



How to increase financing for the SDGs at the local level through United Nations action?



**3 October 2023
13.30-15.00 CET**

**Building Bridges
at CICC**

Sustainable urban development represents a huge challenge. By 2050, 70% of the global population will live in urban areas. Cities will play a key role in all aspects of life from fighting climate change to reducing plastic pollution, from sustainable development to science and innovation. **"Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable" (SDG11)** includes ensuring access for all to adequate housing and basic services; enhancing inclusive and sustainable urbanization; advancing digitalization of public services; providing access to affordable and sustainable transport systems for all; mitigating and adapting to climate change - all of which require significant financing.



Currently, insufficient finance flows to the local level - whether to local governments or to other local stakeholders - and the limited local capacity to absorb it often results in sub-optimal human and economic development at the local, regional and indirectly global levels. The Cities Hub, UN-Habitat and the UN Regional Economic Commissions organize a fishbowl event with the participation of UN representatives, mayors and financial actors to build a bridge and fill in the gap.

Building bridges between the local and regional governments and the financial community under the guidance of the United Nations will have significant impact to increase financing for the SDGs at the local level. The event will contribute to a greater collaboration and a broader space for local actors to support the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, the 2030 Agenda, and the Paris Agreement.

Speakers

- Opening remarks by **Kamelia Kemileva, Co-Director, GCH**
- **Dmitry Mariyasin**, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE
- **Shipra Narang Suri**, Chief of Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat
- **Dan Grandage**, Head of Sustainable Investing, abrdn
- **Yousuf Shawarbeh**, Mayor of Amman, Jordan
- **Nelson Legacion**, Mayor of Naga City, Philippines
- **Kanop Ketchart**, Mayor of Nakhon Si Thammarat, Thailand
- Closing remarks by **Andras Szorenyi**, Senior Policy Advisor, GCH

Moderated by **Curt Garrigan**, Chief, Sustainable Urban Development Section, UN ESCAP & **Diego Aulestia Valencia**, Head of Human Settlements Unit, UNECLAC