



## Local2030 Coalition Special Event

### “Advancing SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda: Local Action for Global Acceleration”

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15 July 2026 | 15:00-18:00 EDT | UN Headquarters, CR11  
#SDGLocalization

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#### Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2015, remains the global blueprint to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all. As the international community enters the final stretch toward 2030, progress across the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) remains uneven and insufficient, with intersecting crises—including climate change, inequality, economic instability, and conflict—continuing to challenge collective efforts.

In this context, there is growing recognition that achieving the SDGs requires a fundamental shift toward implementation approaches grounded in local realities. SDG localization—anchoring global goals in territorial contexts through inclusive, multi-stakeholder, and multilevel governance approaches—has emerged as a critical driver of transformation. By empowering local and regional governments and fostering collaboration across sectors, localization ensures that sustainable development is responsive, inclusive, and impactful.

The 2026 High-Level Political Forum comes at a pivotal moment for localization, with SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities) under in-depth review. SDG 11 underscores the central role of cities and territories in delivering the 2030 Agenda. From access to adequate housing and basic services to sustainable urban planning, resilience, and inclusive growth, progress on SDG 11 is both a driver and a reflection of broader SDG achievement.

At the same time, 2026 marks the ten-year milestone of the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the Habitat III Conference in Quito. This milestone will be marked by a high-level meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, providing a critical opportunity to



assess progress in advancing sustainable urbanization and to reinforce the alignment between the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs. The review process is further supported by the World Urban Forum 13, which will focus on housing as a key driver of inclusive and sustainable cities.

Within this broader policy landscape, the Local2030 Coalition—the United Nations system-wide platform on SDG localization—continues to advance a coordinated One UN approach on SDG Localization, bringing together its 14 UN entities and key stakeholder constituencies. As the High-Impact Initiative on SDG Localization, the Coalition plays a central role in accelerating implementation by promoting integrated, locally driven solutions and strengthening enabling environments for action at all levels.

At the 2026 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the Local2030 Coalition will host its annual Special Event as a key moment to take stock of progress, showcase results, and mobilize further action. In addition to SDG 11, the 2026 HLPF will review SDGs 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), all of which are deeply interconnected with local action and territorial development.

Building on the momentum generated through Coalition initiatives—including efforts to strengthen subnational financing, enhance data and monitoring systems through its Road To processes, and support country-level implementation—the event will bring together diverse partners to present concrete evidence of impact. It will demonstrate how locally led innovation, multilevel governance, and multi-stakeholder partnerships are driving progress across the SDGs and contributing to systemic transformation.

As a critical milestone on the road to the 2027 SDG Summit, this Special Event will also serve as a forward-looking platform to identify priorities, scale up solutions, and reinforce the role of localization as a cornerstone of SDG acceleration in the final years leading to 2030.

## **Objectives**

The Local2030 Coalition Special Event will highlight how SDG localization is driving integrated, inclusive, and scalable solutions to accelerate progress across the 2030



Agenda, with a particular emphasis on SDG 11 and its interlinkages with other goals under review at the 2026 HLPF.

The event will serve as a platform for the Local2030 Coalition and its partners to:

- Showcase concrete results and emerging practices from the High-Impact Initiative on SDG Localization, demonstrating how locally driven action is advancing sustainable cities and communities while contributing to SDGs 6, 7, and 17, and present the High-Impact Initiative on SDG Localization report for 2025–2026 (TBC).
- Foster multi-stakeholder dialogue on enabling environments for SDG localization, with a focus on strengthening multilevel governance, enhancing capacities, and mobilizing innovative and catalytic financing to scale up local action, including through strategic processes such as the Local2030 Coalition’s “Road to(s): The Local Way” initiatives and in connection with key global milestones such as the UN Water Conference.
- Highlight the contribution of SDG localization to the implementation and review of the New Urban Agenda, including linkages with global processes such as the World Urban Forum 13, and reinforce alignment between urban and sustainable development agendas.
- Promote partnerships across constituencies—including governments at all levels, the private sector, civil society/academia, and youth—to unlock innovation and accelerate locally driven solutions.
- Contribute to building momentum toward the SDG Summit 2027 by identifying priorities, scaling proven approaches, and reinforcing localization as a key driver of SDG acceleration in the final stretch to 2030.
- Advance innovative financing approaches for SDG localization and territorial transformation, including by strengthening subnational financing systems and scaling catalytic investment for local action through tools such as the SDG Localization Marker 2.0 and the Localization Blueprint to help align finance with locally led SDG implementation and sustainable urban development.

### **Expected Outcomes**

As part of its mandate under the High-Impact Initiative on SDG Localization, the Local2030 Coalition continues to collect and consolidate evidence of how local action is driving transformation and delivering tangible results for communities. This Special Event



will serve as a platform to present and further enrich these contributions, with particular attention to urban and territorial dimensions of sustainable development.

Contributions from the event will build on a consolidated output of the High-Impact Initiative on Localization to:

- Demonstrate how SDG localization is accelerating progress on SDG 11 and its interlinkages with water, energy, and partnerships, through integrated, locally driven solutions that address urban and territorial challenges.
- Highlight innovative policies, financing mechanisms, and partnerships—including those advancing sustainable urbanization and housing—that have enabled effective SDG implementation at the local level.
- Identify actionable recommendations and scalable strategies to strengthen enabling environments for localization, including in support of the implementation and review of the New Urban Agenda.
- Contribute to key global milestones in 2026 and beyond, including the New Urban Agenda review process, the UN Water Conference, and preparations for the SDG Summit 2027, helping to build momentum for accelerated, locally driven action toward 2030.

## **Participants**

Member states, local and regional governments, UN entities, civil society representatives, among others.

## **Format**

The event will be in-person and web-streamed at the following link: TBC

## **Registration**

This event is open to all registered participants of the 2026 HLPF. Member states delegates, UN Staff, and other stakeholders who have a valid UN Grounds Pass are welcome to attend the event in person without registration. Interested participants not included in the above categories can register by XX July by contacting the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat at [massimo.perrino@un.org](mailto:massimo.perrino@un.org).



**Language**

English, French, and Spanish

**Programme**

**Overall Moderator: Mr. Sébastien Vauzelle**, Head of the Secretariat, UN Local2030 Coalition (TBC)

<b>High-Level Opening by the Local2030 Coalition Co-Chairs (10 minutes)</b>	
<b>15:00-15:10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Anacláudia Rossbach</b>, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)(TBC)</li> <li>• <b>UNECE, Executive Secretary TBC</b></li> </ul>
<b>Keynote Speech 1 (5 minutes)</b>	
<b>15:10-15:15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SPAIN Secretary of State TBC</b></li> </ul>
<b>Ministerial Segment: “Countries perspectives on SDG localization and the road to the SDG Summit 2027” (30 minutes)</b>	
<b>15:15–15:45</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Minister 1</b></li> <li>• <b>Minister 2</b></li> <li>• <b>Minister 3</b></li> </ul>
<b>Interactive Roundtable 1: “Driving SDG 11 through multilevel action: From global frameworks to local delivery” (60 minutes)</b> <b>Chaired by UN Agency</b>	



15:45-16:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National government</li> <li>• Local government</li> <li>• Civil society/academia</li> <li>• Private sector</li> <li>• Youth</li> </ul>
<b>Keynote Speech 2 (5 minutes)</b>	
16:45-16:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBC</li> </ul>
<p><b>Interactive Roundtable 2: “Financing and scaling SDG localization: Unlocking implementation at the territorial level” (60 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Chaired by UN Agency</b></p>	
16:50-17:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National government</li> <li>• Local government</li> <li>• Civil society/academia</li> <li>• Private sector</li> <li>• Youth</li> </ul>
<b>Closing Remarks by the Local2030 Coalition Secretariat (5 minutes)</b>	
17:50-18:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Sébastien Vauzelle</b>, Head of the Secretariat, UN Local2030 Coalition (TBC)</li> </ul>