

A Territorial Approach to the Sustainable Development Goals as a framework to recover from COVID-19

**Danube Governance Conference
Towards European integration with
the SDGs**

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1 While COVID-19 has had asymmetrical impacts across territories, initial policy responses were often place-blind until recently

2 COVID-19 started as a health crisis & turned into an unprecedented economic & social shock, suffered mostly by cities

3 While most of the world was in lockdown, we rediscovered the need to shift from *mobility* to *accessibility*

4 COVID-19 was an eye opener to all forms of inequality across people and places, especially in large cities

5 Density is not the problem – the urban *premium* will likely not turn into an urban *penalty*

6 Digitalisation has started to change the future of work in cities and our relationship to productivity, democracy, mobility and social interactions

7 The “Zoom effect” and the “Greta effect” have accelerated citizens’ environmental awareness

8 COVID-19 holds implications for governance & citizens’ trust in their governments

9 While COVID-19 is new, resilience is not a new concept at all

10 Never have the SDGs been so timely and relevant for cities to fit for the future

A Territorial Approach to the SDGs

Key objectives of the OECD Programme

LEARN



- How SDGs are used as a means to **reshape policies** from the ground up
- How SDGs help manage **trade-offs**, **plan**, prioritise **investment** & allocate **budget**
- How SDGs help strengthen **multi-level governance** and coordination

MEASURE



- Where cities and regions stand for relevant SDGs **against national average**
- How cities & regions compare **against peers** (standardised, comparable framework)

SHARE & GUIDE



- Multi-stakeholder dialogues across **9 pilot regions and cities**
- OECD **Roundtable** on Cities and Regions for the SDGs
- **Checklist** for public action



Province of Córdoba | Argentina



Region of Flanders | Belgium



Region of Southern Denmark | Denmark



City of Kitakyushu | Japan



City of Bonn | Germany



Rhine-Neckar Metropolitan Region | Germany



Municipality of Kópavogur | Iceland



County of Viken | Norway



City of Moscow | Russian Federation



State of Pará | Brazil



State of Paraná | Brazil

Key Assumptions and Findings

SDGs are a shared responsibility across levels of government

Need to go granular in the measurement (beyond national averages)

Need to go beyond the compliance agenda



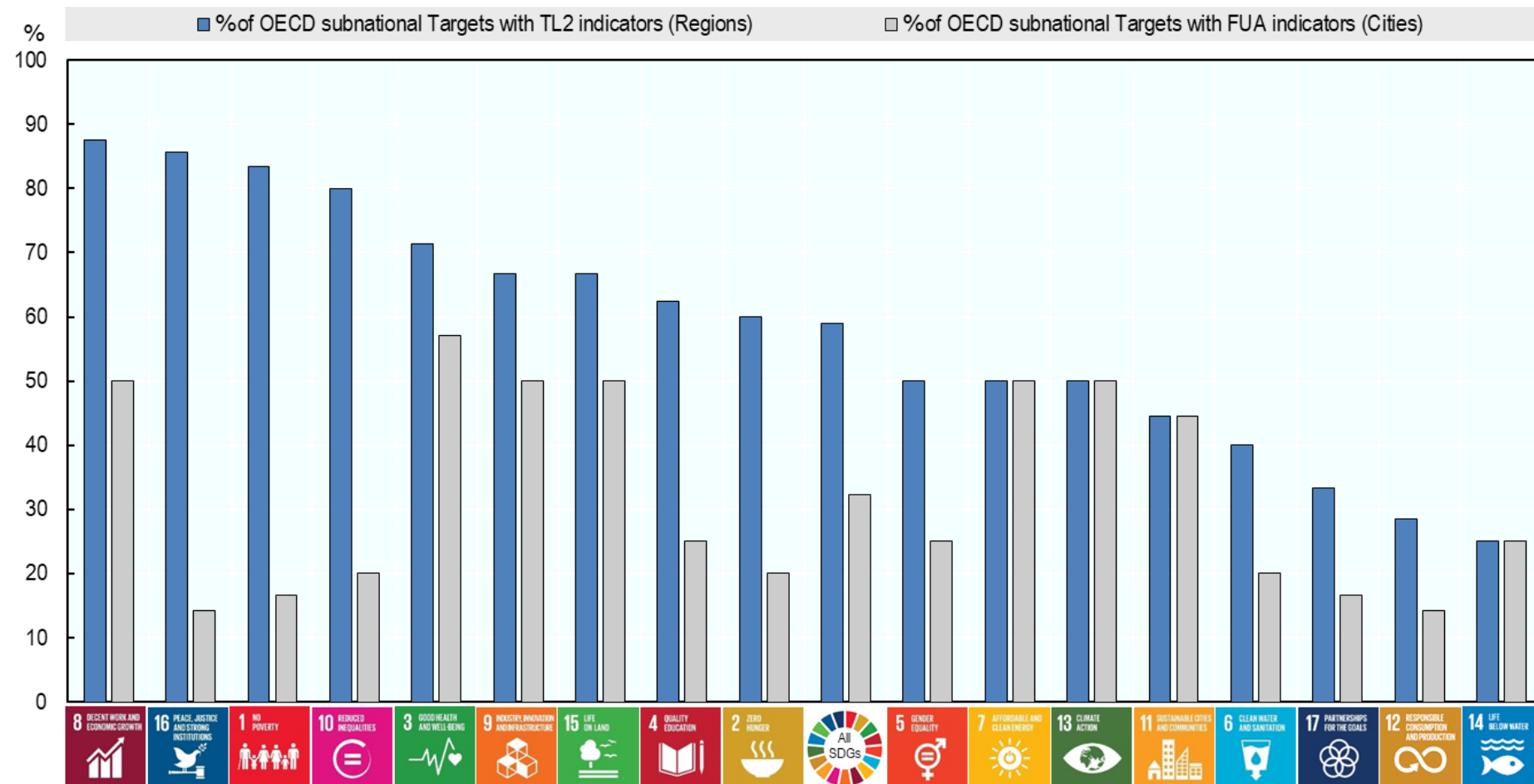
SDGs to improve MLG (Japan, Germany, VNR, VLR)

Strong territorial disparities (80% regions and 70% cities not on track)

SDGs as a tool for policy making

130+ OECD & place-relevant SDGs localized indicators

<https://www.oecd-local-sdgs.org/>



% of subnational Targets with at least one available indicator, by Goal and scale

Some highlights from OECD cities and regions

Cities and regions are not on track for most SDGs


- The vast majority of regions and cities have not achieved the end values in ANY of the SDGs
- Regions lag behind in terms of climate, energy, oceans, biodiversity, industry/innovation
- Cities lag particularly behind in terms of climate, biodiversity, energy
- Both cities and regions lag behind on gender related targets

There are good practices to champion a place-based approach to the SDGs

OECD Visualisation tool for SDGs in regions and cities:


<https://www.oecd-local-sdgs.org/>


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