



german  
cooperation

DEUTSCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT

Implemented by:

**giz** Deutsche Gesellschaft  
für Internationale  
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

In cooperation with:



CONFERENCE REPORT – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY  
Prishtina, Kosovo

# LOCALIZING AGENDA 2030 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TOWARDS MEETING THE 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)



## ACRONYMS

SDG - Sustainable Development Goals

INDEP - Institute for Development Policy

GIZ - Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, German Society for International Cooperation

UNKT - United Nations Kosovo Team

UN - United Nations Organization

UNDP - United Nations Development Program

LEDS - Local Strategy for Economic Development

MDP - Municipal Development Plan

## Table of Contents

Introduction .....	3
Conference Objectives .....	6
Participants .....	6
Opening of the Conference .....	8
Presentation of the Project #SDG4SDGs.....	10
Presentation of Local SDGs Plans.....	11
Summary of 7 Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plans .....	13
The role of municipalities in the localization of SDGs and best practices .....	18
Pledges of 7 Mayors of Partner Municipalities in meeting SDGs .....	20
Recommendations.....	21
Outcomes of the conference .....	22
ANNEX.....	23

## Introduction

This report summarizes the high-level conference “Localization of the 2030 Agenda - Challenges and Opportunities towards Meeting the 17 Sustainable Development Goals”, held by the Institute for Development Policy (INDEP), under the support of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH – GIZ, through a grant funded by the Federal Government of Germany, under the #SDG4SDGs Project. The Conference was organized as part of activities to create a forum of local stakeholders for dialogue to advance the local implementation efforts of the 2030 Agenda.

The #SDG4SDGs project includes several related goals and activities. The overarching goal of the #SDG4SDGs project is to promote and coordinate the progress and institutionalization of the 2030 Agenda. For this reason, the activities foreseen in the project are partnering with seven municipalities in Kosovo to develop seven local action plans, one for each from these municipalities. This project also envisages collaborating with print / online media to publish 10 special monthly add-ons, brochures, to raise awareness of the importance of SDGs. This activity was realized with the media company Koha Group. Every month, brochures on the topic of SDGs are published on Koha Ditore and on social media. You can find the project presentation further in the report.

Agenda 2030 includes 17 Objectives, 169 Targets and 230 Indicators. This Agenda is based on global development and facing increasing challenges. The SDGs include 169 universal, inclusive and goals that promote human rights and economic, social and environmental sustainability. 169 goals must be adopted in line with local priorities and the environmental challenges of the world at large. Governments can also develop their own national indicators to help monitor progress towards goals and targets.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals are:

- Goal 1: No Poverty
- Goal 2: Zero Hunger
- Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being
- Goal 4: Quality Education
- Goal 5: Gender Equality
- Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

- Goal 10: Reduced Inequality
- Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Goal 12: Responsible Consumption and Production
- Goal 13: Climate Action
- Goal 14: Life Below Water
- Goal 15: Life on Land
- Goal 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions
- Goal 17: Partnerships to achieve the Goal

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is being implemented almost worldwide. The agenda is a shared vision for sustainable development that began in the world in 2015 with the signature of UN member states. Whereas, the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo has voluntarily adopted in January 2018 the Resolution on Sustainable Development Goals even though Kosovo is not a member of the UN. Agenda from some countries of the world is implemented as a primary task, such as Finland which leads the list of best approximation of Agenda at national level.

Since the local government carries quite a large burden of responsibility for this agenda, INDEP, a civil society organization, has initiated a Project called 'Sustainably Developed (Local) Governments for Sustainable Development Goals # SDG4SDGs', which focuses on promotion and enactment of coordination between the Civil Society and local and central governments towards enhancement and institutionalization of the 2030 Agenda. A total of 7 beneficiary municipalities were selected for the Project. These municipalities are Prishtina, Prizren, Drenas, Podujeva, Novobërda, Deçan and Vushtrri. These are the partner municipalities in this Project.

Considering the mobilization at central level, and the initiative taken with regard to the establishment of a Sustainable Development Council, we have noticed the necessity of establishing and guiding cooperation between the local and central level authorities, in order to ensure a comprehensive institutional response in this regard. Local governments are not only implementers of the Agenda. In due fact, local governments are the catalysts of change and a governance level appropriate to link global Goals with local communities. The approximation of national and local development plans with SDGs, and ensuring the involvement of multiple stakeholders increase opportunities for progressive advancement towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. As a result, 7 local SDG plans were drafted. These documents will serve as a guide for the respective municipalities and others in their involvement in policy planning in line with the 2030 Agenda. These documents will also indicate where these 7 municipalities stand vis-a-vis the 2030 Agenda.



*17 Goals of Sustainable Development*

SDG localization plans at the municipal level are important at both the municipal and country levels. This evaluation report aims to support municipalities in taking concrete steps towards aligning local policies and concrete actions with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Since municipalities have the power to make decisions and take actions that directly or indirectly contribute to the fulfillment and alignment of the SDGs, by reporting on specific SDG indicators and other indicators, municipalities contribute to the measurement of the SDG indicators. At the country level, the relevance of Agenda 2030 for the future development of the country and its prospects for membership in international organizations and the EU, is quite high.

## Conference Objectives

Objectives of this conference were:

1. Presentation of 7 documents on 7 municipalities, “Plan for Localization of Sustainable Development Goals at Municipal Level” for Prishtina, Prizren, Drenas, Podujeva, Novobërda, Deçan and Vushtrri, developed as a result of a review of municipal documents, global reports, and workshops with municipal department officials in respective municipalities.
2. Provision of an up-to-date overview of Kosovo's current situation and progress towards the 2030 Agenda.
3. Alignment of local development plans with SDGs, and establishment of a platform involving many stakeholders, with a view of improving opportunities for progressive advancement towards full implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Kosovo.
4. Signing the commitment of the seven partner municipalities to the "Joint Declaration of the Mayors expressing their willingness to engage in the achievement of the SDGs in view of enhancing citizens' well-being and sustainable local development".

## Participants

The conference was attended by 54 participants, including:

- Mayors of Municipalities, such as Mr. Mytaher Haskuka of Prizren, Mr. Bashkim Ramosaj of Deçan, Mr. Svetislav Ivanovic of Novobërda, and Mr. Nexhmi Rudari, Deputy Mayor of Podujeva,
- Executive Director of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities, Mr. Sazan Ibrahim, and
- MP Ms. Fatmire Kollçaku, Deputy Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Labor and Social Welfare, and the Council for Sustainable Development.
- Representatives of international organizations, and
- Representatives of civil society, interest groups, citizens and sustainable development experts, such as Ms. Klodeta Krasniqi and Mr. Hajrulla Ceku from the consultancy company contracted by INDEP.



*Participants*

## Opening of the Conference

The conference opened with several introductory speeches by Mr. Burim Ejupi, Ms. Ulrika Richardson, Mr. David Oberhuber, Ms. Fatmire Kollçaku, and Mr. Sazan Ibrahimi. INDEP Executive Director, Mr. Burim Ejupi emphasized the importance of this project in INDEP's Sustainable Development program, and the willingness to extend this project to other municipalities of Kosovo. “Our idea at INDEP since the beginning our our work has been focusing on sustainable development. We have recommended key stakeholders in Kosovo to build their activities upon sustainable development. In considering this idea, we have decided that it is easier to cooperate with the local level, rather than with the central one. Kosovo is not part of the UN, however, even though we are not members of the UN, no one can prevent us from making a similar agenda to the 2030 Agenda.

After him, the floor was given to Ms. Ulrika Richardson, UN Development Coordinator. “SDGs and Agenda 2030 do not compete, but complement European Union Kosovo integration agenda. Kosovo has adopted a Resolution in the Assembly, thereby recognizing the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and this is a sufficient legal basis for Kosovo to further make efforts in implementing this agenda. Our job is to involve the international structure, and Kosovo is not the only country working with this scheme. We are at a time when international agreements are not being implemented to the full extent, but SDGs are a defining goal, internationally recognized, related to sustainability”, stated Ms. Richardson.



*Pannel of the Opening Remarks*

An introductory remark was also given by the Director of the GIZ office in Kosovo, Mr. David Oberhuber. He spoke about the importance of engagement of the civil society in supporting municipalities and pledged GIZ support in the future. “SDGs are not just a commitment to developing countries, they are a global commitment”, stated Oberhuber.

Ms. Fatmire Kollçaku, Member of the Kosovo Assembly and a member of the Council for Sustainable Development, placed her emphasis on developing projects that extend beyond an actual government term, and the role that SDGs play in establishing this type of consensus for local socio-economic development.

Representing the Association of Kosovo Municipalities, Mr. Sazan Ibrahimimi addressed the participants with an introductory remark as well. “Municipalities have already started to prioritize the 2030 agenda, however they require increasingly more central level support”, said Mr. Ibrahimimi, thereby expressing his pleasure with the efforts being made in promoting these Goals.

## Presentation of the Project #SDG4SDGs

This conference was organized as part of the #SDG4SDGs Project, supported by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH – GIZ, through a grant funded by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany. The project was presented by Ms. Leartha Hollaj from INDEP. Ms. Hollaj said, "It has to be made clear that the localization of SDGs is rather a coordination process. In order for progress to happen, we must engage in creating a safe operating space for civil society, non-state stakeholders and community based organisations. Equally important is the financial aspect and support. We have to agree that the financial support and budgetary planning and spending must be closely aligned with 2030 Agenda and not only. The municipal structures are the first point of contact and reference for the citizens, hence, empowering them lies at centre of efforts to successfully meet the Goals of 2030 Agenda.

In her speech Ms. Hollaj mentioned that the 2030 Agenda represents an opportunity for our generation and it calls for daring actions to tackle some of the most challenging social, economic and environmental problems of our century. According to Ms. Hollaj, this calls for ways of thinking, doing, financing and policy making in ways we have not tried so far. But, first and foremost, it requires a clear understanding by all stakeholders of its relevance and direct contribution to a generally improved social well-being. Ms. Hollaj ended her speech by saying that INDEP, together with all the relevant stakeholders in the process, have to make sure that discussion in such conferences and fora do not remain at the declarative level only.



*Ms. Leartha Hollaj during her presentation*

## Presentation of Local SDGs Plans

For this Project, INDEP has engaged a consultancy company to review all municipal plans and strategies and their compliance with SDGs. Ms. Klodeta Krasniqi, expert of sustainable development expert from the consultancy company gave a detailed presentation in which she spoke about the SDGs and presented the 7 prepared drafts. The Municipal Level SDG Alignment Plan is based on the compliance review of municipal strategies against 16 Goals and 93 relevant SDG Goals or targets applicable to the municipal level, out of a total of 17 Goals, 169 goals/indicators, and 231 indicators of the 2030 Agenda.

SDG localization of is a process of defining, implementing and monitoring of strategies in a view of meeting SDGs, including determination of goals, Goals, mobilizing human, spatial and financial resources for their implementation, and adaptation and utilization of progress measurement indicators towards meeting of such goals. Municipal Level SDG Localization Stages are:

1. Stage 1. SDG Awareness Raising
- 2. Stage 2. Establishment of a Local SDG Agenda**
3. Stage 3. SDG Implementation Planning
4. Stage 4. SDG Implementation Monitoring and Assessment

On this regard, Kosovo is in the second stage, establishment of a Local SDG Agenda. Stage 2 means prioritizing global goals and Goals in coordination with the civil sector and the business community, their integration in local strategies and agreement on common and particular steps to their implementation.

---

## **SDGS LOCALIZATION PLAN AT MUNICIPAL LEVEL**

---

The purpose of drafting these documents for these municipalities is to inform municipalities on the content of the SDGs, relevant Goals of the local government, and responsibilities of municipalities towards this framework in their own competency level, assess compliance of local economic development strategies with SDGs, and finally, guide municipalities towards concrete actions that they can take to meet SDGs. These developed Municipal plans also give an overview of all municipal priorities and capacities. All the plans prepared are available in Albanian and English on the INDEP website, [www.indep.info](http://www.indep.info).

## Summary of 7 Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plans

The plans for localization of SDGs at the municipal level are the result of the review of municipal documents, global reports and international lessons learned in the localization of SDGs. The conclusions and recommendations of these plans are based on the survey of the project team engaged in the project through a questionnaire that addressed the management of local policy implementation including their knowledge of the SDGs and current local level initiatives in their localization, experience and role of civil servants in drafting local strategies, managing strategy drafting processes, monitoring the implementation and evaluation of local strategies, status of local strategies, availability of municipal databases and related management protocols, co-operation and coordination with the central level and civil society, as well as human capacities to implement the listed activities. The findings and recommendations of the report have been confirmed and updated while working with partner municipalities. The findings and recommendations of the report were presented and discussed with expanded civil servant forums in the respective municipalities. One of the limitations of this report is the limited sectoral representation in the working groups, with findings on municipal human and financial capacities providing initial guidance for further steps towards localizing the SDGs. The outlines of the seven municipal plans are as follows:

1. “Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plan - Municipality of Prishtina”. The Municipal Development Plan (MDP) of the Municipality of Prishtina defines the long-term vision of municipal development, and elaborates the goals, Goals and actions to be taken in the 8 years to come. This document has 7 Goals and 35 goals addressing economic development, global networking of Pristina, public services, mobility, cultural and natural heritage, rural development and sustainable urbanization. According to the analysis, this document is partially aligned with the 2030 Agenda. The Prishtina MDP addresses 12 Goals and 33 goals (42% of relevant targets for the local level). Of these, 7% of goals (7) are in full compliance, 26% (25) are partially compliant, and 48% (45) goals are not addressed at all, while 17% (16) do not fall into the remit of the MDP.



2. **Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plan - Municipality of Prizren**  
 The Municipality of Prizren has approved the Municipal Development Plan 2010-2022, while it is currently in the process of drafting the Tourism Strategy. This document has 13 Goals and 43 goals organized within five principles, including natural and cultural heritage, environmental resilience, social involvement, social equality and high quality of life, economic vitality and spatial integrity. This document partially incorporates the 2030 Agenda. The MDP addresses 13 SDG Goals and 25 goals, namely a total of 27%. 2% of relevant goals are fully incorporated, 25% (23) are partially compliant, while 73% (68) of SDG goals relevant for the local level are not addressed at all. The Goal best aligned in the MDP is Objectiv3 11, with over 50%. The Prizren MDP mainly addresses Goals 11, 8 and 2. Goals 5, 10, 14 and 17 are not addressed at all.



3. **Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plan - Municipality of Deçan.**  
 The Municipality of Deçan has begun the process of drafting the new Municipal Development Plan and the Municipal Zoning Map. The Municipal Development Plan of Deçan has 7 Goals and 50 goals, which address natural and cultural values, technical infrastructure, economic development and tourism, public and social services, and regional networking. This MDP partially incorporates the 2030 Agenda. The MDP addresses 11 Goals and 30 goals (32% of relevant targets for the local level). MDP Goals mainly address Goal 8 and 11, while Goals 1 and 7 are least represented. The Goal best aligned in the MDP is Goal 11, with over 88% of actions incorporated, and also Goals 9 and 6, with 66% and 57% respectively, of actions incorporated. Goals 5, 10, 13, 14, 16 and 17 are not addressed at all.



4. Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plan - Municipality of Vushtrri. Similar to Deçan. The Municipality of Vushtrri is also in the process of developing its new Local Economic Development Strategy, Municipal Zoning Map and the Energy Efficiency Plan. The Vushtrri Municipality LE DS defines the visions of municipal sectors key to economic development for 5 years in the future. This document has 3 Goals, 37 goals and over 100 activities organized in five thematic areas, such as municipal economic development, quality education, health care and welfare, tourism development, culture, youth and sport, and public administration. This document partially incorporates the 2030 Agenda. The LE DS addresses 13 Goals and 37 goals (40% of relevant targets for the local level). 4% of Goals (4) are in full compliance, 35% (33) in partial compliance and 58%, respectively 54 Goals of SDGs are not addressed at all by the LE DS. Best incorporated Goals in the LE DS are Goals 1, 7 and 11, with over 60% of the goals being integrated into the LE DS. Goal 4 finds over 50% of the goals addressed. The LE DS fails to address Goals 5 and 10.



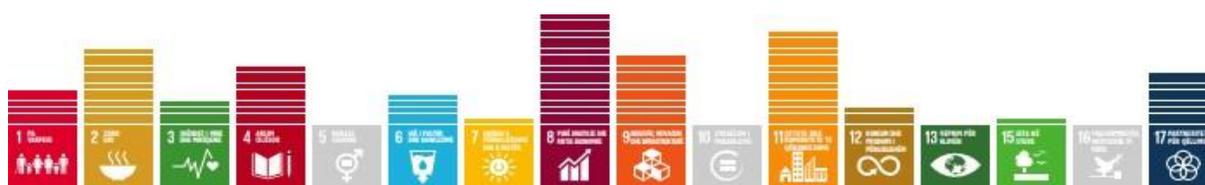
5. Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plan - Municipality of Novoberda. The Municipality of Novobërdë has adopted its Municipal Development Plan 2010-2022, and several sectoral strategies such as the Castle SP Strategy, Strategy of Culture 2012-2015, Local Economic Development Strategy 2015, and the Rural Tourism Strategy 2007-2015. Strategies that are in the process of being developed and that may incorporate SDGs are the Mobility Plan, Energy Efficiency Action Plan, and the Cultural Heritage Management Plan. The Novobrdo MDP partially integrates the 2030 Agenda. It addresses 11 SDG Goals and 36 goals. The MDP contents mainly address Goal 11, while Goal 3 is addressed superficially in the document, but does not include health or well-being strategies. The Goals best aligned in the MDP are Goals 6 and 7, with over 70% of actions incorporated, and also Goals 11 and 15, with 85% and 57% respectively, of actions incorporated In the MDP. Goals 5, 10, 13, 14, 16 and 17 are not addressed at all.



6. Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plan - Municipality of Drenas. The Municipality of Drenas is in the process of drafting a new Municipal Development Plan, and a significant number of sectoral plans mainly in environment and pollution abatement areas, including an Environmental Strategic Assessment, a Local Environmental Action Plan, a Local Air Quality Strategic Action Plan, an Energy Efficiency Action Plan and Waste Source Separation Plan. The the new MDP of the Municipality of Drenas has 22 Goals and 62 goals, organized in six thematic areas such as settlements and housing, economic development, technical infrastructure, public and social infrastructure, environment and areas at risk. This document partially incorporates the 2030 Agenda. The MDP addresses 12 Goals and 35 goals (37% of relevant targets for the local level). Of these, 7% of goals (6) are in full compliance, 31% (29) are partially compliant, 48% (45) goals are not addressed at all, while 14% (13) do not fall into the remit of the MDP. The Goals best aligned in the MDP are Goals 6, 11 and 15, with full compliance of over 80% of relevant actions incorporated, while Goal 7 has 100% of actions incorporated. Goals 5, 10, 13, 14 and 17 are not addressed at all.



7. Municipal Level Sustainable Development Goals Localization Plan - Municipality of Podujeva. The municipality of Podujevë is in the process of drafting a new Local Economic Development Strategy, and several sectoral plans such as the Tourism Strategy and the Municipal Waste Management Plan. The LEDES of the Municipality of Podujeva has 7 Goals and 70 goals organized in 2 thematic areas, sustainable development and citizen welfare. This document partially incorporates the 2030 Agenda. The LEDES addresses 13 Goals and 34 goals (37% of relevant targets for the local level). 9% of Goals (8) are in full compliance, 28% (26) in partial compliance and 63%, respectively 59 Goals of SDGs are not addressed at all by the LEDES. The Goals best incorporated within the LEDES are Goals 4 and 6, with 57% of actions integrated within the LEDES, Goal 11 with 63% of actions incorporated, and Goal 9, which is fully incorporated within the LEDES, meaning with 100% of its actions. Goals 5, 10, 14 and 16 are not addressed at all.



The plans in Prishtina, Vushtrri, Novobërda, Drenas, Podujevë, Deçan and Prizren were estimated to have a level of 42%, 40%, 39%, 37%, 37%, 32%, respectively 27% in terms of compliance with the SDGs. This shows that SDG fulfilment and incorporation in local governments remains at an averagely low and challenging level.

## The role of municipalities in the localization of SDGs and best practices

All SDGs have their goals directly or indirectly related to the work of local governments, while SDGs even include a specific Goal for the cities. The inputs of municipalities are key to meeting about 65% of the Agenda 2030, with their active roles as partners in developing and determining SDG policies and programs, but also in implementing, monitoring and progress measurement in SDG meeting. Goal 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”, is fully dedicated to cities and settlements. This Goal demonstrates the recognition of the transformative power of urbanization for development, and the role of mayors in driving global change from the bottom up.

During the Conference, a representative of GIZ, appearing through video conference from Germany, presented the commitment of the institution she represents in aiding developing countries in achieving these Goals. She presented examples and cases of success, such as Ghana and Mexico (see figures below), and expressed her willingness to further contribute in transferring such knowledge to Kosovo, the representative of GIZ presented the way Ghana monitors the SDG implementation process at a national level, through a web site created specifically for this monitoring. She also mentioned the process in which Mexico managed to incorporate SDGs in a national level, by focusing funding and investments in SDG targets. The representative of GIZ reminded all once more of the great support of the United Nations Team in this regard.

### Ghana: National Website for SDG Monitoring



*Ghana Case*

## Example : Localizing SDGs in Mexico

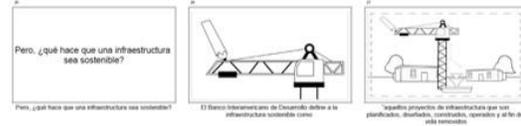


### ❖ Alignment of local planning to 2030 Agenda

- Guidelines for the development / adaptation of local development plans to 2030 Agenda / SDGs
- Technical assistance to departments / municipalities  
→ *Train the trainers*

### ❖ Financing the 2030 Agenda

- Film on sustainable infrastructures
- Sustainable public investments  
→ Sustainability check with criteria
- Alignment of financial transfer mechanism to 2030 Agenda  
(maximize impact of investments on sustainable development)



### *Mexico Case*

You can read more about the projects that GIZ is funding in different countries around the world on the official GIZ website, [www.giz.de](http://www.giz.de). The above figures of the presentation of representative of GIZ in Germany and other relevant information on these projects can be found on the official GIZ website. Even though invited, Mr. Sokol Haliti, Mayor of Vushtrri did not attend the Conference due to personal reasons.

The Conference continued with an open discussion by attendees on the plans presented and there was an exchange of ideas and experiences. Other occasional speeches included Mayors of Prizren and Deçan, who expressed their gratitude for SDG capacity building activities for their municipal staff, and found such plans developed for their municipalities to be very useful.

## Pledges of 7 Mayors of Partner Municipalities in meeting SDGs

Upon publication of the municipal plans, a ceremony was held for the signature of the Municipal SDG Declaration, in which the Mayors of Partner Municipalities signed a “Common Declaration of Mayors expressing the will to engage in meeting SDGs in the function of improving citizens’ well-being and sustainable local development”. INDEP will consistently monitor the fulfillment of this pledge. This Declaration was signed by the Mayors and/or assigned representatives of Mayors (relevant municipal directors) of respective municipalities partnered in the project.

The 2030 Agenda is very important for the present and future generations in all countries. The Pledge of Partner Municipalities is related to Stage 3. SDG implementation Planning, which includes mobilizing the resources needed for short-term actions, all in the function of a long term vision, and identifying and managing conflicts for a well-balanced social, economic and environmental development, and Stage 4 - Monitoring and evaluation. To follow up on progress and ensure accountability, there must be developed a monitoring mechanism and evaluation frameworks. INDEP will continuously monitor the implementation of this commitment and will be in touch with municipalities in any need to clarify any uncertainties that may eventually arise during the process.



*Mayors, Heads of Directorates, Organizing staff of INDEP, GIZ and UNDP Team in Kosovo*

## Recommendations

During the presentation of municipal plans, several recommendations were recorded to be applicable to all municipalities. Recommendations deriving from the reports include:

1. To utilize the Guide for SDG Incorporation, Evaluation, Monitoring and Reporting on Local Strategy implementation, through comprehensive processes, in reviewing such strategies' compliance with SDGs, monitoring and reporting on the implementation of Strategies and SDGs, evaluation of implementation of specific municipal strategies, and as a tool for measuring public participation in policy making.
2. To strengthen municipal capacities for drafting and implementing local strategies, inform municipal assembly members on existing municipal strategies, their roles, scope and contents; improve knowledge of Municipal Assembly members on interconnection of strategies, annual budgets, and municipal capital projects.
3. To strengthen municipal capacities for drafting and implementing local strategies, such as training current staff in local policy development, namely drafting plans or strategies, managing local policy making, and monitoring their implementation.
4. To hire consultancy companies, define tasks and determine how such consultancy companies are managed, and others (terms of reference, tasks and forms of work progress reporting).
5. To establish an integrated / aggregated database of municipal data, in compliance with the databases in various sectors and line ministries. Such a database would accommodate different types of data such as spatial, numerical, textual data and digital archives. Also, a database management protocol must be developed, and establish a database management group.

These recommendations were drawn based on the obstacles encountered during the development of the plans, and areas in need of intervention observed during the planning stages and processes.

## Outcomes of the conference

One of the outcomes of the conference was a general consensus that municipal priorities are annual revenues and public investments, and a municipal reprioritization is required. It was found that most municipalities in Kosovo should engage in a renewed prioritization, because with the current priorities, the 2030 Agenda is difficult to implement within such priorities. In municipally developed plans, namely Goal no. 8, Dignified work and economic growth, Goal 4 Quality education, and Goal 1 No poverty, there is very little included within capital investments. Goals 5, 10 and 12 are not addressed at all.

Various municipal strategies, that are multisectoral and expanded in space, include demographics, geography and features of a municipality, are not closely aligned with the 2030 Agenda and therefore, there is work to be done by the municipalities. Strategies measured in quality and quantity, were found to incorporate an average of 35% from the 2030 Agenda. The 2030 Agenda is for the time being the best UN presented plan, because it is both detailed and generic. The 2030 Agenda is essentially focused on human well-being and is inclusive. Municipal plans imply that there is more work to be done in terms of good policy planning, to address sustainable development.

A positive conclusion was that aligning municipal plans with the 2030 Agenda is feasible and that there is plenty of room in municipal plans to incorporate targets of the 2030 Agenda. Also, mayors of partner municipalities have been very cooperative in this direction, and with the recommendations and guidance of INDEP, UN Kosovo Team, and other partners, there are very positive signals for the future approximation of the 2030 Agenda in local governance in Kosovo.

## ANNEX

## Localizing Agenda 2030 – challenges and opportunities towards meeting the 17 Sustainable Development Goals

Tuesday, 25 June 2019  
08:45 – 12:00  
Hotel Sirius, Pristina

- 08:45 – 09:00**      **Welcome and registration**
- 09:00 – 10:15**      **Opening remarks:**  
Burim Ejupi – Executive Director, INDEP  
David Oberhuber – Director of GIZ, Kosovo Office  
Ulrika Richardson - UN Development Program Coordinator  
Fatmire Kollçaku – MP, Council for Sustainable Development  
Sazan Ibrahimiri – Association of Kosovo Municipalities
- 10:15 – 10:20**      **Presentation of SDG4SDGs project**  
Leartha Hollaj – INDEP
- 10:40 – 11:00**      **Presentation of Local Plans for SDGs**  
Klodeta Krasniqi
- 10:40 – 11:00**      **Role of municipalities in localizing SDGs and Best Practices**  
Representative of GIZ  
Sokol Haliti – Mayor of Municipality of Vitia
- 11:00 – 11:45**      **Open discussion**
- 11:45 – 12:00**      **Ceremony of signing the Declaration of Municipalities for SDGs**
- 12:00 – 13:00**      **Lunch**

Implemented by:

In partnership with:

Ne, kryetarët e komunave: Prishtinë, Prizren, Podujevë, Vushtrri, Novobërdë, Deçan dhe Drenas, në shprehje të vullnetit tonë për përmbushje të Agjendës 2030 të Kombeve të Bashkuara dhe me qëllim të rritjes së kualitetit të jetës për qytetarët tanë, nënshkruajmë këtë:

## DEKLARATË

Me të cilën shprehim përkushtimin tonë që të punojmë në zbatimin e Objektivave të Zhvillimit të Qëndrueshëm të Kombeve të Bashkuara të njohura si Agjenda 2030. Në arritje të këtyre objektivave, ne zotohemi që:

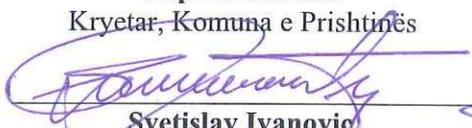
1. Do të përkushtohemi që Agjenda 2030 dhe 17 Objektivat e Zhvillimit të Qëndrueshëm të jenë pjesë përbërëse e dizajnit të politikave në nivel lokal;
2. Do të mbështesim dhe realizojmë projekte që drejtpërdrejtë avancojnë Agjendën 2030;
3. Do të zhvillojmë dhe krijojmë mekanizma që masin progresin karshi implementimit të Agjendës 2030 dhe raportojnë atë në shërbim të informimit dhe transparencës;
4. Do të sigurohemi që ndëthurim zhvillimin ekonomik me zhvillimin mjedisor dhe atë sociale, si dhe të zhvillojmë procese politike të udhëhequra nga parimet e zhvillimit të qëndrueshëm dhe konform pritshmërive të Agjendës 2030;
5. Do të rrisim bashkëpunimin me shoqërinë civile, organizatat me bazë në komunitet dhe aktoreët relevant për të përmirësuar gjendjen e zbatimit të 17 Objektivave dhe në shërbim të interesit publik si dhe për të siguruar një nivel të lartë të gjithëpërfshirjes në procese lokale që ndërlidhen me jetën e qytetarëve;
6. Do të kërkojmë përkrahje financiare nga niveli qendror dhe donatorë të jashtëm për të realizuar projekte dhe programe që adresojnë çështjet e ngritura nga Agjenda 2030;
7. Do të përqijemi të promovojmë Objektivat e Zhvillimit të Qëndrueshëm edhe në komuna të tjera partnere dhe në nivel të Asociacionit të Komunave të Kosovës.

Duke kuptuar rëndësinë e Agjendës 2030, përmes deklaratave shpresim vullnetin e mirë dhe vizionin tonë për të ndërtuar komuna pa varfëri e me prosperitet dhe zhvillim të qëndrueshëm socio-ekonomik. Ku kujdesi ndaj mjedisit është prioritet dhe arsimi, shëndetësia dhe zhvillimi urban, në mes tjerash, janë të qëndrueshme dhe janë në fokus të politikëbërjes në nivelin lokal. Ne zotohemi se do të punojmë me përkushtim për të realizuar këto dhe indikatorët e tjerë të Objektivave të Zhvillimit të Qëndrueshëm të Kombeve të Bashkuara.

Prishtinë: 1 korrik 2019

**Shpend Ahmeti**

Kryetar, Komuna e Prishtinës

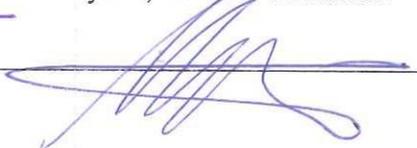


**Svetislav Ivanovic**

Kryetar, Komuna e Novobërdës

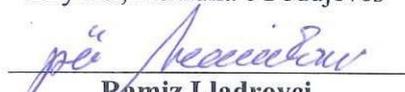
**Mytaher Haskuka**

Kryetar, Komuna e Prizrenit



**Agim Veliu**

Kryetar, Komuna e Podujevës



**Ramiz Lladrovci**

Kryetar, Komuna e Drenasit

**Xafer Tahiri**

Kryetar, Komuna e Vushtrrisë



**Bashkim Ramosaj**

Kryetar, Komuna e Deçanit

