“How to move from Local Agenda 21 to the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? Perspectives from the local level”

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The Local Agenda 21 Legacy

- Thousands of Action Plans
- Stakeholder engagement and public participation
- Raised awareness about sustainable development
- Institutional changes and structures
- New partnerships

But what was the impact....?
Local Agenda 21 – weaknesses

- Often disconnected and parallel
- A lack of reliability and institutional structures
- A lack of clearly defined goals and indicators applying across levels of governance
- Hardly linked to regulation or legislation – largely based on initiatives and projects
What is changing with new global frameworks?

- A wider perspective beyond environment
- New and clearly defined goals
- An implicit acknowledgement of global boundaries and limits
- Clearly defined timelines
- A changing approach from planning to implementation
- Connected to a monitoring and reporting mechanism for national governments
Accepting and managing global boundaries

Expansive Development and Growth Agenda

Competitive

Distribution
The challenge of transformation

Global Boundaries/
Global Needs

UN Agenda 2030/SDGs

Local Needs/
Local Boundaries

Future

Paris Agreement
How to localize?

164 targets!
The sustainability reference framework for local governments is already quite confusing...

- UN Urban Agenda (2016)
- The EU Urban Agenda (Amsterdam Pact, forthcoming)
- EU Energy Union (2015)
- EU Green Infrastructure Strategy (2014)
- Smart Cities Initiative (2014)
- Mayors Adapt Initiative (2014)
- EU Urban Mobility Package (2013)
- The 7th Environmental Action Plan (2013)
- EU Adaptation Strategy (2012)
- EU Biodiversity Strategy (2011)
- The EU 2020 Strategy (2010)
- UN SDGs (2015)
- The EU Urban Thematic Strategy (2005)
- The EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)
- The Covenant of Mayors (2008)
- The EU Urban Reference Framework (2008)
- The Territorial Agenda (2008)
From vision to implementation

Backcasting (Input)

Data  Indicators (KPIs)  Goals

Strategy  Plans  Actions

Forecasting (Output)

Today  Vision
SDGs, Paris Agreement and the process of urban transformation

**Paris Agreement**
- Mitigation
  - Keep temperature raise below 2°C
  - NDCs
- Adaptation

**UN Agenda 2030**
- SDG 11
- SDG 1
- ...
- SDG 17

Local policy
economic and social impacts

Sustainable City
Transformation happens at the speed of trust…..
Need for a reliable and coherent framework and support structure for transformation

- Paris Agreement
- UN Agenda 2030/SDGs
- Smart Cities EIP
- Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities
- Covenant of Mayors/Mayors Adapt
- EU-Urban Agenda

Level of trust

- Communication/Regulation/Legislation/Financial Means

Reporting/Extraction of Information

Local Level

Global Level

European Level

National Level

economic and social impacts
THE BASQUE DECLARATION

New Pathways for European Cities and Towns

to create productive, sustainable and resilient cities for a liveable and inclusive Europe
Thank you for your attention!

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