

How can territories really be at the heart of the post-2030 sustainable development framework?

CEMR-PLATFORMA public webinar

5 October 2026 | 11.00–13.00 CEST | Online meeting

Registration link – [here](#)

The zoom link will be shared with registered participants prior to the meeting. Please note that the meeting will be conducted in English with automatic subtitles in different languages. Check this DeepL Voice tool ([instructions note](#)) in advance to be able to use it the day of the meeting.

This CEMR-PLATFORMA public webinar on the post-2030 sustainable development framework, hosted within the PLATFORMA 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) cluster and the CEMR Impact Community Society, aims to bring together different stakeholders to explore priorities for sustainable development beyond the current SDGs framework. The discussion will focus on emerging global challenges and lessons learned from SDG implementation. Insights gathered will inform the development of a CEMR-PLATFORMA position paper, to be finalized by the end of the year, reflecting a broad range of perspectives and policy recommendations. The paper will serve as a contribution to the preparatory discussions leading to the SDGs Summit in September 2027, helping to shape a forward-looking and inclusive global development agenda.

AGENDA

11.00–11.10 Introduction and welcome

- Fabrizio Rossi, Secretary-General of CEMR

11.10–11.30 Keynote: setting the scene: lessons from the SDGs

- Dr. Axel Berger, Deputy Director of the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS)
 - Achievements and gaps in SDG implementation: the SDGs have driven global action and partnerships, but why progress remains uneven and many targets are off track?
 - Emerging global challenges beyond 2030: how climate risks, technological disruption, demographic change, and geopolitical tensions are reshaping the development landscape?
 - Why a new vision is needed: can we all assure that the post-2030 agenda focuses on transformational change, resilience, and long-term sustainability in an increasingly uncertain world?

11.30–11.50 Engaging with stakeholders: perspectives' panel

- **Civil Society Organisation:** Jyotsna Mohan Singh, Advocacy Officer at Forus International
 - Strengthen local action and civic participation: how to support community-led solutions, protect civic space, and foster partnerships that translate global goals into tangible local impact.
 - Promote accountability and transparency: how to monitor progress and ensure that governments and institutions deliver on their commitments.
- **Academia and research sector:** Dr. Joao Tavares, Co-Founder and CEO of Nexus Governance
 - Better local and inclusive data: can we improve data on vulnerable groups and strengthen city-level data systems?
 - From monitoring to foresight: how to use data to track progress and anticipate future risks and opportunities.
- **Women Group:** Gabriele Köhler, Board Member of Women Engage for a Common Future
 - Gender equality and leadership: how to ensure women have equal opportunities, representation, and leadership in decision-making at local, national, and global levels.
 - Economic and social empowerment: is it possible to remove barriers to education, decent work, healthcare, finance, and digital access for all women and girls?

11.50–12.30 Reactions from local leaders

12.30–12.40 Closing reflections

- Boris Tonhauser, Director of PLATFORMA

12.45–13.00 Ad hoc session: Launch of the Study on “The Evolution of Cities’ International Cooperation Policies”

- This is a Study conducted by the Sciences Po University, June 2026. [French version](#) (original version, 87 pages), [English version, summary](#) in English (2 pages). Introduction of the Study by Frédéric Vallier, Executive Director of the International Association of Francophone Mayors, AIMF.

- This study has been conducted in partnership with AIMF and PLATFORMA. It examines how cities are increasingly shaping international cooperation and addressing global challenges such as climate change, migration, and sustainable development through decentralised cooperation and city diplomacy. Based on survey data from 54 cities and field research in Benin and Madagascar, the study finds that effective international cooperation depends mainly on long-term trust, local ownership, and sustained engagement and less on the number of partnerships. It also highlights the growing importance of city networks and South–South cooperation, while noting that financial and institutional constraints continue to limit cities’ global action.

Further information provided on the speakers and/or their organisations

1. Biography of keynote speaker Dr. Axel Berger:

Dr. Axel Berger is Deputy Director (interim) at the German Institute of Development and Sustainability (IDOS) and Managing Director of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Germany. He is a founding member of the G20 Trade and Investment Research Network (TIRN), a cross-country, independent network of trade and investment policy researchers. Axel holds a doctorate in political science from the University of Duisburg-Essen and a Master's degree from the Munich Ludwig-Maximilians-University in political science, economics and modern history. His research focuses on the design, effects and diffusion patterns of international trade and investment agreements, with a focus on developing countries. He also works on the negotiation and design of a future global sustainability framework beyond 2030. Other areas of current research include global sustainable development, global value chains and the role of the G7 and G20 in global governance. He teaches global political economy at the University of Bonn and regularly advises developing countries, development agencies and international organisations on trade and investment matters.

2. **Forus:** [Post 2030 vision](#).
3. **Nexus Governance:** [SDGs intelligence platform](#).
4. **Article** by Gabriele Khöler on “Towards a Human rights-Centred, Transformative Agenda Beyond 2030”.

Contact

- Eva Baños de Guisasola (eva.banosdeguisasola@ccre-cemr.org)

This event contributes to the implementation of SDG 5, SDG 11 and SDG 17.

