RUSSIAN FEDERATION

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

The Russian Federation is a democratic federative law-governed state with a republican form of government. Russia has a complex multi-tiered administrative structure, including 83 subjects of the Federation (21 republics, 46 provinces (oblasts), one autonomous oblast, 9 territories (*Kraj*), 4 autonomous areas (autonomous *okrugs*), and 2 cities with federal status (Moscow and St. Petersburg)); an intermediate level (1784 municipal districts (*rayons*) and 567 cities (*okrugs*)); and the local level (1589 urban settlements, 18101 rural settlements and 286 intra-city districts and territories.[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

The National Projects and the Comprehensive Plan for the Modernization and Expansion of Main Infrastructure up to 2024 cover, directly or indirectly, 107 of 169 SDG targets. National goals and objectives were endorsed in 2018 by a Decree of the President of the Russian Federation in 2019.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

There is no authority formally responsible for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda nor a country-wide coordination mechanism.[3] However, coordination of efforts with the focus on the SDG climate component is the responsibility of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Climate Change and Sustainable Development at the Administration of the President of the Russian Federation.[4] The Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation is a mechanism for interaction between citizens, government bodies and local authorities. It is responsible for considering the needs of citizens, protecting their rights and freedoms in the formulation and implementation of government policy, and exercising public control over the activities of government bodies. Nevertheless, the Chamber does not have a specific mandate for the SDGs. Public chambers are also established at the regional level.

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The Analytical Center for the Government of the Russian Federation was in charge of the preparation and coordination of the 2020 VNR elaboration process. To prepare the report, 17 thematic working groups (TWGs) were formed, one for each SDG. These TWGs included representatives of federal and regional executive authorities, municipal governments, CSOs, experts, research organizations and the private sector.

1. Cities of federal importance are defined as distinct regions despite being geographically enclaved in other regions. The four autonomous areas are large territories with, in general, a low population density that can be part of the other subjects (oblasts) while remaining subjects of the Russian Federation. Chukotka Autonomous District is an exception, as it is not part of any other subject.
See: https://www.sng-wofi.org/reports/SNGWOFI_2019_report_country_profiles_DEC2019_UPDATES.pdf
2. See: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/26959VNR_2020_Russia_Report_English.pdf (2020)
3. OECD, 2021, A Territorial Approach to the SDGs in Moscow, Russian Federation,
https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/733c4178-en.pdf?expires=1639223321&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=19863DFB52B096215BFFE870605662FC
4. The purpose of the Inter-Agency Working Group is to ensure efficient interaction, including information sharing, of federal executive authorities, other public authorities, public associations, research and other organizations in the course of implementation of the state policies related to climate change and sustainable development, including the Concept for the Transition of the Russian Federation to Sustainable Development approved in 1996.
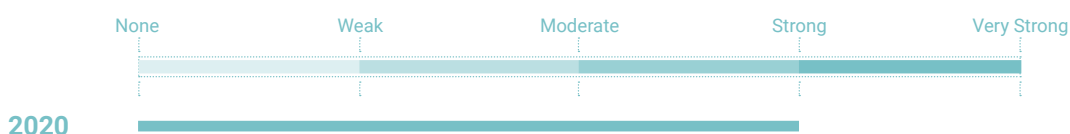
1.3 MONITORING

The **Federal State Statistics Service (Rosstat)** is responsible for generation of official statistical information on SDG indicators and it prepared a statistical annex to VNR that included particular SDG indicators for Russia.[5] The complete set of SDG data is presented on the web-portal of the Federal State Statistics Service in the subsection Sustainable Development Goals.[6] Also, to coordinate national efforts, the Inter-Agency Working Group established a panel of experts on information and statistical support of SDG monitoring chaired by Rosstat.[7] Also, the Accounts Chamber of the Russian Federation conducted an audit of the public administration system preparedness for the integration of the 2030 Agenda in 2019-2020, which assessed the extent of the Agenda's integration into the public administration system.

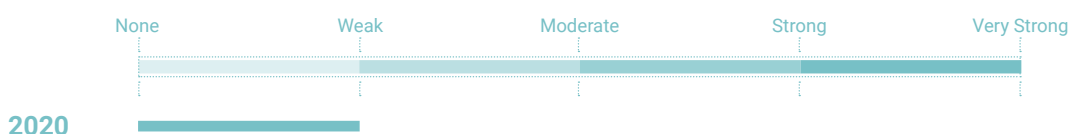## 2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

As part of the 2020 VNR process, representatives from local governments participated in the thematic working groups (TWGs). In addition, the **All-Russian Congress of Municipalities (ARCM)** and the **Association of Volga Region Cities (AGP)**, with the support of UCLG Eurasia, took part in a national working group on SDG 11 and made proposals for the working groups on SDGs 5, 9, 13 and 17.

2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

▶ **In the VNR process**

None	Weak	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong

2020

▶ **In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation**

None	Weak	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong

2020

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 is no specific mention of LRGs' role in SDG implementation in the 2020 VNR. Nevertheless, in each SDG review there is a case study and sometimes it highlights good practices from LRGs. A box is dedicated to an initiative of the Eurasian Regional Section of UCLG, which conducted a survey to estimate the number of women deputies in large-population cities in the Eurasian Region (see below and VNR, 2020, p. 73).

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

▶ Several frontrunner cities (such as **Kaluga**) are adapting their local development plans to integrate the SDGs. Other cities (e.g. **Arkhangelsk, Kaliningrad, Kazan, Makhachkala, Nizhnekamsk, Novosibirsk, Vologda,** and **Yakutia**) have developed projects related to different SDGs (social aid, healthy food and school nutrition, quality education, gender equality, microbusiness, open government, participatory budgeting).

▶ **Moscow** is implementing a project called "Aktivniy Grazhdanin" (Active Citizen).[8] The "Dobry Avtobus" (Bus of Kindness) social project is implemented with the support of the Moscow City Government. Its goal is to support senior citizens, to increase their mobility and social activity, and to include them in the cultural life of the capital. In Moscow, since 2017, at the initiative of the City Government, is annually hosted the Climate Forum of Cities with the participation of representatives of cities, private sector and science, leading experts in the field of sustainable development and climatology from Russia and foreign countries. Within the framework of the Climate Forum "Green and Healthy Streets", a declaration was signed in September 2019.

►Another important initiative is the "Lean Smart City" project implementation in the city of **Sarov**, in the Nizhny Novgorod region, which ranks among the best practices of sustainable development according to the UN Human Settlements Programme. According to estimates of Sarov's city administration, the introduction of the technology of "Lean Smart City" annually saves at least 7% of the city budget.

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

Moscow developed its first VLR in 2021.
In addition, in 2019, the **Rostov region** presented a report reviewing SDG implementation (Towards the Sustainable Development Goals). The report "Regions of the Russian Federation: the Republic of Tatarstan and the SDGs" was launched in 2020.

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

The 2020 VNR refers to the different strategies that the government has undertaken in order to strengthen the mobilization of resources. The report shows, for SDG 17, specific actions that the government is developing at the domestic and international level, but there is no specific mention of how these measures impact the local and regional governments.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

General comments: The country is working on the strengthening of the regions in the frame of SDG 11, pursuing strategic planning and socio-economic development of its territories. In this sense, territorial planning is aimed at ensuring sustainable, integrated (including balanced socio-economic) development of the Russian Federation, its regions and its municipalities. For this reason, the **Strategy of Spatial Development of the Russian Federation 2025** includes the strengthening of interregional cooperation and coordination of the socio-economic development of the regions within the macro-regions of the Russian Federation (a total of 12 macro-regions have been identified). In the same sense, given the vast territory and uneven population distribution (from 0.1 persons per 1 sq. km to 4,900 persons per 1 sq. km), Russia has been focusing on the development of transport infrastructure, which plays a key role in the development of various sectors (industry; agriculture; economic, social and information interrelations between different regions).

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

In 2017, the National Action Strategy for Women 2017-2022 was approved. It determined the principal directions of the state policy in respect of women and is aimed at ensuring full and equal participation of women in all social life areas. It is worth mentioning that the Eurasian Regional Section of UCLG conducted a survey to estimate the number of women leaders in city administrations and the number of women deputies in large-population cities in the Eurasian region. The survey showed that women are best of all represented in the city council in Moscow (40 %, 18 women of 45 deputies). It also showed that the average women representation rate in city administrations in Russia is 27.6% and in city councils, 18.5 %. The general average women participation rate in city leadership is 23.1 %.

3.2 COVID 19

In March 2020, the national government approved the Plan of High-Priority Measures to ensure the sustainable development of the economy. This plan includes, among other measures: the prompt monitoring of consumer prices at the regional level; increased budget allocations for subventions from the federal budget to regional budgets to provide social benefits; additional financial support to regions of 200 bln rubles.

4. SDG INDICATORS[9]

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**	64 (2020)
	Rural	52 (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 (%)		-
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		9.8 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		100 (2020)