Programme

Bonn Symposium 2015
Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals at the Local Level – Strategies and Mechanisms

Deutsche Welle, Bonn
17 to 18 November 2015

Conference languages
German/English (simultaneous interpretation)

Cooperating partners:
Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW)/Engagement Global gGmbH
Minister for Federal Affairs, Europe and Media of North Rhine-Westphalia
Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Germany

With support from:
Deutsche Welle

Sponsored by:
Foundation for International Dialogue of the Savings Bank in Bonn

#BonnSymposium
Background

The UN General Assembly adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015. The SDGs follow on from the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) but also take account of the outcomes of the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). The new 2030 Agenda thus captures all aspects of sustainable development – i.e. its environmental, economic and social dimensions – and applies to developing, emerging and industrialised countries alike.

For all the world’s countries, this raises the question of how to implement the new goals. Their success will be determined not in the UN General Assembly or in cabinet but, above all, in towns and cities where people live and work. The Bonn Symposium 2015 therefore aims to provide a forum for a range of local stakeholders (policy-makers, administrators and civil society) to explore the opportunities and challenges arising from the new Sustainable Development Goals and, together, to discuss possible strategies and mechanisms for their implementation. It will focus particularly on the role of local sustainability strategies.

The Bonn Symposium has long stood for international dialogue among local stakeholders. The global dimension of the SDGs creates a need and, above all, an opportunity for mutual learning. Thanks to the MDGs, many municipalities in the Global South are already well-versed in implementing binding international commitments and in producing suitable strategies and are able to share this experience with their counterparts in Europe, including Germany.

The two-day Symposium will focus on the following questions:

1. Which Sustainable Development Goals have been adopted?

2. How are they to be implemented?

3. Which contribution can and must the municipalities around the world make to SDG implementation?

4. How might local management for sustainability look?

5. Which mechanisms, processes and resources are needed in this context?
Tuesday, 17 November 2015

10.30 HRS. Registration

CONFERENCE CHAIRED BY
Patrick Leusch
Head Global Media Forum, CEO Media Services GmbH
Deutsche Welle, Bonn

11.00 HRS. WELCOME

Ute Schaeffer
Deputy Director
Deutsche Welle Akademie, Bonn

Renate Maria Hendricks MdL
Member of the Committee for Europe and One World of the Parliament of North Rhine-Westphalia
Chairperson of the Executive Committee of sef, Bonn

Dr Jens Kreuter
Managing Director
Engagement Global gGmbH, Bonn

11.15 HRS. PART I: CONFERENCE OPENING
GLOBAL GOALS, LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION IN NORTH RHINE-WESTPHALIA

Dr Marc Jan Eumann
State Secretary for Federal Affairs, Europe and the Media
North Rhine-Westphalia, Dusseldorf

11.30 HRS. PART II: KEYNOTES
THE NEW AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In the two keynotes, the speakers will analyse the strengths and weaknesses of the new 2030-Agenda for Sustainable Development from their perspectives and recommend options for its implementation within their respective fields.

The German perspective
Claudia Roth MdB
Vice President of the German Federal Parliament
Member of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development, Berlin

The African perspective
Kgosientso Ramokgopa
Executive Mayor
City of Tshwane

followed by Q&A

12.30 HRS. Lunch
PART III: IN DIALOGUE
THE MUNICIPALITIES’ RESPONSIBILITY

Representatives of city networks discuss the municipalities’ role in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals. How can they contribute? Which opportunities does the new agenda create for local stakeholders? What kind of support are they hoping for?

Habraham Shamumoyo
Secretary General
Association of Local Authorities Tanzania, Dar es Salaam

Monika Zimmermann
Deputy Secretary General
ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, Bonn

followed by plenary discussion

PART IV: DISCUSSION
LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES

Sustainability strategies have an important role to play in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals worldwide. In Germany, the Government is currently in the process of updating its Sustainability Strategy. Similar strategies are in place in 11 of the 16 German states, but not in most local authorities. This panel will therefore discuss the possible content of the strategies, taking account of potential conflicts. It will focus on various stakeholder interests and on closer linkage between development and the environment, which until now have tended to be viewed as separate topics. It will also explore how thematic linkages to national, regional and, above all, global strategies can be established, thus creating value added beyond the local and national level.

Mercedes Mathebula
Sustainability Specialist
City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality, Pretoria

Dr Marc-Oliver Pahl
Head of Unit Sustainability Strategies

Dr Imme Scholz
Member of the German Council for Sustainable Development
Deputy Director of the German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE), Bonn

Rüdiger Wagner
Head of Department for Environment, Health and Law
City of Bonn

followed by plenary discussion
The work in small groups will identify examples of thematic areas that are suitable for local engagement in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.

**GROUP A: LOCAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY (GERMAN)  
CONFERE NCE HALL**

Many cities, municipalities and counties are involved in local development policy. They are committed to fair procurement, support fair trade, promote development awareness projects and cultivate, sometimes for decades, partnerships with the Global South. Within this small group we want to discuss chances and limits of their commitment, on the basis of best practice examples.

Chair
**Renate Wolbring**
Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW)/Engagement Global gGmbH, Bonn

Inputs
**Peter Ilk**
Mayor
City of Baruth/Mark

**Dr. Frédéric Stephan**
Department for External Relations
City of Stuttgart

**GROUP B: CLIMATE PROTECTION (ENGLISH)  
ROOM 104, KIGALI**

Many cities, municipalities and counties are engaged in local climate protection. Within the framework of the municipal energy and climate management they support activities such as energy controlling or climate-friendly procurement. Others foster the awareness and motivation of citizens for the implementation of climate change policies or measures to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Some also engage in international climate cooperation and partnerships with the Global South. Within this small group we want to discuss chances and limits of their commitment, on the basis of best practice examples.

Chair
**Rebekka Hannes**
Development and Peace Foundation (sef), Bonn

Inputs
**Laura Gouverneur**
Climate Protection Manager
Municipality of Aarbergen/Heidenrod/Hohenstein

**Habraham Shamumoyo**
Secretary General
Association of Local Authorities Tanzania, Dar es Salaam
**GROUP C: SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION (GERMAN)**

The new 2030-agenda for sustainable development will apply to developing, emerging and developed countries alike. For the implementation, municipalities could promote sustainable consumption among its citizens or encourage companies to apply sustainable production patterns. Within this small group we want to discuss chances and limits of fostering sustainable consumption and production at the local level on the basis of best practice examples.

Chair
*Dr Klaus Reuter*
Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft Agenda 21 NRW e.V., Dortmund

Inputs
*Gerhard Becker*
General Manager
MaxTex, Frankfurt/Main

*Dr Melanie Lukas*
Research Fellow on Sustainable Production and Consumption
Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, Wuppertal

**GROUP D: MANAGING MIGRATION SUSTAINABLY (GERMAN)**

This small group discussion puts the issue of migration in the context of the new agenda for sustainable development. It should be discussed how and under what conditions a) a better integration of refugees and the promotion of a targeted immigration of skilled workers have positive effects for the German economy and social security funds and b) also represents an important contribution to more global responsibility at the same time.

Chair
*Kevin Borchers*
Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW)/Engagement Global gGmbH, Bonn

Inputs
*Michael Allimadi*
Head
Foreigners’ & Migrants’ Council, Heidelberg

*AHM Abdul Hai*
Project Coordinator BASUG Diaspora and Development e.V.
Consultant MiGlobe, Bonn

**18.45 HR.**
**BUS SHUTTLE**
**JOINT TRANSFER TO THE OLD TOWN HALL OF BONN**

**19.15 HR.**
**RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE CITY OF BONN**
Welcome by *Mayor Reinhard Limbach*
**Wednesday, 18 November 2015**

08.30 HRS.  Registration

---

**CONFERENCE CHAİRED BY**

Patrick Leusch  
Head Global Media Forum, CEO Media Services GmbH  
Deutsche Welle, Bonn

---

09.00 HRS.  **PART VI: INPUT**

**ADJUSTING THE GERMAN SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY**

Monika Frielung  
Deputy Head of Division Sustainable Development  
Federal Chancellery, Berlin

---

09.30 HRS.  **PART VII: WORK IN SMALL GROUPS**

**THE CHALLENGE: WRITING A SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY**

During this session, delegates will work in small groups and discuss various technical and organisational challenges that are likely to arise when producing a local sustainability strategy.

**GROUP E: REVIEW OF LOCAL ACTIVITIES (GERMAN)**  
**ROOM 106, SİNES**

This group will discuss how existing initiatives (e.g. LA21 groups) can be integrated effectively into the process.

*Chair*  
**Dr Klaus Reuter**  
Landesarbeitsgemeinschaft Agenda 21 NRW e.V., Dortmund

*Inputs*  
**Albrecht W. Hoffmann**  
Head  
Ideeenschmiede für Nachhaltigkeit, Bonn
GROUP F: PARTICIPATION (ENGLISH) 
CONFEERENCE HALL

This group will discuss how a cross-section of local citizens and stakeholders can be encouraged to engage on behalf of a local sustainability strategy.

Chair
Annette Turmann
Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW)/Engagement Global gGmbH, Bonn

Inputs
Hon. Dr Nana Ato Arthur
Member of Parliament, Accra
Katrin Nolting
Research for Sustainable Development, Erfurt

GROUP G: ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE (GERMAN) 
ROOM 108, TRINCOMALEE

This working group focuses mainly on public administration and will explore how the broad range of sustainability-related topics can be “joined up” more effectively at an organisational level.

Chair
Sandra Holzherr
Consultant and Project Manager for International Economic Development

Inputs
Susanne Wildermann
Head of Agenda 21 and Sustainability Office
City of Hannover
Dr Volker Teichert
Research Associate
Protestant Institute for Interdisciplinary Research (FEST), Heidelberg

GROUP H: DEVELOPING INDICATORS (GERMAN) 
ROOM 110, ANTIGUA

Indicators to measure progress were regarded as one of the MDGs’ major achievements. This working group will discuss which indicators—and how many of them—are needed to assess local management of sustainability, and what form they should take.

Chair
Johannes Blankenbach
Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Germany, Bonn

Inputs
Renate Daurer
Environmental Officer
City of Esslingen am Neckar
Matthias Krebs
Urban Development
City of Mannheim

11.00 Hrs. Coffee break
Sustainability strategies are an important tool in guiding local authorities’ engagement for development and the environment. Producing, implementing and monitoring the strategies require human and financial resources, however. This session will look at ways of meeting this need despite budgetary constraints at the local level.

Hon. Dr Nana Ato Arthur
Member of Parliament, Accra

Felicitas Kubala
Mayor of Mannheim

Dr Gerd Landsberg
President
German Association of Towns and Municipalities, Berlin

Dr Stefan Wilhelmy
Head
Service Agency Communities in One World / Engagement Global gGmbH, Bonn

followed by plenary discussion

Priscilla Arhin
Mayor of Cape Coast

Franz-Birger Marré
Head of Division
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Bonn

Dr Michèle Roth
Executive Director
Development and Peace Foundation (sef), Bonn

followed by Light refreshments