# A TERRITORIAL APPROACH TO PROMOTE POLICY COHERENCE FOR THE SDGs

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# Rationale for a Territorial Approach to SDGs

➢ OECD Action Plan on SDGs: i) key role of **subnational governments** and ii) need to go **look beyond national averages;**

➢ Leaving no one behind is a **shared responsibility**

➢ **65% of 169 targets** will not be reached without engagement of LRGs

➢ Subnational governments responsible for almost **60% of total public investment** in 2016 in OECD area and for almost **40%** worldwide;

➢ SDG11 on cities is central, but we need a **territorial lens for all SDGs;**

➢ SDGs are a means to promote **policy coherence** and manage trade-offs

➢ A Territorial Approach helps to **prioritize, plan and budget**

# OECD Programme on a Territorial Approach to SDGs
## July 2018 – December 2019

## Measuring

- A tailored, consensual and localised indicator framework
- Harmonised and comparable OECD territorial statistics for SDGs
- Common  OECD/EU definition of « city » and « region »

## Learning

- Analyse & discuss local SDGs stories/evolving practices
- Draw lessons in terms of incentives, processes, outcomes
- Pilot-test the indicator framework in different contexts

## Sharing

- Peer Peer-to-peer dialogue between cities, regions and national government
- Twinning during field trips and missions
- Engagement of umbrella/city networks and stakeholder groups

Province of Córdoba | Argentina

Region of Flanders | Belgium

Region of Southern Denmark | Denmark

City of Kitakyushu | Japan

City of Bonn | Germany

Municipality of Kópavogur |Iceland

County of Viken | Norway

City of Moscow| Russian Federation

# PCSD a key means of implementation for all SDGs

**PCSD** is an approach and policy tool to integrate the economic, social, environmental dimensions of sustainable development at all stages of policy making.

**TARGET 17·14**

ENHANCE POLICY COHERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**1** **Foster synergies and minimise trade-offs** across economic, social and environmental policy areas

**2** **Reconcile priorities,** i.e. domestic policy objectives with internationally agreed objectives

**3** **Address the transboundary and long-term effects** of policies

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

# Enablers for PCSD (institutional mechanisms): Towards a new OECD instrument on PCSD

**Strengthen monitoring, reporting and evaluation systems** to collect evidence on the impacts of policies and report progress on PCSD

**Analyse and assess policy impacts to inform decision-making** and avoid negative effects on the sustainable development prospects of other countries

**Engage stakeholders effectively** to sustain broader support for PCSD

**Involve regional and local authorities** to align priorities, ensure coordinated actions and enhance coherence across levels of government
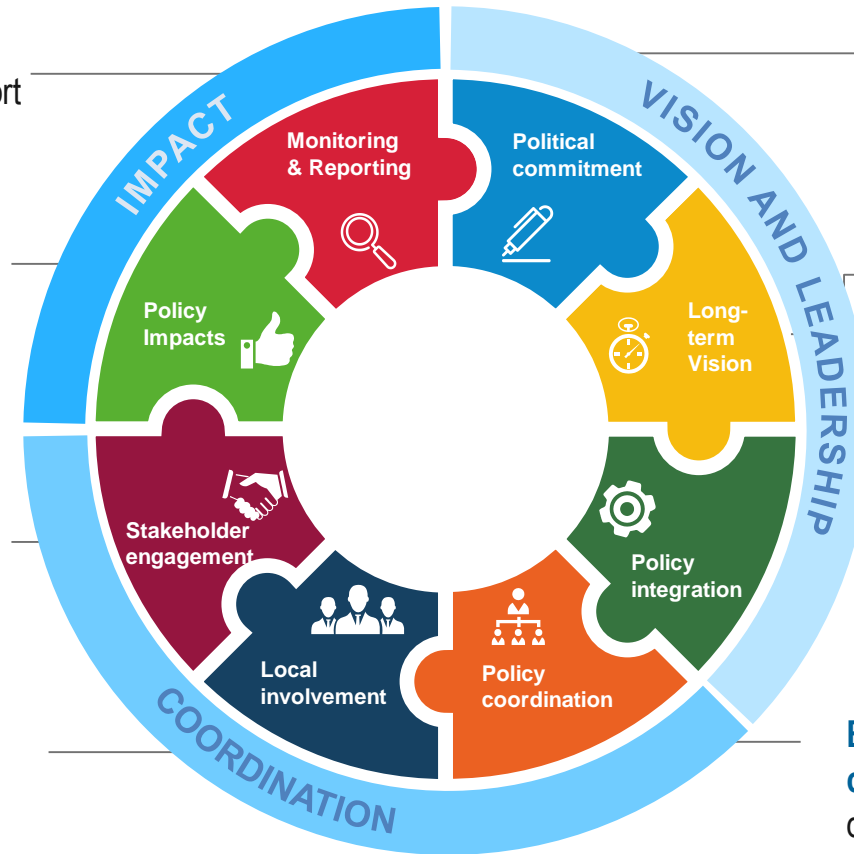
**Build a strong political commitment and leadership at the highest level** to foster whole-of-government action for PCSD

**Define, implement and communicate a strategic long-term vision** that supports PCSD

**Improve policy integration** to capitalise on synergies and benefits across economic, social and environmental policy areas

**Ensure whole-of-government coordination** to resolve divergences between sectoral priorities and policies



IMPACT

VISION AND LEADERSHIP

COORDINATION

- Monitoring & Reporting
- Policy Impacts
- Stakeholder engagement
- Local involvement
- Political commitment
- Long-term Vision
- Policy integration
- Policy coordination

# REGIONAL AND LOCAL EXPERIENCES

# Identifying and managing synergies and trade-offs between SDGs

- **Every SDG depends on and influences the others** to promote sustainability in a **holistic, integrated and place-based way**.

- Decisions taken to **improve one of the goals may have detrimental effects on other goals**, and a race to the bottom can occur if the SDGs are managed in silos.

- Regional and urban scales are crucial to understand synergies and trade-offs between SDGs– **need to go beyond national averages.**

- Tools to measure and manage interlinkages:

  – SDGs Matrix in **Cordoba (Argentina)**

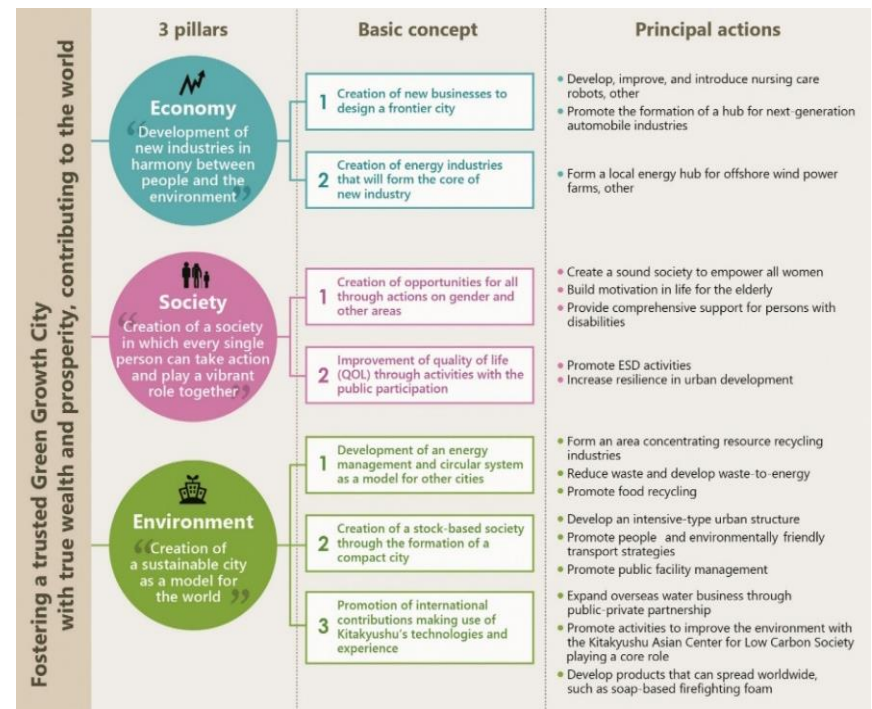  – Link between environmental and social SDGs in **Kitakyushu (Japan)**

# Identifying and managing synergies and trade-offs between SDGs

**Three Axes of Governmental Action in the Province of Córdoba**
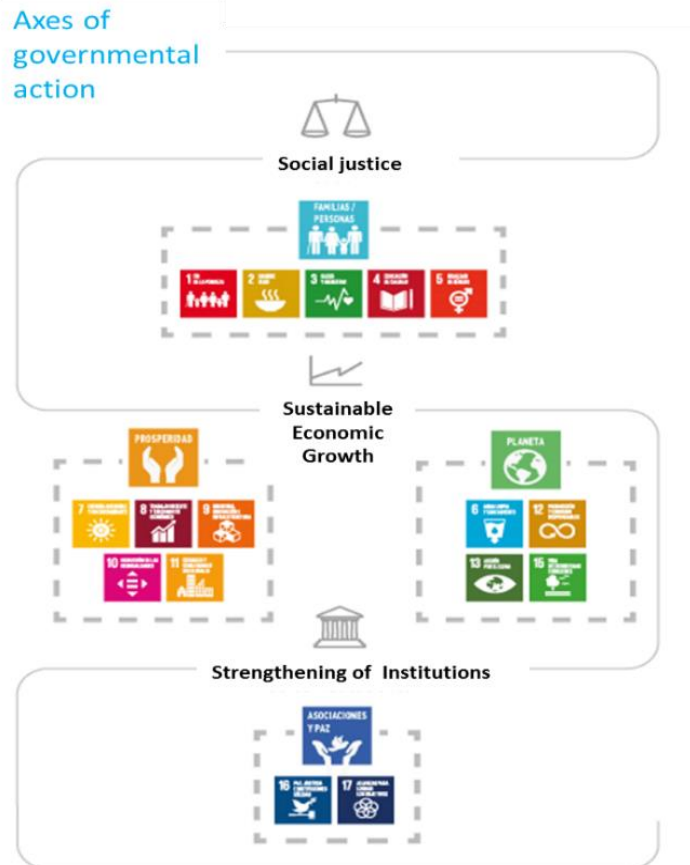


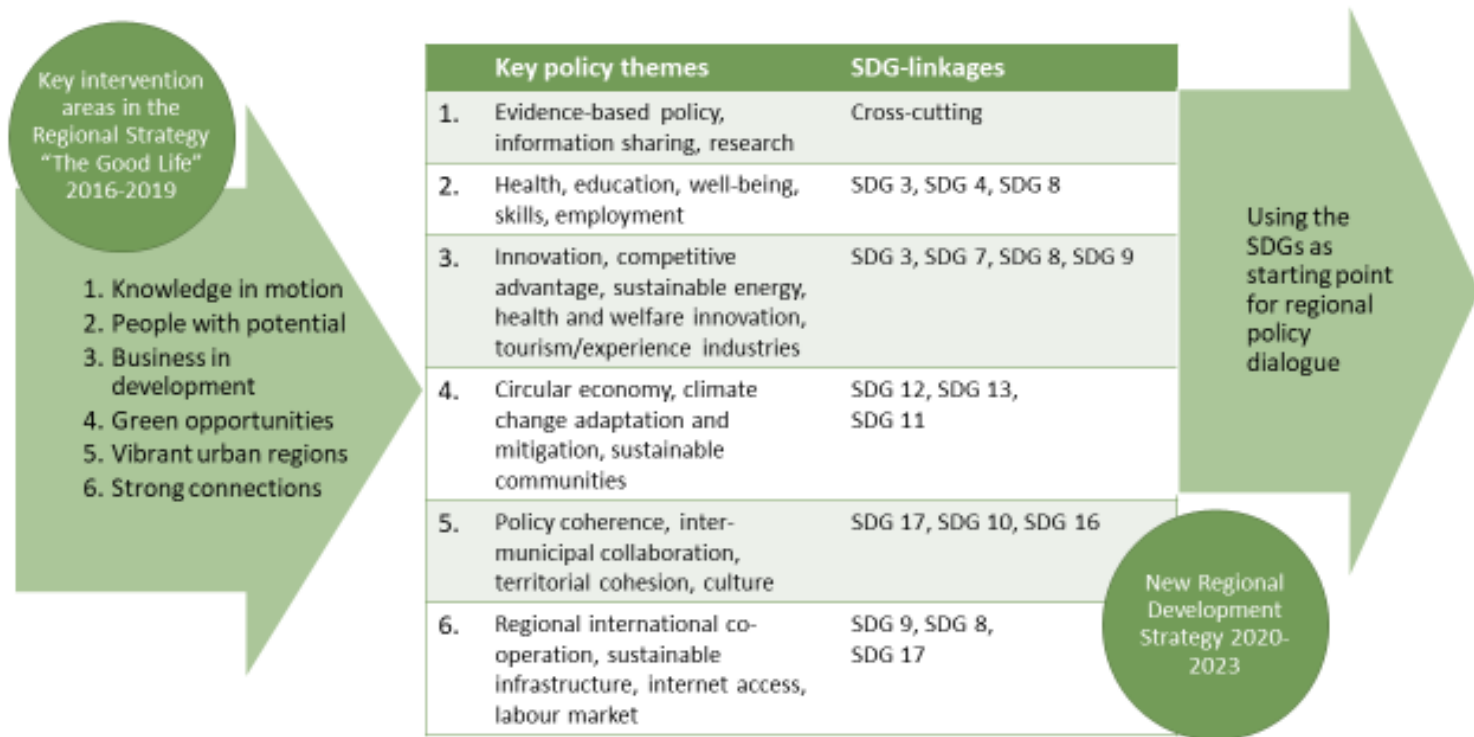**Vision and Actions for the City of Kitakyushu's SDGs Future City Plan**

# SDGs as a Tool for Strategic Visioning, Planning and Budgeting for Cities and Regions

- **2030 Agenda:** a framework to rethink sustainable development policies from the ground up and foster vertical coherence.

- Many **cities and regions have started including the SDGs in their development plans**

- In **Germany** and **Japan,** the **national government is financially supporting cities and regions** in localising the SDGs.

- **Local governments leading change**:

  – Mayors in Germany and Flanders (Belgium) sign "Declarations of Commitment" to the 2030 Agenda

  – Viken (Norway) is "leading the way" in territorial reforms using the SDGs

  – Southern Denmark (Denmark) using the SDGs for its new regional strategy

# SDGs as a Tool for Strategic Visioning, Planning and Budgeting for Cities and Regions

**Linking "The Good Life" regional strategy (2016-2019), the new Regional Development Strategy (2020-23) and the SDGs in Southern Denmark**

Key intervention areas in the Regional Strategy "The Good Life" 2016-2019

1. Knowledge in motion
2. People with potential
3. Business in development
4. Green opportunities
5. Vibrant urban regions
6. Strong connections

| | Key policy themes | SDG-linkages |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Evidence-based policy, information sharing, research | Cross-cutting |
| 2. | Health, education, well-being, skills, employment | SDG 3, SDG 4, SDG 8 |
| 3. | Innovation, competitive advantage, sustainable energy, health and welfare innovation, tourism/experience industries | SDG 3, SDG 7, SDG 8, SDG 9 |
| 4. | Circular economy, climate change adaptation and mitigation, sustainable communities | SDG 12, SDG 13, SDG 11 |
| 5. | Policy coherence, inter-municipal collaboration, territorial cohesion, culture | SDG 17, SDG 10, SDG 16 |
| 6. | Regional international co-operation, sustainable infrastructure, internet access, labour market | SDG 9, SDG 8, SDG 17 |

Using the SDGs as starting point for regional policy dialogue

New Regional Development Strategy 2020-2023

Source: OECD elaboration based on the Regional Development and Growth Strategy "The Good Life" (Det Gode Liv) 2016-2019

# Private sector and civil society contribute to a territorial approach to the SDGs

- 2030 Agenda provides a **tool to bring together various stakeholders**, local and regional governments, private sectors, civil society, to implement SD policies.

- **The private sector is particularly active on the SDGs** and many companies are integrating them into their core business, going beyond Corporate Social Responsibility.

- Civil society plays a key role. **Youth are becoming agents of change** in the society to promote the SDGs

**A New Governance Model for Flanders (Belgium)**



Government of Flanders

Transition platform    Transition Lab

Network of transition spaces
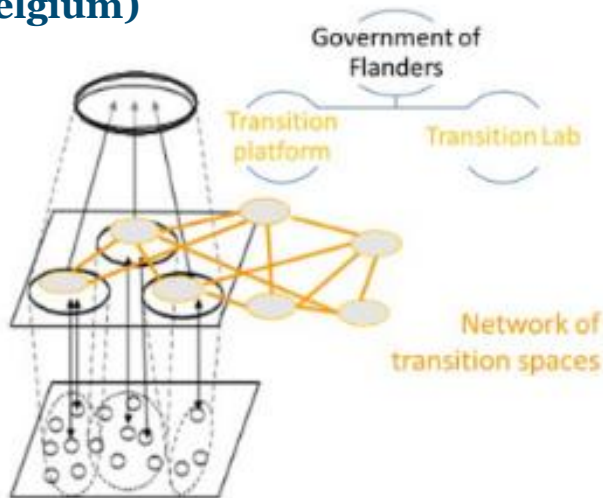
Source: Department for Public Governance and the Chancellery (2018) Vision 2050: A long term-term strategy for Flanders

**SDGs Council and Club to engage local stakeholders in Kitakyushu (Japan)**



Citizen

Partnership

Government    Private sector
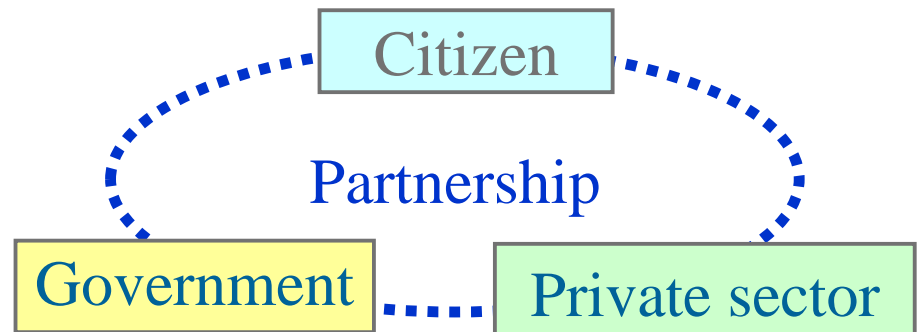
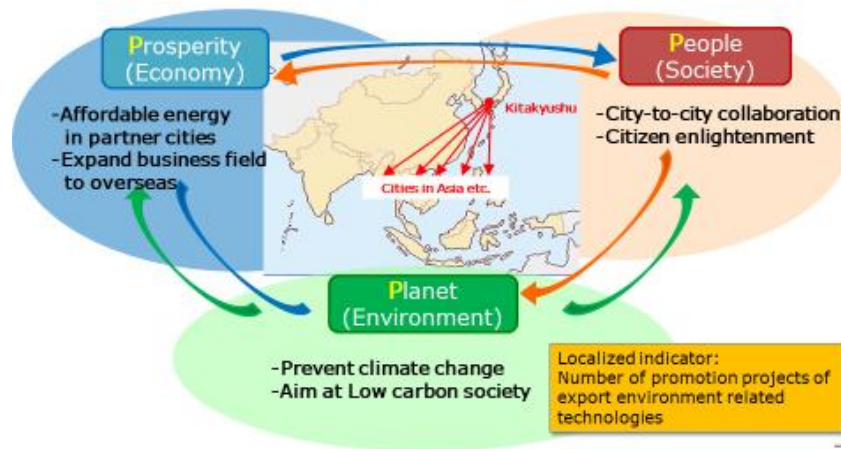Source: Kitakyushu City (2018). The SDGs Report 2018

# Cities and Regions have a role to play in the external dimension of the 2030 Agenda

- **Decentralised Development Cooperation (DDC)** is a key features in some regions and cities' strategies for the SDGs

- Flanders (Belgium) one of the most active regions in the OECD area in terms of DDC (EUR 55.6 million ODA in 2016) – municipalities are highly active too.

- Bonn (Germany) has made **Global Responsibility** a priority goal and  Kitakyushu (Japan) is engaging in international cooperation on environmental technologies

**International City-to-City Cooperation by Kitakyushu (Japan)**

International environment Contribution

Prosperity (Economy)
- Affordable energy in partner cities
- Expand business field to overseas

People (Society)
- City-to-city collaboration
- Citizen enlightenment

Kitakyushu

Cities in Asia etc.

Planet (Environment)
- Prevent climate change
- Aim at Low carbon society

Localized indicator: Number of promotion projects of export environment related technologies

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# Towards an OECD Localised Indicator Framework

**Number of available OECD territorial indicators by Goal**

| SDGs | Relevant targets for OECD Regions and Cities | Target with available OECD territorial indicators | Number of OECD territorial indicators | % of OECD territorial targets with at least one potentially available territorial indicator |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| ALL | 98 | 50 | 74 | 51.02 |
| SDG1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 60.00 |
| SDG2 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 40.00 |
| SDG3 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 71.43 |
| SDG4 | 8 | 5 | 11 | 62.50 |
| SDG5 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 25.00 |
| SDG6 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 25.00 |
| SDG7 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 33.33 |
| SDG8 | 8 | 7 | 11 | 87.50 |
| SDG9 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 66.67 |
| SDG10 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 60.00 |
| SDG11 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 55.56 |
| SDG12 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 14.29 |
| SDG13 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 66.67 |
| SDG14 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 25.00 |
| SDG15 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 40.00 |
| SDG16 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 83.33 |
| SDG17 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 20.00 |

# Moving forward: Opportunities and Challenges

> Cities and regions are starting including the SDGs into their development plans, but the **transformative element of the 2030 Agenda is not there yet**

> Cities, regions and national governments are creating mechanisms to address the SDGs holistically, but **vertical coordination** needs to be improved

> M**easuring progress** is a key priority, but a **comparable localised indicator framework** is still missing

> Private sector actively **trying to include SDGs in the core business** (e.g insurance and soap companies, banks), but it will take time

## MOVING FORWARD

> **SDGs tool to develop regional development vision/strategies** towards 2030

> Great potential to use the **SDGs as a means to involve the private sector** in public policies and use public funds to leverage private investments

> SDGs **as a framework to identify/measure synergies across sectors/goals**

> SDGs as a tool to **institutionalise processes with civil society and citizens** towards 2030

# THANK YOU!

**For more information, please contact:**

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- **@OECD_Local | @OECD_PCSDn #SDT1714**

# A Self assessment tool (check-list)

| | SCALE | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Not applicable | Not in place | Under development | In place, functioning |
| **1. POLITICAL COMMITMENT** Is there an explicit commitment in the national strategy or high-level support to policy coherence for sustainable development? | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| **2. POLICY INTEGRATION** Are there any guidelines or instructions (including in the budgetary process) to integrate the SDGs into the work of line ministries? | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| **3. LONG-TERM VISION** Is there a National Strategy for Sustainable Development based on a long-term vision or directives requiring to consider intergenerational effects when devising policies? | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| **4. POLICY EFFECTS** Are there instruments or guidelines in place to consider systematically the potential negative effects of policy proposals? | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| **5. CO-ORDINATION** Are there specific mechanisms for coordinating SDG implementation with the mandate to resolve potential policy conflicts? | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| **6. REGIONAL AND LOCAL INVOLVEMENT** Are there mechanisms or incentives that foster policy alignment, complementarities and cooperation between central and subnational governments? | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| **7. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT** Are there formal and informal mechanisms to engage stakeholders in decision-making? | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| **8. MONITORING AND REPORTING** Have indicators been developed for considering transboundary and long-term effects in the monitoring system for sustainable development? | | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

# Global Hub for the Governance of the SDGs

- The Global Hub will be launched at the UNGA in September 2019.

- It will act as a helpdesk for countries and institutions to draw on as needed.

- It will draw on the expertise of and extensive policy and knowledge community of OECD and a number of key partners UNDP, UNSDSN, and the African Peer Review Mechanism (APR)

The Global Hub will facilitate targeted support for countries worldwide in key governance areas:

Strengthening institutional co-ordination and policy coherence.

Integrating the SDGs into the budget process and aligning resources.

Designing regulatory frameworks to support the SDGs.

Enabling culture of integrity and fighting corruption.

Fostering open government, including open data.

Building inclusive policies that promote gender equality.

Strengthening people-focused justice delivery and equal access for all.