



Rio Sustainability Forum, 13-14 July 2016

Panel 4 - International Organizations (UNDP RIO+ Centre), June 9

Localizing the SDG Agenda in Rio de Janeiro

The launch of the 2030 Agenda provides a renewed and ambitious commitment on the part of international organizations to support the implementation of the sustainable development agenda. UN Agencies, governments, many CSOs, and bilateral organizations are rallying their commitments and framing their plans around the SDG agenda. More than ever it is recognized that municipalities are key players in sustainable development, and a standalone goal, SDG 11 has been dedicated to “Make Cities and Human Settlements Inclusive, Safe, Resilient and Sustainable”. A critical focus of the new development framework is the intention to leave no one behind.

Rio de Janeiro, in particular, has an important role to play. The city is world-renowned for its struggles with poverty, inequality and urban slums. Yet as the host of the UN Sustainable Development conferences that led to the SDG and as the current chair of the C40 group, it is also recognized for its leadership on sustainable development and municipal coalitions. Innovative efforts for more inclusive sustainable development in Rio can serve as a role model to other cities, by taking action on the city’s greatest sustainable development challenges and effectively addressing the deeply rooted, historical inequalities, and associated issues such as violent crime and lack of sanitation.

The objective of this panel is to provide an overview of the role of the UN and international organizations in supporting the localization of the SDG agenda in Rio de Janeiro. The panel will provide a brief overview of the SDG agenda, the process in Brazil and the part of international organizations. The event will showcase UN initiatives underway to support SDG implementation at local level in Rio de Janeiro. It will seek to identify good practices and existing tools to support the localization of the SDGs. In line with the objectives of the overall event, the panel will also highlight agreements and activities between international organizations and the other five powers of society that are supporting this agenda. The panel is an initial step towards offering a more coordinated UN system approach towards rolling out the SDGs in Rio de Janeiro. It will also discuss opportunities for accelerating South-South learning across cities in terms of framing commitments and actions on implementing the SDG agenda at a local level.

Proposed Draft Agenda:

1. Brazil and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – 10 min

Dr. Romulo Paes de Sousa, Director, UNDP RIO+ Centre

Brief introduction to the Agenda 2030, highlighting Brazil's role in the process

Introduction to Objectives of the Panel

2. UN System in Brazil and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – 15 min

Haroldo Machado, Co-coordinator of UN System in Brazil Task Force on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- *Government and UNCT processes underway to support—with updates on planning, coordination, measurement/indicators efforts*
- *Key UNDP Brazil tools to support*

3. Bringing the Agenda 2030 to the Local Level – 10 min

Laura Hildebrandt, Policy Specialist, UNDP RIO+ Centre

- *Role of Cities in the Agenda*
- *Lessons learned from MDGs and Recommendations from global consultations*
- *Initial Steps involved and Available Tools*

4. Presentations on Initiatives – Localizing the SDGs in Rio de Janeiro (40 min)

- Jaime Nadal, UNFPA –Citizen Agenda Project (10 min)
- Alain Grimard, UN-Habitat – City Prosperity Index and New Urban Agenda (10 min)
- Luciana Phebo, UNICEF – Plataforma dos Centros Urbanos (10 min)
- Emily Hosek, SDSN Brazil - Citizen Monitoring of SDG 11 (10 min)

Each of these presentations should include:

- a) Brief overview of initiative's objectives and core activities
- b) Brief overview of results / progress in Rio de Janeiro, if applicable
- c) Direct/potential value-added towards the overall framework of localizing the SDGs in Rio de Janeiro
- d) Lessons that can be drawn from your project/programme as we begin the process of localizing the SDGs

5. Panelist Discussion – 15 min

The moderator will open the following questions for discussion from panelists:

- a) What challenges and opportunities do you foresee for Rio to localize the SDGs?
- b) How can the UN system make it easier for cities to get started in this process?
What do cities need from us?

6. Open Discussion -30 min

The moderator will open to questions and answers from the audience and then will provide a brief wrap-up of the discussion of localizing the SDGs in Rio de Janeiro

