

**Localisation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals  
and the New Urban Agenda in Kisumu, Kenya**



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## Localisation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda in Kisumu, Kenya

### 1. Introduction of the City and the Co-production Process

#### *Introduction of the City:*

Kisumu is the third largest city in Kenya following Nairobi, the capital city which hosts about 4 million people and Mombasa (1 million). Its population has grown from less than 50,000 inhabitants in 1969 to 404,160 in 2009 (KNBS Population Census 2009). With the City's demographic growth and rural migration growing at a rate of 4%, its current population is estimated at 538,089 as per Kisumu's County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP 2018-2022). It has population density of 1394 person/km<sup>2</sup> (Range from 244 to 20334 persons/km<sup>2</sup>). Percentage of its urban population is 58% with 72% of them living in unplanned settlements while only 28% of urban population living in planned areas. The other 42% of the city population live in the peri-urban (*Kisumu ISUD-Plan, Part 1 Understanding Kisumu July, 2013*). This rapid population growth rate can be attributed to changes in natural growth, migration patterns and local authority boundaries, which have moved from about 19 km<sup>2</sup> in 1969 to the current 290 km<sup>2</sup>.

The City's urban foot print covers an area of 103km<sup>2</sup> with a population of **296,977** and contains the formal area with the CBD and the peri urban/informal settlement. The core urban area is ring fenced by peri urban areas/informal settlements of Nyalenda A and B to the southeast, Manyatta A and B to the east, Kanyakwar (Obunga and Nyawita areas) to the north and Kogony and Bandani in the west from the extended urban areas of Kanyakwar extending up to Riat Hills, Konya and Wathorego. The CBD is well-developed with formal urban structures. It consists of main business areas and planned residential estates covering 17.02 km<sup>2</sup> and accommodating about 15% of the total urban population.

The city area can be classified as either formal or informal settlement. Within the informal settlements houses are not permanent in nature and have higher occurrence of unplanned settlements and also possess the characteristics found in the UN definition. The formal areas consist of planned and approved structures. Formal settlements are mostly approved by the City of Kisumu and have provisions for piped water, sewerage system, electricity and less congested. The other parts are considered as peri-urban having mixed characteristics of urban and rural. The peri urban/informal settlement has a population of 188,971 staying within an area of 48km<sup>2</sup>. This therefore indicates that by 2009 **64%** of the City's urban population resides in non-formal settlements (slums) and the peri-urban areas<sup>1</sup>.

Kisumu city contributes to 85% of total revenue collection within Kisumu County Revenue

#### **City vs county mandate**

The County Governments Act (2012) is an act of parliament which gives effect to chapter eleven of the 2010 constitution of Kenya to provide for County Governments' powers, functions and responsibilities to deliver services and for other connected purposes. The Urban Areas and Cities

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.mistraurbanfutures.org/sites/default/files/usdg-report-kisumu\\_0.pdf](http://www.mistraurbanfutures.org/sites/default/files/usdg-report-kisumu_0.pdf)

Act (2011)<sup>42</sup> states that. the management of a city and municipality shall be vested in the county government and administered on its behalf by: (a) a board constituted in accordance with section 13 or 14 of this Act; (b) a manager appointed pursuant to section 28; and (c) such other staff or officers as a county public service may determine (County Government of Kisumu, 2010). The Act makes it very clear that the entities governing an urban area or a city carry out their functions and exercise their powers on behalf of the county government. This is underscored by the provision that the relationship between the county government and the boards of urban areas and cities is a principal agent relationship, as described in the Urban Areas and Cities Act (2011) – s11 (b). The boards operate within the jurisdiction of the county government and are accountable to the county government. This gives the county government powers to influences operations and activities within the city of Kisumu.

### **Incorporation of the Sustainable Development Goals in National Frameworks**

The Kenya Vision 2030 is the national long-term development policy that aims to transform the country into a newly industrializing, middle-income country providing a high quality of life to all its citizens in a clean and secure environment by 2030. The Vision is implemented at both the national and sub-national levels through a five year Medium Term Plan and County Integrated Development Plans respectively. The SDGs will be mainstreamed at these two levels. The first MTP was implemented between 2008 and 2012 and the second MTP is from 2013 to 2017 and the two plans mainstreamed the MDGs. The third is being implemented between 2018 and 2022, while the fourth MTP will be implemented from 2023 to 2028. The Medium Term Plans identify priority projects and programmes to be implemented in each five years cycle and each is expected to incorporate new and emerging issues. When Kenya embarked on the preparation of the MTP II, the Post 2015 Agenda was still under deliberation and the next goals far from being finalized. By the time the SDGs were adopted MTP II was in third year of implementation, making it a transition between MDGs and SDGs, i.e. it brought on board some of the SDGs issues while continuing with the unfinished business of the MDGs. Presently MTP III is underway taking on board the regional and international commitments that focused on mainstreaming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The National Government through consultations with the Council of Governors prepares and disseminates the guidelines for the preparation of the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) which sub national government follow to ensure policy and developmental coherence. The CIDPs mirror the priorities of the MTPs at the sub national level and therefore expected to ensure the SDGs are mainstreamed at the sub national level. As per the Constitution 2010, sub national governments are now implementing the relevant SDGs targets at the grass root level hence more targeted interventions and strategies. These are expected to fast track the achievement of such targets as well as reduce or eliminate existing regional disparities.

### **Participation of citizens**

The preparation of the development plans and all the strategies are guided by the Constitution and are required to be participatory by involving all stakeholders. The Medium Term Plans are prepared through consultative processes which help in ownership and awareness creation and involve the following; County consultation forums; Sector Working Groups- which consist of Ministries, Departments, Agencies, development partners, academia, women, youth, persons with

disabilities, media, private sector, and CSOs. Alongside the MTPs are the Sector Plans (five year cycle) which highlight in detail programmes, projects and policies for implementation during the medium term period. Therefore all Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) in all public institutions are expected to mainstream SDGs into their plans, programmes and policies and consequently report to the Ministry of Devolution and Planning on progress of SDGs implementation.

### Co-production process

The initiative started with a formal communication to the Kisumu City Manager (as the one in charge of all the city affairs) to explain what the project is all about and how it can benefit the City, then ask for city participation in the project through the relevant departments. With well-designed data collection tools and procedures presented in the first meeting with the city manager as well as representatives of relevant departments, followed by other working meetings with the representatives, the gaps noted included;

- Minimal engagement with SDGs and NUA at city or county levels
- Lack of data in quantity and form at the city level to report on the SDG targets and indicators.
- Availability of scattered information in various government institutions which is not consolidated and shared in most cases.
- Stronger engagement with SDG at National level and reporting mostly at National Scales not lower levels, e.g. county, city or sub-county/ward levels.

In response to emerging challenges and with intentions to respond to requirements guided by project data collection tools and procedures, other stakeholders with potential to fill the gaps were identified and brought on board. Critical local stakeholders included the Kisumu County Government and the County Statistics Office, which later recommended the national office of the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS). To get information at national level, the project engaged with the National SDG Implementation Team led by the National Treasury and Ministry of Devolution and Planning. The project also gained access to other stakeholders from private sector operating at national level. With meetings at national level with the team actively involved in the implementation of SDGs, but with minimal efforts to localize the processes, the project became an initiative emanating from Kisumu contributing towards SDGs localization processes in Kenya. The project influenced the national team to put more emphasis on the SDGs 11. Consequently, the National Team therefore organised a stakeholders' workshop in Kisumu in May 2018 specifically to get more information about the project and also to take advantage of the research activities.

### **International Networking**

The project being led from Gothenburg (MUF Centre) the relationship/linkage between MUF, Kenya National SDG implementation team and the research team was created. The Kenya national delegation was able to meet the MUF leadership in New York during the 2018 UN HLPF (High Level Political Forum) to discuss the SDGs. This helped clarify the project's

objectives and relevance to Kenya as a whole, and facilitated cementing of the relationships. Subsequently, regular meetings and consultations took place between the local SDG research project team in Kisumu and the National SDG Implementation Team based in Nairobi, led by co researcher at Kisumu city. A stakeholders' workshop was held in Kisumu with the virtual participation of MUF team, giving an international perspective.

### **Noted challenges to SDG implementation**

The research work noted challenges in the SDG implementation processes. The localization and mainstreaming of SDGs in policy, planning and budgeting and programmes face the following challenges;

- i. Inadequate linkages/coordination between the National and sub national Governments;
- ii. High political turnover/ change of regimes;
- iii. Poor coordination between development partners
- iv. Inadequate data for some indicators
- v. Time-lag in updating some of the indicators
- vi. Lack of statistical capacity to compute some of the indicators.
- vii. Lack of known methodology for generating some of the indicators. (NB: As per KNBS Countries/Countries are to develop their own capacities for global acceptable method).

The planning departments at both the City of Kisumu and Kisumu County are currently being continually engaged/reminded on issues of SDG implementation, challenges and how to move forward. This is sustained by the research activities. The SDG are already mainstreamed in their County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP 2018-2022) and relevant activities picked up in the Annual Development Plan (ADP-2019)

The County SDG unit has also been created and coordinated by the Director Planning at the county with representatives from all the county departments

Moving forward locally, there is need to establish a framework for effective monitoring and evaluation.

### **Impacts of the project**

*This research project influenced the awareness and interest of both the National and local SDG teams on the focus and challenges of the SDGs localization. In particular the project contributed towards;*

- Influencing the National focus towards SDG 11
- Reinforcing the capacity and expertise at city level.
- Linking both National and Kisumu City/County levels in engaging with SDGs
- Bringing out challenges of the localization process (need to collect more data, discuss and agree on the processes of consolidation and analysis before responding to the requirement

of SDGs and indicators for local consumption especially for Kisumu with unique characteristics compared to other cities in Kenya.

- Recognition of research process by the government SDG implementation team that even prompted the New York meeting during the 2018 UN-HLPPF.
- Motivation of the government officials to participate in the research activities in experimenting a unique programme on the SDGs localization.
- Bringing in international perspectives and understanding for consideration at the local level to reinforce the implementation processes.

## **2. Main Actors and Activities in the Localisation of the SDGs in .....**

### **2.1 Mapping of stakeholders and establishing partnerships**

Given the universality of the SDGs a number of stakeholders are involved in the SDGs process as they are expected to contribute in translating the 17 goals into action. After the enactment of the Kenyan Constitution 2010, Kenya has a devolved system of governance; the National Government performing non devolved functions and the County Governments performing the devolved functions. While the National Government and the County Government are the main stakeholders, the city Board comes in as the management of the city as per the Urban Areas and Cities act 2012, alongside other state agencies and organizations with mandate relevant to the SDGs. The following stakeholders were therefore identified:

1. National government through line ministries, e.g. National Treasury and Ministry of Devolution and Planning
2. Kenya National Bureau and Statistics (KNBS)
3. County governments, city or local government, i.e. County Government of Kisumu and the City
4. Parliament and the County Assemblies.
5. Development Partners.
6. Research and Academic Institutions
7. Non–state actors ...NGOs, CSOs, the Foundations, philanthropists
8. Private sector, and community based organisations'

### **Institutional framework to facilitate SDG implementation**

At the national level an institutional framework has been approved comprising of:

1. Cabinet sub-committee
2. High Level Committee of Principal Secretaries
3. Inter-Agency Technical Committee (IATC)
4. The Directorate of Projects and Programmes as the SDGs Coordinating Unit/Secretariat
5. Ministry Departments, County Governments, SAGAs, Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and stakeholders
6. Establishment of an SDGs Liaison Office at the CoG

## 2.2 Other actors outside the city

The SDG being a global agenda has received much attention at the National level. Given the nature of its targets and indicators, it does not only require reporting/engagement at National level, but also at sub national levels. SDG 11 is specific and requires engagement at city scales presenting the case of Kisumu city uniquely calling for special attention for effective response to the SDGs by addressing issues of boundaries and data deficiency. The academia through research has highlighted some issues, identified relevant stakeholders and initiated process of interactions and development of working relationships among the relevant stakeholders to examine how best SDG localization can be achieved. In consultations with the various departments/offices, it is noted that the institutions that relate closely with the SDGs are;

1. National Treasury and Planning Departments coordinating the National SDG secretariat through Inter – Agency Technical Working Group composed of Ministries departments and Agencies council of Governor’s CSOs, Private Sector and the donor development group as well as the media, academia/research institutions and philanthropies and foundations.
2. The Kisumu County Government as a devolved government performing specific devolved functions.
3. The Council of Governors coordinating with the Inter – Agency Technical Working Group in localization of the SDGs at the county levels.
4. The City of Kisumu managed by City Board to oversee the operations (service provision and development) of the city. This includes planning and development within the city (e.g. water service, solid waste management, housing, education etc)
5. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics with National mandate to provide and verify official statistics, i.e. to produce, provide, disseminate official statistics and data on SDGs indicators for purpose of facilitating planning, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting on SDGs implementation progress in Kenya.

However, some specific data may not be immediately available within the institutions mentioned above and may need to be availed by other departments which may either be private or public but with wider mandate beyond the county or city level. These include;

1. Ministry of Planning and Devolution coordination SDGs implementation at National level.
2. The water service provider, KIWASCO has water demand and supply records for the city, and Water Resources Management Authority (WRMA) on the management of water resources.
3. The police department to provide e.g. accident, criminal information.
4. The education department has number of those pursuing education at various levels from the enrollment records.
5. Kenya Power and Lighting Company has records on level of electricity connectivity in the whole country but the regional office within the city has mandate beyond the county/city of Kisumu.



6. Ministry of Health is a devolved function but some its facilities e.g. Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Referral and Teaching Hospital, provides services beyond the county.
7. Department of Gender for equality and empowerment of women and girls
8. Ministry of Agriculture and related parastatals.

## 2.2 Other actors outside the city

Actor/Institution	Role in SDG localisation	Level at which it operates	SDG in focus	Additional comments
State Department for Planning	Coordinates the National SDG secretariat at National Treasury and Planning through Inter – Agency Technical Working Group composed of Ministries departments and Agencies council of Governor’s CSOs, Private Sector and the donor development group as well as the media, academia/research institutions.	National	All	Reports on behalf of the Government and mainly reports at national scale.
<b>Council of Governors</b>	Works closely with National SDG secretariat/inter-Agency Technical Committee to cascade SDG issues at the county level.	County level	All but with emphasis on government focus as per the vision 2030 and the The Big Four Agenda i.e. ensuring food security, affordable housing, manufacturing and affordable healthcare.	Kenya is divided into 47 counties each with a county government with specific devolved functions from the national government.

<p><b>Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS)</b></p>	<p>Mandate to provide official statistics, i.e. to produce, provide, disseminate official statistics and data on SDGs indicators for purpose of facilitating M &amp; E and reporting on SDGs implementation progress in Kenya.</p>	<p>National</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>KNBS is a government agency under the state department for Planning and a member of inter – Agency Technical working Group.</p>
<p>County Governments</p>	<p>Main actors in the implementation of the SDGs at the county levels through the county integrated development plans. Are expected to strengthen the county SDGs coordination unit and work through the County/sub-county forums for implementation and localization of the SDGs at lower levels</p>	<p>County</p>	<p>All with main focus on the Kenya Vision 2030 and the Government Big For Agenda</p>	<p>The current CIDPs have SDGs mainstreamed within them, and each department within the county picks on the relevant areas of the SDGs is expected to report on the progress of SDGs implantation.</p>
<p>Government agencies and parastatal in various sectors,e.g. water (Water and sewerage companies), electricity (Kenya Power), Roads Department (KURA)</p>	<p>Has specific government mandate to report on the relevant SDGs implementation through the</p>	<p>Regional</p>	<p>Sector specific, e.g. Water</p>	<p>Are also expected to coordinate with the county government on the activities to be implemented within the county.</p>

	relevant government ministries, hence the SDG National coordination unit			
The private sectors	Private sectors work through KEPSA (Kenya Private Sector Alliance) and KAM (Kenya Association of Manufacturers, KNCCI (Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry)	National	All	To incorporate views from the non-government institutions.
The media	Works through the Kenya Media Council, Kenya Editors Guild and Media owners Association.	National	All	
Academia	Works through the Kenya Academia Forum	National and regional	All	Support the institutions through consultations and research work.
The Youth	The Youth to work through the Kenya National Youth Council	National	All with focus on issues affecting the youth	

### **3. Engagement with the New Urban Agenda**

Kenya is committed to the implementation of the NUA given its declaration on sustainable cities and human settlement for all, reflected in its popular version of the NUA<sup>2</sup> and Kenya's implementation Strategy (2016-2036), with objectives and specific programmes focussed on housing and basic services, urban and human settlements infrastructure, land, urban and regional planning, urban economy, environmentally sustainable and resilient urban and human settlements, urban governance. In particular, Kisumu Urban Project (KUP) which is directly under Kisumu City management has facilitated construction of a number of new schools and rehabilitation old ones (SDG 4), construction of health centres (SDG 3) and modern markets, construction and repair of roads to improve access and movement (SDG 9), installation of flood lights at strategic points within the city. Upgrading of informal settlement is also a priority under the Kenya Informal Settlement Projects and Urban Renewal Programme (SDG 11, SDG 1)). Solid waste management continue to rank high with reference to relocation of the current city dumping site and construction of decentralized recovery centers(SDG 11).

The commitment also considered means of implementation to ensure financial commitment, capacity building, partnership, inclusiveness and empowering of disadvantaged groups, international cooperation, information and communication technology, safety and security.

### **4. Synergies and Conflicts between the City's Main Local Strategies and the Achievement of the SDGs**

With the enactment of the Kenya Constitution 2010, a number of functions which originally were under the Kenya National Government have been devolved to the County, and to the City through the City's Act 2012. These give the County and the City more mandate over these functions. However, the framework/mechanism to support the devolution process and cascade various functions to these levels has not been fully developed. The City's mandate could also be undermined by factors relating to landownership by the City, availability of development funds and low revenue collection, inadequate technical personnel, and political influence. The City Authority only owns about 6% of the City land space greatly reducing its mandate on land management, planning and use, as well as allocation for development purposes. Land owned by Government Parastatals within the City do not attract land rates resulting into low revenue collection. The City relies on the funds from the National Government which is not adequate to implement development projects. The City Board is not yet fully functional and the County of Kisumu with a wider mandate over other sub counties can redistribute the resources and facilities meant for the City to other sub counties.

Although the SDGs are already mainstreamed in the CIDP II and Annual Development Plan developed, some challenges still exist. These include: inadequate data for some indicators; time-lag in updating some of the indicators; lack of statistical capacity to compute some of the indicators; lack of known methodology for generating some of the indicators; counties are developing their own capacities, awaiting the global acceptable method; high staff turnover at both

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<sup>2</sup> State Department for Housing and Urban Development, 2017. Kenya's popular version of the NUA Towards inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable Cities and Human Settlements

County and City; limited staff at both the County and City to deal with SDGs; inadequate coordination lines among the relevant government departments to share information (e.g. KNBS, the County/City); lack effective monitoring and evaluation framework at the local level to track the SDGs implementation process as outlined in the CIDP II.

The City under the County Government of Kisumu is not directly engaged with the implementation of the SDGs. It focusses on the mainstreamed SDG activities in its development plan. This may make it difficult for reporting at the city level. Most of the reports and publications by the KNBS, officially mandated to report statistical information, do not include Kisumu City but give most information at the County scale. This means Kisumu City will require further analysis on statistical analysis to accurately respond to target and indicators in the SDG11.

## **5. Localisation of SDG Indicators**

The table was filled together by representatives from the National State Office of Planning, Kenya National Bureau of Statics, the City Planning Department, County Planning Department and the Director of Environment at the county. There was lack of information hence some gaps existing, even though all the targets were relevant. The team concentrated on the information relevant to the city/County. Most of the information is reported at the county scales and not the city. Some of the information not indicated below could be addresses at National level and beyond, e.g. 11.a.1, 11.b.1, 11.b.2 and 11.c.1

Target	Feasible to assess baseline and track progress?	Modifications of indicator to make it relevant and feasible to city	Baseline and year of modified indicator	Collection frequency of modified indicator	Level at which modified indicator is available	Additional comments
11.1.1 Proportion of urban population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing	Yes	Energy source, water sources, Quality of the house, education, Household expenditure (All these captured in household survey - Kenya Integrated Household budget survey 2015/16, Demographic Health survey)	1999	5yrs standard but lastly 2005/2006 (KIHBS), 2014 (DHS of 2014)	National and some at County or regional level. Kisumu City requires consolidating the ward data on further analysis., therefore special due to boundary and rural urban integration.	With further analysis information can be given at city scale
11.2.1 Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	No	How long and distance to access public transport, Terrain (Integrated Mobility Plan for the City conducted in 2016)	1999	One off	Specific areas targeted for improved road transport.	KNBS has not analysed the data. City Planning collected their own data.
11.3.1 Ratio of land consumption rate to population growth rate	Yes		2013 (ISUD)		city	Relevant to the city

11.3.2 Proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management that operate regularly and democratically	Yes					Relevant to the city
11.4.1 Total expenditure (public and private) per capita spent on the preservation, protection and conservation of all cultural and natural heritage, by type of heritage (cultural, natural, mixed and World Heritage Centre designation), level of government (national, regional and local/municipal), type of expenditure (operating expenditure/investment) and type of private funding (donations in kind, private non-profit sector and sponsorship)	Yes			Annual (Economic data in the Annual Economic Survey and County Public Expenditure Review)	National/ County	Relevant and requires to be reported at city scale
11.5.1 Number of deaths, missing persons and persons affected by disaster per 100,000 people	Yes			Annually	National and county levels	Data got from County Commissioners office

11.5.2 Direct disaster economic loss in relation to global GDP, including disaster damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services	Yes					
11.6.1 Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total urban solid waste generated, by cities	Yes				City/County	To be verified by KNBS
11.6.2 Annual mean levels of fine particulate matter (e.g. PM2.5 and PM10) in cities (population weighted)	Yes					Metrological Department has some data but scattered
11.7.1 Average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space for public use for all, by sex, age and persons with disabilities	Yes					Relevant to the city
11.7.2 Proportion of persons who are victim of physical or sexual harassment, by sex, age, disability status and place of occurrence, in the previous 12 months	Yes		2014	5 years	National	Reported at National level in DHS every 5 years lastly done in 2014 next in 2020 due to census in 2019



11.a.1 Proportion of population living in cities that implement urban and regional development plans integrating population projections and resource needs, by size of city	Yes			5 Years	County	CIDP 5yrs, ISUD 20yrs
11.b.1 Proportion of local governments that adopt and implement local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030*	Yes					Relevant to Kisumu City
11.b.2 Number of countries with national and local disaster risk reduction strategies*						
11.c.1 Proportion of financial support to the least developed countries that is allocated to the construction and retrofitting of sustainable, resilient and resource-efficient buildings utilizing local materials						

## **6. The Role of Comparative Co-production in Localising the SDGs**

The comparative project management to bring together city officials from different cities; Cape Town in 2018 and Sheffield in 2019 to discuss and learn from the different strategies used by different cities to localize the SDGs, the challenges and strengths of the various strategies. The focus was mainly to find ways of strengthening the strategies by the different cities, hence paring of the cities for further discussions based on their string and weak areas. The peer review process provided an opportunity to assess the entire SDG implementation processes, revealing strong as well as weak areas.

Mainstreaming of the SDGs in the CIDP and ADP with approved budget lines in the Kenyan case, came out as a strength for Kisumu. The idea of anchoring the localization processes on familiar and legally recognized functional instruments and tools with activity targets, budget lines and reporting timelines was a good strategy to learn from. The responsibilities should also be taken up by recognized institutions with specific roles cascaded from the highest to the lowest levels. On the other hand, It takes a long time and it is not easy to come up with new specific tools, instruments and institutions for the SDG localization processes.

However, the monitoring and evaluation processes for Kisumu lacked proper framework as well as personnel to capture how the activities relating to specific SDGs are accomplished. In learning from the reply from Shimla, the weak area may be due to low participation of City/County staff in the national and state level surveys capturing and sharing SDG relevant data which could be useful in monitoring and evaluation of the SDG implementation processes.

## **7. Contribution of SDG localisation to Realising Just Cities**

The project brought together 7 cities with diverse conditions and environments; thus presenting different challenges and experiences. Different strategies for engagement and localizing the implementation of SDGs were shared across the cities, revealing specific strengths and weaknesses at the same time. With the city officials participating in the joint research activities through workshops and conferences, there existed great opportunities for learning and sharing of experiences, apart from providing space for interaction.

SDGs require developing working relationships among institutions at different levels of governance to share information and cascade the processes to lower scales. This enables the institutions at all levels to deal with the SDG targets and indicators presented in the same manner allowing comparison across the cities. In Kenya and for the case of Kisumu City, the project initiated a working relationship between the National SDG Team and the Local one to highlight the gaps, limitations, challenges and discuss how to effectively localize the SDGs implementation processes. This led to identifying relevant institutions with mandates to work

together and with information that could be consolidated and analysed for specific targets and indicators to reflect status towards realization of a just city. This therefore would help the local authorities to identify critical issues to prioritize in their planning and implementation processes. In Kisumu City, SDG issues are mainstreamed within the County Integrated Development Plan for ease of implementation. The coproduction process involves all relevant stakeholders and ensures an effective participatory and inclusive planning processes to ensure sustainability and justice.

## **8. Conclusions**

The SDGs came at a favorable time for Kenya as the Agenda 2030 time frame overlaps with that of Kenya Vision 2030. This has enabled Kenya to easily mirror its National Development Plans and Programme with that of the SDGs.

The coproduction approach involving the practitioners created impacts and influenced operations at the city or some other levels of governance. It demonstrated the importance of SDG 11 and influenced focus towards the urban agenda. In a way also showing academia can contribute to the SDG implementation process.

The weaknesses and gaps towards localization of SDGs were identified and highlighted for possible response by the city officials. Lack of data at the city could be filled through further analysis by KNBS on request, given the unique position of Kisumu City. The other two cities; Nairobi and Mombasa are county cities taking up information at their respective county levels.

Identification of relevant stakeholders and initiating a working relationship for sharing of information at different levels of governance is critical for localization of the SDGs.

The peer to peer learning also created relationships among the city officials.

In addition, the timing of the SDGs coincided with the completion of the Kenya Integrated Household and Budget Survey 2016 and allowed the country to use the report to provide the Baseline benchmarks as results for Development.

With the Kenya Constitution 2010 and its elaborate Socio cultural rights guaranteed for the citizens, the SDGs era presents a great challenge for the Government and other Non-State development actors to work harder than in the past.

Working with difference agenda and creating harmony among the global and the national agenda or focus, e.g. The Kenya Vision 2030, The Government Big Four Agenda, SDGs and the NUA.