

Session 2:

Introduction to TALD: Territorial Approach to Local Development

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REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR ASIA-PACIFIC COUNTRIES

Territorial Approach to Local Development (TALD)

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Why is local development important?

The concept of Local Development is not new. For decades, practitioners have paid particular attention to the so-called *bottom up approach* as an important way to understand and implement development policies



Global, Local, Territorial ?

Some scholars oppose local development to globalization. For them, globalization happens when « national economies » compete against each other for a larger share of the global « market ».

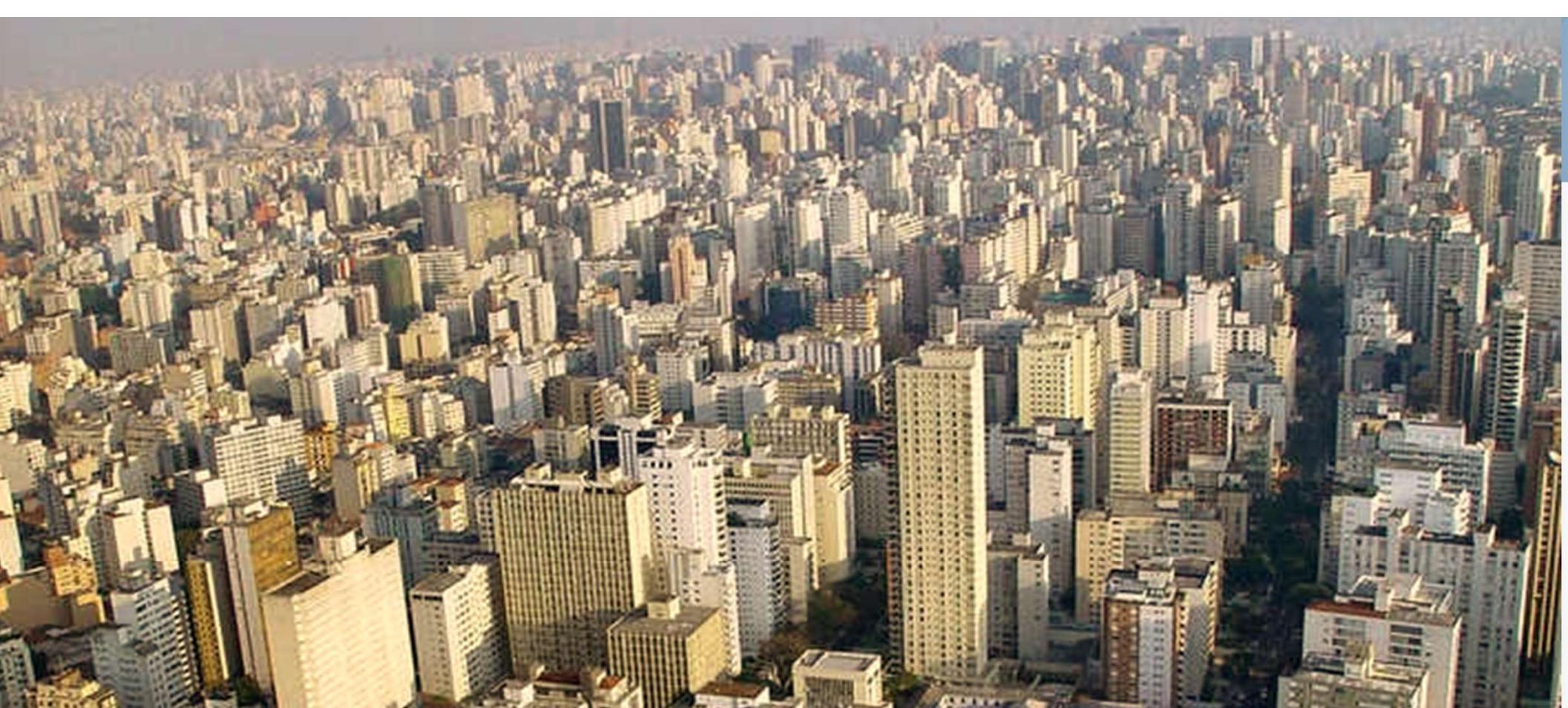
This model implies a high degree of interdependencies and reliance on the « external sectors », expecting that communities insert themselves in the global economy, by being competitive in the business created by the free flow of goods, capitals and services.



Increasing inequalities:

While globalization has brought about considerable economic growth and innovation to many places, one of its main shortcomings is the increase of social and economic disparities



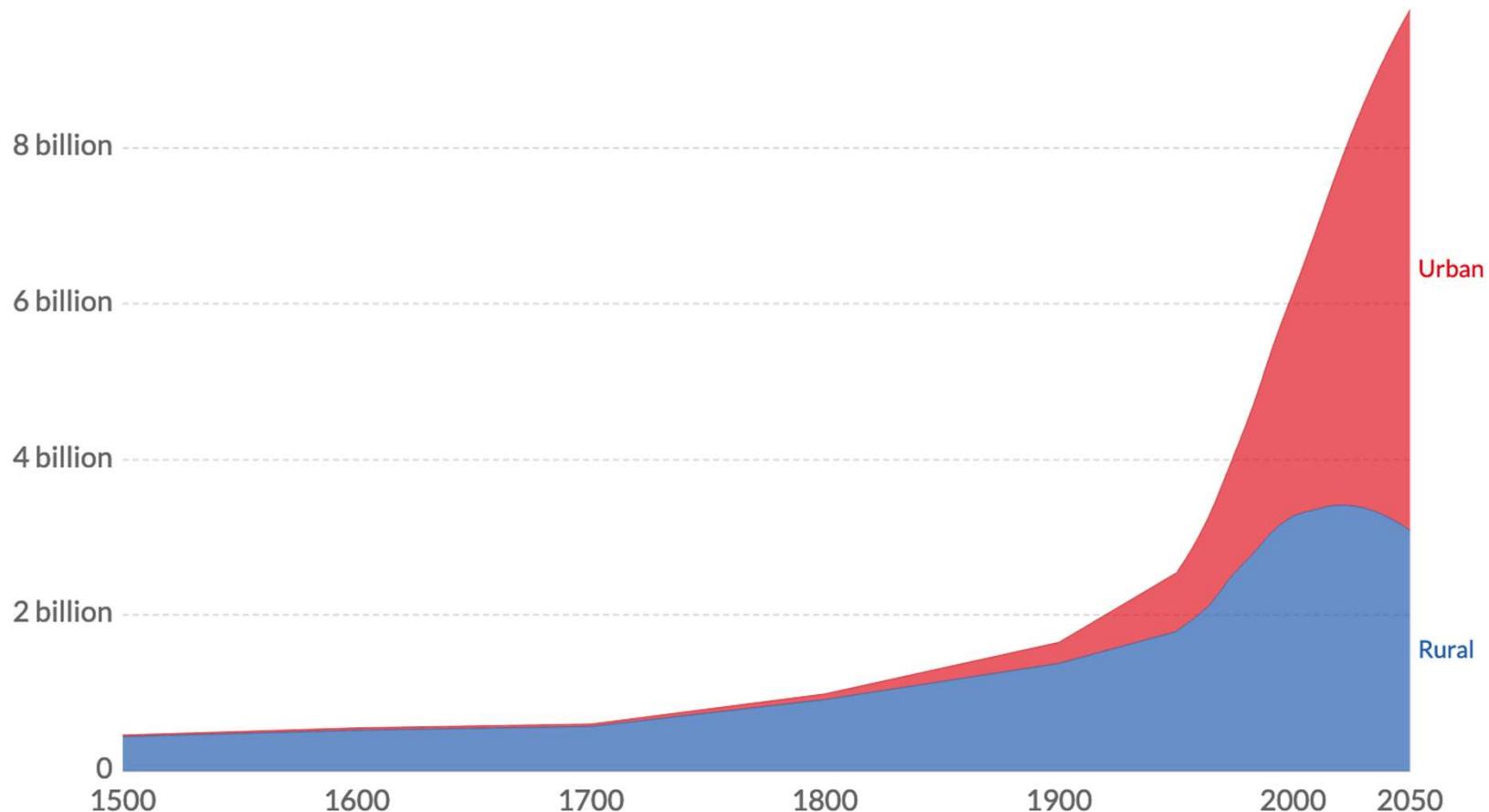


URBANIZATION

In parallel to globalization, the world has experienced in recent decades an unprecedented drive towards urbanization, which in turn has worsened disparities, expressing them acutely at territorial level

Urban and rural population projected to 2050, World

Total urban and rural population, given as estimates to 2016, and UN projections to 2050. Projections are based on the UN World Urbanization Prospects and its median fertility scenario.



Source: OWID based on UN World Urbanization Prospects 2018 and historical sources (see Sources)

CC BY

Spatial disparities:

The result is a “globalized world” composed of stronger vs weaker territories.

Decentralization and regional policies come as a means to balance the playing field at national level





Decentralization:

Decentralization happens when central governments **transfer powers** to sub-national or local government entities.

A trend towards decentralization began since the 1950's to try to address issues like the arrival of new democratic regimes, political pluralism and preserving the unity of a Nation-State in many development countries.



Decentralize what?

POLITICAL DECENTRALIZATION

- **Competencies**
(administrative decentralization)
- **Decision making**
(strengthened local autonomy)

FISCAL DECENTRALIZATION

- **Spending**
(redistribution of national income)
- **Taxing**
(strengthened capacity to locally collect taxes)

THE PRINCIPLE OF SUBSIDIARITY

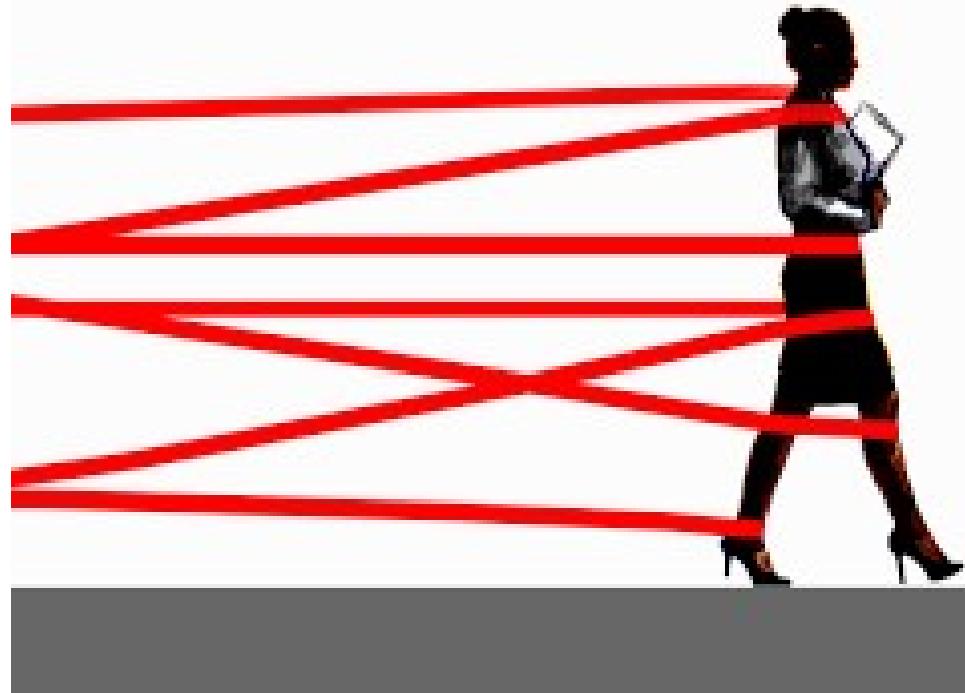
But decentralization has had insufficient results:

Decentralization efforts aiming at balancing territorial disparities have not always been successful. A few not so positive results include:

- Mono-sectoral approaches, disconnection
- Short term visions, contingent on political mandates



- Decentralization has also implied that local development plans be tailor-made to access funds from central government programs
- Concurring legislation and diversity of processes bring about bureaucratic labyrinths and administrative burden





With insufficient results:

- Decentralization has not countered the traditional vertical « Top-down » approach characterized by central government control
- Nor has it been able to solve inadequate or insufficient local capacities
- More responsibilities to local governments have not necessarily been accompanied by more resources





Territorial Development can be an effective tool to complement decentralization





What is TALD?

- ✓ TALD is **spatially integrated** development
- ✓ This implies considering the physical and socio-economic traits of a particular place, regardless of its administrative boundaries or sectorial fragmentation

- ✓ TALD puts the accent on the **multiplicity of scales**, that coexist in the same territory: local, urban, rural, metropolitan, regional, national, global, as well as on their interdependencies.



Why is TALD important?



- ✓ It involves different kinds of actors, not only public authorities, but also private entities and CSOs.
- ✓ It recognizes a high degree of autonomy to local actors when defining their own development priorities.



- ✓ Being local, TALD supports a more equitable, inclusive, just and sustainable development
- ✓ TALD is respectful of local identity, local culture and the local environment





Do not confound:

Territorial Development is not about
**« localizing » the Sustainable
Development Goals.** TALD is born
locally, its priorities are not defined, nor
necessarily established nor oriented, by
others

TALD \neq LOCALIZING THE SDGs

The logo for "LOCALIZING THE SDGs" features the word "LOCALIZING" in black capital letters, "THE" in smaller black capital letters, and "SDGs" in blue capital letters. To the left of the text is a red location pin icon with a colorful circular base.

Territorial development is thus a development that is **ENDOGENOUS** based on grass-roots resources and local dynamics.





Territorial Development **is spatially integrated:**

It goes beyond the typical fragmentation caused by political and administrative boundaries as well as by traditional sectorial programming.



It is multilevel:

It is supported by a set of diverse actors from the private and public sectors, including intermediary and national governments acting under a shared vision.





It is incremental:

Complementarity and coherence between the efforts of different stakeholders working in the same territory with a common vision triggers a virtuous circle:

1 + 1 + 1 = 4 !



In fact, **TALD** represents the “**missing link**” between decentralization reforms and the expected results of development policies.





So who drives TALD?

Comparative analysis of the main types of actors

CENTRAL
GOVERNMENT

CIVIL SOCIETY
ORGANIZATIONS

FOR PROFIT
SECTOR

LOCAL
AUTHORITIES



LOCAL MANDATE

Has the political legitimacy and formal power to promote the social and economic well being of a local community, on top of delivering essential services

LEADERSHIP

Is recognized as a legitimate actor capable of bringing together and coordinating different types of local actors, sometimes with conflicting interests

TYPE OF ACTOR

RESPONSIVENESS

Is responsive and accountable to the needs and expectations of the local population

LEGAL CAPACITY

Has the formal capacity to enact and enforce rules, procedures and regulations

PERMANENCE

Its institutional nature guarantees that it remains as a valid interlocutor for the population over time



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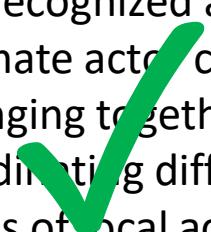
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CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

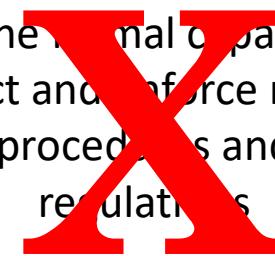
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FOR PROFIT SECTOR

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LOCAL (SUB-NATIONAL) GOVERNMENTS

RESPONSIVENESS

Is responsive and accountable to the needs and expectations of the local population

LEGAL CAPACITY

Has the formal capacity to enact and enforce rules, procedures and regulations

PERMANENCE

Its institutional nature guarantees that it remains as a valid interlocutor for the population over time



Nevertheless:

These comparative advantages are only potential

Their realization will depend on the existence of the appropriate national enabling environment: an effective decentralization policy that facilitates **TALD** and recognizes the crucial role of local authorities in the definition of their own development future.



LOCAL GOVERNMENTS: DEVELOPMENT ACTORS



The traditional definition of local authorities:

- The local representation of the Nation-State
- The political or institutional representatives of a local community
- An administrative entity charged with providing basic services





Local Governments: development actors

TALD considers that local authorities are not only the « object » of national policies, but the « subjects » in their own right of an **endogenous process of development policies** that includes other actors, is spatially integrated and operates with a vision set in the long term.



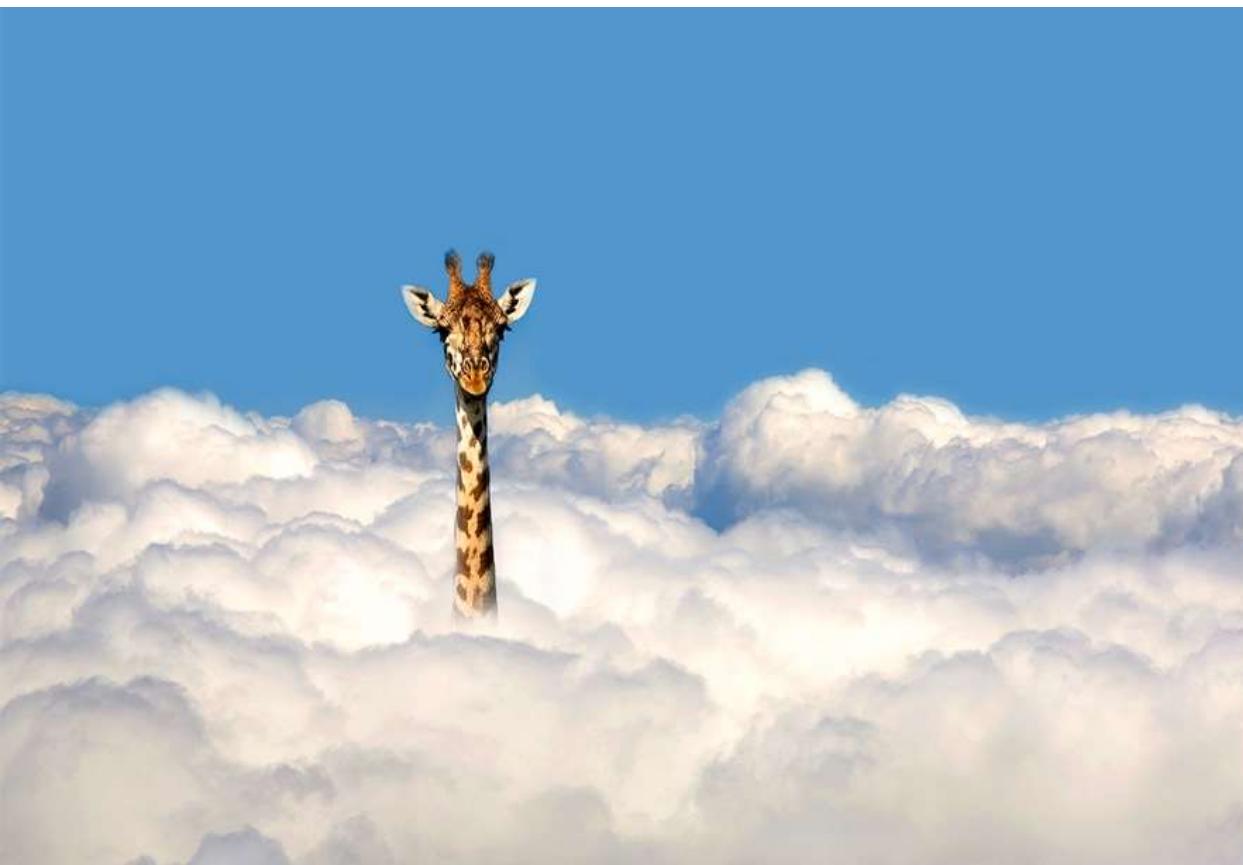
Local authorities: development actors

- Local authorities are **political actors**, capable of facilitating dialogue between the public and private sector, universities, civil society and the media
- **LAs are catalysts** of the social, economic, cultural and environmental capital present in a given territory





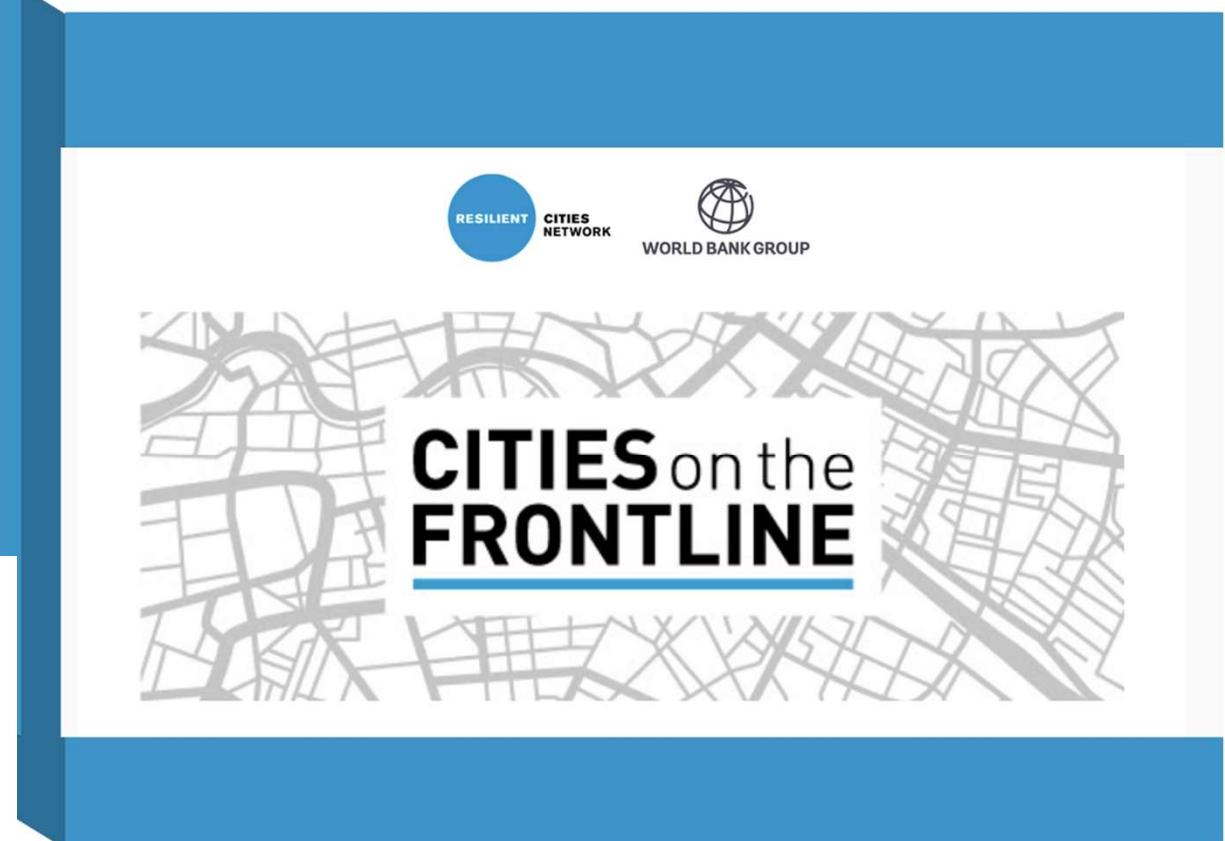
Local authorities: development actors



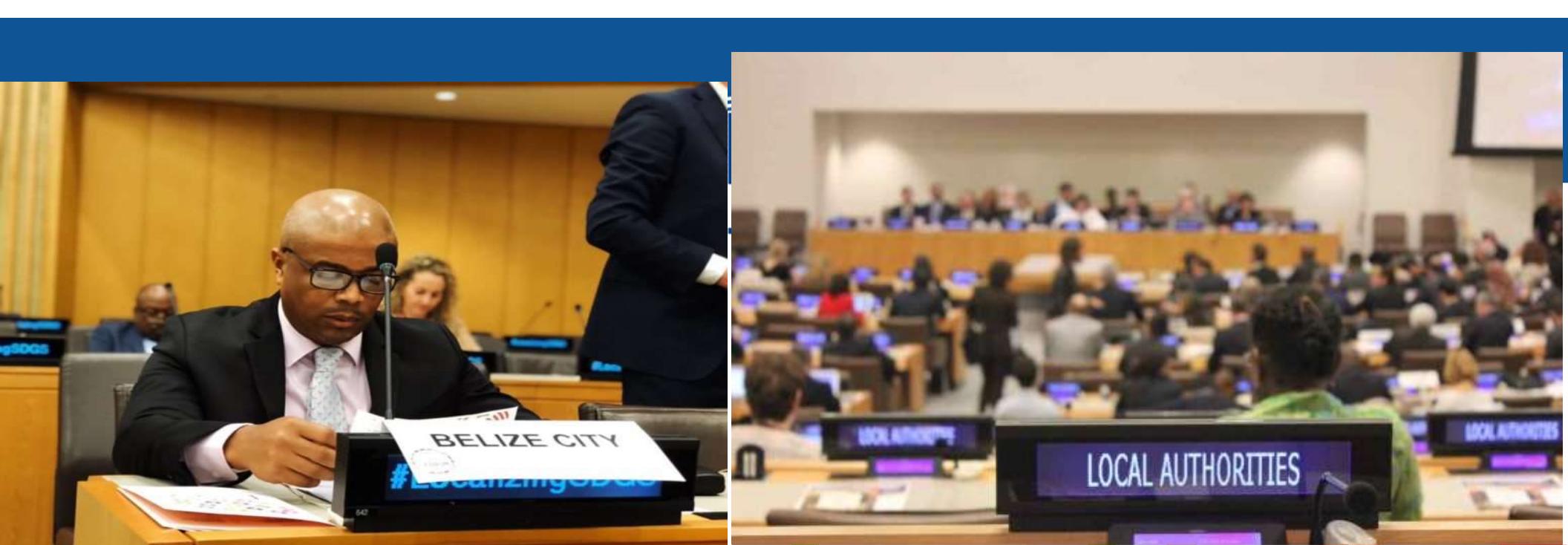
- LAs are **mediators** amongst different, sometimes conflicting, interests
- LAs are addressing **global challenges**, even beyond their legal mandates and resource



Local authorities responses to the COVID-19 pandemic

The logo for "CITIES on the FRONTLINE". It features a blue circular icon with the word "RESILIENT" and a white "CITIES NETWORK" text next to it. To the right is the "WORLD BANK GROUP" logo, which includes a globe icon. Below these logos is a stylized, grey, crisscrossed map of a city. Overlaid on the map is the text "CITIES on the FRONTLINE" in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The "on the" part is in a smaller, lighter weight font, and "FRONTLINE" is underlined.





#Listen2Cities

AN ORGANIZED CONSTITUENCY READY TO CONTRIBUTE





INTERNATIONAL CITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT NETWORKS



However, still today in most developing countries Local Authorities are often considered as « **weak** », « **incapable** » « **inefficient** » institutions, not ready to take their destiny in their own hands.

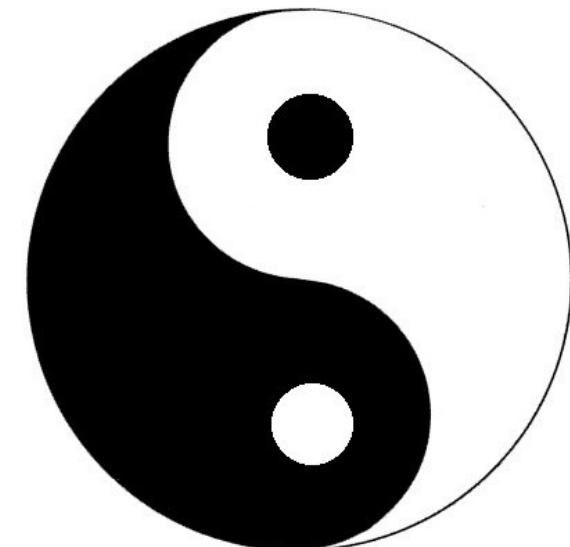
LAs are conceived somewhat disrespectfully as a « **lower level of government** », less important, with less capacity and therefore less relevant ...





**Reinforcing local governments
means more local autonomy but
also with more local
accountability:**

**2 sides of a coin that complement
each other**





What is local autonomy?

- ✓ Degree of discretionary powers to make decisions about the future of a given territory
- ✓ Power to initiate policies (less control ex-ante)
- ✓ LAs elected in democratic elections
- ✓ Enhanced administrative capacity, efficient civil service
- ✓ Healthy local finances
- ✓ Local fiscal and taxation powers





What is local accountability?

- ✓ LAs are responsive to the population needs
- ✓ LAs are trustworthy and legitimate in the population's eyes
- ✓ There is transparency in decision making and financial management
- ✓ The population can challenge and seek modification of LAs decision and policies
- ✓ LAs are obliged to report (monitor, evaluate..)
- ✓ LAs establish mechanisms for the participation in public life of non governmental actors



Mainstreaming LAs through the **Territorial Approach to Local Development (TALD)**

A framework to orient EC aid into a new generation of projects and programs focused on local development



The new Neighborhood Development
and International Cooperation
Instrument (**NDICI**) – **Global Europe**
2021-2027 does not include a
dedicated budgetary line for local
authorities, BUT...



It encourages the EC to
mainstream Local Authorities
in geographical programmes
(national and regional)

NDICI-Global Europe regulation recital 35:

“Support to local authorities under the geographic programmes should amount to indicatively at least EUR 500 000 000”.



COMMISSION
EUROPÉENNE

Bruxelles, le 15.5.2013
COM(2013) 280 final

**COMMUNICATION DE LA COMMISSION AU PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN, AU
CONSEIL, AU COMITÉ ÉCONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL EUROPÉEN ET AU COMITÉ
DES RÉGIONS**

**Accorder une autonomie accrue aux autorités locales dans les pays partenaires
pour une meilleure gouvernance et des résultats plus concrets en matière de
développement**





The aim of this seminar:

1. Introduce **the concept and the importance of the Territorial Approach to Local Development** as a dynamic, long-term method based on a bottom up, multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral approach that helps to define and prioritize development strategies in a given territory.
2. Support EU Delegations in Asia Pacific countries to use the TALD approach to **integrate local governments and territorial development in multi-annual bilateral programming**
3. Present **case-studies from EU Delegations** in the region and discuss the opportunities and challenges around how to establish a structured, long-term dialogue with sub-national governments (municipalities, provincial authorities, federated states, etc.) and their national associations
4. Enhance the policy-dialogue on emerging topics related to **the Green Deal** and the involvement of local authorities in integrating a TALD approach.
5. Present the services and type of support that EUDs can receive from DG INTPA Unit G2, the **TALD Facility and Helpdesk and the EU Framework Partnership Agreements** (FPAs) with global associations of LAs.



Thank you