



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE
FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Good Practice Example: Association of Local Palestinian Authorities (APLA)



Project overview / Pitch

- *LGA or organization:*
Association of Local Palestinian Authorities (APLA)
- *Project title:* **Raising awareness about SDGs at Local Government Units (LGU) level.**
- *Name/s of the involved institution/s:*
Local Government Units (LGUs).
- *Three-line project description:*

APLA focused mainly on increasing the awareness about SDGs at the level of LGUs staff and elected officials, as a first step to support the adaptation and implementation of SDGs at the local level.

1. Institutional setting

- APLA's strategic plan (SP) 2019-2021 is the basic framework for our practices.
- APLA's SP is strongly linked and aligned with the national policy agenda and SDGs.
- APLA's internal bylaw also supports LGUs (Local Government Units) needs and demands that directly linked with SDGs agenda.
- APLA support the LGUs in terms of linking their plans and agendas to the SDGs through the direct advice.
- APLA aligns all its activities with the SDGs.

2. Approach



- APLA focuses mainly on raising the awareness of the LGUs about the SDGs, and linking the daily work of the LGUs to the SDGs. APLA targeted the LGUs through for example online platforms, direct communications and guiding documents.
- APLA implements the „Technical Exchange Hubs” project, which targets technical staff from LGUs, all the plans of these hubs included activities are related to the SDGs.
- APLA with its efforts at the national level addresses the SDGs in all agendas, policies and legislations.





الهيئات المحلية تواجه كورونا وتسهم في تحقيق أجندة التنمية المستدامة 2030



3. Lessons learnt

- Priorities in Palestinian context are very different among local level itself and within national level.
- There is an importance to convince decision makers in the LGUs project's scopes and benefits.
- Knowledge improvement in SDGs is essential.
- Financial needs:
 - a. At the LGUs level: their needs for financial resources to afford strategic development goals implementation, evaluation and capacity building, etc
 - b. APLA also needs more financial resources to fund the activities related to support the localization of SDGs.
- Customized approach and priorities: What is applicable in other countries shouldn't necessarily be applicable in Palestine.
- There are many SDGs that are considered out of Palestinian LGUs mandate.
- There are huge deference's in priorities, needs and capacities and context between LGUs themselves.

4. Outputs

There are continuous efforts that focused on the following aspects:

- Awareness raising in the baseline conception of SDGs.
- Continuous online campaign on APLA's web and social media pages.
- Develop and distribute booklets/ materials that contain the basic SDGs that influence LGUs daily works.
- Publish newsletters that show LGUs' efforts on the ground that are consistent with the 2030 Agenda.
- APLA also provides LGUs with advices and guidelines to include the SDGs in their projects.
- Technical Hubs are established to harmonize LGUs action plans with 2030 Agenda.
- APLA implements "ARD" 'Area Resilience Development Initiative' side by side with local specific clusters. This project focuses basically on conducting partnerships, strengthening LGUs resilience capacity and improving local environment conditions.

5a. Follow up: Upcoming project

- LGA: Association of Palestinian Local Authorities (APLA)
- Project title: Support the Localizing of SDGs in Palestine
- Involved institutions: Local Government Units (LGUs)
- Three-line project description:

our project main objective is to support LGUs in localizing SDGs through strengthen the role of it in adapting, planning, implementing and evaluating the SDGs 2030 at the local level.

5b. Upcoming project

- Localizing Project main objectives:

SO1) Raising LGs awareness about SDGs and how it should align with SDGs agenda 2030.

SO2) Strengthen the capacities of LGUs in implementing SDGs at Local levels by advocacy for multi-level governance and provide possibilities to work in an integrated manner, across sectors and with various stakeholders.

SO3) Support the LGUs in the adaptation and implementation of SDGs at their level.

SO4) Improve the policy and legal framework to strengthen LGUs roles in adapting SDGs.

- APLA is working with other partners (like GIZ) to expand current initiatives/ activities related to the localization of SDGs.