

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

The State of Kuwait is a unitary monarchy with 6 governorates (regional level). Local councils are elected, but their heads are appointed.¹



Unless otherwise indicated, all the information in this profile is taken from the previously published Voluntary National Review (VNR).²

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

Kuwait's approach to the SDGs has been guided by **Kuwait Vision 2035**³ and mainstreamed through the quinquennial **Kuwait National Development Plan (KNDP) 2015-2020**.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

The **National Sustainable Development Committee (NSDC)** provides overall strategic leadership. It is chaired by the **General Secretariat of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development (GSSCPD)**, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) and the Central Statistical Bureau. It has a breadth of membership representing different line ministries and government departments such as the Ministry of Social Affairs, the General Authority for the Environment, the Direct Investment Promotion Authority and the General Secretariat of the National Parliament. It also includes representation of observers from national and international agencies such as the State's Audit Bureau, UNDP and the World Bank, as well as a representation from civil society and the private sector. A **National Observatory on Sustainable Development and Anticipation of the Future (NOSD)** was also set up to play a further coordination and follow-up role among all partners.

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The **NOSD** assumed the responsibility of preparing the first VNR of the country in 2019. The **GSSCPD**, together with the **Central Statistical Bureau**, initiated more than thirteen workshops and seminars with a range of stakeholders including government, civil society organizations, the academia, the private sector and UN partners. In addition, regular coordination mechanisms were devised to enable government, non-government, and private sector stakeholders to provide inputs, review progress and discuss goals and targets inter-linkages.

1.3 MONITORING

Kuwait's achievements on each of the SDGs is detailed in a table in the 2019 VNR (see VNR, 2019, p. 27-28), but there is no further information on monitoring and reporting strategies related to the SDGs. Progress reports on the KNDP are regularly submitted by all relevant entities (ministries, bodies, agencies, etc.) to the GSSCPD for review, monitoring and accountability.

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

There is no evidence of any participation of governorate representatives in the 2019 VNR process nor in national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation.

1. UCLG, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, 2019, https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/Localization2019_EN.pdf.

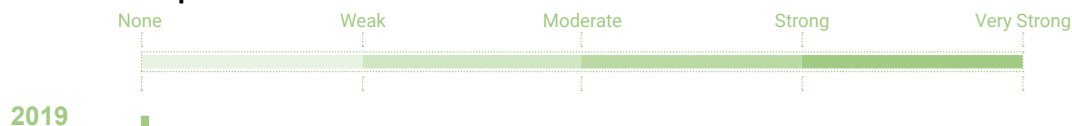
See also: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Governorates_of_Kuwait

2. See: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23384Kuwait_VNR_FINAL.PDF (2019)

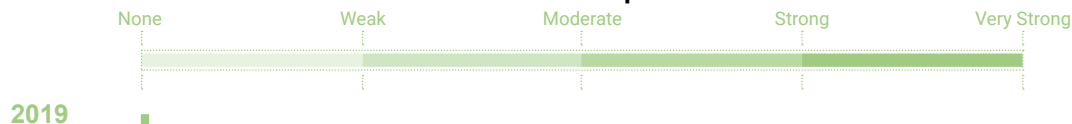
3. More details on the pillars of Kuwait Vision 2035 in relation to SDGs can be found in the VNR, 2019, p. 21.

2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

► In the VNR process



► In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



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 very limited references to governorates in the 2019 VNR.

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

No reference.

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

Not applicable.

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

No specific reference to SDG implementation.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

General comments: Over the last few decades, several municipal responsibilities in Kuwait have in fact been re-centralized, although municipal councils are still responsible for certain services – including roads, urban planning, sanitation, garbage disposal, food safety, licensing, environmental protection, and housing.⁴

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

No reference.

3.2 COVID 19

Not applicable.

4. See the work of UNDP (POGAR) on Kuwait's decentralization. UCLG, 2019, GOLD V Report, <https://www.gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/ENG-GOLD-V-2020.pdf>

4. SDG INDICATORS⁵

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		-
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	Urban	-
	Rural	-
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	Urban	-
	Rural	-
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 (%)		100 (2012, Kuwait)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		62.6 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		100 (2017)

5. 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/kwt>