



VLR/VSR
DAYS JULY 14-16
2021
1ST EDITION - HLPF

Social Inclusion and Participatory Processes in VLRs and VSRs

16 July, 4pm-5.30pm CEST

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Background

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development commits to *leave no-one behind*. The development of Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) and Voluntary Subnational Reviews (VSR) is an ideal opportunity to strengthen and translate this principle into reality. Through participatory and inclusive processes, VLRs and VSRs have the potential to bring communities, vulnerable and traditionally excluded groups closer to decision-making at local level, making development responsive to communities' needs and priorities.

VLRs and VSRs collect a wealth of information on policies, practices and initiatives with which local communities have advanced significantly in the achievement of the SDGs in their territories. Each of these contributions provides knowledge, lessons and relatable experiences that may also guide more and more local governments as they approach the 2030 Agenda and look to be part of a larger constituency of like-minded institutions.

The VLRs, however, also contribute a lot of information in terms of process and examples; the way in which the community, the residents, the associations and all the local stakeholders were involved in the creation of the review, its adoption and approval, or its diffusion and promotion, are as important as the knowledge on the initiatives that these groups have undertaken in their cities and regions.

VLR participatory processes have the potential to enhance transparency and accountability of local governments vis-à-vis local communities, hence contributing to strengthen the social contract. Moreover, by consulting and including civil society and territorial stakeholders, the VLR-VSR process contribute to create and access nontraditional and qualitative data, often filling the gaps left by missing data and statistics. UN-Habitat and UCLG recognize that data collection,

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monitoring and reporting as a key processes to amplify the experiences and voices of everyone, *leaving no-one behind*.

Objective of the session

The session will be the occasion to allow stakeholder that are working on VLRs and VLRs to share best practices in community engagement throughout the different stages of the review, sharing the processes and results of their participatory and inclusive process. The exchange of best practices will be enriched by a question and answer session in which cities interested in undertaking VLRs can learn on how to meaningfully engage community members in developing and implement the VLRs and VSRs.

Draft Agenda

Time CET	Session
16:00 – 16:15pm	<p>Opening Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shipra Narang Suri, Chief Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat • Amanda Flety, Coordinator of the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights
16:15 – 17:20pm	<p>Session</p> <p>Moderator: Angela Mwai, Chief, Human Rights and Social Inclusion Unit</p> <p>Speakers:</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christian Hübel, head of the Strategic Management Department of the City of Mannheim, Germany• Celeste Connors, Director, Hawai'i Green Growth• Allan Macleod, Operations and Stakeholder Manager, Bristol City Office• Luis Sáenz, National Coordinator, Red Ciudades Como Vamos Colombia• Anna Koledova, VLR Specialist, UN-Habitat <p>Q&A</p>
17:20 – 17:30pm	<p>Closing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shipra Narang Suri, Chief Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat• Amanda Flety, Coordinator of the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights