

Online course

# Localizing SDG through Citizen Centric Service Delivery: A case of North South Collaboration providing tools for projects, policies and partnerships



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# 1. Course objectives

The course “Localizing SDG through Citizen Centric Service Delivery: A case of North South Collaboration providing tools for projects, policies and partnerships” aims to train participants in SDG localization through citizen centric service delivery. It will offer a North South collaborative approach and integrated vision of Cooperation amongst the continents particularly of Europe, Africa and Asia. It will also be the course achievement to align itself with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda.

To achieve this objective, the course has been designed by considering the realities of local and regional governments (LRGs), their associations (LGAs) and local organizations involved in the governance of cities whose primary role is to delivery services to its constituents. It is further envisaged to incorporate real world experiences, challenges and good practices to enhance understanding on context and localization.

At the end of the course, participants are expected to acquire the following competencies and skills:

- Embarking on the path of SDG localization and explore its multifaceted nature—its forms, principles, and complexities—by drawing inspiration from diverse global experiences. Local and regional governments emerge as pivotal actors, shaping the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals within the framework of the 2030 Agenda. Their strategies and actions become the driving force behind effective localization.
- Internalize the significance of SDG localization, we recognize its power to catalyse local development, refine territorial policies, and foster sustainable progress that aligns with the broader ambitions of the SDGs. The SDGs themselves serve as a compass, guiding transformative and impactful initiatives that resonate at the community level.
- The journey involves navigating the distinct phases required to implement localization policies, ensuring each step remains true to the SDG vision. Along the way, as the participant encounter challenges and opportunities, each offering lessons and insights for refining their strategies.
- Resource mobilization becomes essential, prompting them to seek innovative mechanisms and forge partnerships that support policies and projects dedicated to SDG localization. Building alliances among territorial actors strengthens our collective resolve and fosters a shared commitment to sustainable development.
- Communication—both internal and external—emerges as a cornerstone, ensuring that policies and initiatives are understood, embraced, and amplified within and beyond



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our communities. Establishing robust systems for monitoring and evaluation reinforces transparency and accountability, anchoring our efforts in evidence and continuous improvement.

- Ultimately, the process is enriched by sharing experiences from varied contexts and collaborating across disciplines and cultures, weaving a tapestry of knowledge and practice that advances SDG localization for all.

## 2. Course Target Audience

The course is aimed at Local Governments and their officials, as well as other stakeholders involved in local governance such as officials and public representatives at the central, state and local government level.

The course is also aimed at non-governmental stakeholders, including representatives of the private sector, civil society and academia working or interested in the fields of SDG localization, sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda.

Given the technical and practical nature of the course around strategic and comprehensive (and not sectoral) development plans at local or regional level, it is recommended that participants have a good knowledge and understanding of what are the local government procedures related to cities or other administrative levels. The course is expressly designed to stimulate reflection on how the key principles of the 2030 Agenda can help improve local planning processes specially related to SDG localization.

## 3. Course Methodology and Structure

The course is organized into eight chapters, totalling 60 hours. Each chapter covers a series of interconnected topics designed to equip participants with the essential tools and knowledge to understand the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the process of localizing them. Through case studies and projects based on the SDGs in Norway, South Africa, and India, the course guides learners from identifying local needs, through planning, design, and implementation, to the dissemination and evaluation of SDG-based projects in these countries. By participating, learners gain a comprehensive perspective on urban governance methods in these regions and understand their role in advancing SDG localization.



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Each chapter focuses on a key aspect of how the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs can enhance local planning processes. Learning activities are flexible, allowing participants to engage with the course as a whole or concentrate on specific chapters according to their interests and professional profiles. This approach ensures that, while participants can tailor their learning to their needs, they still maintain a broad understanding of the course's overall vision.

To enhance comprehension, the course integrates real-world project linkages throughout its specific lessons, and clear objectives. This approach enables participants to better understand the concepts of SDG localization by drawing direct comparisons between theoretical frameworks and the practical structure and components of project implementation.

The curriculum is purposefully designed to emphasize experiential learning. Each chapter includes a variety of exercises that encourage students to apply their newly acquired knowledge, thereby strengthening their competencies and skills. This hands-on methodology not only deepens the learning experience but also fosters engagement with the broader educational community, connecting new learners to active members and their diverse experiences.

