



Localising the SDGs – from monitoring to implementation

Iraklis Stamos

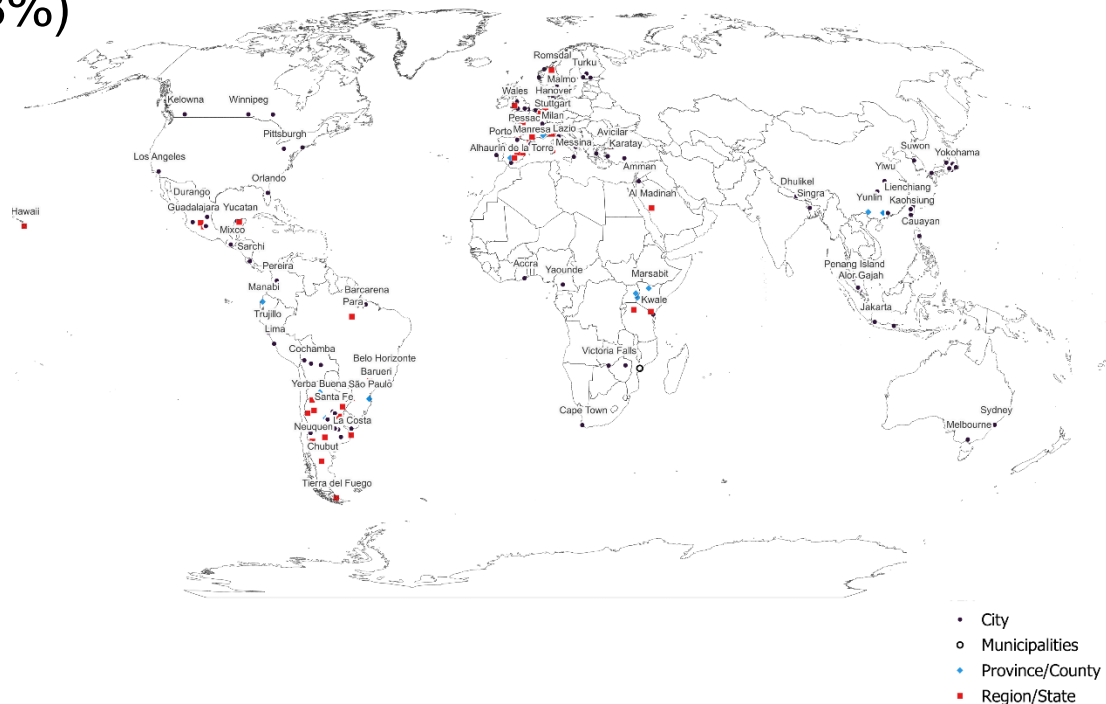
Fostering multilevel dialogue for SDG implementation

URBAN Intergroup & Council of European Municipalities and
Regions

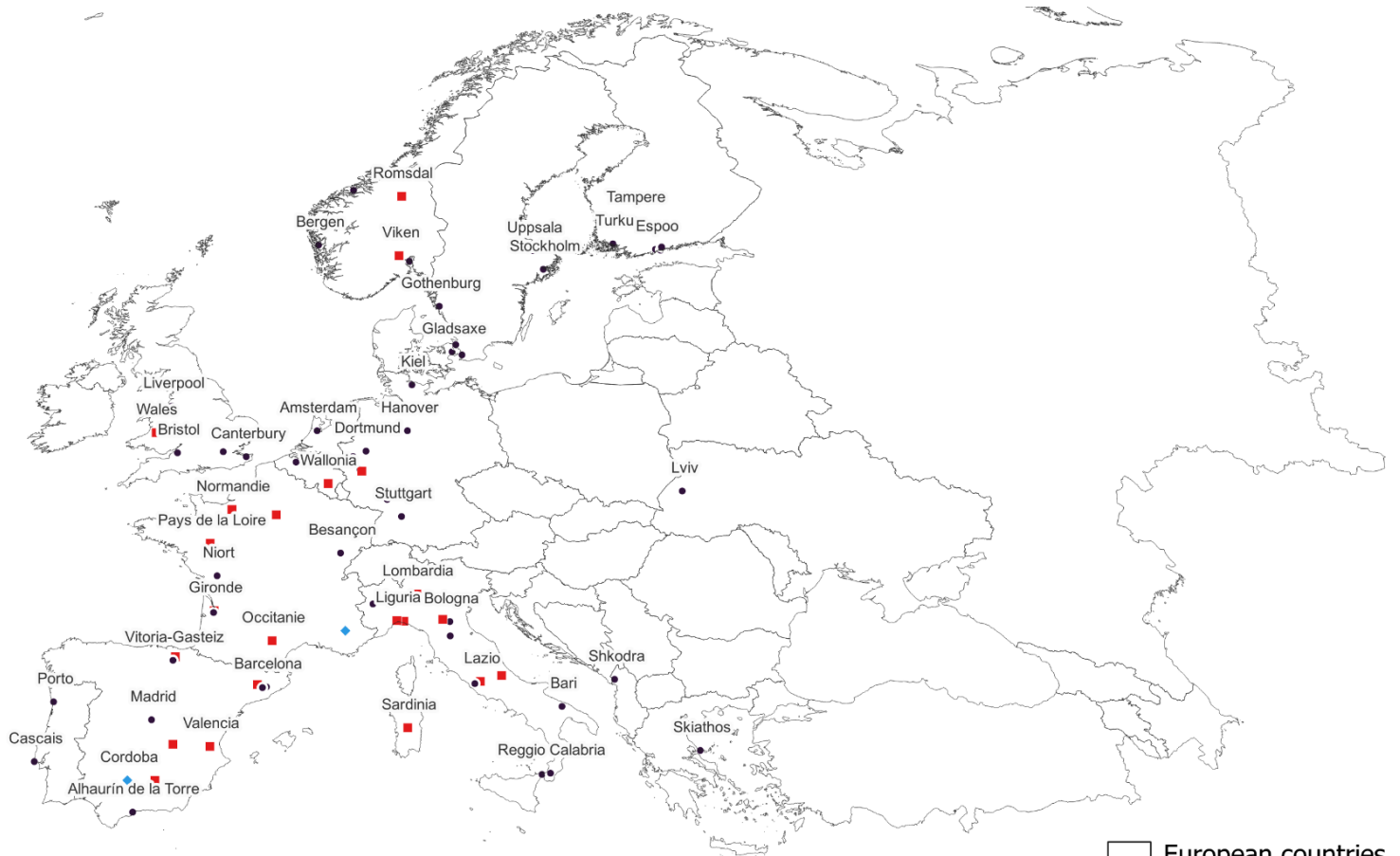
24 October 2023

The VLRs today

- Global movement of VLRs is growing almost exponentially
- 248 VLRs by 197 Local and Regional Governments worldwide
- <3 out of 4 led by cities and municipalities (67%)
- <1 out of 3 in Europe (28%)



The VLRs in Europe



□ European countries

VLR

- City
- Municipality
- ◆ Province/County
- Region/State

the need to

localize

The Gini Index

Gini Index: The Gini Index (or coefficient) measures the extent to which the distribution of income within an area deviates from a perfectly equal distribution.

A coefficient of 0 expresses perfect equality where everyone has the same income, while a coefficient of 100 expresses full inequality where only one person has all the income *[Source: Eurostat glossary, 2019]*

Fair to say?

- **In 2019**
- **In South Africa: 63.0**
Source: World Bank, 2019
- **In Brazil: 53.4**
Source: World Bank, 2019
- **In the United States: 41.1**
Source: World Bank, 2019
- **In the EU: 30.2**

Source: World Bank, 2019

Inequality is generally lower in Europe than elsewhere in the world, and the Gini coefficient offers quantifiable proof of that fact

Hidden inequalities – GINI index



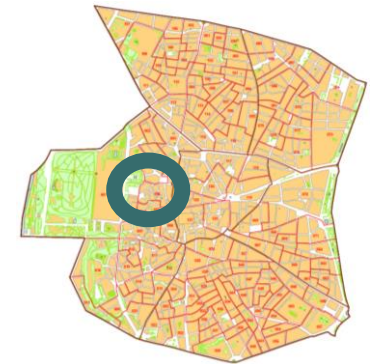
In the **EU**: 30.2
In **Spain**: 34.3



In the EU: 30.2
In Spain: 34.3
In **Madrid**: 38.1



In the EU: 30.2
In Spain: 34.3
In Madrid: 38.1
In **Madrid distr. 1**: 40.0



In the EU: 30.2
In Spain: 34.3
In Madrid: 38.1
In Madrid district 1: 40.0
In **Madrid distr. 1, Section 01004**: 45.2

the need to

disaggregate

Did you know?

In 2021, the EU unemployment rate for people aged 20 to 64 years was:

- 6.4% on average

Unemployment rate

In 2021, the unemployment rate* was:

in **Finland**:
10.5% of
total
workforce.



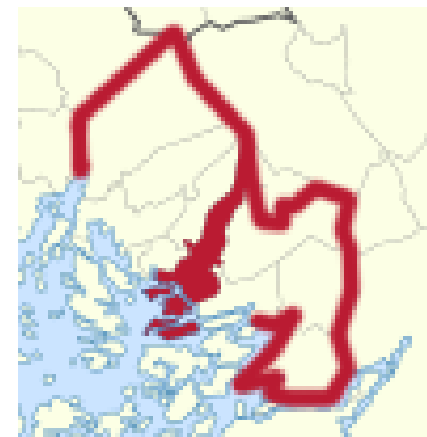
in **Southwest
Finland
region**:
9.8% of total
workforce.



in **Turku sub-
region** :
10.3%



in **Turku
Municipality**:
13.2%



*number of people unemployed as a percentage of the labour force.

Source: *Statistic finland_12r5 -- Unemployed jobseekers, persons in services and vacant jobs at the end of the month (1001) by Region, Month and Information PxWeb (stat.fi)*

How disaggregation looks across administrative levels

	Finland	Southwest Finland region	Southwest Finland region	Turku Municipality
TOTAL RATE	10.5%	9.8%	10.3%	13.2%
BY SEX	58% male 42% female	57.1% male 42.9% female	57.3% male 42.7% female	58% male 42% female
BY AGE	38.3% over 50 11.3% under 25	36.8% over 50 11.5% under 25	33.9% over 50 12% under 25	30.6% over 50 12.3% under 25
BY HEALTH CONDITION	11.6% with disabilities and long-term illnesses	12% with disabilities and long-term illnesses	10.4% with disabilities and long-term illnesses	10.6% with disabilities and long-term illnesses
BY PLACE OF ORIGIN	11.7% Foreign jobseekers	13.2% Foreign jobseekers	14.6% Foreign jobseekers	17% Foreign jobseekers
DURATION (>12 months)	39% long term unemployed	35.3% long term unemployed	36.5% Long-term unemployed	36.5% Long-term unemployed

Another need emerges: disaggregate!

- Even if we *localize*, we still run the risk of not reading real-world conditions in a realistic and just way.
- We therefore need, to the extent possible, to disaggregate indicators by several dimensions
- Lets imagine how different the situation looks like based on:
 - Gender
 - Income
 - Age
 - Race
 - Ethnicity
 - Migratory status
 - Disability

the need to

customize

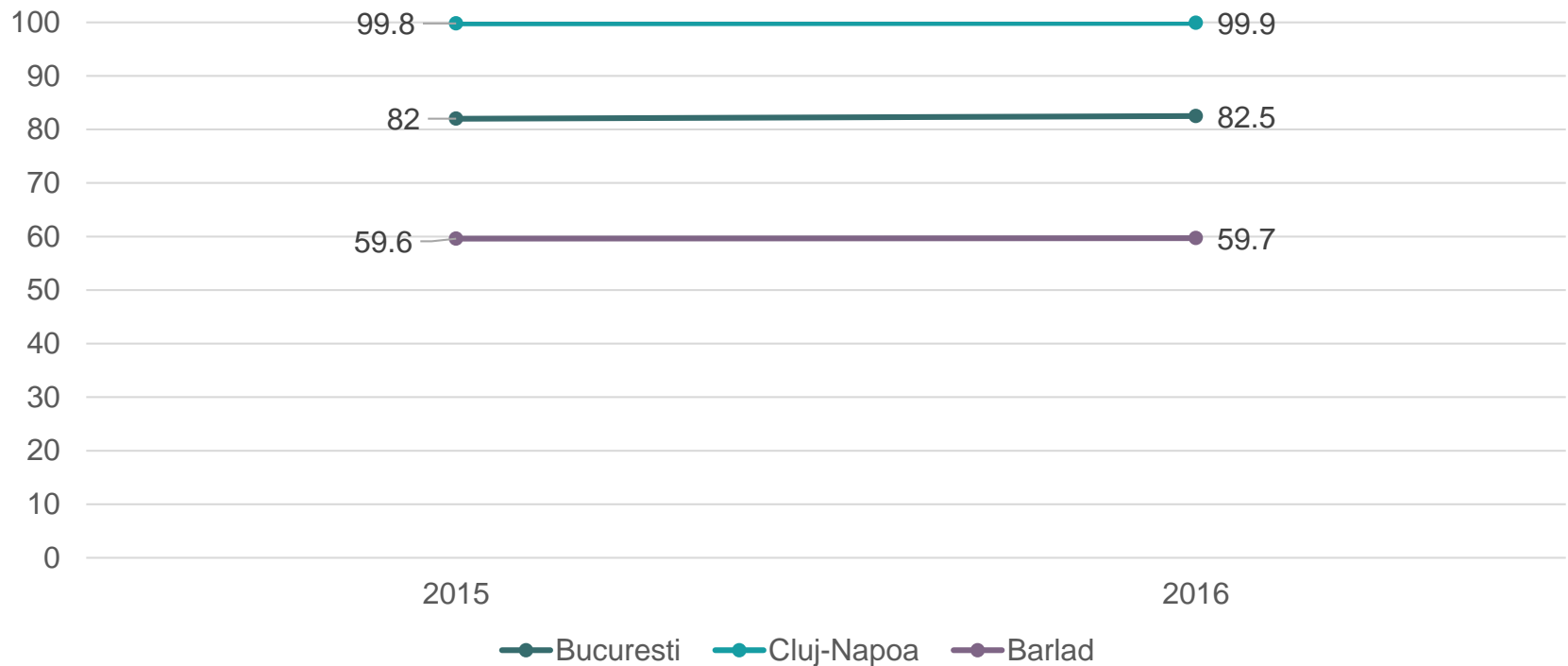
SDG6 – Clear water and sanitation

Several ways to measure and monitor progress towards ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. To name but a few:

- Population connected to a drinking water system
- Share of population connected to sewerage treatment system
- Total use of water
- Price of a m³ of domestic water
- Leaking in drinking water distribution networks

SDG6 – Clear water and sanitation

Share of population connected to potable drinking water system



Source: Eurostat, urb_cenv_custom_7978757

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/product/view/urb_cenv_custom_7978757?lang=en

SDG6 – Clear water and sanitation

Leaking in drinking water distribution networks

Table 1-10 Evaluation of water network – Cluj County

City	T1 NRW		T2 LKN		T3 ILI		T4 ELI		T water losses
Cluj Napoca	45%	C5	35252	C4	47.91	C5	9.79	C5	C5
Huedin	60%	C5	22476	C3	16.74	C2	6.24	C5	C4
Gherla	33%	C4	14330	C2	14.76	C2	3.98	C5	C3
Dej	58%	C5	13284	C2	15.09	C2	3.69	C5	C4

C1 (very good); C2 (good); C3 (average); C4 (critical); C5 (unacceptable)

Source: Valverde, Jose & Ciomos, V. (2023). Audit of 29 Water Distribution Networks of Romania.
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/237446048_Audit_of_29_Water_Distribution_Networks_of_Romania

Our work focus – Local SDGs



On Monitoring



On Implementation



On Interlinkages



On LNOB



REGIONS2030

– Filling the data gaps at EU regions

83

INDICATORS

TYPE OF INDICATORS

57 official indicators

26 experimental indicators

FREQUENCY OF UPDATE

48 annual

6 decade

1 triannual, per election cycle, monthly, daily

SOURCES

26 indicators from Eurostat, Regional Statistics

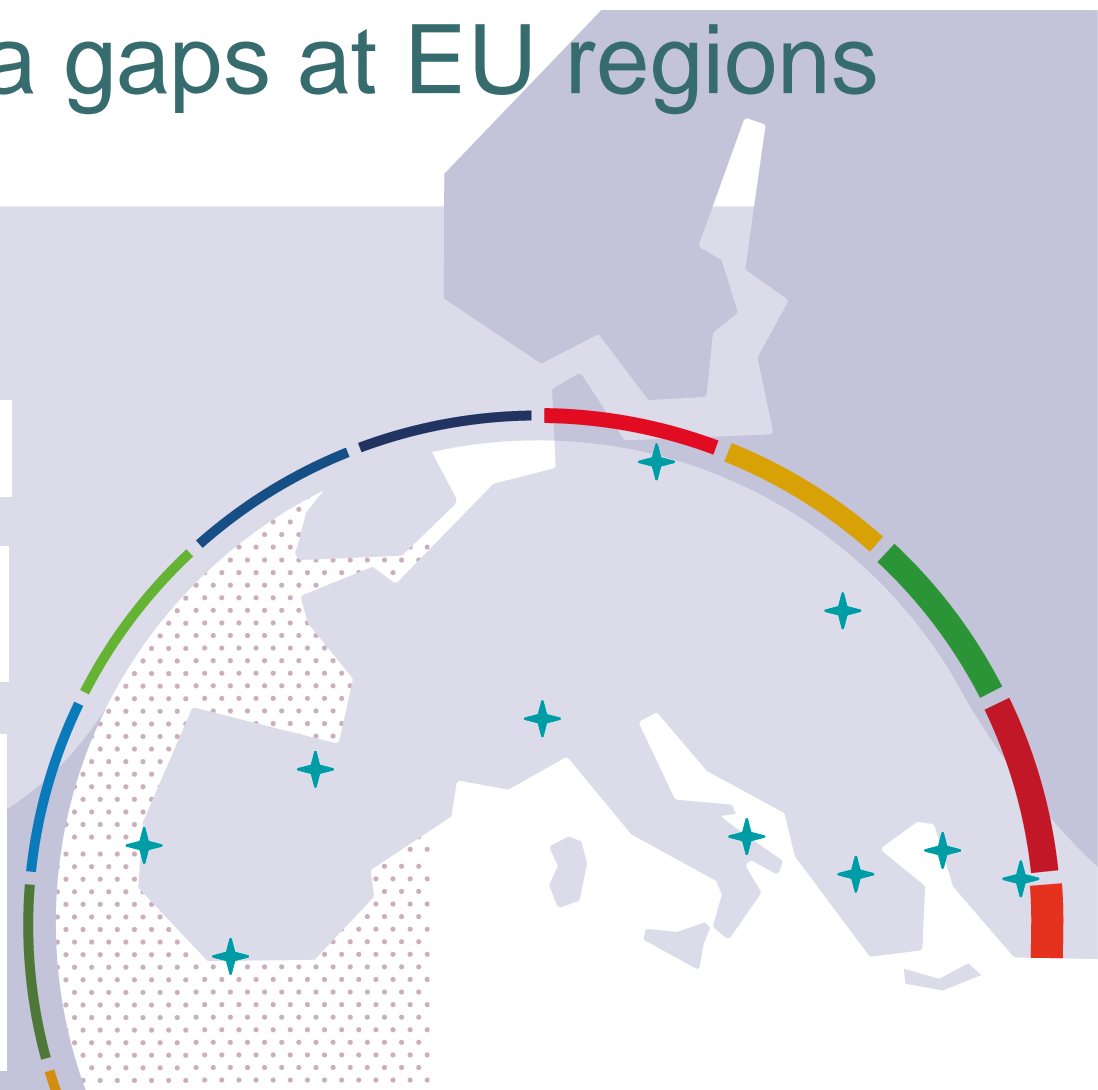
26 indicators from regional case studies and statistics offices (Spain, Belgium, Portugal, Sweden)

13 indicators from OECD

7 indicators from JRC

4 indicators from own elaboration by the regional government

1 indicator from DG REGIO



URBAN2030

– Filling the data gaps at EU cities

02

The European Handbook demonstrates that local governments can monitor SDGs with indicators that are locally relevant but also comparable

This part of the European Handbook aims at reviewing the method for the elaboration of VLIs and updating the framework of indicators proposed to European cities for measuring their progress towards the achievement of the SDGs.

Part 2 starts by describing the proposed method for the selection of the indicators and discusses the characteristics of the indicators proposed and the SDG targets addressed, including considerations on the difference both in the method and the indicators' list between the first and the second edition of the European Handbook.

Then, the readers find a detailed guide on how to use this Part in practical terms.

Each of the 17 SDGs is introduced with a two-page description that is divided in three sections: description of the Goal, and European and local dimension.

Finally, each indicator is presented in two-pages as well: the textual part aims at describing the indicator's definition and method of calculation, the European context and the comments and limitations; the graphical elements present in a simple way the key characteristics of the indicator such as coverage, source, frequency while the metadata include all information needed to retrieve the database indicated as a source.

72 INDICATORS

TYPE OF INDICATORS

53 official indicators
19 experimental indicators

ALIGNMENT

14 indicators match the EU SDG Indicator Set 2022
10 indicators match the UN's Global Indicator Framework
1 indicator matches both

SOURCES

21 indicators from Eurostat, City Statistics database
12 indicators from national statistics offices (DE, FI, PO, IT, ES, PL)
8 indicators from JRC
6 indicators from EEA
3 indicators from DG REGIO
2 indicators from OECD



LNOB: Monitoring Homelessness

COUNTRY																											
Legal national definition	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
National strategy	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
National monitoring programme at the local level	✓	✗	✓	✓	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓
Socio-demographic profile	✓	✗	✓	✓	?	?	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	?	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓

Comparative analysis on homelessness' monitoring in Europe for the 2030 Agenda

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Abstract:

Introduction: This paper examines homelessness in the EU and focuses on how countries monitor this phenomenon, looking at the existence of monitoring frameworks and their local dimensions. The 8th Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe reveals that there are at least 895,000 individuals experiencing homelessness, sleeping rough or in temporary accommodations, marking a 70% increase compared to a decade ago. To combat this problem, the Lisbon Declaration on Combating Homelessness was signed by EU Member States, institutions, and civil society organizations, aiming to eradicate homelessness by 2030.

Method: Desk research and interviews with statistical and homelessness experts were employed to gather relevant and precise information.

Result: Diverse legal national definitions, national strategies and monitoring programs at the local level, and socio-demographic profiles of people experiencing homelessness in EU member states

Conclusion: Effective monitoring is crucial for policymaking and a comprehensive understanding of homelessness.

Keywords: Homelessness; deprivation; monitoring; public policies; European Union.

Implementing the SDGs

A preliminary collection of actions from all published Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs), as well as actions taken by governmental organizations and institutions.

New sources of information related to actions taken by governmental organizations, institutions, and additional actors such as NGOs, international organizations, and identified Climate Action Plans will be reviewed.

Initial Data Collection

Focus on following SDGs:

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



1



Database Design

A conceptual database is designed to comprehensively capture information about various actions, including policies, measures, strategies, initiatives, investments, and related elements.

2



3

Database Refinement

The collected data will verify and refine the schema and content of the conceptual database, ensuring it provides a comprehensive overview of actions taken across various sectors and jurisdictions.

Next Steps

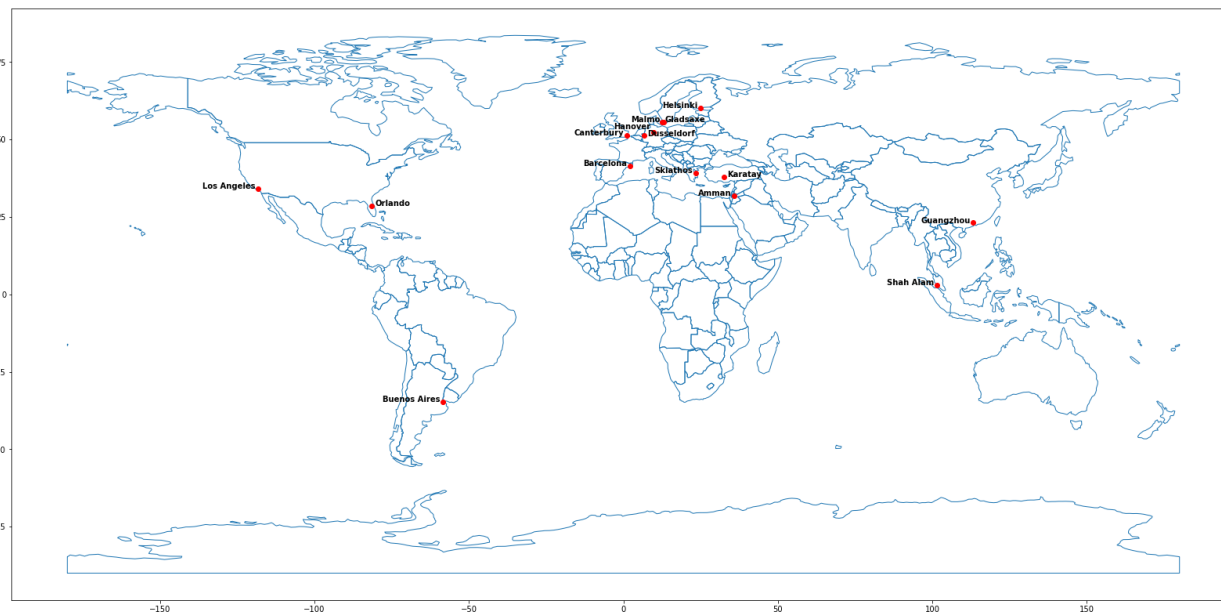
The expanded database will enhance the ability to analyze and prioritize actions taken at the local and regional levels, and it will facilitate easy retrieval of information.

At the moment..

 **13**
Countries

 **180**
Actions Identified

 **15**
Cities



The retrieved actions such as:

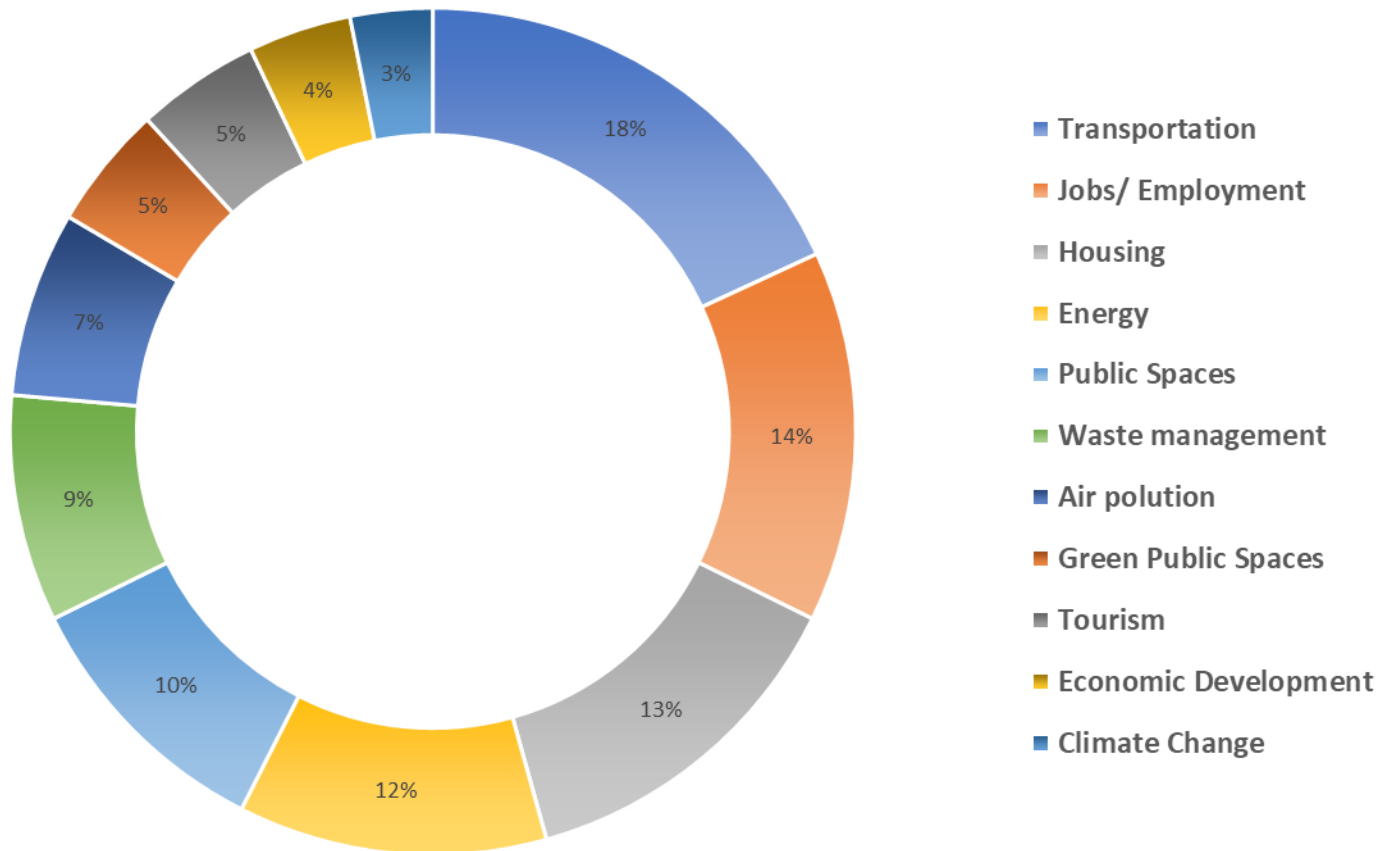
- ✓ Title
- ✓ General category
- ✓ Type
- ✓ Short description
- ✓ Issuing authority
- ✓ Measures for action's implementation
- ✓ Relation with SD Goals
- ✓ Relation with SD Targets
- ✓ Relation with SD Indicators
- ✓ Funding mechanism
- ✓ Duration
- ✓ Outcome
- ✓ Targeted population
- ✓ Spatial extent

Insights so far – General Categories

In relation to **SDGs 7, 8 and 11**

- Transportation
- Jobs/ Employment
- Housing
- Energy
- Public Spaces
- Waste management
- Air pollution
- Green Public Spaces
- Tourism
- Economic Development
- Climate Change
- Cultural/ Heritage
- Business
- Construction
- Environment
- Skills development
- Buildings
- Equality
- Improve facilities

Insights so far – General Categories

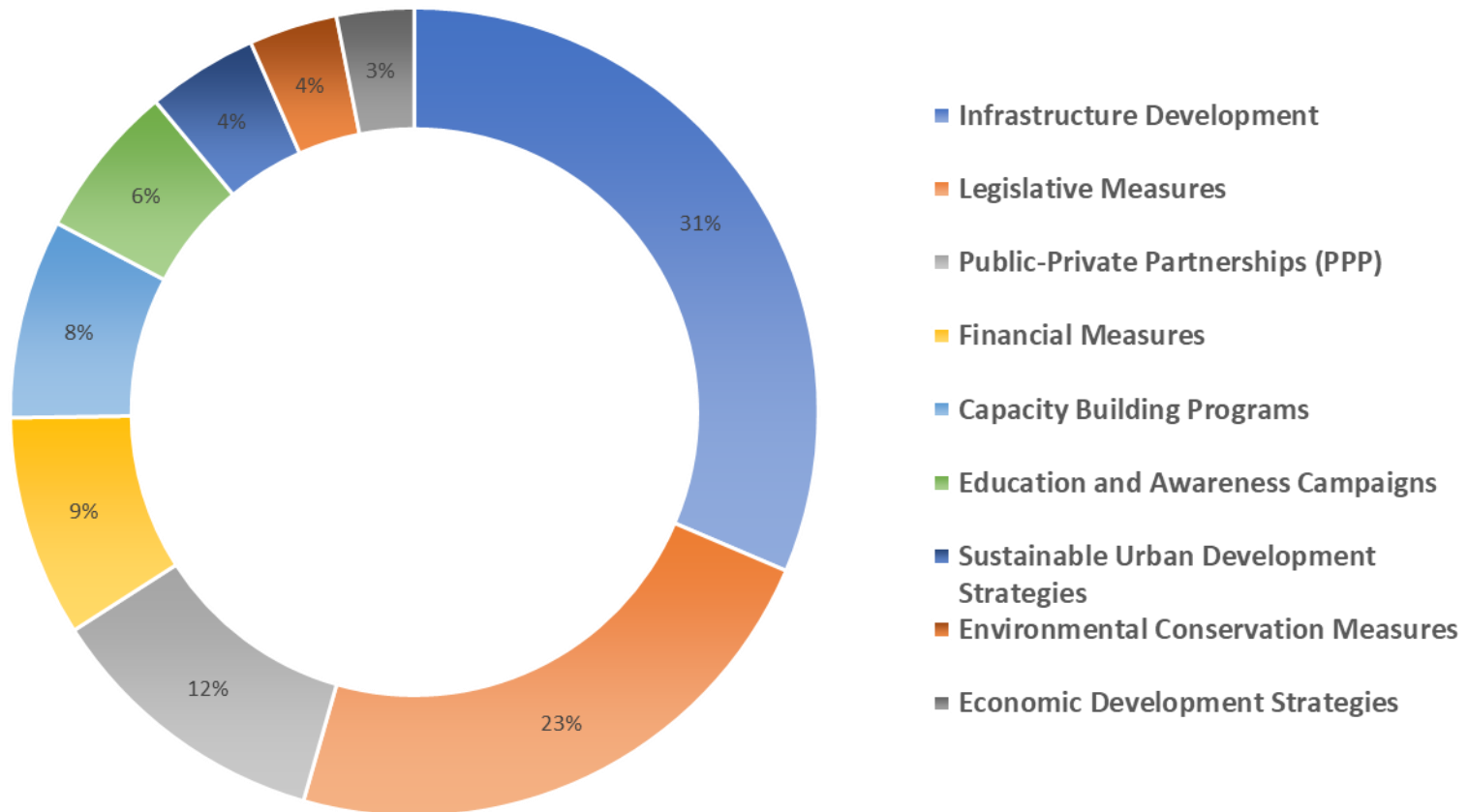


Insights so far – Type of Actions

In relation to **SDGs 7, 8 and 11**

- Infrastructure Development
- Legislative Measures
- Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)
- Financial Measures
- Capacity Building Programs
- Education and Awareness Campaigns
- Sustainable Urban Development Strategies
- Environmental Conservation Measures
- Economic Development Strategies
- Decent Work and Labor Rights Policies
- Monitoring and Reporting Frameworks
- Partnerships and Collaborations
- Research and Data Collection
- Social Services and Welfare Programs

Insights so far – Type of Actions

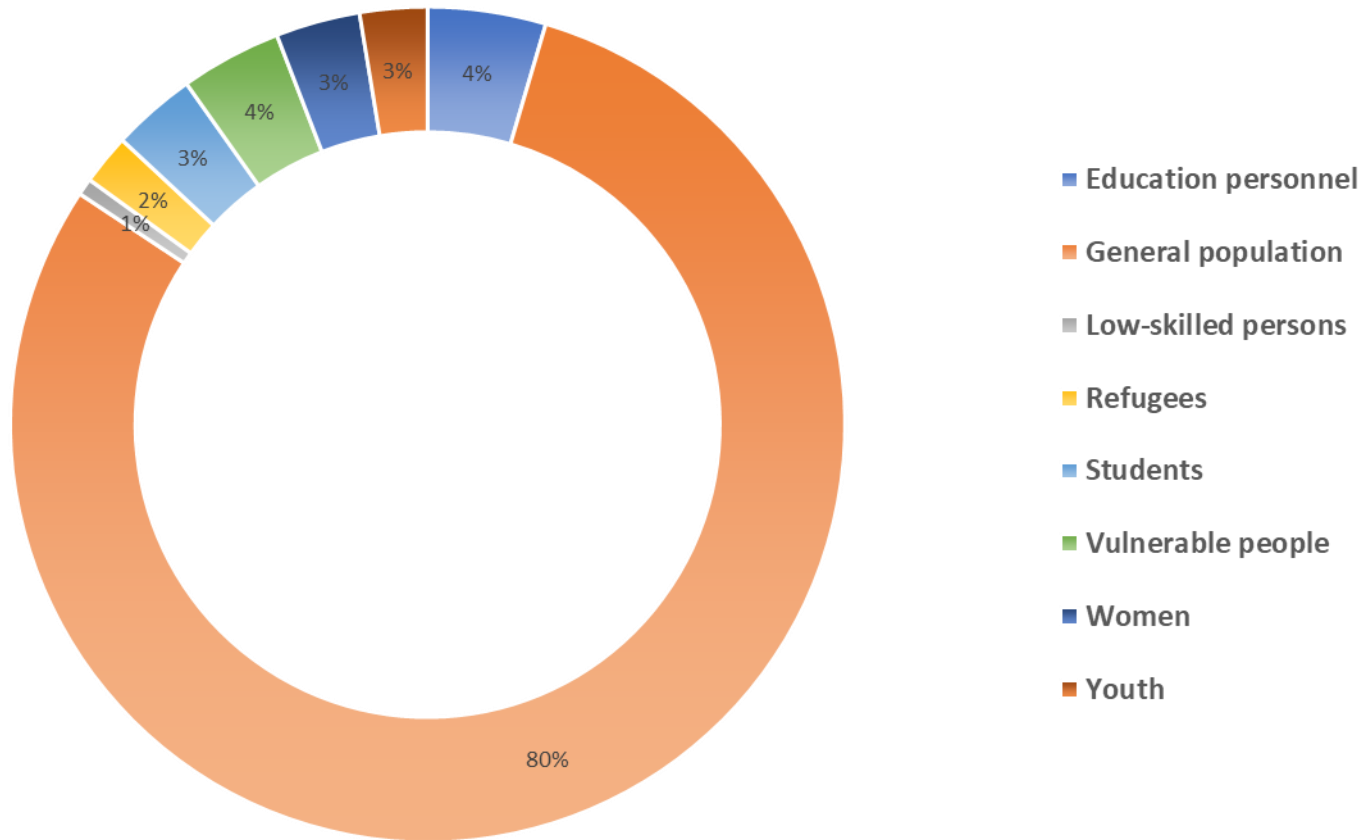


Insights so far – Targeted population

In relation to **SDGs 7, 8 and 11**

- General population
- Women
- People with disabilities
- School's staff
- Refugees
- Students
- Teachers
- Young people
- University students
- Vulnerable groups
- Children
- Low-skilled persons

Insights so far – Targeted population

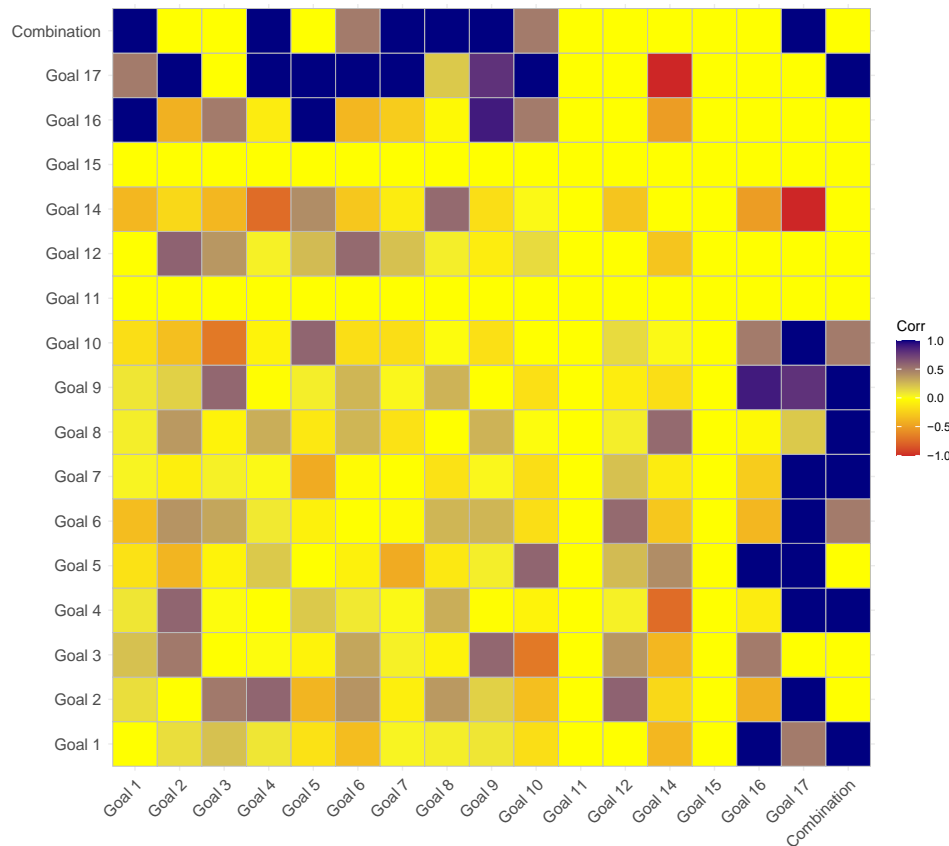


An example

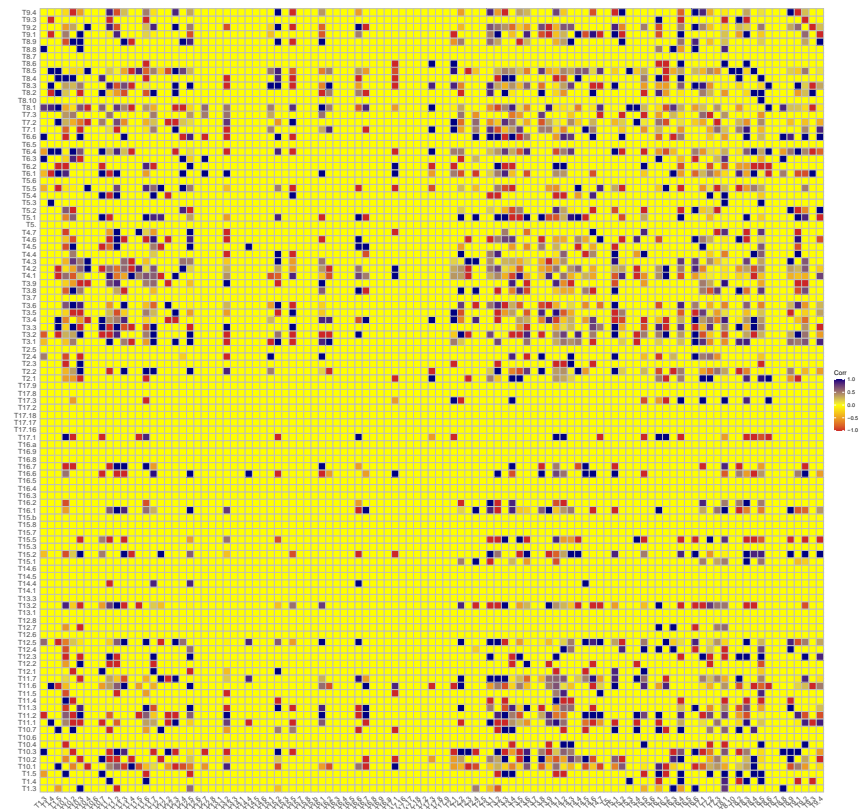
Action's Name	Wasserstadt Limmer
Action's Target	Increase the available number of houses/ residential units
Means of implementation	Construction of a new residential/ housing area
Action's General Category	Housing
Action's Type	Infrastructure Development
Related SD Goal	11
Related SD Target	11.1
Related SD Indicator	11.1.1
Action's Outcome (up to now)	1600 – 1800 residential units
Targeted Population	General population
City	Hanover
Country	Germany

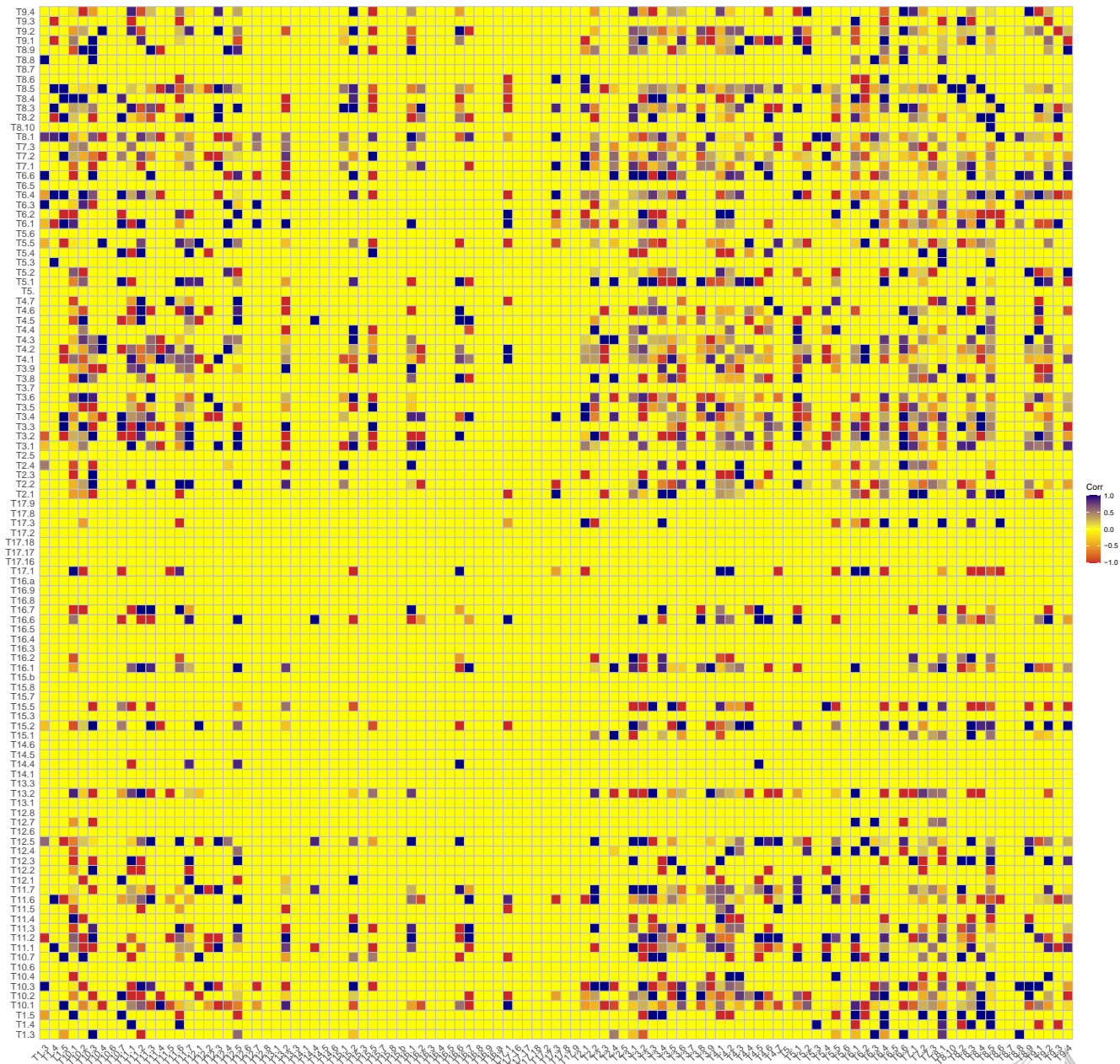
SDGs Interlinkages

At SDG level



At SDG target level





How many is the right many?

The Institutions

- The UN at NUTS1: 242
- The EU at NUTS1 – via Eurostat: 135
- The EU at NUTS2 – via Eurostat: 21
- The JRC at NUTS2 – via REGIONS2030: 83
- The JRC at NUTS3 – via Urban2030: 72

The practice

- Barcelona VLR: 227
- Dusseldorf VLR: 71
- Espoo VLR: 102
- Basque Country VLR: 45
- Gothenburg VLR: 65

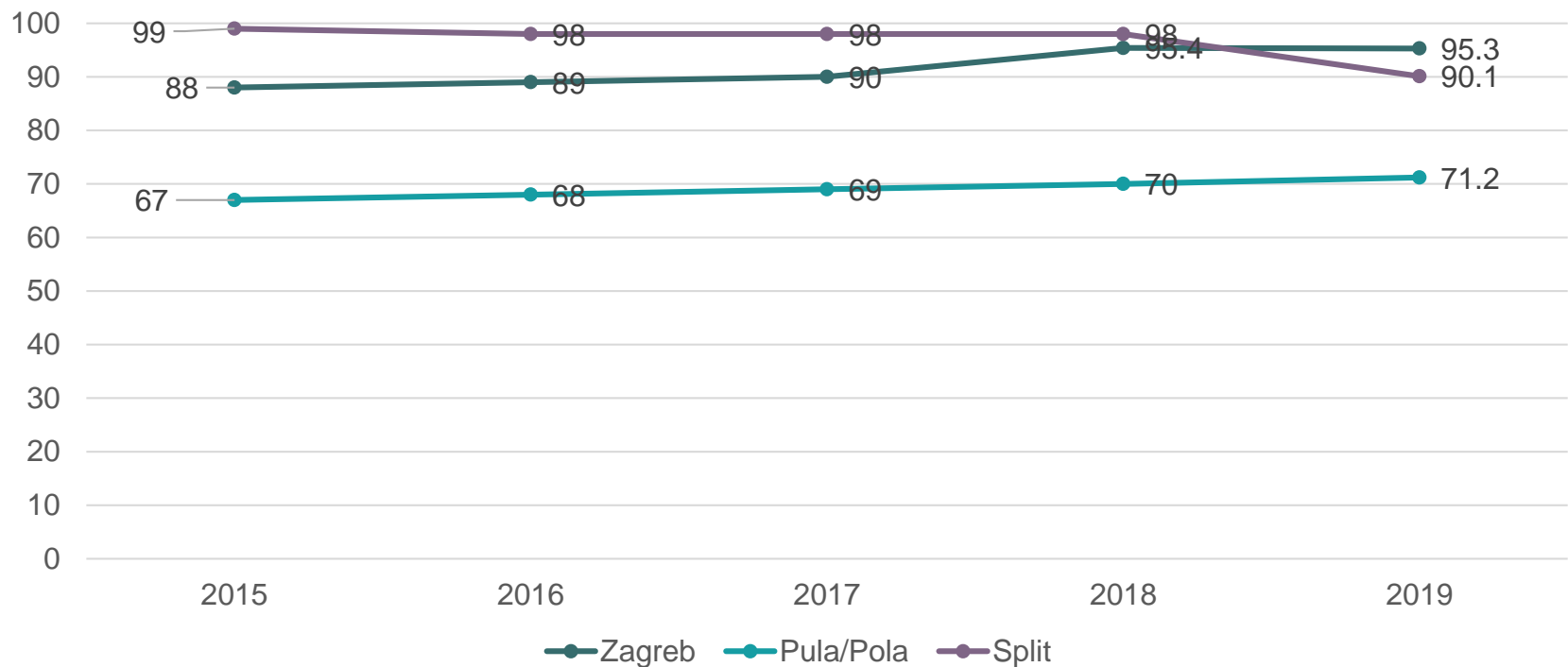
The proximity

- On average 41% have some degree of proximity
- 29 analysed EU VLRs and 2354 indicators; 20% high proximity
- Indicators measured with common and easily available data that LRGs can collect affordably: Green- house gas emissions, recycling rates, gender equality in employment and political representation, access to and use of public transport and unemployment rate



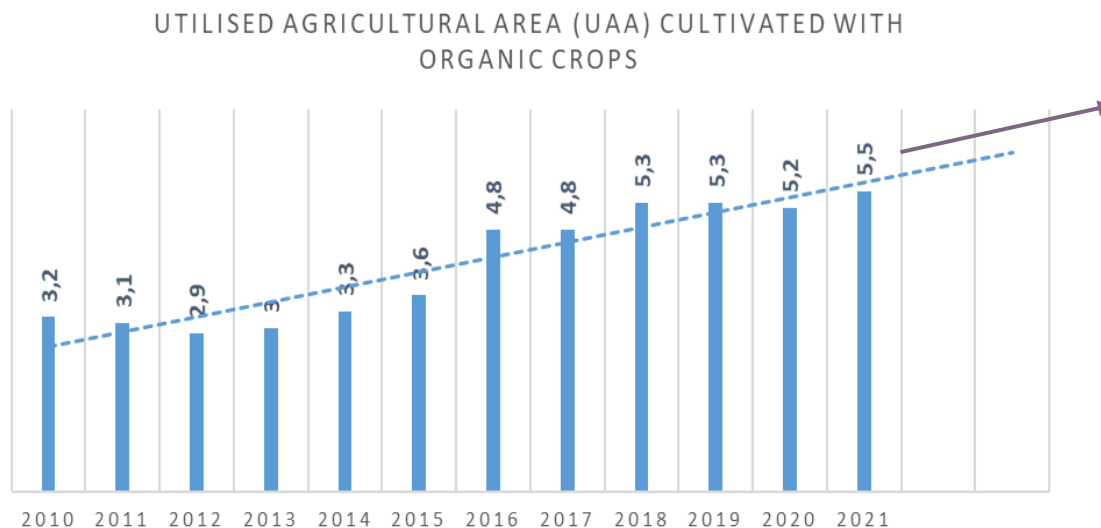
Get the context

Share of population connected to potable drinking water system



Interpretation of trends (1/2)

A positive trend..

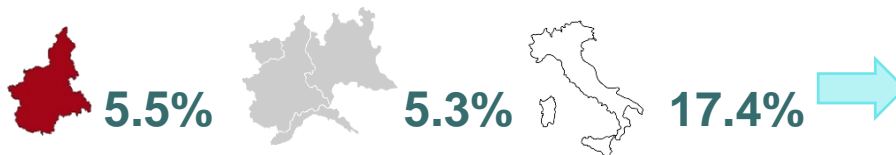
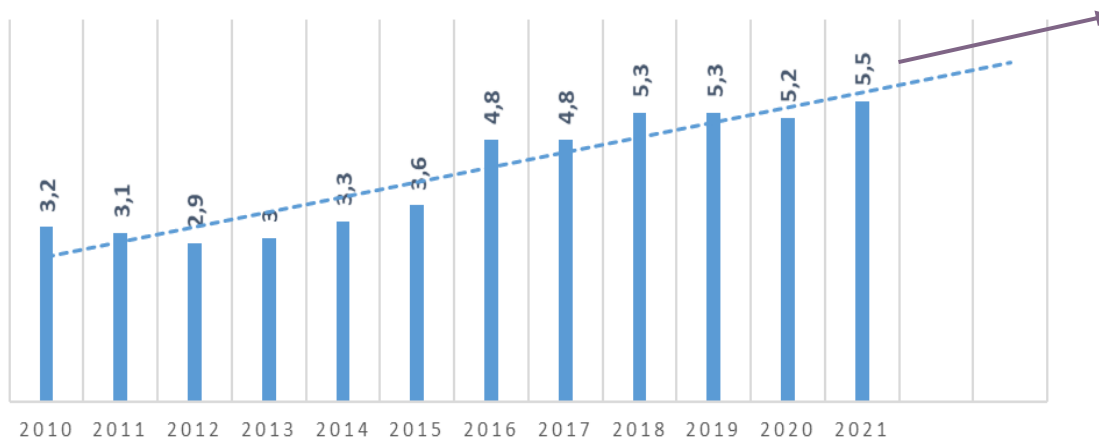


Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry; Istat; Regional Statistics; 2021

Interpretation of trends (2/2)

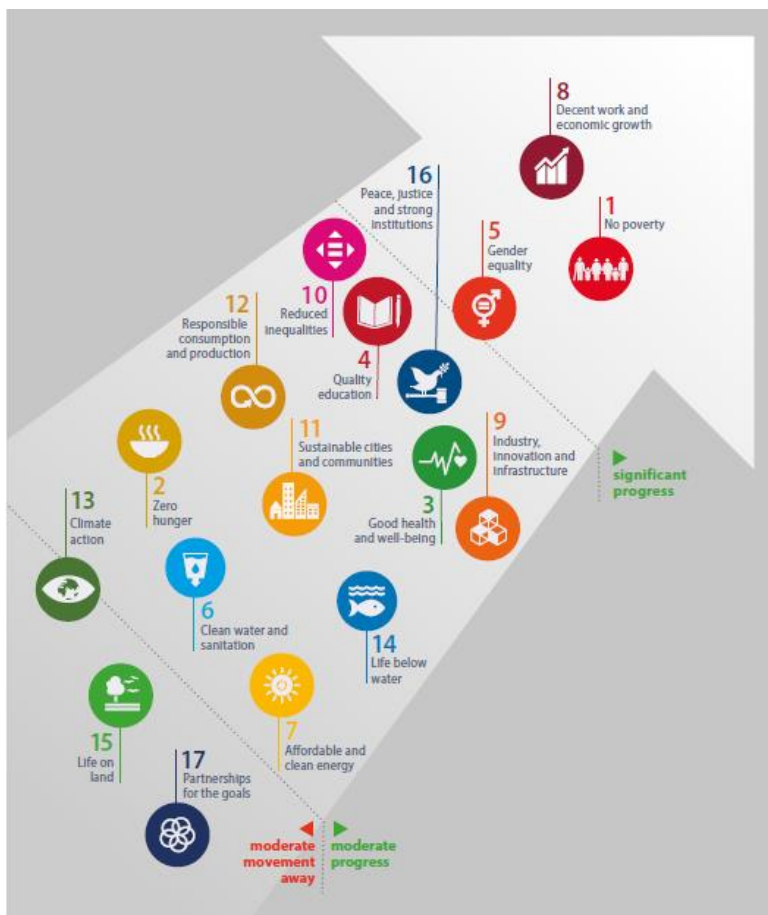
..or not really so.

UTILISED AGRICULTURAL AREA (UAA) CULTIVATED WITH ORGANIC CROPS



Source: Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Forestry; Istat; Regional Statistics; 2021

What constitutes progress?



Growth rate (CAGR) in relation to desired direction	Symbol
$\geq 1\%$	↑
$< 1\%$ and $> 0\%$	↗
$= 0\%$	→
$< 0\%$ and $> -1\%$	↘
$\leq -1\%$	↓

Ratio of actual and required growth rate	Symbol
$\geq 95\%$	↑
$< 95\%$ and $\geq 60\%$	↗
$< 60\%$ and $\geq 0\%$	↘
$< 0\%$	↓

Takeaways

- From Treasure what we Measure, to Measure what we Treasure
- How many is the right many? No indicator-washing: LNIB
- The SDGs framework: not a competition; nobody wins if we all of us don't win
- Local vs Regional vs National vs Worldwide: operational landscapes
- 2023 – halfway there: Bridging monitoring and implementation; significance of different options
- Mindful of interlinkages and trade-offs
- What constitutes progress – Interpretation of trends - Get the context

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Thank you



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