The Sustainable Development Goals - SDGs in the municipal map
Introduction

In my city, Chefchaouen, as elsewhere, it is through the partnership between local governments and the community that the 2030 Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will become a reality. It is only by means of cooperation and dialogue that the values of equality, prosperity and environmental and cultural sustainability can be fully shared by all.

In the global community of United Cities and Local Governments, we, local leaders, have expressed our commitment to the 2030 Agenda by walking the talk and contributing to the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals, and the global agendas. Intermediary cities will experience significant changes over the coming years, so we need to increase our capacity to meet our growing needs and the expectations of our citizens. This implies the need to learn from both the positive and negative lessons of our colleagues in metropolitan areas as well as other intermediary cities.

Earlier this year (March 2017), over 40 community leaders and municipal staff in Chefchaouen assessed the impact of the 63 projects belonging to our Communal Action Plan and municipal budget. Participants classified the actions according to a framework of dialogue on sustainability, which enables the impact of the SDGs across the territory to be evaluated, in particular in its urban area and neighborhoods. This exercise allowed the community to change their vision towards their city that includes achieving global objectives, thorough monitoring and the evaluation of municipal actions; responsible and conscious municipal actions that respond to the need to protect natural resources and guarantee human and citizen rights.

Although we are working based on a bottom-up approach, the implementation of all international agendas will only be possible, if an enabling environment and a multi-level governance systems are secured.

I would like to thank all participants, community leaders and municipal staff, as well as, all the citizens of Chefchaouen, for their participation and involvement in the process of localizing the SDGs, and for their interest in being part of a community committed to our planet’s sustainability.

We hope that this tool will be of interest for a large number of territories, both urban and rural. Given the vital task of localizing the SDGs and the role of local governments as key actors for sustainable development, I am honored to lead the UCLG Forum on Intermediary Cities. We are committed to share more practices and political visions and consequently, we invite other cities to join us by actively participating in the Forum.

Mohamed Sefiani
Mayor of Chefchaouen President of the UCLG Forum on Intermediary Cities
In the workshop held in Chefchaouen (Morocco) on 3-6 March 2017, a methodology for the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was developed based on the Communal Action Plan. Participants prioritized municipal projects based on a set of criteria, which enabled a visualization of the social, economic, environmental, cultural and human dimensions of actions and municipal investment for the coming years.

The map above is the result of the workshop. It condenses a reading of the territory that comprises the prioritization of various municipal projects and the location of the SDGs. The tool allows different agendas and plans to be linked to the territory, while making evident priorities and strategies. The exercise allowed participants to identify the great importance of the social and economic projects in the most vulnerable neighborhoods of the city.
A. Create awareness

To localize the SDGs, it is essential to be able to count on good quality local governance. In this first phase of the process, local governments call citizens, organized civil society, the private sector and local territorial bodies to gather in a round table to enable open and constructive discussion.

It is beneficial to include all actors committed to the achievement of the SDGs, like educational institutions, the private sector and international stakeholders, and link them to the local projects that will drive local sustainable and inclusive development in the territory. In addition to the participation of local stakeholders, it is constructive to involve other cities and networks, as well as trainers that can support the understanding of the SDGs and the 2030 Agenda.

“*The higher the participation, the better the chances of success*”
B. Localize and align the SDGs

In this phase of the methodology, the key point is to understand the importance of the SDGs in relation to the local development agenda.

With this aim, it will be necessary for the municipal urban planning department to explain the projects incorporated in the local budget to all participants. The second step will be the alignment of the municipal projects with one or more targets of the different SDGs. The third step consists in the classification of the municipal projects following a set of criteria for sustainability, defined based on the city’s priorities. It is recommended to consider various dimensions, at least social, economic, environmental, and cultural.

**Example of articulation between local management and the SDGs**

In the case of Chefchaouen, the SDGs 11: sustainable cities; 8: decent work and 3: health, are more aligned with municipal projects.

**Territorial Priorities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CULTURAL</th>
<th>ECONOMIC</th>
<th>ENVIRONMENTAL</th>
<th>SOCIAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>38.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Proyectos Municipales**

Alignment process

1. Change types of crops.
2. Buy four new tractors.
3. Upgrade the General Hospital.
4. Reinforce equal wages.
5. Install solar panels.
7. Build five socio-cultural facilities.
8. Create a recycling cooperative.
9. Protect the rivers.
10. Upgrade farms.
11. Build five schools.
12. Build three sports facilities.
13. Upgrade sewage network.
15. Develop three units of public housing.
16. Build a wind power plan.
17. Develop a technology-based PPP.
18. Expand the harbor.
20. Upgrade the public swimming pool.
21. Renovate the municipal market.
22. Create a job pool for technicians.
23. Urbanize a park.
24. Build a public library.

**Example of learning and awareness raising**

“Consolidate leadership through learning and awareness raising”
C. Territorialize and map

In this phase, the process becomes tangible: capture all municipal projects discussed with the participants on a map, taking into account the result of the classification of priorities based on the defined criteria.

For this purpose, it is necessary for officials from the planning department to locate the projects in the territory. Following the localization of the projects, the trainers will draw the priorities established in the previous phase, based on the defined criteria and in accordance with a defined color range. The result will be a map that displays public investment, and will enable a general reading on the perception of their impact on citizens.

EXAMPLE OF THE TERRITORIALISATION OF LOCAL PRIORITIES ON A MAP

IMPACT VARIABLES

KEY ASPECTS

Aerial photographs and maps
Urban plans and projects
Traditional or digital format
Map of priorities and investments

“Officials and technicians have taken a step forward towards the localization of the SDGs”
D. Implement and monitor

One of the most ambitious objectives of this methodology is to ensure an agile monitoring system for the implementation of the projects foreseen in the local development agenda.

To achieve this, it is essential to know the current state of projects: i.e. if they are in the planning phase, or are already in different stages of implementation. In this sense, municipal technicians are required to facilitate information about the status of the projects prioritized by citizens. This information will aid the monitoring of the projects. The map should include a variable that allows the identification of at least four (4) different stages of the project: 0% project proposal, 25% project approval, 50-75% project in progress, 100% project in completion.

EXAMPLE OF GEO-LOCATION OF THE MONITORING OF LOCAL MANAGEMENT

TRANSPARENT MONITORING
Impact variables: budget, duration, etc.
Guarantees of control
Evaluation map

“Good governance draws on transparency and shared responsibility”
Do you want to localize the SDGs in your municipality?

1. Value learning
   UCLG Learning and its partners, among which is the UNESCO Chair in Intermediate Cities, have worked with methodologies applied with and in municipalities around the world for many years.
   www.learning.uclg.org

2. Join the UCLG network
   United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) is the world organization of local and regional governments and their associations, representing and defending their interests on the world stage.
   www.uclg.org

3. Contribute to the Forum on Intermediary Cities
   This group, beyond the exchange of experiences, unites the voice of intermediary cities in favor of greater recognition of their potential and specific needs.

4. Learn about the SDG localization process
   UCLG, as leader of the Global Taskforce, along with UNDP and UN-Habitat, collects experiences, information, guides, videos, and many more inputs related to the localization of the SDGs.
   www.localizingthesdgs.org
   www.global-taskforce.org

Document by:

Since 2010, the UCLG Learning Agenda and UNESCO Chair of Intermediary Cities collaborate in collecting methodologies and concrete experiences that can enrich municipal governance. This partnership has supported the development of the Base Plan methodology, from which many applicable methodologies to better align local plans with the SDGs can be drawn. www.baseplan.udl.cat

In partnership with:

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