CONNECTIVE CITIES

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE
FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Partners of Connective Cities

Deutscher Städtetag

ENGAGEMENT GLOBAL
Service für Entwicklungsinitiativen

with its
SERVICE AGENCY
COMMUNITIES IN ONE WORLD

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Commissioned by

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Topic A: Data availability & data collection systems

District Office Treptow-Köpenick, City of Berlin, Germany

- **Municipality/Organisation:**

Treptow-Köpenick (District of Berlin)

- **Project/Good Practice title:**

Monitoring System for the Sustainability Strategy of Treptow-Köpenick

- **Name/s of the involved institution/s:**

Municipality, HTW (University of applied sciences), Engagement Global, lots of different NGOs, citizens and activists

- **Three-line project description:**

Update und revitalize the Local Agenda 21 Treptow-Köpenick to a sustainability strategy on the basis of the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs. Connect it with a Monitoring System accessible for the public.

Starting point/Institutional setting:

- The Monitoring System of the former Local Agenda 21 failed because of a lack of data and relevance for the process.
- The Sustainability Strategy of Treptow-Köpenick obtains **68 projects, 3 to 5 per SDG**, as an output of **public workshops**. These projects are very locally specific and can't be compared with other municipalities.

Main Questions:
- How can measures to achieve the SDGs be implemented locally?
- How can a local, more representative and meaningful SDG monitoring system be established?

Project Goal & Approach:

Project Goals:
1) Implementation of the measures
2) Monitoring of the measures and the SDGs
-> The measures and the local SDG-monitoring are interlinked

Approach:
- Participatory workshops -> Development of the measures
- Development of local indicators -> Based on the content of the measures

Cross-Cutting-Issues:
- Cross-cutting issues the were considered by the participants of the workshops and addressed in specific measures

Outputs

Main Results:
1. Specific local measures -> Forming the local Sustainable Development Strategy
2. Local SDG-Monitoring System, consisting of **two parts**
          - Monitoring the **output** of the measures (through local indicators)
          - Monitoring the **impact** on the SDGs (through local indicators set in a global context)

- The local monitoring system is not intended to be compared or measured against others.
- Rather, it is intended to give the public an impression of developments in the various areas of the SDGs.
- Thus, it is more of a monitoring of one's efforts and a visualization of ongoing projects.

However, these very specific and local indicators are also **contextualized** with other indicators that place the project work in a **global framework**.

Lessons learnt

- Usefulness of participatory approaches for local development and achieving the SDGs;
- Importance of selecting local SDG-indicators which must be placed in a global context;
- How to deal with a lack of local data.

Follow-up

Open questions:
How can the measures and monitoring be continued in the long-term?

Further Plans:
- Setting up a homepage to make the monitoring publicly accessible
- Based on https://open-sdg.org/

Topic A: Data availability & data collection systems

Municipality of Thessaloniki, Greece

- **Municipality/Organisation:** Thessaloniki (GR)

- **Project/Good Practice title:** Urban Resilience Observatory

- **Name/s of the involved institution/s:** Municipality of Thessaloniki

- **Three-line project description:**

The Urban Resilience Observatory collects data, monitors and measures indicators at the environmental, social and economic levels to analyse and develop urban resilience and evaluate the implementation progress of the SDGs.

Starting point/Institutional setting:

- The Urban Resilience Observatory is an innovative initiative for local authorities in Greece.
- The main challenge was the lack of methodological tools and previous experience.
- The Urban Resilience Observatory involves key city stakeholders, academia and civil society organisations.

Project Goal & Approach:

- The project's goal is to strengthen Thessaloniki's urban resilience and sustainability in relation to population shifts, urban economy, environmental challenges and local governance.
- To replicate the operational structure to other municipalities at national, European and international level as a good practice.

- Urban Resilience Observatory imprints the results on a GIS platform and uses an open data portal. However, there is still a lack of methodological tools for monitoring the implementation and progress of the SDGs.
- The project works on the three pillars of sustainable development: environment, economy and social cohesion.

Outputs

- The Municipality had the opportunity to develop a holistic city strategy in collaboration with national city networks, local academic institutions, the non-profit sector, private stakeholders, citizens and communities in the city.
- This helped to bridge the gap between the everyday management of the city and long-term development goals and commitments.

Lessons learnt

° To always work in cooperation with the city's fabric.

Follow-up

- Further plan is to incorporate the SDGs into the municipality's operational structure;
- Design and develop a voluntary local review.

Topic A: Data availability & data collection systems

City Institute Lviv, Ukraine

- **Municipality/Organisation:** Lviv / City Institute

- **Project/Good Practice title:** Monitoring Sustainable Urban Development in Lviv

- **Name/s of the involved institution/s:** City Institute, Department of Internal Policy Management at Lviv City Council

- **Three-line project description:**

  The monitoring of sustainable urban development in Lviv aimed to develop indicators for measuring Lviv's performance in sustainable development and to support strategic management.

Starting point/Institutional setting:

- The city of Lviv has been developing rapidly since 2012.
- There are approved strategic plans addressing the SDGs: Complex Development Strategy, Green City Action Plan, Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan among others.
- But the city's strategic management has a lack of data to properly respond on issues related to the sustainable development process. There is no complex monitoring system that could integrate different strategic goals and support decision-making processes in Lviv.
- Based on the decision of the Mayor of Lviv, the City Institute and the Department of Internal Policy Management established a task force to develop a quality management system and monitoring sustainable development based on ISO recommendations. Within this working group, a project "Monitoring Sustainable Urban Development in Lviv" was designed and started.

Project Goal & Approach:

- The project aims to develop a system for monitoring sustainable urban development in Lviv.
- It is an agile initiative that will create indicators and a dashboard to visualise fields of action and performance of sustainable urban development in Lviv.
- The indicators will be based on ISO 37120 and integrated with existing indicators that the city has already approved and/or plans to approve under various strategies.
- The data will be collected and visualised as open data on the "open-for-all dashboard".

Outputs

- A list of indicators and a mechanism for annual data collection,
- A dashboard on which sustainable urban development performance will be visualised and accessible for all,
- Increase transparency and accountability of the Lviv City Government.

- The sustainability of the project will be ensured through continuous maintenance of the system after its establishment by City Institute and the Department of Internal Police Management.

Lessons learnt

° The indicators identified in ISO 37120 are too general for operational use at the local level,
° They need to be combined with specific indicators linked to the city's strategic goals,
° Collecting data is too long a process to be done manually, therefore there is a need to digitalise the process.

Follow-up

- The Monitoring Sustainable Urban Development in Lviv is a research project.
- Further steps depend on the first results, as there still some work to be finished. After the ISO indicators were identified, the list of indicators was discussed within the task force.
- Currently the task force is working on data collection to establish a baseline analysis.

Open questions:
(1) How to improve the data collection mechanism;
(2) Identification of specific indicators to add them to the ISO 37120 list of indicators. For example, indicators from city strategies and other indicators that could be operationalized by city government.
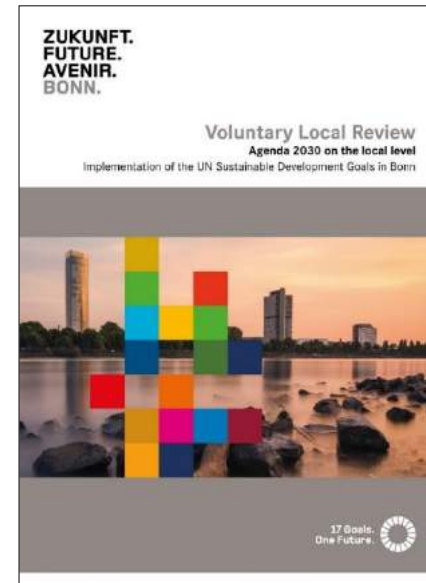
Further plans: Design of the dashboard.

Topic A: Data availability & data collection systems

City of Bonn & Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg, Germany

ZUKUNFT.
FUTURE.
AVENIR.
BONN.

- **Municipality:** City of Bonn

- **Project/Good Practice title:** From Sustainability Reporting to a Voluntary Local Review

- **Name/s of the involved institution/s:** Various departments of the municipality, external stakeholders

- **Project description:**
  ➢ Development of a VLR based on long term sustainability reporting
  ➢ Connecting indicator based reporting with the policy framework of the sustainability strategy

1. Institutional Setting

- Monitoring of municipal sustainability is a voluntary task
- **City council decision** to do a regular sustainability report in 2005
- First sustainability report came out in 2006 for 2002 – 2004
- In total up to now **five sustainability reports**, covering usually a period of three years
- In 2019 Bonn's first **sustainability strategy** was adopted by the city council
- Decision included regular reporting on implementation of the strategy
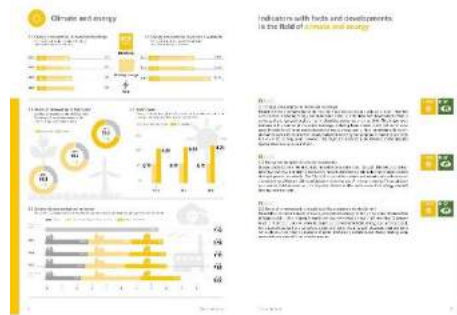
2. Objectives of the VLR

- **Show SDG impact** in sustainability reporting
- Link sustainability reporting to existing relevant policy frameworks (e.g. sustainability strategy) and thus increase **interlinkages between political strategies and indicator based reporting**
- Establish a **monitoring tool** for sustainability strategy
- Create **transparency**, engage in a **dialogue with citizens** by developing a good communication tool with easily understandable data
- **Demonstrate** the crucial **role of local governments** for the implementation of Agenda 2030 **internationally**

3. Approach

- **Build on the existing** sustainability reporting
- **Draw on experiences** with the various SDG monitoring approaches (in-depth look into indicator development and regional benchmarking in OECD-Project "Territorial Approach to the SDGs", municipal SDG-Indicator set initiated by Association of German Cities, VLR Guidelines of UCLG, JRC-EC Handbook)
- Compile a VLR which **reflects the City of Bonn's own objectives**
- Highlight the **SDG relevance of local actions**
- Include **best practices**
- **Visualize** status and **trends**

4. Outputs

- **VLR reflects the six thematic fields** of the sustainability strategy
- **Highlights trends** along 46 indicators with a traffic light system
- Has **stimulated the discussion** on the contribution of cities towards the SDGs and enhancement of local SDG monitoring
- **Increased networking** with like-minded cities and institutions

5. Lessons learnt

- Local data helps to show relevance of the SDGs for the local situation
- A good visualization can be an important tool
- SDG reviewing is always a collective task with a high coordination effort
- Vertical integration / connection to VNRs is a long-term topic
- Compilation of reports requires a lot of resources and is thus difficult to ensure on a regular basis
- Getting the message of monitoring reports out of the expert circle is an ongoing process

6. Follow-up / Open questions

Next steps
- Introduction of of **sustainability criteria in budget** planning in selected pilot areas
- Participation in **formalized reporting framework**?

Open questions
- How to develop a **resource efficient** way to compile a VLR?
- How to ensure a **regularly updated** and **more frequent** monitoring?
- How can we **identify readily available data**?
- How can we **increase the outreach** and usage of SDG data?
- How can **VNRs** and **VLRs** be more **linked**?

Transformation Paths towards Urban Resilient and Sustainable Development
– Examples of the Bonn Region: SDG-Assessments and the Importance of CitizenLabs

Wiltrud Terlau, IZNE-International Centre for Sustainable Development, Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, Germany

➢ **CitizenLabs: Education for Sustainable Development**
  ➢ is build-up as a <u>joint</u> and <u>local hub</u> to enfoster <u>social innovation</u>
  ➢ Scientists **+** Citizens, Students, Initiatives, Municipality. . . .
  ➢ <u>Tools</u>: workshops, seminars, lectures, experimental work. . .
  ➢ Fields
      ➢ **S D G** – Lab   https://www.h-brs.de/de/citizenlab-sdg-werkstatt
      ➢ **Enviromental Lab**
      ➢ **3-D Printing**
      ➢ **Energy and Resources**
      ➢ **Life Cycle Assessments**
  ➢ Part of a University-wide Project **Campus- to -World**, (funded)
  ➢ Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, FZJ, WiLa, Germany,

➢ Study: **Nature** of the **Bonn-Rhein-Sieg Region**, Germany **- Local Assessment** of **Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services** in the **Framework** of the **UN SDGs**
  NEES-Univ. of Bonn / IZNE-Bonn-Rhein-Sieg Univ. of Applied Sciences, (funded)
  https://www.naturhistorischerverein.de/_publikationen/516_NHV-Publikationen/D-Decheniana-Beihefte1-40/Decheniana-Beiheft-41.pdf

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Campus to World