

CONCEPT NOTE: SPOTLIGHT 6

Local Governments & Decentralised Budget Support

13 December 2022, 10:00 – 11:00 AM CET

Background:

Local and regional governments, including their associations, have a critical role in setting development priorities, executing plans, monitoring results and engaging with local communities, as well as with businesses. They form a vital bridge between national governments, communities and citizens and have a critical role in implementing the SDGs.

Although different development actors have found ways to invest in cities in partner countries over the past decades, funds for local development are still scarce, and getting them to flow to the local administrations where they are most needed requires extensive in-country dialogue and coordination.

The purpose of this session is to share experiences about how local governments in the South can design inclusive/participatory development plans that are aligned to national priorities. It also aims to share experiences about what solutions can be found to finance and support these local development plans, including through national and multilateral providers, but also through partner municipalities and regional governments.

Objectives:

- Present best practices and key experiences about how different financial modalities are used in development cooperation to support local and regional development.
- Identify critical issues that hinder or have hindered the effectiveness of these practices, as well as the solutions and alternatives adopted.
- Underline the need to better fund and support local development needs and to create the capacities for coping with the territorial dimension of the global development challenges.
- Look into how to make decentralized cooperation a fully recognized and resourced development cooperation approach.

Guiding Questions:

- What are the challenges in partnering with subnational entities in Partner Countries and what solutions can be found to jointly advance sustainable development?
- What solutions exist to finance development plans of sub-national governments and municipalities in Partner Countries? How can these be replicated and scaled-up?

Session Focal Points:

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