

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

The People's Democratic Republic of Algeria is a unitary country. Since the last reform in 2019, Algeria is divided into 58 provinces (wilayas) and 44 delegated provinces.¹ They have their own elected people's assemblies and executive councils, and are governed by provincial governors appointed by the president. Moreover, the 1541 municipalities are headed by the president of the municipal people's assembly and an appointed executive selected by a proportional representation system.²



Unless otherwise indicated, all the information in this profile is taken from the previously published Voluntary National Review (VNR).³

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

In 2016, constitutional provisions that explicitly refer to the concept of sustainable development and its key principles were adopted. Sustainable development was referred to in the 2014 and 2017 Government Development Plan. The most transversal strategy is the **National Strategy for Environment and Sustainable Development (SNEDD 2019-2035)** and its **Action plan (PNAEDD 2019-2022)**. The SNEDD's seven axes focus on improving health and quality of life, preserving natural and cultural capital, developing a green and circular economy, increasing resilience in the face of desertification, improving resilience to climate change, food security and environmental governance.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

An **Interministerial committee** was established in 2016. It is coordinated by the **Ministry of Foreign Affairs**, and brings together the ministries with the mission of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the SDGs in Algeria. The two chambers of parliament, the National Economic and Social Council (CNES), the National Statistics Office (ONS), the **National Observatory for the Environment and Sustainable Development (ONEDD)**, the Algerian Space Agency (ASAL) and the National Institute of Cartography and Remote Sensing (INCT) are also represented in it. This Committee is structured around six **thematic working groups** which bring together one or more SDGs.⁴ In addition, **sectoral committees** were established within different ministries with the prerogatives of monitoring the implementation of the SDGs.

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The **Interministerial committee** was responsible for the 2019 VNR process. The elaboration of the report was made possible thanks to the contributions of the ministerial departments involved in the achievement of the SDGs. It has been nourished by consultations with elected officials, civil society organizations and the private sector, particularly during awareness-raising workshops on the SDGs organized in partnership with the United Nations. A national expert was also attached to the committee, to provide technical expertise on the SDGs and assist the committee members in the production of the VNR.

1.3 MONITORING

The National Statistical Information System (SNIS) is made up of the **National Statistics Office (ONS)**, observatories, agencies, research centers as well as the statistical services of the ministries with their territorial departments. At the end of 2018, 71 indicators produced from national sources were available, representing 30% of the total of 232 indicators for achieving sustainable development targets. The ONS, the ONEDD, the ministerial statistical services as well as several scientific research institutions have started a process of reflection on the framework for monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the

1. From the last reform in 1984 to 2019, there were 48 wilayas. See a critical point of view on the reform here:

<https://www.algerie1.com/focus/de-l-organisation-territoriale-du-pays>. The next local and regional elections are scheduled on November 27th, 2021.

Regarding the elections, see also: <https://www.aps.dz/algerie/126966-anr-les-prochaines-elections-locales-consacreront-l-edification-institutionnelle> and

<https://www.liberte-algerie.com/contribution/mettre-la-societe-au-centre-de-la-gestion-locale-364587>

2. See: https://www.sng-wofi.org/reports/SNGWOFI_2019_report_country_profiles_DEC2019_UPDATES.pdf

3. See: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23441MAE_rapport_2019_complet.pdf (2019)

4. See the different groups and their participants in the VNR, 2019, p. 22.

SDGs with the aim of: (i) broadening the coverage of SDG indicators, (ii) better master the methodologies for calculating a number of indicators and (iii) lay the groundwork for a centralized integrated statistical platform of national statistical data on the implementation of the SDGs. One of the challenges mentioned by the 2019 VNR is to **territorialize and disaggregate sustainable development indicators** in order to better account for and deal with development gaps between population groups and between territories. **Thematic, scientific and technical groups (GTST)** are being implemented in relation with the Interministerial committee, as well as a **national platform** for monitoring the SDGs.

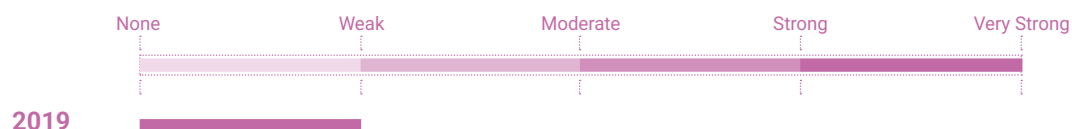
2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

There is no evidence of provincial and local governments' participation in national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation, nor in the 2019 VNR.

The Ministry of National Solidarity, Family and the Status of Women organized awareness-raising actions on the SDGs for the benefit of guidance and listening units at the provincial level.

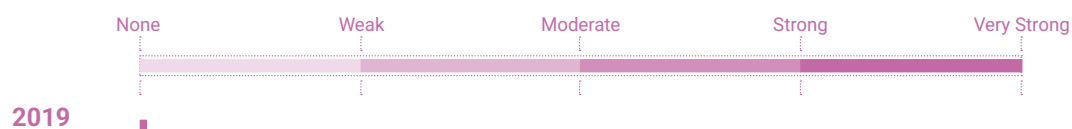
2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

► In the VNR process



Comments: LRGs are mentioned a few times in the VNR, without reference to specific roles or initiatives for SDG implementation.

► In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



Comments: There is no evidence of any LRG participation.

This assessment is based on the information collected in the VNRs and in the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments' annual survey on the localization of the SDGs.

2.2 VNR REFERENCES

There are a few references in the 2019 VNR to LRGs' role in implementing the SDGs. This is very briefly mentioned once in the conclusion (see VNR, 2019, p. 159).

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

► To cope with floods, the Algerian government has made massive investments for the protection of people and property in the most threatened territories and cities. The Five-Year Program 2010-2014 had devoted an envelope of more than 100 billion DA to the realization of major works for the protection of agglomerations exposed to this risk. This program mainly concerned 15 agglomerations in the North, 3 towns of the Hauts-Plateaux and 4 towns in the South, that have experienced catastrophic flooding in the past. Today's approach to fighting flooding is part of a process which aims for sustainability in order to reconcile the development of watercourses, the management of floods to secure local populations, the management of natural environments to restore their biodiversity, and the management of the groundwater to promote its replenishment and good quality.

► In view of the critical level of exposure to several major risks (floods, earthquakes, landslides, etc.), the *wilaya* of **Algiers** launched the Urban Resilience Master Plan (PDRU) as a pilot project to be replicated on other major Algerian cities.

► A joint programme of the Ministry of the Interior, the EU and UNDP has been launched, called the **Capacity-building Program of Local Development Actors (CapDel)**. This initiative benefits from a new law on local government adopted in 2018, seeking to foster the implementation of the SDGs at the local level. As part of it, ten pilot municipalities are currently working on the adoption of a participatory approach to local development planning and the integration of the SDGs into the planning, implementation and monitoring of local strategies. In this context, the municipality of **Ouled Ben Abdelkader** has made important efforts to adopt a participatory approach through the inclusion of local residents into a Consultative Council for Development.⁵

5. UCLG, 2019, GOLD V Report, <https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/ENG-GOLD-V-2020.pdf>.
See also: <https://www.local2030.org/index.php/story/view/90> and <https://www.local2030.org/index.php/story/view/252>.

2.4 VOLUNTARY SUBNATIONAL AND/OR LOCAL REVIEWS (VSRs / VLRs)

Not applicable.

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

At the national level, the examination of the Ministry of Finance's draft **Vision 2035** for economic and institutional governance ("December 2017 version") reveals a large number of actions converging on the SDGs.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

General comments: The national government held special regional elections to address underrepresentation of Berber interests in regional and local assemblies. However, local autonomy remains weak and regional governments are still a mix of appointed executive and elected councils (with limited powers).⁶

The excessive littoralisation, which resulted in a concentration of 63% of the population on 4% of the territory with a pressure on the resources and an increase in the vulnerability of the territories, was one of the factors which led the Algerian government to implement a new urban policy. In addition to the overhaul of the legal framework for development and town planning, the government has undertaken actions to upgrade some cities and launched the creation of new ones. Indeed, the government, based on the **National Land Use Planning Plan for 2030**, has undertaken the creation of new towns and new urban centers. These are the new towns of **Sidi Abdellah, Bouinan, Boughezoul, El Ménéaa** and **Hassi-Messaoud**.

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

Algeria adopted an Electoral Law in 2012 that includes the quota of women candidates at 30% or 35% for the regional elections (depending on the size of the region). This law aims to "increase the chances of women having access to representation in elected assemblies, thus breaking the glass ceiling" (see the VNR, 2019, p. 73). The number of women elected to the People's National Assembly rose from 30 women in 2007 out of 389 deputies (i.e. 7.7%) to 146 women out of 462 deputies (i.e. a rate of 31.6%) in 2012 and 29% in 2017. With regard to local elections, the representation of women in the Communal Popular Assemblies rose from 0.8% in 2007 to nearly 17% in 2012.

3.2 COVID 19

Not applicable.

4. SDG INDICATORS⁷

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		17.6 (2019)
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	Urban	74 (2020)
	Rural	69 (2020)
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	Urban	16 (2020)
	Rural	23 (2020)
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		-
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		80 (2009, Algiers)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		35.2 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		100 (2020)

6. UCLG, 2019, GOLD V Report, <https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/ENG-GOLD-V-2020.pdf>

7. The data used for this table come from the UN SDG Indicators Database. See: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage>. More information on the country's progress towards the SDGs here: <https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/dza>