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## **The SDGs go local! Why cities need to engage in integrated urban development**

For the Sustainable Development Goals to work, cities as key development actors need to apply integrated approaches. Different actors and levels of government must be provided with opportunities to collaborate to ensure inclusive, secure, resilient and sustainable urban development. Furthermore, coordinated territorial planning and cross-sectoral cooperation are significant for an effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

The world is getting more urbanized every day. With the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) it is crucial that cities are strengthened in their role as key development actors. The urban goal, SDG11, underlines the need to “Make Cities and Human Settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”. Given the strong interlinkages between the 17 SDGs and their 169 targets, an integrated approach is needed to put the urban goal into practice and to effectively implement the SDGs at local level. This holds particularly true in the face of core urban challenges: lack of basic urban services, socio-economic disparities, and environmental degradation. These challenges do not follow spatial or administrative boundaries, nor can they be addressed by single sectors or actors alone. For instance, since cities account for 80% of global GHG emissions, implementing SDG13 “to combat climate change and its impacts” at local level does not only and inevitably require assessing its interlinkages with the urban goal. It also calls for acknowledging how SDG13 relates to the goals on clean energy (SDG7), resilient infrastructure and innovation (SDG9), and sustainable consumption and production patterns (SDG12) and for putting these interlinkages into practice.

Read more at: <https://www.urbanet.info/sdgs-integrated-urban-development/>

