, accelerating transformative action to achieve the SDGs for all, and everywhere.

Under the project, EALGA will support local and regional governments in the East African Community as well as other African countries to exchange on SDG local implementation, knowledge generation and replication of successful experiences in implementing Agenda 2030 at local level.

EALGA LOCAL ACTION

In this context, EALGA as manager of the CLGF regional office for East and Southern Africa worked with the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), to highlight the work municipalities and local governments are doing to fast-track SDG implementation in Southern Africa.

SALGA is actively collaborating with municipalities to effectively localize the Sustainable Development

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Goals (SDGs). As a coordinating body, SALGA is capacitating municipalities, ensuring that they are empowered with the necessary skills and knowledge to align their efforts with the SDGs.

Through building awareness about the SDGs and providing guidance on how to respond to voluntary local reviews, SALGA is playing a pivotal role in empowering municipalities to drive sustainable development at the local level.

The Association's commitment to assisting municipalities goes beyond mere guidance; they are involved in identifying existing policy gaps, planning, budgeting, and responding to service delivery concerns within their communities. SALGA is ensuring that municipalities have the necessary support and resources to effectively implement the SDGs, making a meaningful impact on the lives of their citizens.



Ms. Clarissa Agustine, SALGA's International Project Coordinator

According to Ms. Clarissa Agustine, International Projects Coordinator at SALGA, this dedication to coordinating and capacitating municipalities in localizing the SDGs is a testament to SALGA's commitment to sustainable development.

LINK: <https://sdglocalaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/EALGA-SDG-Local-Action.pdf>



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Future Plans VSR	Future Plans VLR	Common Plan
Increase the number of sector departments participating in VLRs & VSR	Encourage more local governments to conduct VLRs.	Strengthen coordination between VSRs and VLRs.
Conduct more in-depth analysis of SDG implementation at Local, Provincial and National Level	Develop a standardized approach to VLRs.	Encourage national and Provincial governments to support and utilize VSRs and VLRs.
Improve the quality and consistency of VLRs & VSR reports	Provide training and support for local governments to conduct VLRs.	Utilize technology to enhance data collection, analysis, and reporting.
Foster greater engagement with civil society (African Monitor, Sonke Gender Justice, Kagiso Trust etc. , private sector, SEZ and other stakeholders (Cities Network, GIZ, UN agencies, Universities, National Business Initiative (NBI)	Encourage collaboration among local governments to share best practices. Convene Municipal SDG Awards	Facilitate global knowledge sharing and exchange among subnational and local governments
Seek funding and technical assistance from UN agencies, development banks and international Organizations	Align resource mobilization efforts with SDG targets and Indicators, Budget for SDGs	Government Funding: Allocate budget resources to support VLRs
Consider focusing VSRs on specific SDG themes or goals	Consider innovative reporting formats, such as digital platforms or infographics.	Facilitate city to city cooperations (Twinning Arrangements) Joint development projects and initiatives to achieve SDGs





”No one knows everything,
everyone knows something,
all knowledge resides in **networks.**

Source : Pierre Lévy, Collective Intelligence: Mankind's Emerging World in Cyberspace, 1997

Lévy 1997



South Africa (2024)

THANK YOU

