



Localizing Sustainable Development Goals: Actions, Assessments, and Interlinkages at the Regional Level

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Abstract

The Joint Research Centre of the European Commission invites submissions for a special session on "Localizing Sustainable Development Goals: Actions, Assessments, and Interlinkages at the Regional Level" as part of the 64th ERSA Congress 2025 (RSA24). This session aims to spotlight the vital role of local and regional governments in Europe in the implementation and monitoring of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We welcome researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and stakeholders to contribute to a discourse that bridges the gap between global aspirations and regional realities. This session will focus on the following themes:

1. **SDG Monitoring mechanisms:** Contributions on innovative indicators and tools for tracking the progress of SDGs at the regional level. We encourage submissions detailing how data is collected, analyzed, and employed to inform policy and practice.
2. **Local actions and governance:** Case studies and analyses of initiatives taken by local and regional governments to operationalize the SDGs. We seek insights into the type of actions, governance structures, strategies, and partnerships that facilitate SDG implementation.
3. **Impact assessment models:** Methodologies and techniques used to evaluate the effectiveness of actions toward achieving the SDGs. Submissions should focus on the assessment of outcomes.
4. **SDG Interlinkages:** Research addressing the complex relationships between different SDGs and their targets. We are interested in contributions that explore synergies, complementarities, and trade-offs, providing a holistic view of SDG interactions.
5. **Local ownership and engagement:** Discussions on fostering a sense of ownership and involvement among local communities in the SDG agenda. Contributions should address the role of public participation, education, and ownership.
6. **Cross-disciplinary and innovative approaches:** Papers that demonstrate novel and interdisciplinary approaches to integrating the SDGs into regional development plans and policies.

Submissions may take the form of theoretical explorations, empirical studies, policy analyses, or best practice showcases. We particularly encourage contributions that highlight collaborative efforts, cross-border initiatives, and those that demonstrate a clear link between research and practice.