

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

Togo is a unitary republic with three tiers of subnational government. The country is divided into 5 regions, the autonomous district of Greater Lomé and 117 municipalities.¹



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

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

The **National Development Plan (NDP) 2018-2022** is aligned with the 2030 Agenda. In the context of the COVID-19 crisis, the government revised it by adopting the **Togo 2025 roadmap**. This roadmap takes into account the impacts and needs posed by the pandemic and reinforces the implementation of the SDGs.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

Institutional coordination for SDG implementation in the country includes three main mechanisms. The **steering committee** and the **Government Seminar** arbitrate on projects and reforms requiring decision-making. The **interministerial monitoring committee** is responsible for arbitrating on urgent blockages in certain projects or reforms. The **ministerial monitoring committee** is in charge of the tight steering of the ministry's priority projects or reforms and of making minor decisions and arbitrations.

In Togo, national coordination mechanisms include multiple stakeholders: the private sector, the civil society and the local government association.

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The four VNRs published were developed with the participation of different stakeholders including representatives of the public administration, local authorities, civil society organizations, the private sector and technical and financial partners. **Drafting/technical teams** were set up and national **workshops** were organized to validate the reports, which included all stakeholders.

1.3 MONITORING

The 2018 VNR stresses that "all that is now required is to couple the NDP's monitoring and evaluation framework with that of the SDGs". The **ministerial monitoring committee** monitors progress on priority projects and reforms, and the **interministerial monitoring committee** reviews the overall progress of all projects and reforms. According to the 2022 VNR, the country established planning, statistics and monitoring-evaluation structures in sectoral ministries to enable a successful implementation of the SDGs. Moreover, the 2022 VNR process led to the creation of the **monitoring platform** for the indicators of the 2030 and 2063 Agendas and the Togo 2025 roadmap.

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

The **Association of Municipalities of Togo (FCT)**³ was consulted during the preliminary/design phase of the NDP 2018-2022. The 2018 VNR emphasizes that LRGs play a key role in implementing the NDP. It states that, to implement this plan, "at both the regional and local levels, regional and local development and planning commissions shall be put in place and their

1. See: <https://www.sng-wofi.org/country-profiles/>

2. See: <https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/10503togorapport.pdf> (2016);

https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/16521Togo_EN.pdf (2017);

https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2021/20341Togo_ENGLISH_RAPPORT_DU_TOGO_Version_anglaise.pdf (2018);

https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/vnrs/2022/VNR%202022%20Togo%20Report_0.pdf (2022)

3. The Union of Municipalities of Togo was replaced by the Association of Municipalities of Togo (FCT) in 2020.

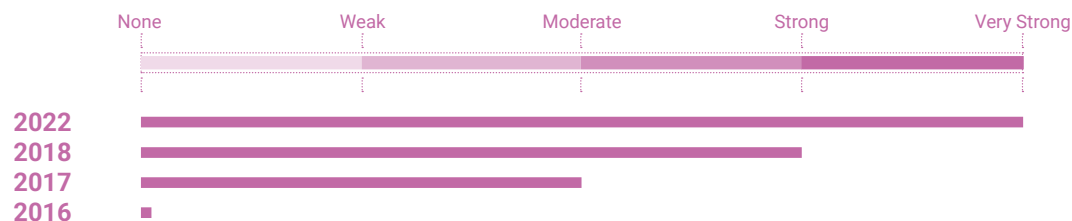
technical committees shall be constituted under the framework law on territorial planning”(see VNR, 2018, p. 19). Awareness-raising and outreach activities on the SDGs were organized at all levels, with the participation of regional and local government officials. Since 2019, awareness-raising sessions have been held regularly for actors in the 117 municipalities with a view to strengthening their capacities to take account of the SDGs in the Municipal Development Plans.

The FCT is involved in national coordination mechanisms through regular participation in the decision-making process. The government also sends surveys on a regular basis to municipalities so as to keep track of the state of SDG localization.⁴

The FCT was not involved in the first VNR published in 2016 but its contribution has grown stronger over time. The association participated in the 2018 VNR process by answering a survey and attending bilateral meetings with the national reporting unit. It also played a key role in the 2022 VNR process by answering a survey, presenting its own contribution to the report, and directly participating in the reporting unit as well as in the drafting process.

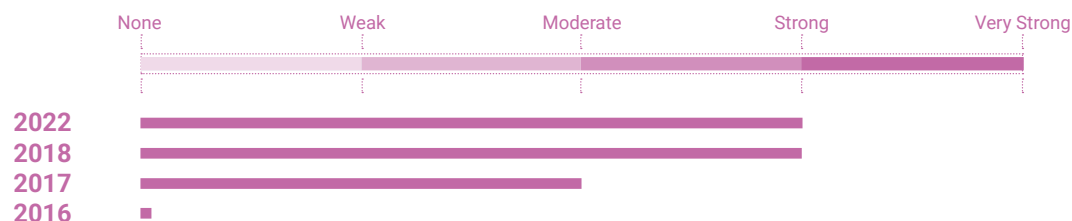
2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

► In the VNR process



Comments: The Association of Municipalities of Togo participated in the 2022 VNR by answering a survey, presenting its own contribution to the report, and directly participating in the reporting unit appointed by the national government as well as in the drafting process.

► In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



Comments: The Association of Municipalities of Togo is involved in national coordination mechanisms through regular participation in the decision-making process.

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 limited references to LRGs in the 2018 VNR, and very few specific examples. There are some references to LRGs in the 2022 VNR, without examples of locally-led initiatives. The VNR places emphasis on the importance of decentralization and territorial development for inclusive local governance.⁵

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

► The **Association of Municipalities of Togo** has initiated, under the Local Governance Enhancement Project for Community Project Management (PAGLEMOC), actions aimed at strengthening the capacity of the municipalities in the management of water, hygiene and sanitation projects. Also, the FCT has supported five municipalities (**Tabligbo, Bassar, Pagouda, Kanté** and **Mango**) in the preparation of their local development plans. These have been aligned with the country’s national development plan and the SDGs, through participatory and inclusive consultation mechanisms and the creation of a handbook.

► Other local governments have elaborated their local development plans in line with the SDGs: **Kpalimé, Kara** and **Dapaong**.

► With the support of UNDP, Togo wants to promote **climate-smart municipalities** (Smart Cities), for a better response to climate challenges. To this end, about ten municipalities will be supported in the development of a climate-smart methodology, and the preparation of action plans for the mitigation and adaptation to climate change, in coherence with the municipal development plans.⁶

4. Answer of the Association of Municipalities of Togo to the GTF Survey in 2022.

5. UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf

6. See: <https://www.togofirst.com/fr/gouvernance-economique/0906-10122-togo-lancement-du-projet-de-10-smart-cities-pour-repondre-aux-defis-climatiques>

► In 2021, in **Lomé**, 73,640 square meters of green spaces were created and maintained and more than 15,000 plants were planted to promote urban reforestation.

► The operation "My Togo without plastic waste" was launched in the municipalities of the **Kpendjal** prefecture in April 2022.

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

Not applicable.

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

As stressed by the 2018 VNR, the lack of financial resources and qualified human resources remains a major hurdle in the implementation of the SDGs in the country. According to the 2022 VNR, an integrated development financing framework has been operationalized as part of the "Improving Development Financing for the Achievement of the SDGs in Togo" project.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

General comments: The 1992 Constitution acknowledges **decentralization** but from 1987 to 2019, no local elections were held. Municipal councilors were finally elected in June 2019 and took office in 2021, dissolving the special delegations established in the prefectures and municipalities in 2001.⁷ This is the result of various initiatives, such as the 2016 national roadmap for decentralization and local elections, the territorial reforms creating municipalities, in 2017-2018, and the creation of the **National Decentralization Monitoring Council** responsible for steering the process.⁸

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

In 2018, the implementation of the "Women Conquering Municipalities" project provided training to 219 women candidates for municipal elections. Since 2021, 202 local elected women and 29 municipalities' secretaries-general have benefited from training on gender and climate, political communication techniques, etc. Since 2019, 12.6% of municipal councilors are women. Furthermore, the Association of Municipalities of Togo is chaired by a woman.

3.2 COVID 19

The government implemented the **Togo 2025 roadmap**, which constitutes the new reference framework for development actions to address the effects of the health crisis. It has made it possible to set up actions to support the most vulnerable populations.

4. SDG INDICATORS⁹

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		12.6 (2020)*
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	Urban	37 (2020)
	Rural	7 (2020)
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	Urban	12 (2020)
	Rural	7 (2020)
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		54.3 (2018)
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		43.9 (2005, Lome)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		45.5 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		100 (2020)

7. UCLG, 2022, Towards the Localization of the SDGs, https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/hlpf_2022.pdf

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

9. The data used for this table come from the UN SDG Indicators Database. See: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal>