

Press release

New Report Explores How Cities Can Participate in the Follow-up and Review of Global Sustainability Agendas

- New report on the global follow-up and review architecture of the global urban, sustainability and climate agendas
- Report launch: 12 February 2018 (Monday), 02:00 PM (MYT; 07:00 AM CET)), room 408 at the 9th session of the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur.

Kuala Lumpur, 12/08/2018. At the Ninth Session of the World Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, Cities Alliance is launching a new report that aims to help local and regional governments understand how they can participate in the follow-up and review process for global urban, sustainability, and climate agendas.

[*Realising synergies in follow-up and review*](#) is a joint report published by Cities Alliance and the international think tank adelphi. It is co-authored by the African Centre for Cities (ACC), the German Development Institute, and the German Institute for International and Security Affairs.

Over the past three years, the global community has adopted several landmark decisions that are relevant to urban actors. The New Urban Agenda has become the global roadmap for sustainable urban development, while the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Agreement also assign cities a central role. However, even though it is a global agenda for cities, they are rarely involved in the process.

The Cities Alliance Joint Work Programme on Cities in the Global Agenda commissioned this report to address critical questions: How can the follow-up and review of these international agendas be supported, and how can local and regional governments participate? How can their interests be better reflected in these processes?

The authors of *Realising synergies in follow-up and review* illustrate existing follow-up and review processes and provides recommendations on their further improvement and potential synergies. Better reflection of urban sustainability issues and substantial participation of local and regional governments and stakeholders in these processes are essential for effective implementation of these agreements.

The authors argue to strengthening the synergistic follow-up and review of the urban dimension of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda and the Paris Agreement. They explore opportunities for a stronger involvement of local and regional governments and their partners in follow-up and review. They describe how local implementation capacities have to be strengthened and stress the importance if policy learning beyond data collection, reporting and review.

*Dellas, Eleni; Alexander Carius, Marianne Beisheim, Susan Parnell, and Dirk Messner 2018: [*Realising synergies in follow-up and review: The role of local and regional governments and their partners in the follow-up and review of global sustainability*](#)*

[agendas](#). Report commissioned by the Joint Work Programme on Cities in the Global Agendas of the Cities Alliance. Brussels/Berlin.

The report can be downloaded from the websites of the Cities Alliance and [adelphi](#), starting 12 February 2018 (Monday), 02:00 PM (MYT; 07:00 AM CET)).

About Cities Alliance

Cities Alliance is the global partnership supporting cities to deliver sustainable development. It promotes long-term programmatic approaches that are focused on strengthening local skills and capacity, developing national urban policies, investing in infrastructure, enabling strategic city planning, and engaging citizens.

The Cities Alliance Joint Work Programme on Cities in the Global Agendas focuses on the implementation of global agendas, both in and with cities and through multi-stakeholder partnerships. It is chaired by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The Cities Alliance is managed through a Secretariat based in Brussels and is hosted by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). Through UNOPS, the Cities Alliance operates a Multi-Donor Fund supported by an efficient, flexible grant-making mechanism with global reach.

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About adelphi

adelphi is a leading independent think tank and public policy consultancy on climate, environment and development. Our mission is to improve global governance through research, dialogue and consultation. We offer demand-driven, tailor-made services for sustainable development, helping governments, international organizations, businesses and nonprofits design strategies for addressing global challenges. Our work covers the following key areas: Climate, Energy, Resources, Green Economy, Sustainable Business, Green Finance, Peace and Security, International Cooperation and Urban Transformation.

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