

CONCEPT NOTE

VENICE 2030

CITY SOLUTIONS

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FLIPPING THE SCRIPT TO REIMAGINE THE CITY

28 AND 29 NOVEMBER 2022



CO-ORGANIZED BY:



CONTRIBUTING INSTITUTIONS:



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INTRO

Venice City Solutions 2030 is a yearly event that focuses on how cities and local governments are contributing to make the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for all. Venice is not only an event; it is all-year process that bring partners together to develop narratives on how local governments can better contribute to Agenda 2030.

This fifth edition follows the idea that we need to “Flip the Script” to achieve the SDGs. We need more inclusive, peaceful and sustainable cities and territories, and we need them now. After the 2 years pandemic and subsequent global turmoil, the world has turned upside down and our cities are suffering. Certain traditional management models are no longer working, and we need new ones.

That is why we are asking local and regional governments to “Flip The Script” to bring communities together and transform policy and local action to make our cities more inclusive, green, healthy and just.

The SDG are also helping cities to innovate and transform, and we know that this is never easy. Venice wants to offer specific solutions that other cities and their partners are already experimenting. Each year we gather in Venice to share how our cities are getting inspired by the SDGs, turning around old ways of doing things, and engaging citizens into local action.

To get a better grasp of the Flip The Script concept, take a look to [our videos](#)

LOCAL VIDEO VERSIONS TO BE ADDED HERE

This year, we want to find responses to some of these questions:

- What is your city doing to “flip the script”?
- How is SDGs inspiring your local action?
- How are cities bringing along their communities?
- Is Agenda 2030 helping cities to innovate, how and where?



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BACKGROUND

Entering its fifth edition, Venice City Solutions 2030 has now become the only permanent event fully dedicated to the local implementation of SDGs. Venice focuses on the role of local and regional governments to implement SDGs, it also wants to bring traditional and non-traditional partners to our special vision on Agenda 2030 as an instrument to transform our cities, to trigger individual and collective action and to help municipalities to plan, deliver and communicate better what they do on a daily basis.

Each year, the recommendations and narratives produced in Venice are presented during the High-Level Political Forum, the official UN event that assess the state of implementation of Agenda 2030. An occasion to interact with member states and raise attention on issues that cities, local governments and their partners believe to be essential to reach the full potential of the SDGs.

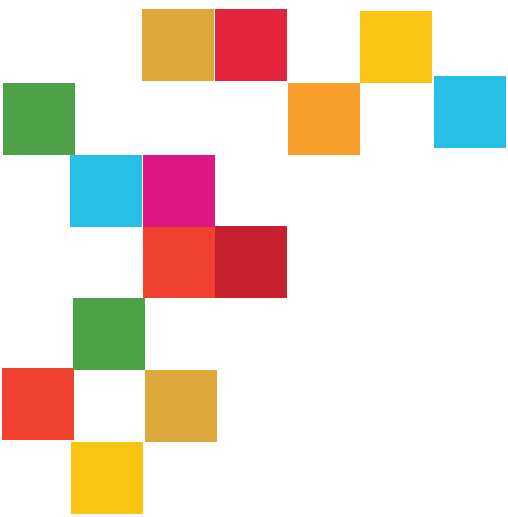
The past editions of Venice City Solutions 2030 have focused on:

- Year 2018 "Financing the SDGs at local level"
- Year 2019 "Creating Citizenship: The SDGs as an Opportunity for All"
- Year 2020 "Visualizing Agenda 2030 in the city"
- Year 2021 "SDG solutions to rethink the cities"


Venice City Solutions is the sum of efforts by its organizers. Our Italian host is AICCRE, who also keeps the event alive and bring together all our partners in Venice. The event is also co-organized by United Cities and Local Governments, the major network of cities and two UN agencies: the United Nations Development Programme and UN-Habitat, together with the UN SDG Action Campaign, who promotes Agenda 2030 on behalf of the whole UN system.

Each year, we count with different partners, local and international representing traditional and non-traditional partners from the private sector, academia and civil society.

Venice is also the meeting point for UCLG Local4Actions Hubs, entering its second round, this new initiative aims to foster an active global community of cities and regions contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda by creating a platform for visibility through peer exchanges, learning, advocacy and communications work. Venice City Solutions 2030 is the UCLG Hub of the Local4Action Hubs, where all the HuBs have the opportunity to meet, to exchange and disseminate their experience among the global community.



STRUCTURE & THEMES



Using different and interactive methodologies, each session will answer a series of questions and set the debate where the participants will jointly elaborate key messages and recommendations. Each session will showcase specific local experiences that are contributing to flip the script, speakers will be selected on the basis of geographic and gender balance and will combine representatives from local and regional governments as well as the United Nations, private sector and civil society.

The full programme will be soon available at: VeniceCitySolutions.com but the agenda will be structured around the following sessions:



Welcome plenary: Why we need to “Flip the script”

- Institutional welcome by AICCRES Venice, United Cities and Local Governments, UNDP, UN SDG Action Campaign and UN-Habitat.
- Introduction to this year theme and methodology.
- Presentation of existing communication tools: Global Week of Action, Videos, SDG City Tales and Trello Boards.



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HOW DO WE FLIP THE SCRIPT IN PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY - UNDP

Cities keep innovating the way they deliver public services, the most visible issue that citizens benefit in their daily lives. With increasing needs and diminishing resources, cities not only need to keep reinventing themselves, they also care about the quality of their services and how they can change the lives of the local population, specially the more vulnerable.

How can we “flip the script” in public service delivery?

What is happening out there?

What are the latest trends in public administration and how Agenda 2030 is providing inspiration to deliver in a more inclusive and effective way?

The session will bring experiences from 2-3 cities + 1 representative of the private sector and 1 expert in public administration innovation.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION TO FLIP THE SCRIPT - AICCRE VENICE

"Those who can imagine anything, can create the impossible."

(Alan Mathison Turing)

As citizens, voters, consumers, we all know that digital is transforming the world we live in. Digital innovation happens from the way we live the city, use public or private transport, feed our families, do our shopping, relate to our neighbors, or decide how we consume goods. Digital is, in fact, “flipping the script” by itself. How can we make sure that cities and local governments keep up with continuous change? How as citizens can we flip the script to ensure that the SDGs become the digital roadmap for the cities?

The session will bring experiences from 2-3 cities + 1 representative of civil society and 1 expert in digital innovation.

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FINANCING LOCAL ACTION: HOW THE SDGS CAN HELP YOU - UNCDF

Access to reliable and flexible financing sources is still one of the main impediments to “Flip the Script” in local policy and keep implementing local SDG action. The first edition of Venice City Solutions 2030 focused on finance, and we are proposing to bring back this key issue this year, as demand of cities has only increased. The session wants to identify and share different financial mechanisms to make projects a reality.

The The session will bring experiences from 2-3 cities + 1 representative of financial institutions and 1 expert in SDG finance.

WORKSHOP – CO - CREATING LOCAL FLIP THE SCRIPT MESSAGES – UN SDG ACTION CAMPAIGN

The session will work as a “focus group” to design together the new set of messages for the Global “Flip the script” campaign focusing on local action. Guided by our advocacy experts, participants will have the opportunity to get familiar with existing communication tools to share more efficiently how cities and local governments are locally implementing the SDGs, focusing on elaborating specific messages to communicate internationally, vis-à-vis the central government and with their local community.

The outcome of the session will be re-worked by the organizers and will be made available to the general public to inspire other cities to “Flip the Script”. More resources available at <https://act4sdgs.org/>



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RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2023

As in previous occasions, the recommendations from the event will be presented at the High-Level Political Forum, the formal mechanism to follow up on SDGs that gathers in New York in July of each year, giving the opportunity to transfer to member states and governments the new ideas and solutions identified during the event. The final session will gather the contribution of participants to next year HLPF, the formal session that, each year, revises the state of implementation of Agenda 2030 during a two-week period at the UN Headquarters in New York.

You can access the presentation of Venice City Solutions recommendations to the HLPF here:

- Year 2018 : [Localizing the SDGs: the role and impact of local authorities for the 2030 Agenda \(HLPF19 Side Event\)](#)
- Year 2019: [Cities as bridges between citizens and SDGs in a post COVID19 world \(HLPF20 Side Event\)](#)
- Year 2020: [Visualizing Agenda 2030 in the city \(HLPF 2021 Side Event\)](#)
- Year 2021: [SDG Solutions to rethink cities \(HLPF 2022 Side Event\)](#)

LOCAL4ACTION HUBS BY UCLG

The Local4Action HUBs by UCLG initiative anchors the global agendas' localization on members' innovative practices, processes and initiatives, providing the platform to connect, synchronize and accelerate the delivery of the global agendas, setting cities and regions as main actors for global sustainability. It provides visibility and a UCLG label to local and regional government ambitious and transformative initiatives, setting local approaches to sustainability at the forefront of the global conversation.

In Venice all the HUBs have the opportunity to meet and exchange with other stakeholders as a community and to show how local and regional governments are showing that they want to accelerate, through the Hubs, strong actions that are catalysts for citizens and that guarantee sustainable development. This edition will be prodromal to the welcoming of the numerous Hubs that have joined the initiative.

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WALK AND TALK: TECHNICAL VISIT TO THE CITY OF VENICE

We traditionally reserve half a day to meet informally with colleagues and participants during a technical visit to one innovative project in the unique city of Venice.



FURTHER INFORMATION

This year, Venice goes back to be a fully presential event, but we will also connect remotely with the world. Participation in presence is by invitation only and the organizers will make the possible to accommodate the requests from city and partners representatives.

Please do not organize any travel arrangements before your registration has been confirmed by the organizers. Remote connection is open to all, registration will be available online and through the [YouTube Channel](#).

Interpretation will be available in English, French, Spanish and Italian.



For more information on this year Venice City Solutions, please contact:

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PRE-REGISTER FOR THE EVENT

If you are interested in participating, please pre-register

[here](#)



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