



DGD programme

GLOBe 2022

Impressions and realisations

In 2022, the GLoBe programme worked on Good Local Governance through 14 town twinning partnerships, 3 collaborations between the VVSG and sister associations worldwide and the integration of the SDGs into the policies of Flemish municipalities.



vvsg

2022 in figures

Support from VVSG



5 exchange and training moments for Flemish twinning coordinators

3 digital workshops for Flemish municipalities and partners from the Global South around monitoring of the 2022-2026 programme

4 exchanges in the Global South:

- National conference in Senegal
- VVSG-RALGA exchange in Rwanda
- 2 working visits to partnerships in Benin: Toucountouna-Merelbeke & Comé-Oostkamp

4 delegation visits by city to city partnerships to the VVSG with info sessions on both international cooperation and the SDGs: Essen-Witzenberg, Mol-Santo Tomás, Bierbeek-San Felipe de Oña, Hoogstraten-Za-Kpota



Follow-up on integrity policy:
no integrity complaints



Organising the public campaign 'Sustainable Municipality Week', with participation of **110** Flemish local authorities

4 training and networking events for local SDG leaders as part of the SDG Academy, including on Sustainability monitoring and the VVSG's new SDG test



16 SDG info sessions on demand and tailored to individual local governments



From local governments

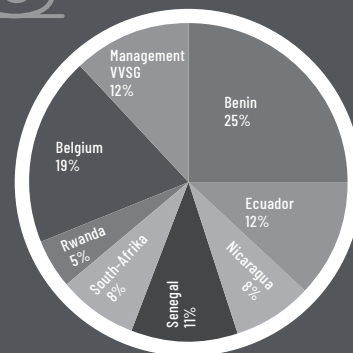
62% indicate that VVSG support contributes to the integration of the SDGs into their policies

51% plan to use the SDGs as a framework for the next legislature's multi-year plan

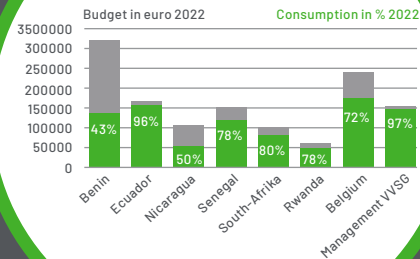
Dissemination of Flemish local SDG practices at international events of UNECE, UCLG, OECD and the UN, among others



Budget



Consumption





Challenges

- Late approval & deposit of GLoBe programme budget in 2022 caused delay in start-up
- National decentralisation sector reforms in Benin are causing delays in the start-up and implementation of the programme
- The city link Lommel-Ciudad Darío seized 2022 to conduct a context analysis with Rikolto in function of the agricultural and food policy. Activities in the field were not yet implemented in 2022, but from the context analysis, priority activities will be determined for the coming programme years
- The launch of the 2022-2026 programme was accompanied by staff changes within several town twinning organisations
- Due to the municipal elections in Belgium, the launch of SDG partnerships, a new form of municipal international cooperation, should start before 2024
- The range of tools around integrating the SDGs into local policies should be as comprehensible, concrete and practical as possible by the start of the new policy cycle (2024). All VVSG tools will be brought together in a clear and accessible [digitale timeline](#)



Opportunities

- The [Sustainable Cities platform](#) (Collaboration between the VVSG, UVCW, Brulocalis, Rikolto and Echos Communication) had its launch in 2022
- 9 active synergies with Belgian NGOs and institutional actors
- Start of learning processes around reciprocity, equal partnership and good local governance strengthening with town twinning
- Start-up trajectory [Flemish Voluntary Subnational Review 2023](#) (VSR), an SDG report on the realisation of the SDGs by Flemish local governments and provinces
- Joint 'local' chapter with Walloon & Brussels sister associations UVCW and Brulocalis in the [Belgian Voluntary National Review 2023](#) (VNR) strengthens cooperation among themselves and with federal level



Following a conference in Senegal, Mayor Veerle Geerinckx and Alderman for International Cooperation Joeri Van den Brande see new opportunities to strengthen the twinning between Zemst and Sokone (Senegal). Alderman Van den Brande stresses the importance of an equal partnership: 'Steps are being taken towards more equity away from a classic way of development cooperation where expertise and money goes to the South from the West.' Mayor Geerinckx, in turn, emphasises the strengthening of local government power in Sokone: 'During the conference moment, we spent a whole week working together on our joint multi-year plan, and this in full BBC style (* A Flemish tool enabling local authorities to effectively plan operational and financial policies).' This new approach illustrates a shift towards a more interactive, participatory form of cooperation between municipalities.

Veerle Geerinckx (mayor) and
Joeri Van den Brande (alderman),
Zemst (city link with Sokone, Senegal).

The Globe programme starts at a crucial time for the implementation of Rwanda's Vision 2050, which envisages Rwanda's ambitious transformation towards sustainable and inclusive development. The VVSG RALGA programme supports the officials, politicians and people of Bugesera and Karongi districts to shape their districts together in a participatory manner. This allows all actors from both districts to work together for sustainable urbanisation with a focus on spatial planning.

Oscar Nzirera, social policy expert RALGA
(association of local governments in Rwanda)



The GLoBe programme enabled us to make significant steps within ANCB in 2022. We supported a political committee on 'Gender, Social Affairs and Citizen Participation', developed a gender strategy and compiled a good practice guide for municipalities. This provided a significant increase in female representation within ANCB and revitalised REFEC (the network of elected women).

Agathe Alladaye, gender expert ANCB
(association of local governments in Benin)

