

LOCAL AND REGIONAL
GOVERNMENTS' REPORT
TO THE 2024 HLPF

PAPER 1

THE ROLE OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS REGARDING POVERTY AND PROSPERITY

A People approach



Facilitated by:



#SDG1
#SDG2
#HLPF2024
#Listen2Cities



2024 UCLG



Published in July 2024 by United Cities and Local Governments.
This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 IGO License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/).

United Cities and Local Governments
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis
Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos

Avinyó, 15, 08002 Barcelona

www.uclg.org

DISCLAIMERS:

The terms used concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, concerning delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries, or regarding its economic system or degree of development do not necessarily reflect the opinion of United Cities and Local Governments. The analysis, conclusions and recommendations of this report do not necessarily reflect the views of all the members of United Cities and Local Governments.

This project is co-funded by the European Union



This publication was produced with the financial support of the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of UCLG and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

Graphic design and lay-out: Kantō Creative. Proofreading: Lisa Taylor

Editorial board:

Anna Calvete Moreno, Ainara Fernández, Cécile Roth, Damia Tarmoul Oummad

Policy advisory:

Emilia Saiz, Secretary General, UCLG

UCLG World Secretariat:

Special thanks to Loane Alonzeau, José Álvarez, Saul Baldeh, Pere Ballesster, Jean-Baptiste Buffet, Xavier Castellanos, Benedetta Cosco, Adrià Duarte, Gloria Escoruela, Fátima Fernández, Pablo Fernández, Amanda Fléty, Viviana Herrera, Sara Hoeflich, Paloma Labbé, Albert Lladó, Marta Llobet, Kader Makhoul, Pablo Mariani, Prachi Metawala, Carole Morillon, Carolina Osorio, Firdaous Oussidhoum, Carolina Osorio, Jordi Pascual, Massimo Perrino, Federico Poitier, Agnès Ruiz, Fernando Santomauro, Maria Alejandra Rico, Mariola Szek, Juan Carlos Uribe, Sarah Vieux and the rest of the UCLG World Secretariat

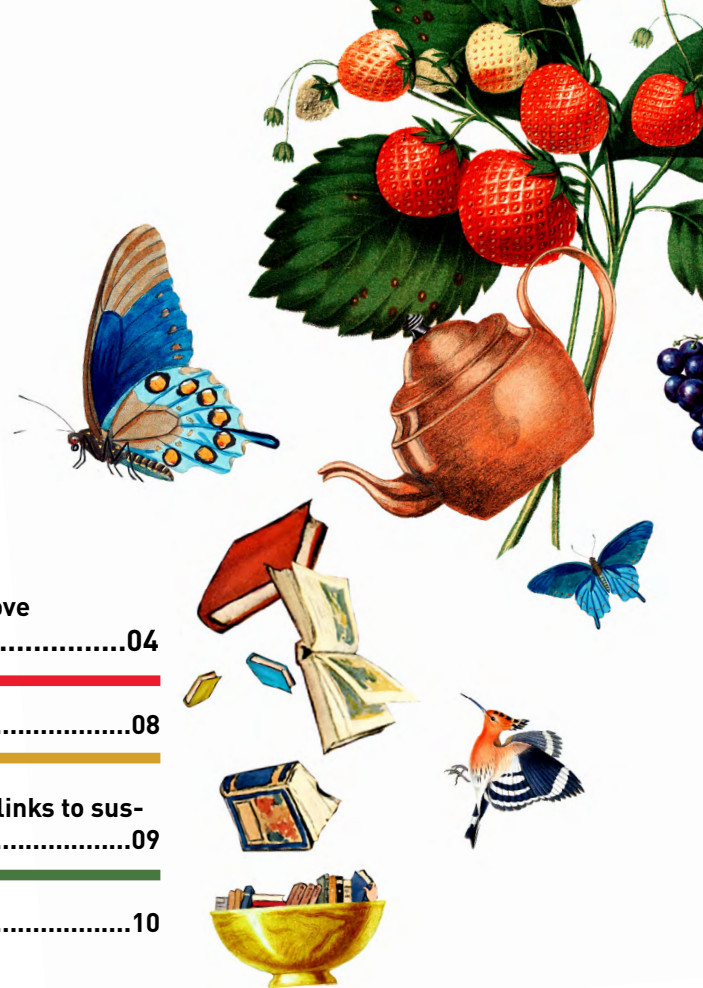
Special acknowledgment:

Special acknowledgement is given to the authors that have vastly contributed to paper 2 (Yunus Arian, ICLEI) and paper 3 (David Andersson; Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies at the Center on International Cooperation at New York University; and the Peace in Our Cities Network).

Finally, UCLG would like to thank all the GSDR Independent Group of Scientists, GTF networks, LRGs, LGAs and partners who responded to the GTF/UCLG 2024 Survey, participated in the consultations on the papers and submitted additional information about the state of localization in their territories.

Table of contents

1. Localization efforts to protect people and the planet, improve government and ensure a sustainable future for all.....	04
2. Introduction.....	08
3. Poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon with complex links to sustainable development.....	09
4. Empowering LRGs to address poverty's localized impacts.....	10
4.1. Community composition: The need for fine-grained, intersectional approaches to address poverty from the bottom up.....	10
4.2. Spatial distribution of poverty across subnational scales: Impacts at the neighbourhood, city, intercity and regional levels.....	10
4.3. Differences in LRGs' capacities to contribute to SDGs 1 and 2 based on their decentralization frameworks.....	11
5. LRGs' efforts to localize SDGs 1 and 2 through SDGs 3, 4, 5 and 11: Local pathways to addressing poverty and hunger.....	16
5.1. Ensuring universal access to local public services to promote equality and prosperity.....	16
5.2. Strengthening local economies of care and equality by directing local economic development towards equitable prosperity.....	19
5.3. Fostering local resilience and climate justice to reduce marginalized communities' exposure to extreme climate-related events and other socio-economic shocks.....	22
6. Challenges and conclusions.....	24
Notes.....	25



1. LOCALIZATION EFFORTS TO PROTECT PEOPLE AND THE PLANET, IMPROVE GOVERNMENT AND ENSURE A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR ALL

At the halfway point of the 2030 Agenda, our progress as an international community is far off track.

Despite relatively steady improvement through 2020, the world is now seeing stagnation and even regression on many Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets. Projections show that the world will not achieve the SDGs by 2030. As urbanization continues at an exponential rate and the multilateral system requires increasing recognition and involvement of bottom-up solutions, the 2030 Agenda emerges as both a challenging and indispensable blueprint for humanity.

Despite pre-pandemic progress, the [2023 Global Sustainable Development Report \(GSDR\)](#) underscores a distressing trend across numerous SDGs from 2020 to 2023. Recent crises have disrupted progress on ending extreme poverty (indicator 1.1.1), while other targets, such as achieving food security (indicator 2.1.2) and reducing global greenhouse gas emissions (indicator 13.2.2), continue to regress. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic lingers; it has slowed, disrupted or reversed progress across the SDGs; exacerbated existing inequalities; and contributed to the highest level of State-based armed conflicts since 1945.

With 1.2 billion people living in multidimensional poverty in 2022 (including many deprivations linked to housing, sanitation, drinking water, school attendance and child mortality), urgent action is imperative. Indeed, the GSDR signals that up to 205 million individuals face acute food insecurity. Global warming poses an imminent threat, risking destabilization of the climate system. Unprecedented natural disasters have damaged crucial agricultural production areas, fisheries, forests and ecosystems that people across the world rely on. SDG 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) underscores the necessity of fostering peaceful, inclusive societies with access to justice and effective, accountable institutions. Yet, current geopolitical conflicts have put attaining this SDG, which plays an enabling role for achieving other SDGs, at stake. While partnerships, research and capacity building at different levels are being strengthened, foreign aid and other resources are strained and still far from the 0.7% target needed to support investments in longer-term sustainable development.

The global community requires swift and profound transformation as we journey towards 2030. **Local and regional governments (LRGs), whether by explicitly using the SDG framework or not, have exhibited unwavering dedication, ambition and ingenuity in driving this crucial agenda forward.** Their proximity to communities empowers them to customize policies and services according to the unique needs and aspirations of their populations, particularly in vital sectors such as education, health care, housing and food security, which prove instrumental in alleviating poverty (SDG 1: No Poverty and SDG 2: Zero Hunger). By integrating bold climate actions into their policies and planning, LRGs are enhancing resilience and advocating for harmony with nature, alongside efforts to promote social and transboundary justice (SDG 13: Climate Action). Utilizing city diplomacy and localized initiatives, they play a crucial role in advancing peace and curbing urban violence, while also facilitating access to justice. They cultivate robust, accountable and transparent institutions by bolstering egalitarian, inclusive and participatory governance structures; reducing corruption; and ensuring widespread availability of accurate and trustworthy information (SDG 16). Undoubtedly, LRGs execute all these visions and actions by harnessing multilevel and multistakeholder partnerships, aiming to contribute more effectively to shared objectives (SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals).

This paper, together with the other two papers included in the [8th Towards the localization of the SDGs report](#), assesses the SDGs highlighted in this year's High-Level Political Forum (SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17). Drawing from discussions and research findings, which frequently emphasized national and global progress and hurdles, it digs deeper into local-level impacts, localized challenges and opportunities. Moreover, it sheds light on innovative and forward-looking policy and practice shifts and interventions led by LRGs, together with local stakeholders, which have proved to accelerate these transformations from the grassroots level upward. This paper offers multiple policy recommendations to harness local innovations and transform the current negative trajectories, driving us towards the creation of profoundly sustainable, equitable and inclusive cities and territories.

The three papers offer a comprehensive and harmonized perspective on LRGs' approaches to advancing the specific SDGs under assessment, as well as other closely aligned SDGs:

- **Paper 1**, written from a “people” entry point, aims to analyze localization efforts focused on SDGs 1 (No Poverty) and 2 (Zero Hunger) and, in connection, SDGs 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality) and 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).
- **Paper 2**, written from a “planet” entry point, assesses localization efforts focused on SDG 13 (Climate Action) and, in connection, SDGs 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).
- **Paper 3**, written from a “government” entry point, studies localization efforts focused on SDGs 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions) and 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) and, in connection, SDGs 1 (No Poverty) and 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

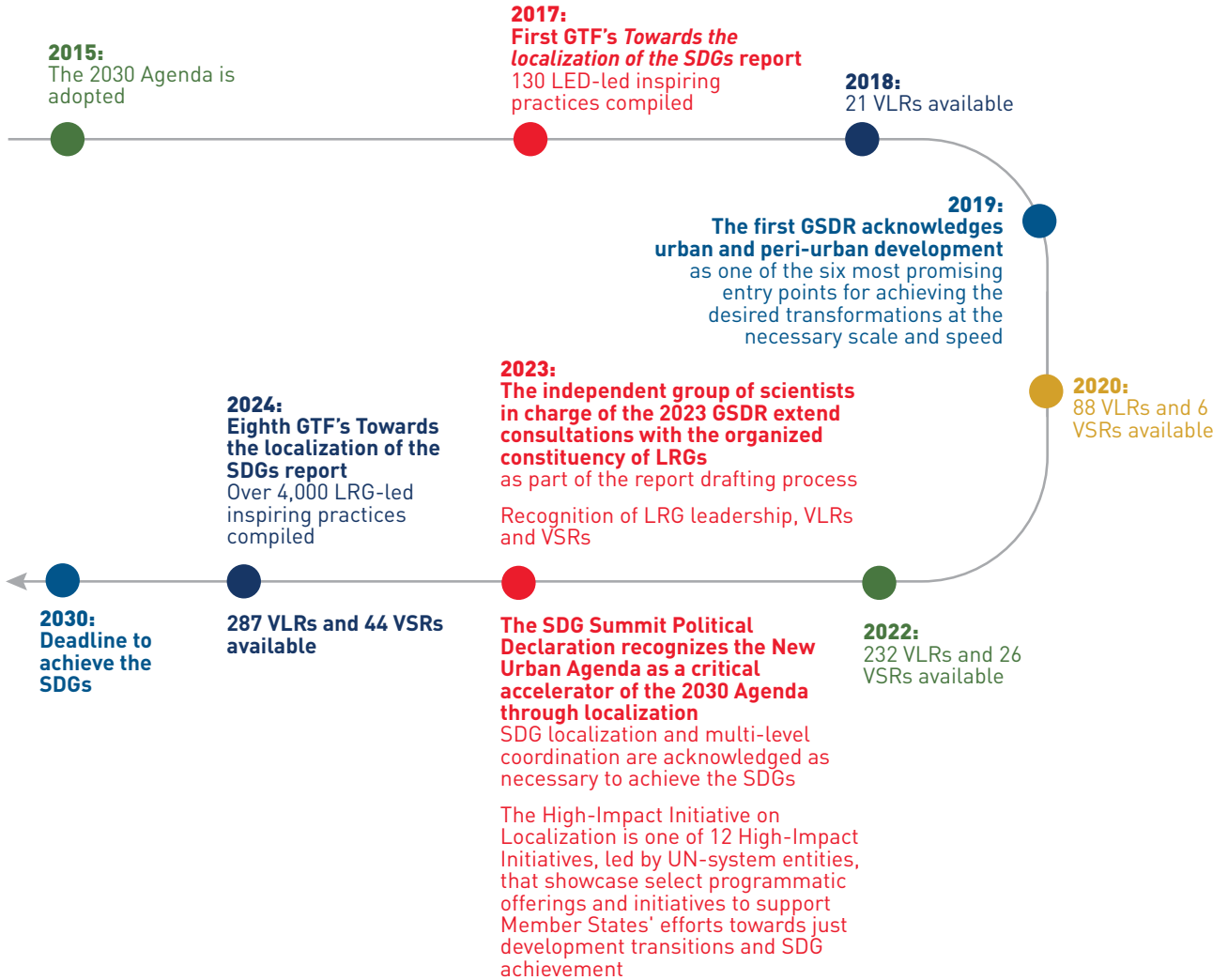
The three papers are rooted in comprehensive secondary research. They leverage strategic partnerships within the Global Taskforce (GTF) and its partners in an effort to strengthen the shared visions upon which the analyses and proposals are based. Coordinated by the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) World Secretariat, Paper 1 has been drafted by this secretariat's research team in collaboration with its other teams. Paper 2 is a collaboration between ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability and UCLG, and Paper 3 has been produced in partnership with the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies at the Center on International Cooperation at New York University, and the Peace in Our Cities initiative. The papers leverage insights, experiences and policies gleaned from cities, regions, local government associations, networks within the GTF and collaborative partners, including inputs from a team of researchers commissioned to craft the GSDR. This wealth of knowledge has been garnered from various avenues, mainly the GTF/UCLG 2024 Survey, written consultations and interactive online sessions.



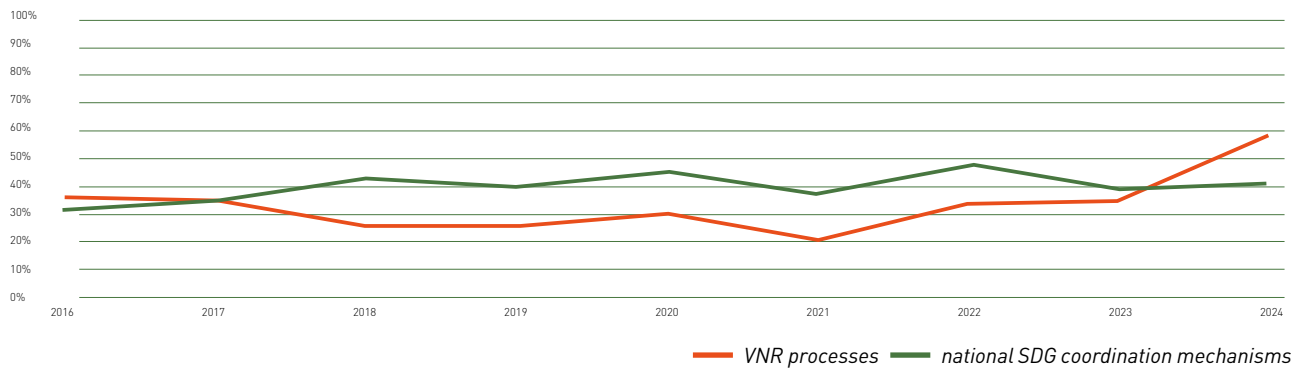
HIGHLIGHTS

SDG localization increasingly present in UN-led processes and reporting

1.



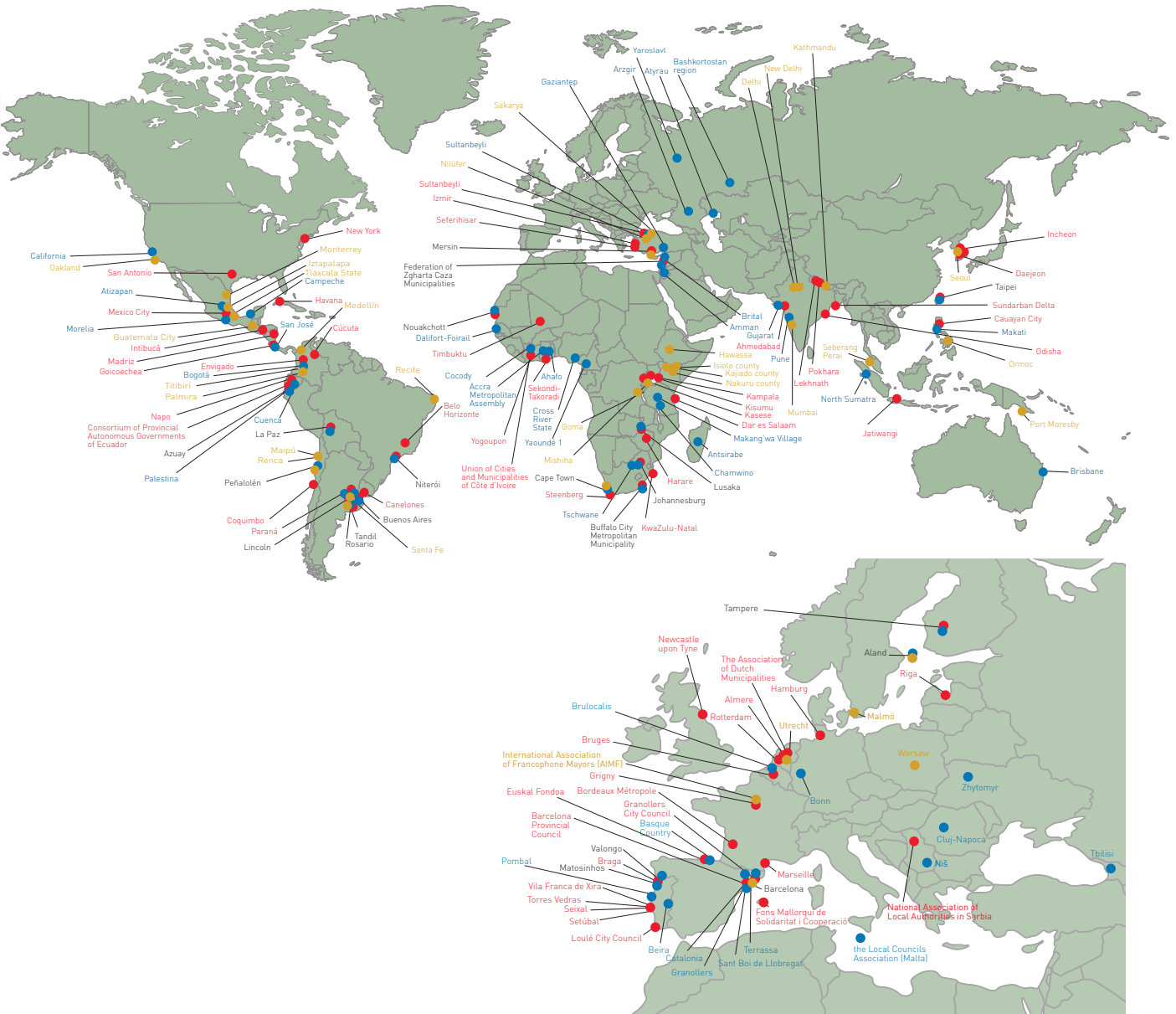
% of countries with LRGs' high and medium participation in VNR processes and in the national SDG coordination mechanisms



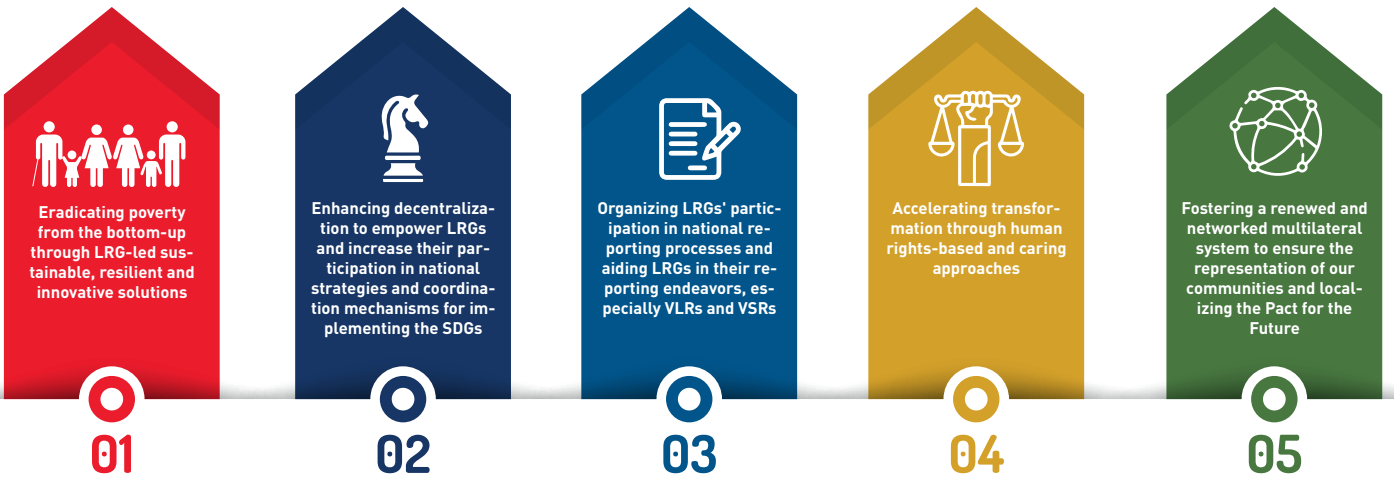
Cities', regions' and associations' best practices mentioned in the three papers

● PAPER 1 ● PAPER 2 ● PAPER 3

1.



Ways forward for SDG localization



2. INTRODUCTION

Poverty and hunger are among the most pressing and pervasive challenges confronting humanity today. Perpetuated by the unequal distribution of resources, opportunities and power, they interact with complex emergencies such as climate change and violent conflicts to challenge the future of our societies.

This paper begins by outlining key trends around poverty and hunger. **While such discussions often centre on broader global perspectives, delving into the localized manifestations and implications of poverty and hunger is imperative.** Therefore, the paper touches upon three dimensions that shape local realities regarding poverty: community composition, the spatial distribution of poverty and the effect of decentralization frameworks on local and regional governments' (LRGs') capacities to promote local prosperity.

Following this, the paper sheds further light on the concrete actions that LRGs, in collaboration with local stakeholders, are undertaking to combat poverty and hunger. **As the level of government positioned closest to communities, LRGs possess a better understanding of the unique challenges faced by their communities. This proximity enables them to tailor policies and services, especially in key areas such as education, health care and housing, which play a pivotal role in poverty reduction.** The paper synthesizes local actions into three distinct pathways, underscoring their significance for achieving not only Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 (No Poverty) and 2 (Zero Hunger) but also SDGs 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), 4 (Quality Education), 5 (Gender Equality) and 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).

Finally, the paper examines the challenges encountered by LRGs in promoting these pathways. Emphasizing the critical importance of overcoming them to achieve the SDGs, it stresses the need to foster resilience and innovation at the local level to overcome barriers and advance towards a more equitable and hunger-free world.



3.

POVERTY AS A MULTIDIMENSIONAL PHENOMENON WITH COMPLEX LINKS TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In 2000, the United Nations committed to eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by adopting Millennium Development Goal 1. At the 2015 United Nations Sustainable Development Summit, world leaders approved the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which expanded the scope of this goal to ending poverty in all forms by 2030. Among other targets, the resulting SDG 1 focuses on reducing the proportion of the population living below the international poverty line, considering factors such as sex, age, employment status and location (indicator 1.1.1).

SDG 1 also emphasizes the importance of adopting a multidimensional approach to poverty reduction (indicator 1.2.2) by gauging the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty across various dimensions, as defined by national criteria (indicator 1.2.2). The Multidimensional Poverty Index was thus developed to measure several types of deprivations beyond just income, using health, education and living standard indicators to provide a comprehensive view of poverty. Despite this, poverty-related SDGs continue to place greater emphasis on economic factors and the role of the State, while paying less attention to political, social, experiential and spatial dimensions.¹

Understanding poverty requires looking beyond just income and economic resources. Notably, poverty and hunger are strongly connected. Indeed, many countries define poverty thresholds based on the assumption that being poor is being hungry. Despite progress, hunger remains a significant global issue as both a cause and consequence of poverty. This situation emphasizes the need to ensure food security and sovereignty for everyone, everywhere.²

In 2023, approximately 1.1 billion people were living in multidimensional poverty, with half (566 million) being children under 18³ and 8.1% (94 million) being aged 60 or older in 2022.⁴ Poverty stems from and reproduces inequalities across diverse dimensions of life, including politics, economy, society and culture. **Beyond material deficiencies, poverty also gives rise to rights deprivations in critical domains such as education, housing, health and mental wellbeing.** As stated by Amartya Sen, Nobel laureate in economics, poverty has consequences on human beings' "capability" to fully realize their potential.⁵

Indeed, poverty manifests in various forms, including time poverty. People in time poverty cannot reduce the number of hours they work without either worsening their household's multidimensional poverty or causing monetary poverty, leaving them with no leisure time.⁶ This notion of poverty translates into "lower well-being, physical health and productivity" for individuals but is often disregarded by policies or measurements.⁷ These deprivations, coupled with existing barriers to access essential infrastructure and services, expose people in poverty to discrimination in many dimensions of life.⁸ Intergenerational transmission of poverty and deeply entrenched societal inequalities add fuel to the challenges already facing the world today.⁹ **Furthermore, although 30% of income inequality may stem from inequalities within households, especially disadvantaging women and girls, household-level measurements may mask this phenomenon.**¹⁰

Economic growth does not automatically reduce poverty. Poverty reduction depends on the extent to which economic growth fuels or counters inequalities, in line with political choices. Moreover, not all population groups equally enjoy reductions in poverty brought about by economic growth. Indeed, wealthier population groups typically capture the benefits of economic growth. It is currently estimated that the richest 10% of the global population earns 52% of global income.¹¹ The emphasis on GDP as the main indicator of economic growth conceals profound distributional variances influenced by geography, gender, class, race and ethnicity.

It is imperative to address poverty through a lens encompassing reproductive and care work, ecology and reciprocity, and move away from mass accumulation and extractivism.¹² As the definition of a "good life" depends on context and relationships, initiatives to enhance wellbeing for individuals must be tailored to their specific context.¹³

Regarding the lowest-income populations, Nobel laureates Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee note that no single solution works for everyone and that relying solely on theory is not enough.¹⁴ Experts now underline the importance of shifting away from universal methods, highlighting local initiatives' ability to provide better and customized solutions to poverty compared to big projects. **Solutions must be tailored to each specific case within territories and communities, and the participatory dimension of these context-based approaches often serves as an early indicator of success.**

4. EMPOWERING LRGs TO ADDRESS POVERTY'S LOCALIZED IMPACTS

Poverty manifests itself differently according to the territories and the bodies that people inhabit. LRGs, as the level of government closest to populations, thus face unique challenges when it comes to addressing poverty in their communities. This section examines three dimensions that condition LRGs' strides forward: the composition of local communities, the spatial distribution of poverty, and LRGs' own resources and capacities as defined by their national decentralization framework.

4.1 Community composition: The need for fine-grained, intersectional approaches to address poverty from the bottom up

When inequalities intersect, individuals belonging to multiple disadvantaged groups experience amplified impacts. For instance, a girl who is from an ethnic minority and lives in poverty will face heightened barriers to decent employment. **Recognizing these intersecting inequalities is crucial for understanding how poverty effectively unfolds within local communities.**

Children are vastly overrepresented among the world's poorest people. Children make up approximately one-third of the population in developing countries and over half of the population living in extreme poverty (333 million).¹⁵ Poor children usually live in households where no family members have finished primary education. When children grow into economically disadvantaged adults and become parents, the cycle of poverty persists in the next generation. Effectively tackling the intergenerational transmission of poverty is crucial for successful poverty reduction. **Any efforts to address poverty that neglect the specific challenges of child poverty are inherently inadequate.**¹⁶

Among people in multidimensional poverty, women are overrepresented among those with educational deprivations. Women and girls in households grappling with multidimensional poverty are also more susceptible to violence, a phenomenon connected to the instability of their living circumstances and their restricted financial autonomy. Indeed, 30% of global inequality is hidden by household-level poverty measurement, concealing the realities of women, children and people with disabilities.¹⁷ According to Claudia Goldin, a Nobel Prize recipient, the earnings gap between women and men who have the same degree and job position largely arises with the birth of a first child, which is linked to the unequal

allocation of time devoted to unpaid care work within a couple.¹⁸

Poverty is a major threat to the wellbeing of older persons: growing older entails a significant added risk of falling into or remaining in poverty. In the later stages of life, individuals often decrease their working hours due to health concerns or retirement decisions. When they choose or are compelled to continue working, many receive low wages. In many countries, the lack of robust social protection systems with broad coverage means that older people's assets and savings, if they exist, are typically insufficient to guarantee a secure income until the end of their lives. Within this category, older women are at much greater risk of experiencing poverty than older men, notably due to the frequent occurrence of shorter and more interrupted careers due to child-birth and child-rearing.¹⁹

Approximately 1.3 billion people, constituting 16% of the world's population, live with disabilities.²⁰ **While disabilities may cause poverty due to the high cost of accessible transport, assistive devices, rehabilitation and home adaptation, poverty may also contribute to the development of disabilities due to malnutrition, poor health care or dangerous living conditions.** Importantly, disabilities encompass mental health and can be invisible. Addressing disability-related poverty presents a substantial inclusivity challenge, as disabilities intersect with various inequalities such as age, gender, ethnicity and religion. It also involves issues related to access to health services and infrastructure. A major dimension of disability-related poverty is access to economic and social rights and opportunities. Limited access to these undermines the chances for people with disabilities to avoid or alleviate poverty. One necessary approach is to promote local strategies that address inclusivity challenges in the workplace and in public life at large.

Individuals may also be excluded from economic and social opportunities due to discrimination based on their ethnicity, race, caste, religion, language, gender identity or sexual orientation. When these aspects of identity intersect with disadvantaged geographical locations and economic classes, people face more difficult poverty-related impacts.

4.2 Spatial distribution of poverty across subnational scales: Impacts at the neighbourhood, city, intercity and regional levels

4.

Addressing global poverty requires understanding regional disparities. Among the 1.1 billion poor individuals, half live in Sub-Saharan Africa (5,349 million) and over a third in South Asia (389 million). Notably, within 110 countries, 84% of people in poverty live in rural areas.²¹ Research also shows that “people living in remote rural areas are more likely to be poor and their poverty is more likely to be long-duration, multidimensional and intersecting with other drivers of exclusion.”²²

Cities tend to be more prosperous but more unequal. As they often have higher standards of living, cities normally exhibit a lower relative incidence of poverty compared to rural regions. However, because of their scale, they tend to concentrate a greater share of the absolute number of people in poverty in a country.

The relationship between cities and their urban peripheries is also important to understand. Poorer populations may tend to live either in city centres, as is the case in some Latin American or African cities, or in peripheral cities, as is the case in other Latin American and African cities as well as European or Asian cities. Critically, poverty is often unequally distributed within cities. In that regard, understanding the neighbourhood scale plays an important role.

Urbanization plays a critical part in the consolidation of this spatial distribution of poverty. Through the global economy, cities and territories are connected with global processes of wealth generation and distribution, resulting in higher poverty in places with economic activities that yield low incomes

and with low-to-no employment-related social protections.²³ Rapid urbanization makes planning difficult, which leads to poorly structured urban spaces and an increase in poverty and inequalities. These dynamics particularly affect African and Asian cities. Yet, the relationship between urbanization and inequality is not straightforward: measures to restrict urbanization may even exacerbate inequalities, as was the case in South Africa’s apartheid era or Brazil’s favelas.²⁴

In sum, poverty is driven and shaped by the unique urban forms of each city and region, which are, in turn, shaped by a complex interplay of political, economic, socio-cultural and ecological factors as well as historical influences. These intertwined dynamics operate at multiple levels, contributing to diverse manifestations of urban inequalities.

4.3 Differences in LRGs’ capacities to contribute to SDGs 1 and 2 based on their decentralization frameworks

As Section 3 will show, LRGs are already advancing different pathways that contribute to achieving SDGs 1 and 2 from the local level. However, **LRGs have significantly varied capacities to implement such local actions, and these differences in capacity stem from the decentralization frameworks under which LRGs operate.** These frameworks allocate mandated responsibilities across levels of government, which include national governments and different levels of subnational governments (see Table 3.1).²⁵ **Understanding these differences is critical for accurately gauging the transformative potential of local actions and contextualizing challenges.**



Table 3.1 General distribution of responsibilities across subnational government levels

Municipal level	Intermediate level	Regional level
<p>Broad responsibilities, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General clause of competence • Potential additional allocations per the law 	<p>Specialized and more limited responsibilities of supramunicipal interest</p>	<p>Heterogeneous responsibilities depending on the country (in particular, federal vs. unitary)</p>
<p>Community services, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education (nursery schools, pre-elementary and primary education) • Urban planning and management • Local utility networks (water, sewerage, waste, electricity) • Local roads and public transport in cities • Social affairs (support for families, children, older people or people with disabilities; poverty-related assistance; social benefits) • Primary and preventive health care • Recreation (sports) and culture • Public order and safety (municipal police, fire brigade) • Local economic development, tourism and trade fairs • Environment (green areas) • Social housing • Administrative and permit services 	<p>Assistance for small municipalities</p>	<p>Services of regional interest, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary/higher education and professional training • Spatial planning • Regional economic development and innovation • Health (secondary care and hospitals) • Social affairs (employment services, training, inclusion, support to special groups) • Regional roads and public transport • Culture, heritage and tourism • Environmental protection • Social housing • Public order and safety (regional police, civil protection) • Local government supervision (in federal countries)
	<p>Any specific responsibilities delegated by the regions and central government</p>	
	<p>Responsibilities determined by the functional level and geographic area, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secondary or specialized education • Supramunicipal social and youth welfare • Secondary hospitals • Waste collection and treatment • Secondary roads and public transport • Environment 	

Source: OECD-UCLG, 2022 Synthesis Report: World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment

Certain government functions play a decisive role in achieving SDGs 1 and 2, directly but also indirectly through SDGs 3, 4, 5 and 11. In particular, investments in economic affairs, environmental protection, housing and community amenities, health,

recreation and culture, religion, education and social protection all play critical roles in alleviating poverty and improving food security.²⁶ Table 3.2 outlines the concrete tasks that fall under these categories.

Table 3.2 LRG responsibilities per the Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG) categories most related to SDGs 1 and 2

COFOG category	LRG responsibilities for the selected COFOG categories	
Economic affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road and highway networks and facilities (national, regional, local) • Parking • Railway networks and facilities (national, regional, local) • Airports (international, national, local) • Ports (sea and fishing, inland waterways) • Public transport (roads, railways, tramways) • Special transport services (e.g. student transport) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment policies/services • Support to local enterprises and entrepreneurship • Agriculture, rural development and irrigation • Telecommunications/IT • Manufacturing, construction and mining • Tourism • Commerce • Energy (e.g. electricity, gas)
Environmental protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and green areas • Nature preservation • Noise and vibration control • Air pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil and groundwater protection • Climate protection • Waste management (collection, treatment and disposal) • Sewerage (wastewater management) • Street cleaning
Housing and community amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water distribution • Public lighting • Urban heating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing (subsidies, construction/renovation, management) • Urban and land use planning • Urbanism
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pharmaceutical and medical products • General and specialized medical services and paramedical services (e.g. dental care) • Primary health care (medical centres) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital services (general and specialist) • Preventive health care • Public health services
Recreation, culture and religion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports and recreation • Libraries • Museums • Cultural activities (e.g. theatres, exhibition halls, zoos, botanical gardens) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage/monuments • Media/broadcasting and publishing services • Religious affairs
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-primary education • Primary education • Secondary education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher education (universities, other tertiary education institutions) • Vocational education/training and special education • Research and development
Social protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social care for children and youth • Support services for families • Support services for older people • Support services for people with disabilities • Benefits and policies to address social exclusion/poverty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support services for migrants • Integration of foreigners • Social welfare centres • Housing subsidies/benefits • Unemployment subsidies/benefits

4.

Analyzing real LRG spending on each of these government functions supports understanding the extent to which national frameworks enable local actions for addressing poverty and hunger.

This subsection analyzes this issue from two entry points. First, it provides an overview of the regional trends, identifying what proportion of total government investment in each category corresponds to LRGs' expenditure. Second, it identifies LRGs' absolute expenditure within these categories. Looking at these data together makes it possible to understand LRGs' weight in a given region regarding government investments linked to achieving SDGs 1 and 2

2, as well as LRGs' capacities in their own terms. In some cases, LRGs may represent a high proportion of total government expenditure in a given sector, but in absolute terms, they may manage very little money – or the opposite.²⁷

By world region, Figure 3.1 shows the average share of total government expenditure made by LRGs in key government functions related to SDGs 1 and 2. Figure 3.2 quantifies the average regional LRG expenditure in each of these categories as US dollars (USD) converted with purchasing power parity (PPP) rates.²⁸

Figure 3.1 Average share of LRG expenditure over total government expenditure in government functions key to SDGs 1 and 2, by region

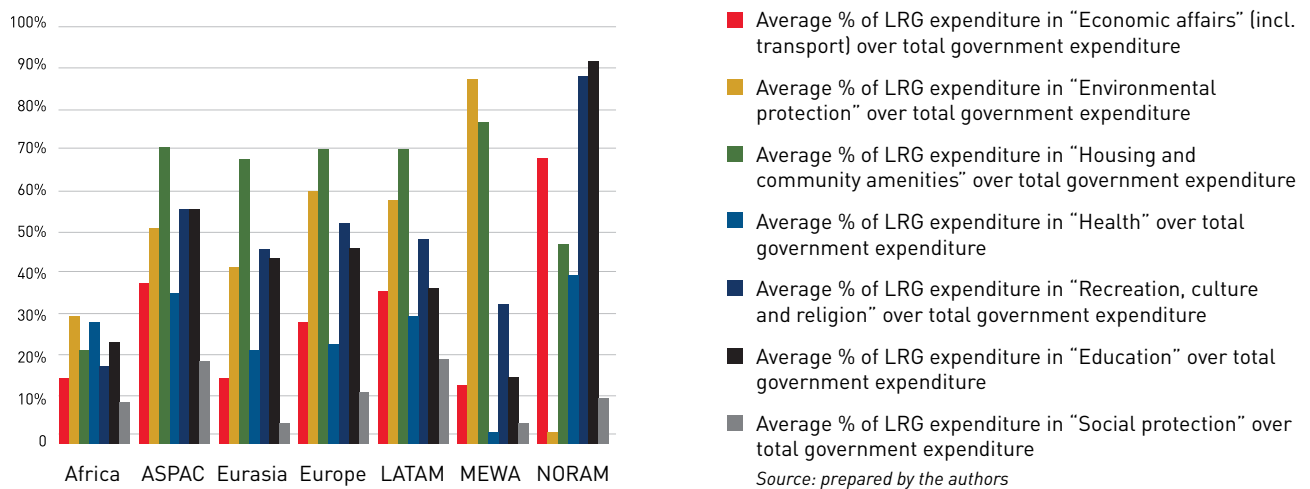
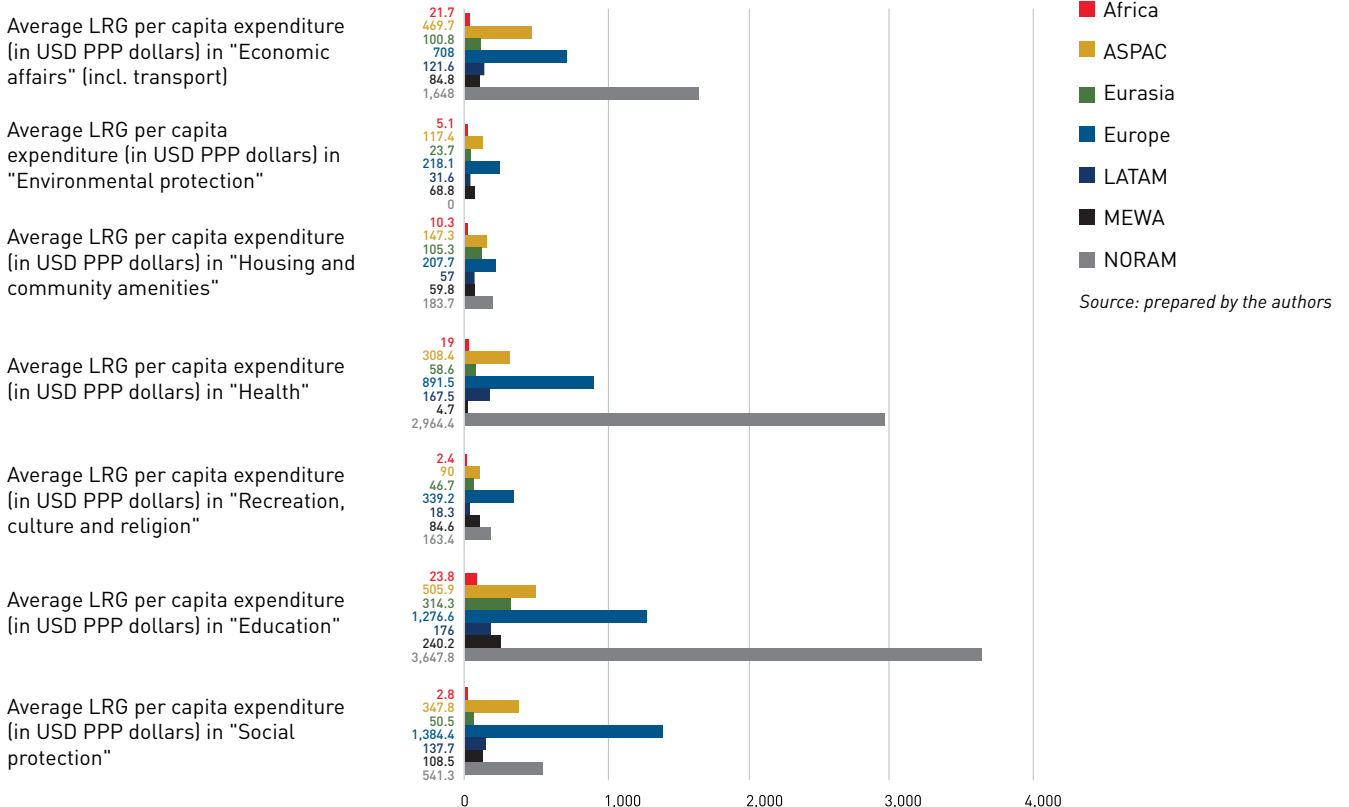


Figure 3.2 Average LRG expenditure (in PPP USD) in government functions key to SDGs 1 and 2, by region



4.

These figures illustrate important contrasts across regions and key government functions that are worth examining to situate LRGs' capacities to contribute to SDGs 1 and 2 as well as SDGs 3, 4, 5 and 11.

In general, housing and community amenities is the government function in which LRG expenditure constitutes the largest proportion of total government expenditure. Globally, on average, LRG expenditure makes up 59% of total government expenditure in this category. Asia-Pacific (ASPAC) has the highest proportion: LRGs account for 70.7% of total government expenditure, equivalent to 147.3 PPP USD per capita, showcasing their significant role in providing housing and improving community infrastructure. In Europe and Latin America (LATAM), LRG expenditure also represents a substantial share of total government expenditure on housing and community amenities, constituting 71.6% (207.7 PPP USD per capita) and 54% (57 PPP USD per capita), respectively. These data reflect LRGs' focus on enhancing living standards and urban development, as well as regional differences in spending capacity.

On average across all world regions, recreation, culture and religion is the second government category in which LRGs play a heavy role, representing 49.7% of total government expenditure. Yet, in this case, regional differences in absolute expenditure are noteworthy. At 90.3%, LRGs' share of total government expenditure is highest in North America (NORAM) and equates to 163.4 PPP USD per capita.²⁹ In ASPAC, LRGs also make a substantial contribution to recreation, culture and religion, accounting for 57.1% of total government expenditure and 90 PPP USD per capita. Europe follows with 53.1%, indicating LRGs' strong role in supporting recreational and cultural initiatives, with an equivalent of 339.2 PPP USD per capita. LRGs' share of total government expenditure in this category is lowest in Africa, at 17.6%, which totals 2.4 PPP USD per capita in absolute terms.

Environmental protection ranks third in the proportion of overall government investment made by LRGs: across all world regions, LRGs' share averages 47.3%, suggesting LRGs' strong role in environmental conservation and sustainability. The Middle East and West Asia (MEWA) region stands out, with LRGs accounting for 88% of total government expenditure on environmental protection, which translates to 68.8 PPP USD per capita. LRGs play a crucial role in environmental sustainability efforts in the region, although regional sustainability efforts need to be strengthened altogether. In Europe, LRG expenditure on environmental protection represents 61.3% of total government spending and 218.1 PPP USD per capita. Meanwhile, LRGs also make an important contribution in LATAM and ASPAC, making

up 58% (31.6 PPP USD per capita) and 51.9% (117.4 PPP USD per capita), respectively, of total government expenditure allocated to this category. In Africa, LRG expenditure represents 30.3% (5 PPP USD per capita). No data for NORAM is available.

Worldwide, the average LRG share of total government expenditure on education is 45%, reflecting LRGs' significant role in providing educational services and promoting human development. NORAM has the highest proportion: LRGs constitute 92.1% of total government spending (3,647.8 PPP USD per capita).³⁰ In ASPAC, LRGs make a significant contribution to education investment, with their share of total government investment standing at 56.9%, equivalent to 505.9 PPP USD per capita. In Europe, this proportion is 46.1% (1,276.6 PPP USD per capita). For other world regions, the proportion is consistently high: 44.7% in Eurasia (314.3 PPP USD per capita), 36.7% in LATAM (176 PPP USD per capita) and 24.3% in Africa (23.8 PPP USD per capita). It is lowest in MEWA, where the percentage of LRG expenditure with respect to total government expenditure stands at 14.7% (240 PPP USD per capita).

Regarding economic affairs (including transport), LRGs account for 30.6% of total government expenditure globally, suggesting their strong role in steering both economic and urban development. LRGs have the greatest capacity to shape economic policies and infrastructure development in NORAM, where they account for 68.4% of total government expenditure, equivalent to 1,648 PPP USD per capita.^{31,32} ASPAC follows with 38.7% (469.7 PPP USD per capita), showcasing LRGs' substantial contribution to economic activities and infrastructure projects in the region. In Europe and LATAM, a significant portion of total government expenditure in economic affairs corresponds to LRG expenditure, at 28.8% (708 PPP USD per capita) and 36.2% (121.6 PPP USD per capita), respectively, reflecting LRGs' importance in driving economic growth and development despite a stark difference in LRGs' absolute expenditure capacities between the two regions.

Across world regions, LRGs make up 25.8% of total government expenditure on health. However, two regions deviate significantly from this average: NORAM and MEWA. In NORAM, the average LRG share of total government expenditure on health equals 40% (2,964.4 PPP USD per capita).³³ LRG expenditure in ASPAC and Europe also represents a considerable proportion, with 35.8% (308.4 PPP USD per capita) and 24% (891.5 PPP USD per capita), respectively, reflecting LRGs' importance in health care delivery and public health initiatives. In MEWA, LRGs play a limited role: they represent only 0.5% of total government investment in health.

Globally, LRGs contribute a significantly low share of total government expenditure on social protection: 11%. The percentage is highest for ASPAC and LATAM, at 19.3% (374.8 PPP USD per capita) and

19.7% (137.7 PPP USD per capita), respectively. In Europe, LRGs' proportion of total government expenditures on social protection constitutes 11.8%, equivalent to 1,384.4 PPP USD per capita.

5. LRGs' EFFORTS TO LOCALIZE SDGs 1 AND 2 THROUGH SDGs 3, 4, 5 AND 11: LOCAL PATHWAYS TO ADDRESSING POVERTY AND HUNGER

LRGs play a key role in tackling the complex impacts of poverty, engaging across multiple areas that intersect with the SDGs. By grouping LRGs' actions into pathways, the analysis in this section shows that trajectories of change can go beyond policy silos and take different shapes according to the local context.³⁴ These pathways encompass different kinds of experiences and aim to inspire efforts by LRGs in different territories by demonstrating the different shapes the three pathways can take. This range of experiences includes policies, strategies and programmes that are often undertaken by LRGs in collaboration with their local communities and that cut across SDGs.

The following section explores three pathways that LRGs are advancing to address poverty and hunger:

- **Fostering and maintaining universal access to fair and inclusive local public services:** LRGs are at the forefront of ensuring that essential services are accessible to all, fostering a more equitable society. In addition to SDGs 1 and 2, their efforts to do so advance SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) and 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).
- **Strengthening local economies of care and equality by directing local economic development towards equitable prosperity:** LRGs are actively working to create an environment that promotes economic growth while addressing social disparities, directly impacting SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality).
- **Fostering local resilience and climate justice to reduce poor and marginalized communities' exposure to extreme climate-related events and other shocks:** this pathway intersects with various SDGs related to local food autonomy (SDG 2: Zero Hunger) and changing patterns of production and consumption (SDG 12: Respon-



sible Consumption and Production). Additionally, it emphasizes the importance of including heritage and culture in LRGs' climate plans and policies. Overall, it addresses the question of inequality and poverty (SDGs 1 and 10), advocating for sustainable cities and communities (SDG 11) through actions for SDGs 15 (Life on Land) and 13 (Climate Action).

5.1 Ensuring universal access to local public services to promote equality and prosperity

LRGs are often directly responsible for providing various local public services. As such, they play a crucial role in making these services accessible to all populations to prevent and reduce poverty local-

5.

ly. Moreover, LRGs frequently go beyond their assigned responsibilities to address poverty through local action. In practice, this means expanding the range of local public services for which an LRG takes responsibility, including “new essential services,” and innovating in how these services are managed – which usually also reinforces local democracy. Consequently, this subsection will outline experiences related to LRG-mandated competences and beyond. It will centre human rights and culturally sensitive approaches in service delivery, food security, health, water, sanitation, energy and housing as levers to shape a service-based pathway to addressing poverty locally.

Migrant status significantly contributes to inequalities. Without citizenship, individuals are denied access to public services, including fundamental necessities such as having a postal address. An increasing number of LRGs are working along the lines of “human rights cities” and advancing policies and strategies towards universalizing access to local citizenship. For instance, in **Barcelona** (Spain), the Municipal Immigration Council allows migrants and their associations to participate in local policy-making. One city policy, the [Política d'em-padronament actiu](#), builds upon the local government's autonomy to manage the local registry of city residents to proactively register migrant populations – especially those without regularized migratory status.³⁵ Similarly, in **Montréal** (Canada), the [Access Without Fear Policy](#) aims to reassure individuals without regularized immigration status that they can use police services safely with a city-issued proof of identity and residence card, without risking being reported, detained or deported. Having the opportunity to participate in local life and decision-making processes allows marginalized communities to share their experiences and information about what can improve their conditions. The [Pledge of Zurich](#) (Switzerland) aims to improve access to municipal and private services such as banking and health insurance for all.³⁶

Increasing access to water and sanitation is a powerful way to address poverty. Accessible, affordable and adapted water provision systems, sanitation and waste management remove a considerable burden for poor populations. The [Cosecha de Lluvia](#) programme in **Mexico City** (Mexico) has made the city a global leader in rainwater harvesting, with 62,700 systems installed as of October 2023. This sustainable solution provides water autonomy to households, benefitting poor communities and women who typically manage water resources while also increasing the city's resilience to impacts of climate change.³⁷ In **Paraná** (Argentina), [water basin committees](#) were created as territorial units for citizen-government coordination. They have helped share local knowledge and increase transparen-

cy on the levels of water, its quality, and flood- and erosion-related risks. Citizens are empowered and can act to protect and better manage resources in an equitable way that does not undermine the poor.³⁸

In **Dar es Salaam** (Tanzania), [simplified sewerage systems](#) provide access to affordable sanitation for marginalized communities living in informal settlements, thus improving their health conditions and reducing conflicts and costs.³⁹ In **Kampala** (Uganda), the [Weyonje app](#) has enabled mapping pit latrines by using geographical information systems, which eases managing and emptying them. The app has fostered a culture of cleanliness and improved access to sanitation for the urban poor.⁴⁰

Some LRGs are also promoting mental health and wellbeing by enhancing communal living spaces and innovative services that actively seek to reach all populations. The [Accessible Life Park](#) in **Mersin** (Türkiye) is a communal space for social interaction with a swimming pool, green areas, meeting rooms, workshops, recreational zones, dance floor and relaxation spots. Free for people with disabilities of all ages, it offers psychologists' support to enhance children's mobility, communication and interpersonal skills. After COVID-19, **Daejeon** (Republic of Korea) introduced the [Mind TalkTalk Bus](#). The bus offers mental health services, and it makes discussing mental health and seeking help more accessible for individuals who face stigmatization or time and location constraints.⁴¹ **Matosinhos** (Portugal) established “[Ativa'mente](#)”: a communication campaign and events geared towards enhancing mental health literacy, diminishing the stigma surrounding mental illness and advocating for healthy lifestyles.

Local initiatives also support health and the provision of care in the early stages of life. **Sultanbeyli** (Türkiye) formulated the [Home Visiting-Based Family Guidance](#) programme to support children's development in their first three years by working with families through home visits. This initiative aims to promote healthy nutrition, maternal wellbeing and mother-child bonding while improving child-care knowledge and skills. In the same vein, in **Tandil** (Argentina), the [Tenemos Infancia en Tandil](#) project focuses on children's food security and wellbeing. The project ensures newborns have access to nutrition, hygiene, stimulating educational materials and initial check-ups at community health centres. [Free daily park meals](#) are prepared in summer for children and young people of **Tampere** (Finland), connecting professionals working in the area with children and youth. Some children rely on park meals for nutrition in the summer when school meals are unavailable.

Likewise, initiatives that leverage the potential of education as a key lever to address poverty locally

5.

are worth spotlighting. Directly connecting education and health, the [Growing Up Healthy](#) project in **Rotterdam** (the Netherlands) introduced a family coach to establish connections between families, health care professionals and schools and teach them about health.⁴² The **Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality** (South Africa) established the [Mayoral Bursary Fund](#), which offers scholarships to students aged 14–35 from underprivileged backgrounds. Specifically, this fund provides scholarships in areas such as engineering and finance, in which people from lower-income backgrounds are underrepresented. It covers tuition, books, meals and accommodation. **Goicoechea** (Costa Rica) developed educational opportunities for marginalized individuals, with scholarships and support services. The local government promoted social inclusion through gender equality programmes, social justice initiatives, capacity-building workshops and improved local administration.

The cost of energy can be a significant burden on households experiencing poverty, as they often have to allocate a disproportionate share of their income to meet basic energy needs. Mitigating the impact of energy expenses, while promoting access to cleaner sources of energy for all, is crucial for achieving more equitable and sustainable development. In **Hamburg** (Germany), [MySMARTLife](#) implemented eco-friendly solutions that actively engaged citizens in producing green energy and creating environmentally sustainable spaces, putting them at the centre of the project.⁴³ Biogas was introduced to marginalized communities in **Saint-Louis** (Senegal), using [safeguarded mangroves](#). Multiple actors, including local authorities, came together to create green jobs, increase incomes and promote renewable energy sources.⁴⁴ The **Barcelona Provincial Council** (Spain) offers [energy audits and support services](#) for households in energy poverty to improve efficiency, lower costs and train users on energy-efficient habits.

Ensuring adequate access to housing for all populations is a critical lever for LRGs to reduce poverty as a precondition for accessing other basic public services and, thus, ensuring the fulfilment of different human rights. Decentralized housing-related competences tend to be very limited, despite the critical need to localize the housing agenda. Yet, in practice, LRGs utilize various policy and planning tools to engage with housing and land markets. Notably, LRG responses to protect housing rights include actions to prevent forced evictions and discrimination, regulation of land and housing markets and the establishment of frameworks to safeguard various forms of land tenure.⁴⁵

In **Grigny** (France), the local government has initiated [legal actions against property owners who rent out](#)

[deteriorating properties](#) on a per-room basis to multiple families, aggravating issues of over-occupancy. Twenty-five convictions have been secured since 2011, ensuring justice for tenants and strengthening marginalized residents' trust in local government. A law for [social and urban integration of popular neighbourhoods](#) in the city of **Buenos Aires** (Argentina) aims to reduce economic and social disparities by fostering community development and respecting the unique identities of each neighbourhood. The city has undertaken extensive infrastructure and service projects benefitting 131,400 residents across several disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

Addressing homelessness is imperative for countering poverty at the local level. **Matosinhos** (Portugal) has implemented comprehensive [emergency measures to address homelessness locally](#). The municipality also launched a campaign in 2023 to raise awareness and provide information on available resources for individuals experiencing homelessness. **Newcastle upon Tyne** (UK) has partnered with civil society groups to prevent homelessness, focusing on [early intervention and support for those at risk](#). In 2017, the city adopted the [Homelessness Reduction Act](#), demonstrating its commitment to [proactive solutions](#).⁴⁶ In **Marseille** (France), the [Plan Against Poverty](#) aims to improve care for people experiencing homelessness. It does so by enhancing emergency services through community collaboration, establishing an observatory on social precarity and diversifying food distribution methods. Moreover, the plan offers shower and storage services regionwide and educates social workers to improve outreach and access to rights for those in need.

LRGs often support community-led housing strategies, crucial for poverty reduction among informal settlements. A notable example is Dzivarasekwa Extension in **Harare** (Zimbabwe), part of the [Harare Slum Upgrading Project](#) led by the Zimbabwe Homeless People's Federation, Dialogue on Shelter for the Homeless Trust, and the City of Harare.⁴⁷ In India,



Odisha's Housing & Urban Development Department partnered with the Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission to launch the [Jaga mission](#). It is the country's largest slum titling programme, offering land rights, access to public housing subsidies and basic services. The programme's decentralized governance involves partnerships with local associations to oversee and sustain settlement improvements, and it emphasizes community participation by providing fair wages for local residents employed to conduct upgrading work.⁴⁸

5.2 Strengthening local economies of care and equality by directing local economic development towards equitable prosperity

LRGs assume a central role in strengthening local economies of care and equality by fostering equitable prosperity through various means. Equitable prosperity entails decent work, secure livelihoods, access to quality basic services and a healthy environment. It also includes food security and the right to participate in local and political decision-making. Importantly, prosperity is contextual, meaning that it is intrinsically linked to cultures. Populations must have the right to define elements of prosperity according to their own terms, as part of their right to political participation. LRGs are pulling different levers to direct local economies towards equitable prosperity. These include centring care, ensuring universal access to high-quality and lifelong education, supporting local economic development and promoting financial inclusion and the right to prosper for all, including through acknowledging and supporting commoning strategies related to informal economic activities.

Centring care as a guiding principle for promoting local economic development and sustainable prosperity requires revisiting social protection, which must be rethought to ensure inclusion. Health, dignity and respect must be placed at the heart of social protection policies. The [Social Network Programme of Torres Vedras](#) (Portugal) is designed to enhance coordination and collaboration among social entities, aiming to combat poverty and exclusion. It strives to address specific family challenges in the municipality, providing services, facilities and [social protection measures](#) for all citizens. The **Association of Dutch Municipalities** (VNG, the Netherlands) organized a social security conference in the country, which resulted in endorsing a [declaration for social security](#) that addresses the challenges faced by low-income individuals in accessing necessary support.

The **Barcelona Provincial Council** (Spain) has implemented the [Social Impact Debit Card](#), a prepaid card by local authorities that assists eligible families to access fresh food and other basic products. It prevents stigma, promotes integration and allows

beneficiaries to choose food options at local establishments, reducing reliance on food distribution centres and social marginalization. **Valongo's** (Portugal) [Viver em Saúde](#) project fosters the health and wellbeing of individuals living in social housing in Valongo through health assessments, dietary consultations, physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy and dental care.

The **Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities** (Serbia) supports local-level inclusion of Roma people through the [Support to Sustainable Community-Based Social Services](#) initiative. The programme aids LRGs in improving social services for marginalized communities, including the Roma population, through technical and financial support. **Johannesburg** (South Africa) established the [Expanded Social Package](#) programme to help qualifying marginalized households access benefits encompassing free access to basic services such as rates, refuse, water, sewerage and electricity. [The Citizen's Store in Seixal](#) (Portugal) brings together the public and private sectors to provide [37 services](#) in one shared location. The project aims to improve communication between citizens, companies and government authorities, bridging the gap between public services and communities in the Seixal municipality and Setúbal district.

The **Grodno City Executive Committee** (Belarus) provides social services and care for older citizens and people with disabilities. In **Atyrau** (Kazakhstan), cash assistance includes both unconditional and conditional support for low-income families with and without family members with disabilities. A social contract is formed between service recipients and career centres to promote employment. The provincial government of **Azuay** (Ecuador) developed the [Caravans for Life](#) programme to support human development through inclusion, social cohesion and peaceful coexistence, with specific attention to marginalized groups in order to reduce social gaps in the region.

LRGs are strategically positioned to leverage synergies between education and employment. Indeed, many LRGs are supporting social inclusion through local economic empowerment, entrepreneurship and vocational training initiatives. In **Buenos Aires** (Argentina), the [Nosotras Conectadas](#) programme offers online vocational courses for women professionals – including migrants, asylum seekers, refugees and beneficiaries of international protection. The **Union of Cities and Municipalities of Côte d'Ivoire** (UVICOCI, Côte d'Ivoire) developed the [Municipal Partnerships for Innovation in Local Economic Development](#) to empower marginalized groups, including women and young people in poverty, through capacity building and strategic planning, thus supporting local economic development. **Intibucá** (Hon-

5. duras) focuses on enhancing economic abilities for women, children, adolescents and youth through entrepreneurship in selected value chains and technical training. The municipality's citizen participation structures and the Citizen Transparency Commission promote compliance with these policies and accountability. **Komsomolsk-on-Amur** (Russian Federation) provides free training for mothers during parental leave, addressing territorial and economic disparities by covering travel and accommodation expenses for training away from home through the [Mothers Learn for Free](#) initiative.⁴⁹

The Inclusive Economy Programme in **Braga** (Portugal) focuses on reducing poverty by supporting entrepreneurship and providing financial resources and training to youth, women and people with disabilities, in partnership with local organizations. In **Lusaka** (Zambia), the Empower for Progress (E4P) project aims to eradicate poverty through a comprehensive approach within the local community. The project provides skills training, microfinance support and community development projects to empower individuals and families to break the cycle of poverty. Collaboration with local stakeholders ensures sustainable solutions and inclusive development for marginalized communities. In **Taipei**, the city's employment service led a [project for working-age individuals from middle-class or low-income families](#). Last year, this initiative assisted 2,265 individuals in their job search endeavours, resulting in 2,067 people (91%) being hired. The **Federation of Zgharta Caza Municipalities** (Lebanon) provided cash for work and training to help impoverished individuals develop technical skills for potential employment related to sewing, soapmaking, [woodworking](#) and fabric manufacturing. It supported building networks, leading to positive economic impacts and increased awareness of the significance of working together.

LRGs can play a decisive role in fostering protection of the commons and commoning strategies as crucial means for individuals in poverty to meet their basic needs and live a dignified life. Commoning strategies are one way that populations aim to meet their needs in innovative ways. These strategies can take different forms, and some of them relate to undertaking economic activities in the public space that have traditionally been deemed informal activities. LRGs' support of these strategies can lead to innovative public-community partnerships that change local public service provision and improve community trust.⁵⁰ It can also support overcoming historical barriers to quality and universal access to local public services. In **Lima** (Peru), through a long negotiation process, [Ordinance 1787](#) on street vending was co-developed with street vendors to integrate them into the formal economy. Proactively engaging with these vendors created stable and legitimate opportunities for unemployed and informal workers, fostering more inclusive and sustainable

economic growth. A similar case took place in **Ahmedabad** (India). Following conflicts, the municipality collaborated with a committee of vendors to design the new [Bhadra Fort Market](#) and negotiate a process for resettlement.⁵²

Commoning strategies can also lead LRGs to support innovations in financial inclusion, which can have major impacts on poverty reduction. For instance, by facilitating access to housing (a major investment), LRGs can play a critical role in supporting organized communities' access to finance. In **Lekhath** (Nepal), support from LRGs legitimized and expanded a project led by poor populations, primarily [women who came together in savings groups](#). With local government support, women's groups accessed loans from commercial banks to build houses, earning banks' trust due to their 100% repayment rates. In a similar vein, the municipality of **Pokhara** (Nepal) helped women in informal settlements who were involved in savings groups to access land at a [price well below the market rate](#).⁵³

Shortening supply chains, particularly food supply chains, is one key lever LRGs can activate to promote more sustainable, pro-poor and food-secure local economic systems. The municipality of **Setúbal** (Portugal) set up the [Amoreiras Urban Gardens](#) to promote ecological, social and economic connections among residents through sustainable agricultural practices. These gardens support diverse horticultural activities to meet urban populations' needs and improve their quality of life. In **Belo Horizonte** (Brazil), the [Urban Agroforestry](#) project aims to re-green deteriorated areas by planting native trees and supporting nine community production units. The project works to encourage family-based agriculture and contributes to ensuring food security for



local communities.⁵⁴ The [La Mimosa](#) initiative led by the **Granollers** City Council (Spain), along with the Red Cross and the La Magrana Vallesana cooperative, provides marginalized families with healthy and nutritious products while fostering social connections through participation in the cooperative. The [Social Canteen](#) project of **Vila Franca de Xira** (Portugal) provides daily meals to the municipality's most marginalized inhabitants. It values local and existing resources, engaging seven non-profit organizations as part of the Emergency Food Programme.

In **Niterói** (Brazil), the local government's [Jorge Amado Popular Restaurant](#) has served over [2.72 million meals](#) since its remunicipalization, offering an affordable option for both Niterói's residents and those from neighbouring municipalities. The establishment ensures a balanced diet at a minimal cost. Due to its success, an additional unit – the [Carolina Maria de Jesús Popular Restaurant](#) – was launched in 2023. **Tandil** (Argentina) established [neighbourhood food markets](#) to promote local products; support small businesses; and provide affordable, high-quality food options to residents, including marginalized individuals. Multiple urban and peri-urban agriculture projects have been implemented in **Nouakchott** (Mauritania). The projects provide fully equipped agricultural plots to disadvantaged individuals at no cost, thanks to funding from the Nouakchott region and its global collaborators. Participants can engage in activities that generate income and support achieving food self-sufficiency. Such initiatives are relevant to popularize access to healthy products while supporting the local food economy and biodiversity conservation.

Intermediary cities provide an opportunity to craft ambitious local economic policies and rethink the link between the rural and the urban. **Envigado** (Colombia) designed the [Local System of Protected Areas](#) to safeguard key ecosystems and engage the community in biodiversity conservation through activities such as art workshops, nature walks and school lectures. This initiative has increased awareness and ownership of the local environment.⁵⁵ To protect and bolster the livelihoods and self-sustainability of its rural population, the district of **Napo** (Ecuador) has supported the commercialization of local products by creating the brand [NAPU MARKA](#), which appears on all made-in-Napo products. Producers receive training to improve crop quality and marketing skills, facilitating knowledge transfer and commercial success. [Canelones Te Alimenta](#) by the departmental government of **Canelones** (Uruguay) aims to synchronize the food system in real time and support local procurement by promoting small- and medium-scale producers. It focuses on sustainable practices while marketing reuse and enhancement of agri-food systems, adopting a forward-looking approach by fostering innovation in agri-food systems

within small and intermediate cities. It also promotes efficient and circular supply chains through family farming, supporting cooperatives and unions.

Locally planned and managed economic development is more likely to capitalize on the unique strengths and resources of a community and its territory. Job creation in the cultural sector is an avenue for LRGs to combat poverty and vulnerability. An increasing number of LRGs are leveraging local heritage to boost employment in the cultural sector, especially for marginalized populations, and make it prosper beyond its territorial limits. In **Yopougon** (Côte d'Ivoire), the [Strategic Plan to Promote Cultural Potential](#) combines cultural development with urban renewal to generate business and income for youth through local resources. This plan has improved cultural variety, urban growth and job creation, in addition to reducing poverty and unemployment, by formalizing work in the cultural sector.⁵⁶ **Jatiwangi's** (Indonesia) cultural policy uses terracotta to promote economic growth, preserve Indigenous culture and boost tourism. The creation of the [Art Factory](#) supports the local economy by involving various actors such as artists, organizations, professionals, academia and international funds.⁵⁷

In fact, integrating culture into local economic and resilience strategies can ground equality and improve livelihoods while reinforcing protection from future shocks. The establishment of a [music platform](#) in the community of **Steenberg** (South Africa) showcases the impact of cultural activities and knowledge generation on marginalized communities' awareness and empowerment in climate resilience and environmental responsibility.⁵⁸ In **San Antonio** (USA), the [Climate Equity Screening Tool](#) ensures marginalized communities play a key role in preserving culture and addressing climate consequences.⁵⁹ **Timbuktu** (Mali) promoted a comprehensive cultural approach to tackle economic, health and education challenges, engaging citizens and organizations in decisions to [renovate traditional houses](#) using local techniques. This initiative revitalized heritage sectors, boosting income and restoring cohesion after violence. The project also benefitted poor families and promoted intergenerational masonry skills exchange.⁶⁰

LRGs can also leverage culture as an instrument to promote a different approach to prosperity altogether, moving away from individualism and competitiveness. In **Coquimbo** (Chile), [micro-neighbourhood workshops](#) emphasize cultural diversity as a valuable resource for inclusive societies, building trust among residents and addressing social issues through collaboration.⁶¹ [Apart Together](#), in **Cúcuta** (Colombia), challenged the idea of borders during the migration crisis by using art to focus on peace and cultural diversity.⁶² To sensitize its citizens about

coexistence and peace, **Incheon** (Republic of Korea) produced a [documentary on its sister cities](#). This documentary showcased the life of a multicultural Korean-Mexican family to display historical places, monuments and the value of cultural exchange to build harmonious and welcoming societies.⁶³ **Euskal Fundoa** (Spain) backed the new programming of the *Cultura entre las manos* project in **Havana** (Cuba), which provides accessible services and technological aids to deaf individuals, their families and friends.

5.

LRGs also work through local economic development agencies to connect the public and private sectors and boost local economic networks, job growth and small businesses. In South Africa, such agencies focus on agricultural initiatives, such as the [National School Nutrition Programme](#) and the Radical Agrarian Socio-Economic Transformation programme, which drive local economic development in **KwaZulu-Natal**.⁶⁴

5.3 Fostering local resilience and climate justice to reduce marginalized communities' exposure to extreme climate-related events and other socio-economic shocks

In pursuit of local resilience and climate justice, it is imperative for LRGs to address the interconnected issues of climate and social justice. This pathway delves into various facets of local action, encompassing innovative models of redistribution, resilient city planning, food sovereignty, waste management and the transformative power of culture and knowledge.

LRG competences such as urban planning, cultural promotion and waste management play a pivotal role in implementing effective strategies.

Decentralized cooperation proves to be an effective avenue for strengthening actions that link climate and social justice. The [Songpa Solar Nanum Power Plants](#) in **Seoul** (Republic of Korea) were developed using a unique business and technology model to promote renewable energy, environmental sustainability and energy welfare. They allocate 25% of profits to cash grants for low-income households and support sustainable energy projects in developing countries.⁶⁵ Hurricanes, climate change and COVID-19 severely affected the department of **Madriz** (Nicaragua), leading to shortages among the rural population, decreased food consumption and higher costs for basic items. In response, a project by the **Fons Mallorquí de Solidaritat i Cooperació** (Spain) provided critical food items for 800 families in dry corridor communities to improve food security between April and June 2022.

Future-oriented and inclusive planning positions LRGs to build resilient and climate-adaptive cities for their inhabitants. After the 2016 earthquake, the city of **Portoviejo** (Ecuador) made efforts to rebuild in a resilient way and adapt to climate change impacts. It built a [large park](#) in the middle of the city and designed an integrated network of green and public areas to mitigate flood risks.⁶⁶ **Cauayan City** (the Philippines) established resettlement zones for the pre-evacuation and relocation of at-risk families and developed two intelligent systems for disaster resilience and [pre-emptive evacuation plans for flood disasters](#).⁶⁷ The [Adaptur](#) project in **Mexico City** (Mexico) seeks to engage the private sector and its resources to support and fund climate adaptation measures. It has formulated manuals to assess the significance of ecosystem protection in investment analyses.⁶⁸

To build cities for the future, LRGs can activate future-oriented, pro-poor planning processes that shape future development in a sustainable, inclusive and resilient manner. The [Peynircioglu Stream Ecological Restoration](#) project in **Izmir** (Türkiye) improves living standards, environmental awareness of flooding risks and environmental conservation by enriching local biodiversity and recognizing that nature and human life are intertwined.⁶⁹ **Kasese** (Uganda) succeeded in increasing community involvement in [disaster risk prevention planning](#) and decision-making. It has enhanced understanding and expertise in disaster management, in addition to shifting attitudes towards protecting the environment.⁷⁰ **Kisumu**, Kenya's third-largest city, faces rapid urbanization and development challenges. Through a partnership with Slum Dwellers International Kenya, it conducted a [participatory vulnera-](#)



5.

[biodiversity mapping and climate risk assessment](#) in five informal settlements, identifying at-risk areas and populations. The results were shared with the community for climate action and planning.⁷¹ The [smart governance system](#) introduced by **Sekondi-Takoradi** (Ghana) aims to improve transparency and speed up the acquisition of development permits for effective management and risk-informed development. By enhancing permit processing, establishing a working group and engaging with the community, the city increased compliance with building regulations and encouraged investment in protected areas.⁷²

Food production and distribution have large environmental and social impacts that are critical for local resilience. Residents of Rijksweg and Metaal Kathedraal in **Utrecht** (the Netherlands) collaborated with the municipality to create a concept for a food forest in the new Rijnvliet district. The [edible residential neighbourhood](#) features plants chosen to benefit the environment, with a focus on cultivating edible plants and trees. On 28 November 2014, [Autonomous Municipal Law No. 105](#) was enacted in **La Paz** (Bolivia) to establish regulations for healthy food production, distribution, marketing, control and consumption within the municipality's jurisdiction. A proxy indicator based on households' experience from the 2018 Municipal SDG Survey was used to measure food insecurity prevalence in La Paz households. **Valongo** (Portugal) guarantees access to fresh, high-quality and fairly priced produce through the [Basket of the Week](#) initiative, a component of the larger [The Market](#) project. The municipality collaborates with the Cooperative of Local Agricultural Producers to support the local economy and promote environmental sustainability.

In **Johannesburg** (South Africa), 11,117 food gardens were created between 2022 and 2023 throughout seven regions. The programme allowed beneficiaries to secure food parcels, create their own gardens and increase self-sufficiency. Collaboration with the private sector also led to the creation of 130 agro-processors to enhance the agricultural value chain. The **Consortium of Provincial Autonomous Governments of Ecuador** (CONGOPE, Ecuador) launched the [Future of Food](#) project to create sustainable food systems, impacting 189,000 households and benefitting producers and consumers in different areas. With eight projects focusing on social, economic and environmental aspects, the initiative targets poverty reduction for rural families and income enhancement for urban and rural households by 2030.

Achieving food sovereignty implies changing production and consumption patterns – a mission LRGs can promote and support. For example, an initiative in **New York** (USA) to promote [plant-based food](#) in hospitals and schools aims to reduce carbon emis-

sions from food purchases.⁷³ In **Ghent** (Belgium), the growth of [small-scale peri-urban agriculture](#) has allowed the city to reduce the length of food supply chains and its reliance on large food supermarkets.⁷⁴ The municipality of **Lincoln** (Argentina) created the [Buy Local Programme](#) to showcase and promote local goods on supermarket shelves. Local businesses receive State support for product development, marketing and branding to boost sales and recognition.

Culture and knowledge can be leveraged for sustainable use of endogenous natural resources and traditional food practices for food safety and healthy eating. Some LRGs' initiatives have shown how the use of local cultural practices can restore sources of income and benefit the planet as well as the health of the local population. In villages in the **Sundarban Delta** (India), [cultural heritage skills](#) are utilized to address climate change impacts and enhance women's livelihood resilience by revitalizing the Shola craft tradition.⁷⁵ Women's collectives have built more sustainable and green means of living by avoiding relying on polluting materials. Similarly, the [Seed Swap Festival](#) in **Seferihisar** (Türkiye) raises awareness of healthy food sources to support farmers facing low profits. It promotes local and rare products, such as local seeds, and facilitates information exchange among farmers and consumers.⁷⁶

LRGs can increase their role in food waste management. The city of **Almere** (the Netherlands) has created the [Coalition Extraordinary Almere](#) programme, bringing together a community of supermarkets based on the principle of reciprocity. **Bordeaux Métropole** (France) collaborates with [Les Détritivores](#) to collect biowaste from one of its restaurants, with workers benefitting from a social reinsertion programme, to turn it into compost. **Riga** (Latvia) addresses food waste by converting 40% of landfill biomass into energy and heat for greenhouses. This sustainable solution prevents 2,000 m³/hour of harmful gases and provides both energy and food security benefits to the country through the [renovation plan for the Getlini landfill](#). In **Bruges** (Belgium), the food distribution platform [Flavour](#) was established to reduce food waste and provide healthy food to people in poverty. Local welfare associations, social grocery stores and restaurants are involved in collecting and distributing surplus food. The successful initiative has expanded to nine other municipalities in a partnership called *Werkkracht 10*,⁷⁷ showing how local government entities can play a crucial role in addressing food waste and poverty. **Loulé** City Council (Portugal) has partnered with Dar i Acordar to join the [Zero Waste Movement](#), focusing on recovering surplus food to address social needs. It works with public and private entities to redistribute, reduce and recycle food waste, preventing 152 tons in 2022 and benefitting over 18,000 people.

6. CHALLENGES AND CONCLUSIONS

LRGs are making strides to address the different dimensions of poverty through local action. However, doing so requires addressing poverty as a complex and multidimensional phenomenon, experienced differently by different populations and locations. This is one of the most pervasive challenges currently facing humanity. While SDG targets and indicators emphasize the importance of a multidimensional approach, integrating diverse criteria and understanding local contexts remains complex. LRGs have to navigate various dimensions of poverty, including economic, social, cultural and political aspects, which requires comprehensive strategies tailored to local realities. LRGs require inclusive policies and practices that address the needs of marginalized populations, which may differ considerably. As such, they should actively engage with communities to identify barriers to access and develop targeted interventions that promote inclusivity.

This paper has showcased different pathways through which LRGs are making progress. However, there is a pressing need to formally acknowledge the responsibilities related to reducing poverty and hunger that LRGs effectively have. In some regions, LRGs are responsible for significant expenditure in economic affairs, environmental protection and other key areas. In others, they face constraints due to limited budgets and mandates. Both ensuring equitable distribution of resources and prioritizing interventions based on local needs pose challenges for LRGs. Across all regions, effectively engaging with impoverished communities to assess their needs and prioritize expenditure is a precondition for successful local actions to address multidimensional poverty. Moreover, LRGs require increased fiscal autonomy to ensure continuity and flexibility regarding investment priorities that are essential to shift the dynamics that fuel poverty.

Scale is also fundamental for effective investments. Understanding how urbanization trends connected to economic activities – even if sometimes global – shape the distribution and prevalence of poverty is essential for all policy actions, including local actions. Implementing actions based on evidence at neighbourhood, city, metropolitan and regional scales, and analyzing the synergies and trade-offs of these different actions, is decisive. Although not all initiatives must be scaled up, addressing challenges related to scaling up local initiatives requires effective multilevel coordination across levels of government.

As global emergencies, including climate change and protracted conflicts, become more pressing, the local responses necessary to counter poverty grow increasingly complex. Strengthened and coordinated cooperation is required across multiple sectors, including economic development, health care, education and social protection, **as well as across various stakeholders,** including government agencies, civil society organizations and community groups, to implement integrated solutions. **Different levels of government must also collaborate, including increased horizontal cooperation between LRGs.** Many of the actions highlighted in this paper are already being led by LRGs along these lines, going beyond policy silos and drawing on multistakeholder cooperation. However, achieving consensus and coordination among diverse stakeholders can be challenging, especially as competition for resources intensifies in the context of complex emergencies.

Building LRGs' capacity to effectively address poverty is essential. This includes enhancing their technical skills, fostering leadership and governance capacities and strengthening institutional frameworks for poverty reduction. Investments in capacity building and institutional strengthening are crucial for empowering LRGs to develop and implement sustainable poverty alleviation strategies.

Adequate data availability and monitoring mechanisms are crucial for making evidence-based decisions and tracking progress in poverty reduction efforts. LRGs may face challenges in accessing timely and accurate data, particularly in regions with limited resources and infrastructure. Establishing robust data collection systems and monitoring mechanisms is essential for LRGs to assess the effectiveness of their interventions and make informed policy decisions. While it is beyond the scope of this paper to evaluate the effectiveness of and desirability for scaling up the local actions showcased, doing so is necessary to effectively tap into the transformational potential of local action and build trust with engaged communities, paving the way for strengthened future public–community collaboration. It is urgent to consider ongoing local actions to address SDGs 1 and 2 through different pathways based on an informed assessment of their potentialities and limitations.

NOTES

- 1 Allan Lavell et al., 'Pathways to Urban Equality through the Sustainable Development Goals: Modes of Extreme Poverty, Resilience, and Prosperity', *International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development* 15, no. 3 (2023): 215–29.
- 2 Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo, *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty* (New York: Public Affairs, 2011).
- 3 UNDP and OHPI, 'Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023: Unstacking Global Poverty: Data for High Impact Action', 2023, <https://tinyurl.com/24sdpbjf>.
- 4 UNDP and OHPI, 'Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2022: Unpacking Deprivation Bundles to Reduce Multidimensional Poverty', 2022, <https://tinyurl.com/4pw64ruj>.
- 5 Alexandre Apsan Frediani, 'Sen's Capability Approach as a Framework to the Practice of Development', *Development in Practice* 20, no. 2 (2010): 173–87.
- 6 Elena Bardasi and Quentin Wodon, 'Working Long Hours And Having No Choice: Time Poverty In Guinea', World Bank Policy Research Working Papers, 2009, <https://tinyurl.com/3773r8ht>.
- 7 Laura M. Giurge, Ashley V. Whillans, and Colin West, 'Why Time Poverty Matters for Individuals, Organisations and Nations', *Nature Human Behaviour* 4, no. 10 (2020): 993–1003.
- 8 WHRCF, 'The 13th World Human Rights Cities Forum Final Report' (Gwangju, 2023), <https://tinyurl.com/4ddx75px>.
- 9 WHRCF.
- 10 United Nations, 'Inequality – Bridging the Divide', 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/5n8uf89h>.
- 11 Mary Amponsah, Frank W. Agbola, and Amir Mahmood, 'The Relationship between Poverty, Income Inequality and Inclusive Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa', *Economic Modelling* 126 (2023): 106415.
- 12 Susan P. Murphy, 'The Relationship between Poverty and Prosperity: A Feminist Relational Account', *Journal of Global Ethics* 18, no. 1 (2022): 82–99.
- 13 Saffron Woodcraft and Henrietta Moore, 'Conceptualising and Measuring Prosperity', GOLD VI Working Paper Series (Barcelona, 2022).
- 14 Banerjee and Duflo, *Poor Economics: A Radical Rethinking of the Way to Fight Global Poverty*.
- 15 World Bank, 'Children Bearing Brunt of Stalled Progress on Extreme Poverty Reduction Worldwide – UNICEF, World Bank', Press Release, 2023, <https://tinyurl.com/2cv55pcr>.
- 16 UNICEF, 'A Practical Guide to Monetary Poverty Analysis Informing Policies and Programmes to Address Child Poverty' (New York, 2022), <https://tinyurl.com/apznbr6a>.
- 17 IDWA, 'The Way Poverty Is Measured Is Problematic', IDWA Equality Insights, 2021, <https://tinyurl.com/2uhr5vnf>.
- 18 Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, 'The Nobel Prize in Economics', Press Release, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/2ebzt726>.
- 19 UNDESA, 'Income Poverty in Old Age: An Emerging Development Priority', 2016, <https://tinyurl.com/2e8h76ww>.
- 20 World Health Organization, 'Disability', Fact Sheets, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/48nbd8k7>.
- 21 UNDP and OHPI, 'Global Multidimensional Poverty Index 2023: Unstacking Global Poverty: Data for High Impact Action'.
- 22 Kate Bird, 'Addressing Spatial Poverty Traps', 2019, <https://tinyurl.com/5n88ee9e>.
- 23 UCLG, 'Chapter 8: Prospering', in GOLD VI. *Pathways to Urban and Territorial Equality* (Barcelona: United Cities and Local Governments, 2022).
- 24 UCLG, 'Governance and Pathways to Urban and Territorial Equality', in *GOLD VI Report. Pathways to Urban and Territorial Equality* (Barcelona: United Cities and Local Governments, 2022), <https://bit.ly/3W-CmZD7>.
- 25 Given the limited scope of this subsection, the analysis will focus on the subnational government level (i.e. LRGs). However, it is important to note that aggregating subnational levels of government masks differences between them. In federal countries in particular, there are often significant differ-

N.

ences in allocated responsibilities between State and local levels.

26 These government functions reflect the COFOG, a widely used international standard for categorizing government expenditures based on funds' purpose or function.

27 This data is extracted from the OECD-UCLG World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment. This database covers 135 countries and draws mostly on data from 2019 to 2022. Consequently, this subsection's overview does not account for the dramatic changes in world regions where violent conflicts have started since then. Please refer to the database for more information, including the exact countries and data on which this analysis is based: <https://www.sng-wofi.org/data/>.

28 Purchasing-power-parity-adjusted US dollars (PPP-adjusted USD or simply PPP USD) is a currency conversion metric that takes into account the differences in price levels between countries, allowing for more accurate comparisons of economic metrics.

29 This data only represents the USA, as there is no data in this category for other countries in the NORAM region. In the specific case of the USA, 89.3% of subnational expenditure on recreation, culture and religion is undertaken at the State level, while only 1% is undertaken at the city level.

30 Once again, data is only available for the USA, as there is no data in this category for other countries in the NORAM region. In the USA, 91% of all subnational expenditure on education is done at the State level, while only 1.2% is undertaken at the city level.

31 All data on LRG share of total government spending, as well as all investment amounts per capita, reflect regional averages.

32 This data only refers to the USA, as no disaggregated data about subnational investment in economic affairs in Canada is available.

33 This data only represents the USA.

34 UCLG, 'Introduction', in *GOLD VI. Pathways to Urban and Territorial Equality* (Barcelona: United Cities and Local Governments, 2022).

35 UCLG, 'Local Citizenship & Migration', UCLG Peer Learning Notes (Barcelona, 2021).

36 Mayors Mechanism, 'Call to Local Action for Migrants and Refugees', 2022, <https://tinyurl.com/e5kuz4c5>.

37 Metropolis, 'Rainwater Harvesting Program – Co-

secha de Lluvia', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/ytbzwmh4>.

38 UCLG, 'Climate Resilience and Urban Development', UCLG Peer Learning Notes (Barcelona, 2019), <https://tinyurl.com/mpekm7c9>.

39 Centre for Community Initiatives, 'Developing Pathways to Urban Sanitation Equality – a Case Study of the Simplified Sewerage Solution in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania', GOLD VI Pathways to Equality Cases Repository: Commoning (Barcelona, 2022).

40 Metropolis, 'The Weyonje App', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/yfmhym7s>.

41 Metropolis, 'Mind TalkTalk Bus', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/3yrytdcw>.

42 Secretariat of Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation, 'Education, a Ladder to the Future', IN FOCUS, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/yv22r992>.

43 Metropolis, 'MySMARTLife', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/2ww6h8xj>.

44 Metropolis, 'Securing the Future of Mangroves', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/yc7jzuuk>.

45 UCLG, 'Housing and Basic Services from below: How Local and Regional Governments Are Advancing the Right to Adequate Housing', *Towards the Localization of the SDGs. Paper 1* (Barcelona, 2023), <https://tinyurl.com/bdtrnvz3>.

46 UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion Participatory Democracy and Human Rights, 'The Role of Local and Regional Governments in Relation to the Decriminalization of Homelessness and Poverty', *Contribution to the UN Special Rapporteurs on Adequate Housing and Extreme Poverty On*, 2023.

47 Slum Dwellers International, 'Experiences in Informal Settlement Upgrading: Zimbabwe & Namibia', GOLD VI Pathways to Equality Cases Repository: Commoning (Barcelona, 2022).

48 Metropolis, 'Jaga Mission – Odisha Liveable Habitat Mission', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/2n4pdjat>.

49 Cécile Roth (UCLG Research), 'Agenda to Boost Local Jobs and Livelihood Opportunities', GOLD VI Pathways to Equality Cases Repository: Prospering (Barcelona, 2022).

50 UCLG and Global Platform for the Right to the City.

51 WIEGO, 'Urban Development and Participatory Governance: Learnings from the Co-Creation of

N.

Street Vending Ordinance 1787 in Lima', GOLD VI Pathways to Equality Cases Repository: Democratizing (Barcelona, 2022).

52 Roth (UCLG Research), 'Agenda to Boost Local Jobs and Livelihood Opportunities'.

53 Asian Coalition for Housing Rights, 'Low-Income Housing Finance from Commercial Banks in Nepal', GOLD VI Pathways to Equality Cases Repository: Commoning (Barcelona, 2022).

54 Metropolis, 'Urban Agroforestry', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/3wahkndx>.

55 UCLG, 'Urban Ecosystem Restoration & Nature-Based Solutions', UCLG Peer Learning Notes, 2022.

56 Donikpo Koné, 'Youth and Cultural Citizenship', *UCLG Committee on Culture*, 2016.

57 MT. Yusmanto, S.Pd., 'Terracotta City', *UCLG Committee on Culture*, 2020.

58 Andrew Potts, 'The Role of Culture in Climate Resilient Development', UCLG Committee on Culture Reports, No 10, 2021.

59 Potts.

60 Kassim Diakite, 'Cultural Heritage and Reinvigoration of Socio-Economic Activities in Timbuktu', *UCLG Committee on Culture*, 2016.

61 Rina María Araya Castillo, 'Micro-Neighbourhood Workshops in Neighbourhoods of Coquimbo', *UCLG Committee on Culture*, 2016.

62 Alex Brahim, 'Apart Together – International Conference on Art, Ideas and Borders', *UCLG Committee on Culture*, 2020.

63 Na Ki-un, 'Incheon Embracing the World – To Contribute to Restoring World Peace', *UCLG Committee on Culture*, 2022.

64 Roth (UCLG Research), 'Agenda to Boost Local Jobs and Livelihood Opportunities'.

65 Metropolis, 'Songpa Solar Nanum (Sharing) Power Plant', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/ru7e3cry>.

66 UCLG, 'Climate Resilience and Urban Development'.

67 UCLG, 'Migration and Displacement Amidst Crises', UCLG Peer Learning Notes, 2022, [https://ti-](https://ti-nyurl.com/ym8ruxd6)

[nyurl.com/ym8ruxd6](https://tinyurl.com/ym8ruxd6).

68 UCLG, 'Climate Resilience and Urban Development'.

69 Metropolis, 'Peynircioglu Stream Ecological Restoration Project', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/2hx8ucrs>.

70 UCLG, 'Co-Creating Tomorrow's Cities in Africa', UCLG Peer Learning Notes, 2023, <https://tinyurl.com/4ebufvcj>

71 UCLG.

72 UCLG.

73 Resilient Cities Network, 'New York City's Hospitals, Schools, and Businesses Are Committed to Reducing Food-Based Emissions by 33% by 2030', News and Blogs, 2023, <https://tinyurl.com/25aaats3>.

74 Metropolis, 'Growth of Small Scale (Peri) Urban Agriculture in Ghent, Belgium', Case Studies, 2024, <https://tinyurl.com/mrxcstjj>.

75 Metropolis.

76 Dilek Ozkan, 'Seed Swap Festival', *UCLG Committee on Culture*, 2016.

77 Andrea Magarini et al., 'Food Losses and Waste in European Cities', *Milan Food Policy Office* (Milan, 2018).

Supported by:



Co-funded by
the European Union



Facilitated by:

