UN HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

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DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

UCLG CGLU United Cities and Local Governments

Fostering Covid-19 recovery and SDG implementation through local action in Asia-Pacific, Arab and African countries

ARAB STATES

UNITED NATIONS PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND

2030

AGENDA SUB-FUND

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Project Tracks

TECHNICAL COOPERATION TRACK

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TRACK

LEARNING AND ADVOCACY TRACK

MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE

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Track 1

TECHNICAL SUPPORT TRACK

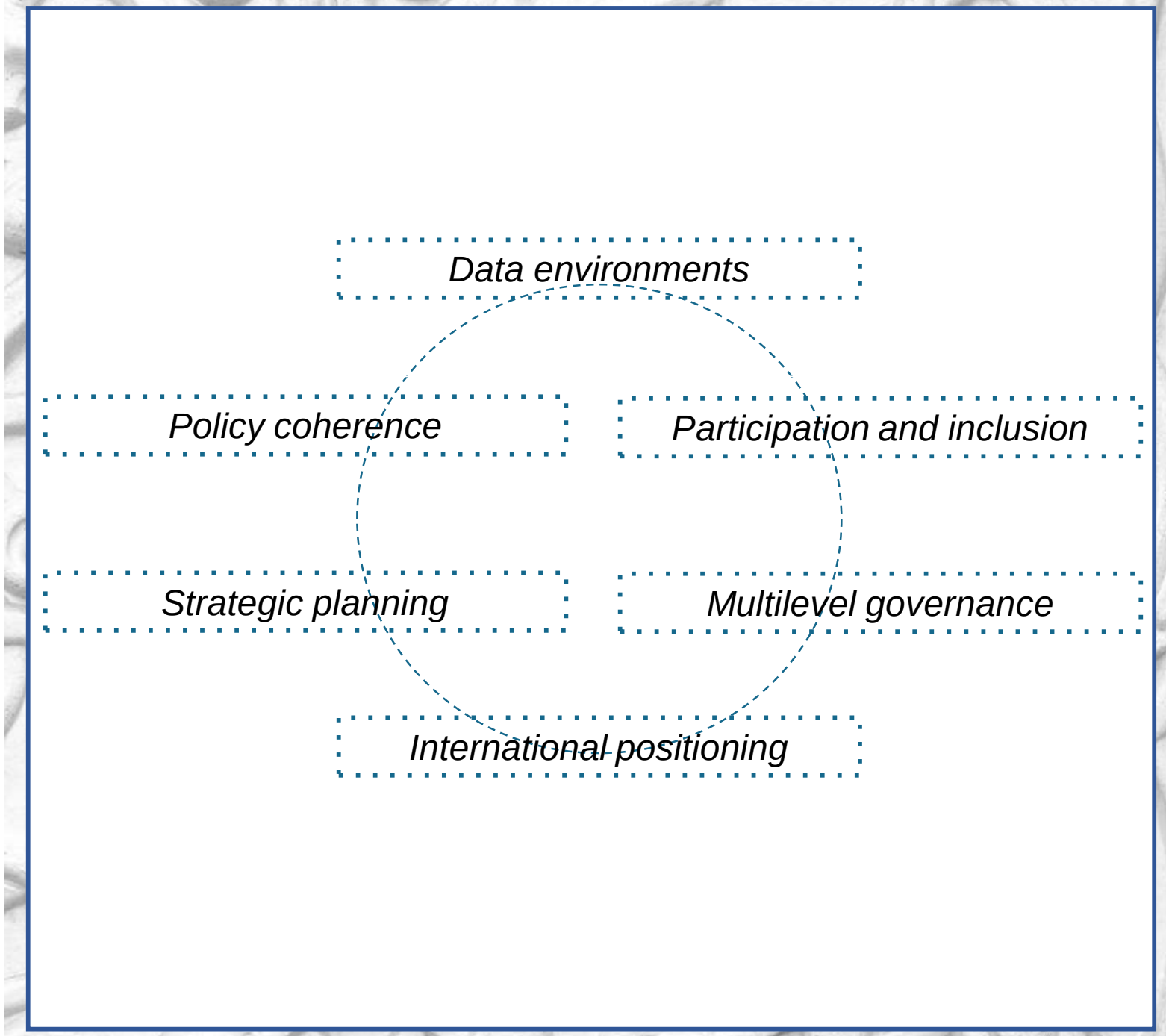
What is a VLR?

No universal definition

Common understanding: VLR aims to assess SDG progress within a given territory with a locally developed narrative.

Potential: strengthening all dimensions of SDG Localization

VLR is increasingly recognized as a powerful process for accelerating the localization of the SDGs



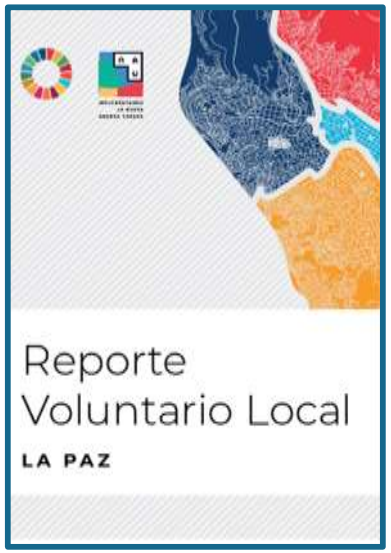
Implementing Partner's Support to VLRs

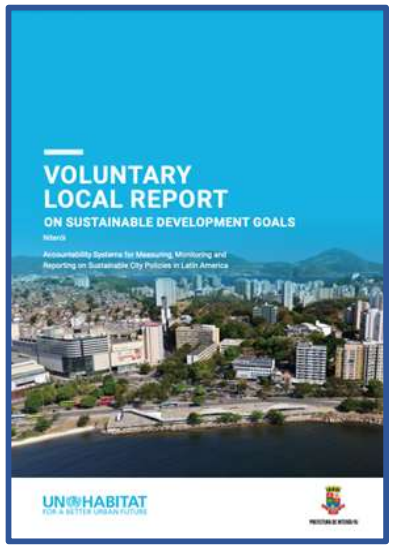
Technical support

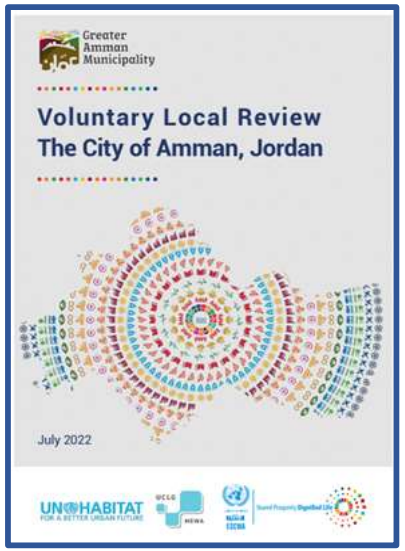
Peer-learning and capacity building

Regional and global SDG processes

Multilevel Governance VLR-VNR







Preconditions for a meaningful VLR

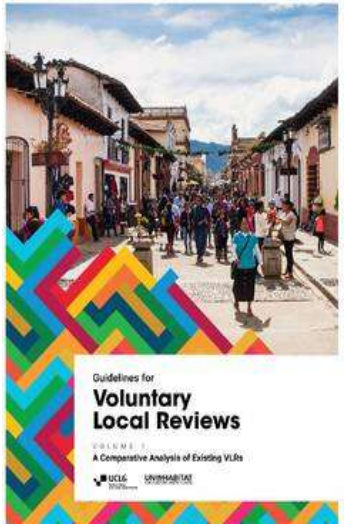
Political buy-in

Access to (a minimal amount of) reliable data

Institutional support to engage communities, partners and stakeholders

Methodological umbrella

Global VLR Guidelines
(UN-Habitat and UCLG)



Regional VLR Guidelines
(UNESCWA and UN-Habitat)

Regional VLR methodology based on the experiences of the region. The experiences of this project as well as other VLRs of the region will be informed by the Guidelines.

Action-oriented VLRs

Harness the full potential of VLRs: from monitoring and reporting to vision and planning

Global Urban Monitoring Framework

UN System for Sustainable Urban Development.

The framework is tailored to a range of scales of cities (tertiary cities to megacities); country classifications (high income to least developed) and to regional specificities.

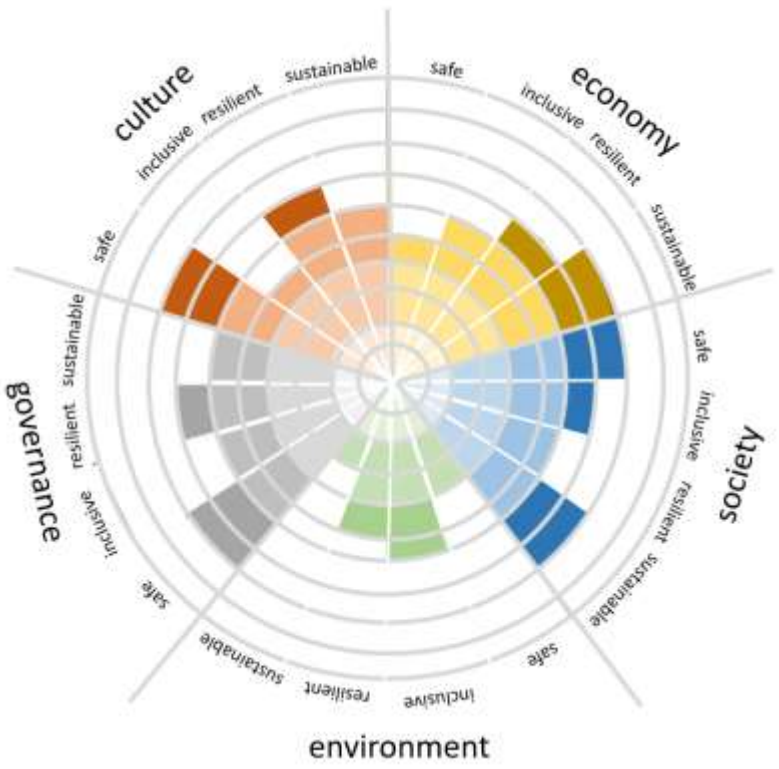
DOMAINS	CITY OBJECTIVES			
	Safe & Peaceful	Inclusive	Resilient	Sustainable
SOCIETY	Indicators for: Safer Society	Indicators for: Inclusive Society	Indicators for: Resilient Society	Indicators for: Sustainable Society
ECONOMY	Indicators for: Safer Economy	Indicators for: Inclusive Economy	Indicators for: Resilient Economy	Indicators for: Sustainable Economy
ENVIRONMENT	Indicators for: Safer Environment	Indicators for: Inclusive Environment	Indicators for: Resilient Environment	Indicators for: Sustainable Environment
CULTURE	Indicators for: Safer Culture	Indicators for: Inclusive Culture	Indicators for: Resilient Culture	Indicators for: Sustainable Culture
GOVERNANCE AND IMPLEMENTATION	Indicators for: Safer Governance	Indicators for: Inclusive Governance	Indicators for: Resilient Governance	Indicators for: Sustainable Governance

Baseline Assessment

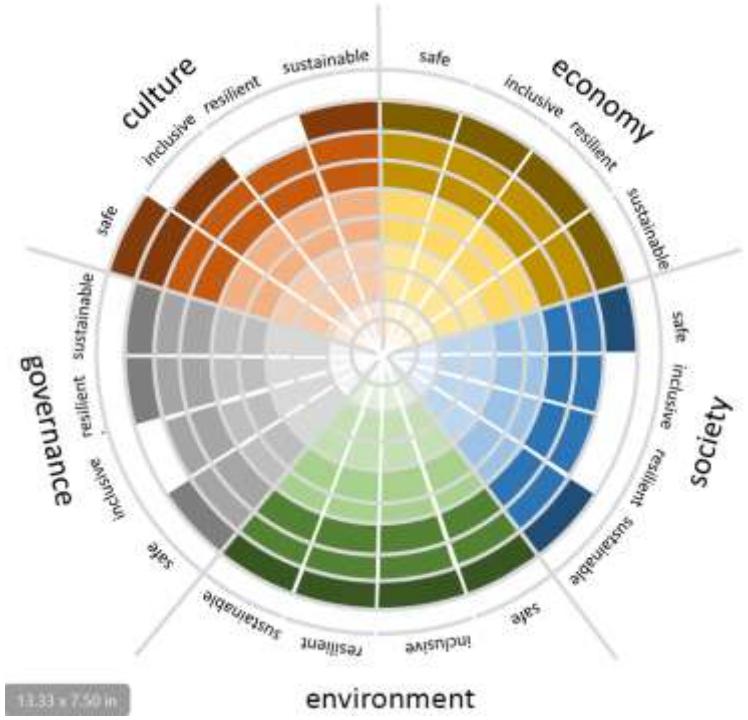
This identifies and spatially maps the status of SDGs, identifying urban areas that are most left behind and priority sectors requiring investment.

It provides evidence to support strategic planning

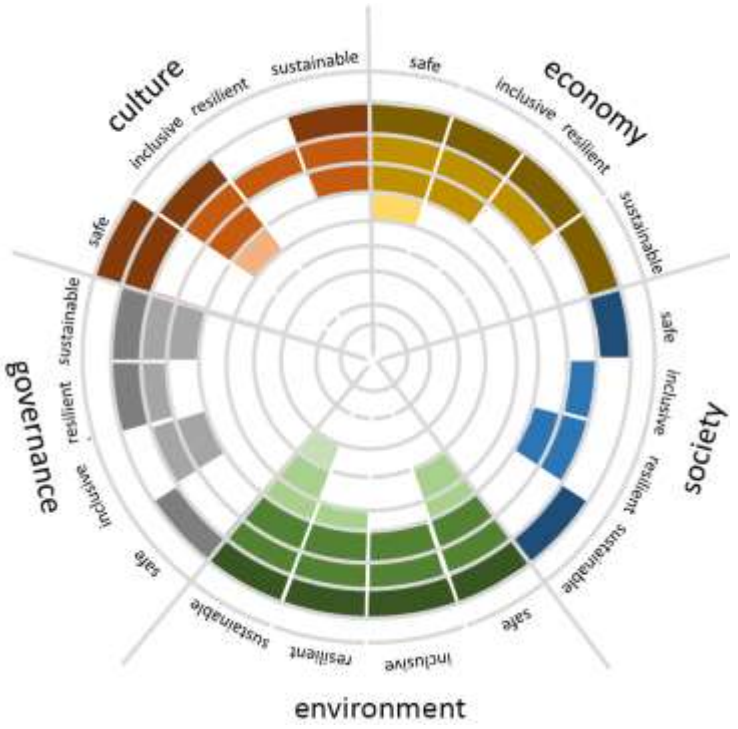
Baseline



Ambition



Gap for priority actions



SDG Cities

Flexibility will be ensured to work with cities' existing planning cycles and

YEAR 1

BASELINE ASSESSMENT

INCLUSIVE STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

SET CITY-SPECIFIC 2030 SDG TARGETS

VLR

Data Track

1st Certificate (onboarding)

2ND Certificate (evidence based plan)

4th Certificate (evidence of results)

Action Planning Track

DIAGNOSE URBAN MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS

Local Systems and Capacities Track

BUILD URBAN MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND CAPACITY: local governance, planning, finance and service deliver

INDENTIFY AND IMPLEMENT POLICY, PLANNING AND LEGISLATION REQUIREMENTS

IDENTIFY INVESTMENT REQUIREMENTS

YEAR 2

YEAR 4

MONITOR SDG IMPACT AND

Monitoring / certification

MATCH-MAKE FINANCING PARTNERS/ INVESTORS

Investment Track

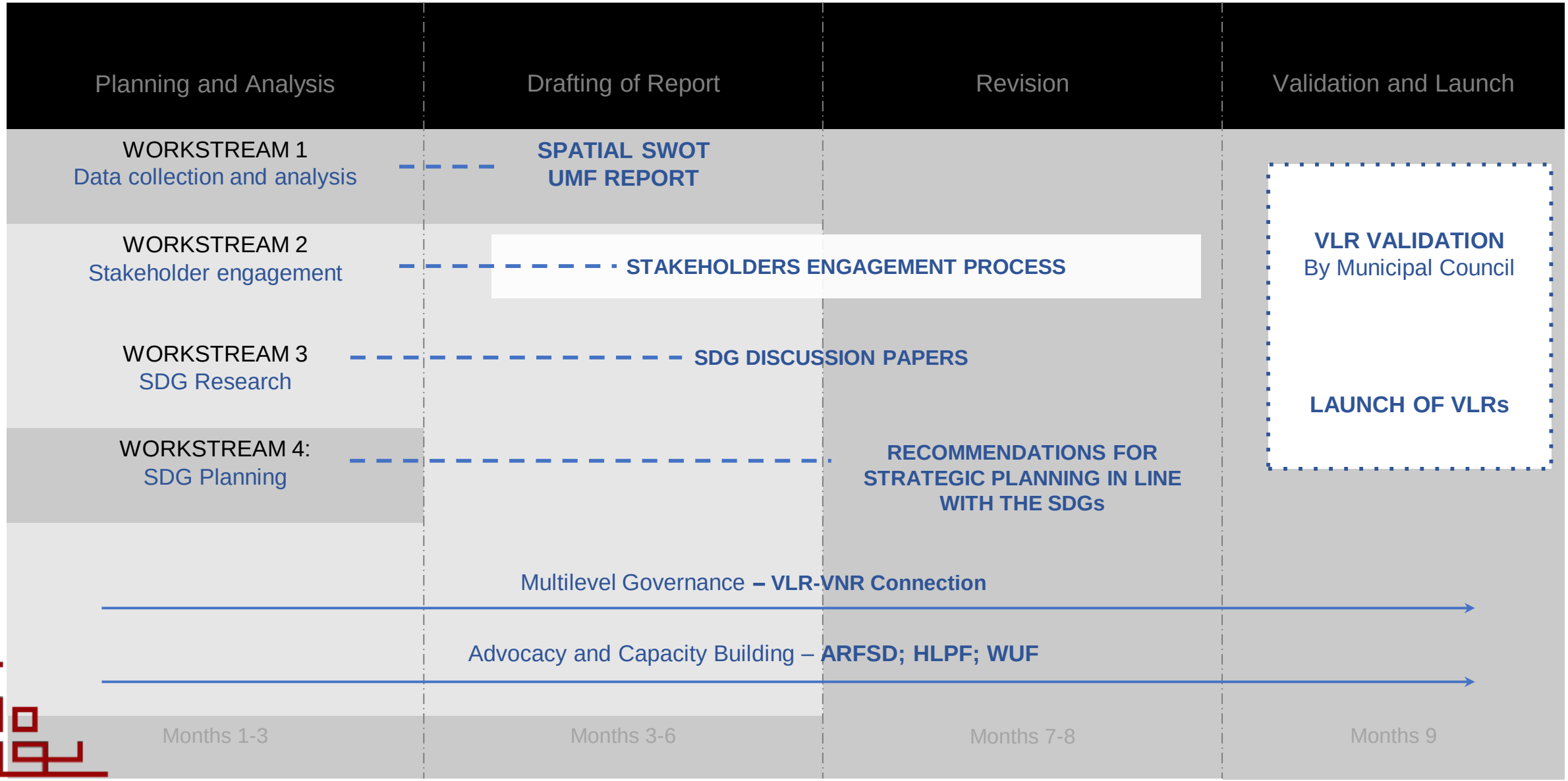
PREDICT AND MEASURE RESULTANT IMPACTS

STRENGTHEN PROJECT DESIGN TO ENSURE MAXIMUM SDG IMPACT AND EFFICENT PUBLIC EXPENDITURE

3rd Certificate (improved urban management)

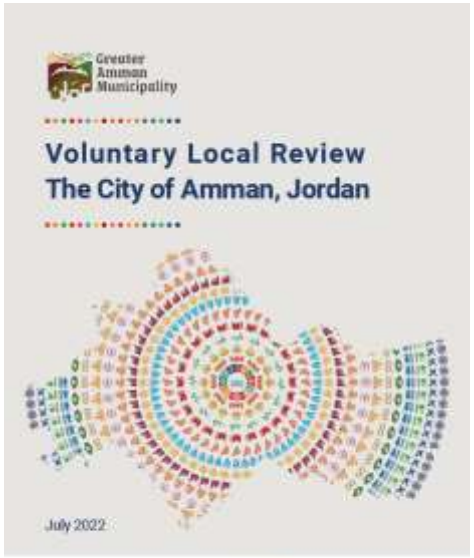
YEAR 3

VLR Methodology and Milestones

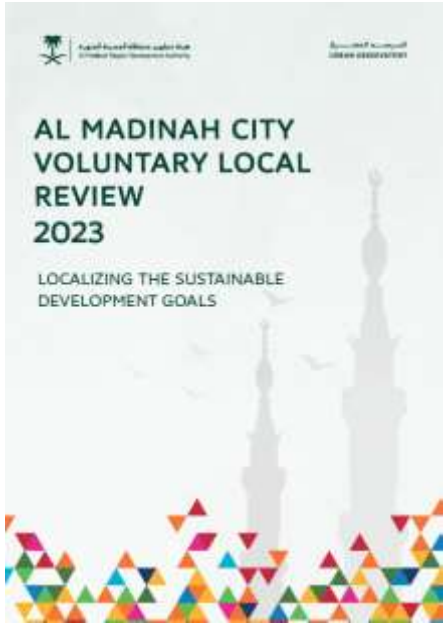


Regional Best Practices

Greater Amman Municipality



Al Madinah



Agadir

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Track 2

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TRACK

Nagwa Lachine (UNHabitat/ROAS) & Sukaina Al-Nasrawi (UNESCWA)

Regional Outlook : Jordan, Palestine and Tunisia

Aim of the Project: reinforce the capacities of local and regional governments and multilevel governance systems to advance the localization of the SDGs

Regional activities aim to develop a **common framework for SDG localization** through capacity-building projects, custom-made digital tools, specialized studios and advocacy events.

Arab States Mayors Academy

SDG Localization Platform for the Arab States Region

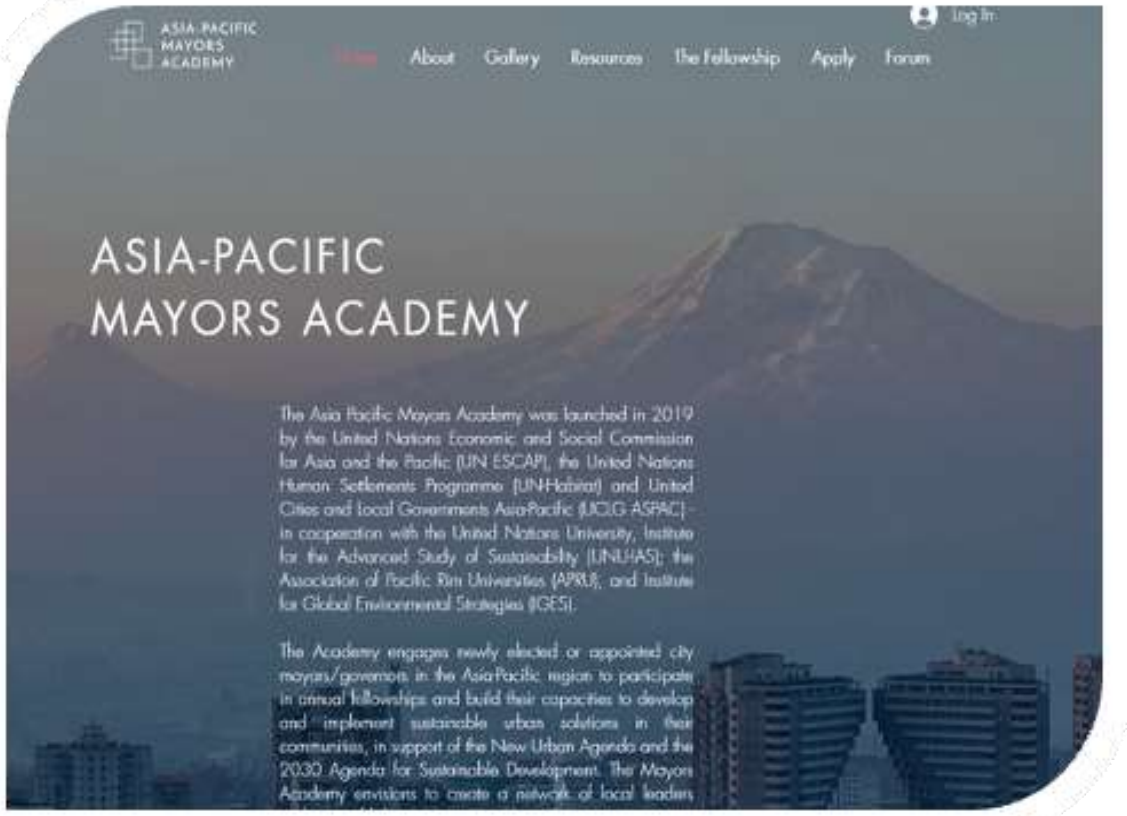
VLR Technical Assistance & VLR-VNR Studios

Regional Advocacy

Arab States Mayors Academy

The **Academy** will:

- **Engage city mayors/governors** to participate in annual fellowships and build their capacities to develop sustainable urban solutions in their communities.
- Deliver tailored activities through executive training and peer-learning activities, building a **network of local leaders** in the region committed to sustainable urban development.
- **Replicate** SDGs localization efforts of the pilot cities **across the region.**
- **Build on** the successful experience of the Asia-Pacific Mayors' Academy (a comparable process will be developed in the Arab Region)



https://www.asiapacificmayorsacademy.org/

SDG Localization Platform for the Arab States Region

- This project will support the creation of **regional online platform which would** gather local data in line with the UMF and VLR practices.

- **The main objectives are:**
  - Enhancing transparency
  - Reinforcing data collection at city level
  - Strengthening relations with the national statistics system and the VNR elaboration process

- The platform will seek **synergies** with existing websites and online SDG resources and will be directly linked to the Local 2030 Coalition’s platform.

VLR Technical Assistance & VLR-VNR Studios

- Provide technical assistance to local authorities for the development of the VLRs of their respective cities based on the VLR methodology for the Arab region

- Organize studios that act as forums to discuss practices and challenges in connecting local and national reporting for the SDGs, strengthening multilevel articulation and the development of VNRs based on the VLR Regional Methodology

Global and Regional Advocacy

AFSD 2023
Arab Forum for Sustainable Development Solutions and Action
Forum arabe pour le développement durable Solutions et action
المنتدى العربي للتنمية المستدامة
حلولٌ وعمل
14-16 March 2023 – 2023 آذار/مارس 16-14

- The project builds on a robust outreach and advocacy component. Project partners and results will be brought to the main intergovernmental and UN-led regional and international processes

- The AFSD is the primary regional mechanism for the Governments and stakeholders to follow up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- It creates a roadmap of regional engagement towards HLPF, WUF12 and others

Sustainability of the Regional Track of the Project

The activities of the project are aimed at:

- **Setting the scene to kick start and accelerate SDG localization** in the pilot cities and more broadly at country level, while contributing to the regional efforts to achieve the Global Goals.

- **Mobilizing additional resources** through the SDG Cities flagship programme and others by attracting donors and innovative private public partnerships.

- The **Mayors' Academy process** will also act as catalyser of partnerships and mobilization of cities towards the SDG localization, beyond the pilot cities of the project.

- Such effort will also be backed by the **Local 2030 Coalition**, mobilizing funds and partners to support the follow up and expansion of the project scope and activities, specifically looking at applying the SDG cities localization cycle.

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Track 3

LEARNING
AND ADVOCACY

Key Events 2023

14-16 March
UNESCWA RFSD
Beirut
Inception meeting with the pilot cities and implementing partners of the region

5-9 June
UN-Habitat Assembly
Nairobi
Meeting with implementing partners SDG Localization and MLG track
World Assembly of LRGs

19-20 September
SDG Summit
New York

2024
World Urban Forum
Egypt

May (TBD)
VLR-VNR Global Studios
Online
Inception meeting with the pilot cities and
implementing partners of the region

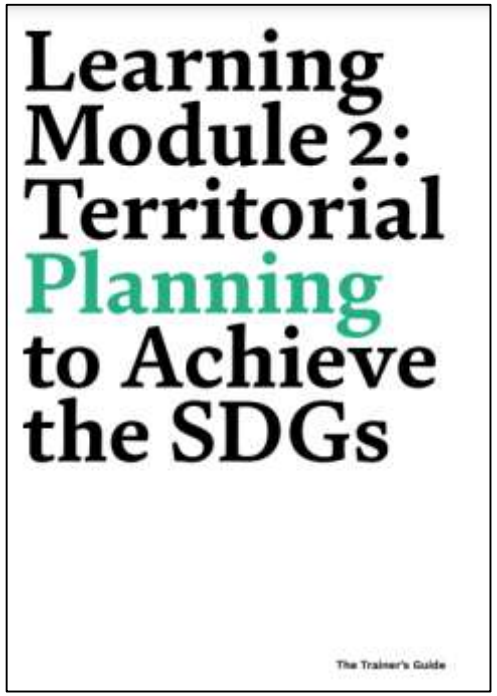
10-20 July
High-Level Political Forum
New York
VLR/VSR days (framed as VLR-VNR Global Studios)

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

October
Urban October
World Habitat Day
World Cities Day

Learning and Capacity Building

Training of Trainers



https://learning.uclg.org/localizing-global-agendas/

Online Courses

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VLR
RECOVERY
TRAINING TOOL

DEPARTMENT OF
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IMPLEMENTING
THE NEW
URBAN AGENDA

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Thank you!

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