



**The Territorial Approach to
Sustainable Human Development**
The ART initiative

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United Nations Development Programme

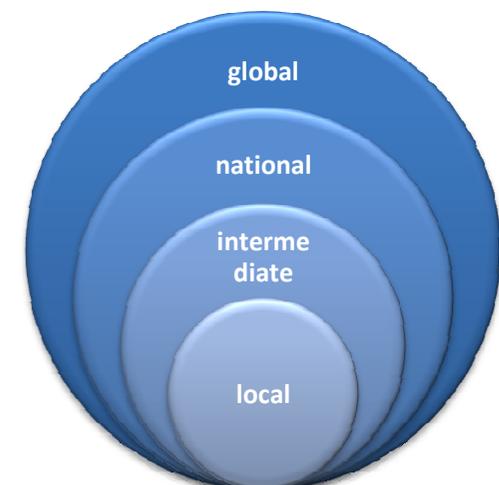
Empowered lives Resilient nations

Territorial approach to development



Rationale

- Local and global dimensions increasingly interlinked.
- Issues that affect citizens with causes that escape the local sphere, i.e: employment, migration, climate change, health, human security.
- In many cases, the answers to local needs can only be given through linking with intermediate, national or global levels.



Territorial approach to development



Characteristics

- **Multi-actor:** plurality of actors of a territory– local authorities, CSOs, community leaders, academia, the private sector, traditionally excluded groups - work jointly to ensure that local development plans reflect a wide range of interests and needs at the local level.
- **Integral:** integration of various sectors within a comprehensive response at territorial level.
- **Multi-level:** enhanced local – national –international coherence.

Territorial approach to development



How?

- **Dialogue spaces** at local level for a negotiation of local demands, which are inputs for the adaptation/redefinition of national and local policies in order to meet such demands.

-Such spaces allow to:

-Strengthen the dialogue and **mutual trust** among various actors and institutions.

- Coordinate between the interventions at the **different decision levels** (decentralized institutions, deconcentrated bodies, civil society, informal power groups).

Territorial approach to development



Increasing recognition of this approach

European Commission: 2103 Empowering Local Authorities in partner countries for enhanced governance and more effective development outcomes

“...a territorial approach to development should be promoted. Tailored to territorial characteristics and needs, the territorial approach to development is characterised as a dynamic bottom-up and long-term process based on a multi-actor and multi-sector approach, in which different local institutions and actors work together to define priorities, and plan and implement development strategies. Through the guidance of Local Authorities and the mobilisation of additional private and community capacities and resources, the territorial approach to development could trigger a change in the quality of citizens’ life and wellbeing, ensuring a balance between socio-economic growth, equity and environmental quality and increasing the resilience of the most vulnerable.”

New multilateralism



To face such complexity, there is a need for a new multilateralism, bringing together local, national and international actors.

The **ART Initiative** is a UNDP international cooperation initiative, which promotes sustainable human development at the local level. Its main objective is to empower territories and communities to meet the Millennium Development Goals.

In order to achieve this, ART facilitates processes that enhance the **articulation** between the local, national, and international levels, fosters a more **effective** use of internal and external resources and promotes sustainable **partnerships** between territories and global development cooperation networks.

Focus areas

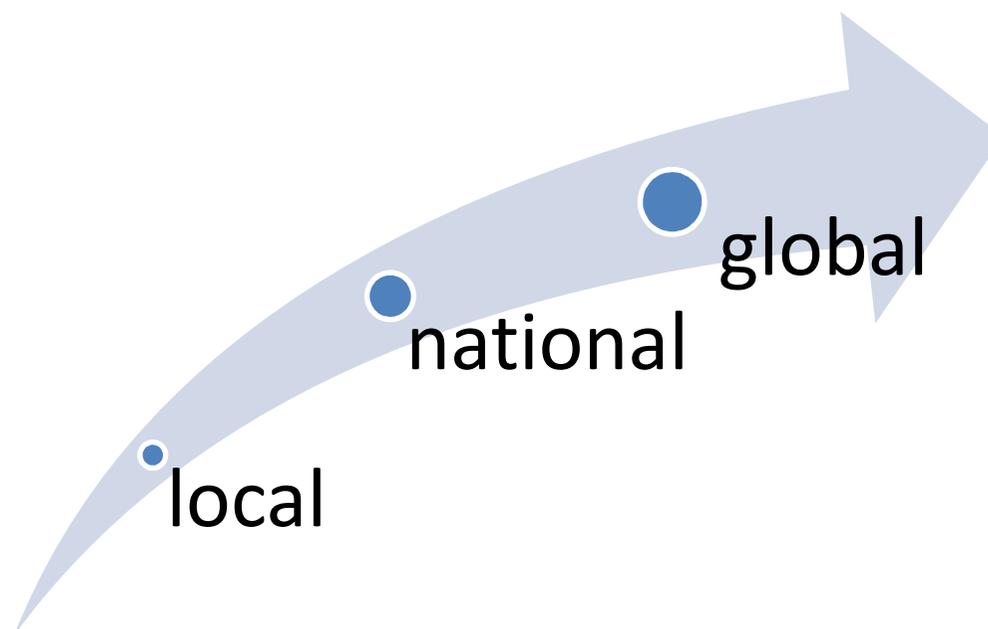
- ✓ Decentralization and local governance
- ✓ Social services
- ✓ Local economic development
- ✓ Environment
- ✓ Capacity development
- ✓ Mechanisms for effective development cooperation

Territorial approach to development in post-2015



LOCAL LEVEL CONSULTATIONS INFORMING NATIONAL CONSULTATIONS

The UNDP ART Framework Programmes, through their territorial platforms (Local-level Working Groups), are facilitating local-level consultations as part of the post-2015 process methodology.



Territorial approach to development in post-2015



EXAMPLE of LOCAL LEVEL CONSULTATIONS

ECUADOR

UNDP ART facilitated:



- three participative workshops at Aguarico Canton (Orellana province, Amazon region) from November 2012 to January 2013.
- One participative workshop in Kawymeno community (Waorani indigenous group, Orellana Province), in January 2013.

ART at global level



At global level: dialogue between territories

ART facilitates a **dialogue between territories** and their communities– South -South, South - North and triangular.

Horizontal partnerships linking communities and countries and allowing them to work together and share experiences on issues of common interest.

Engagement of **national governments** willing to mobilize the excellence of their territories.

Link **local and global processes**: post-Busan, post-2015, SDGs.

ART at country level



ART promotes **multi-level, multi-stakeholder** development platforms - led by local and national authorities.

Development cooperation actors (bilateral and decentralized) harmonize around such common operational platforms and align their interventions to local development plans:

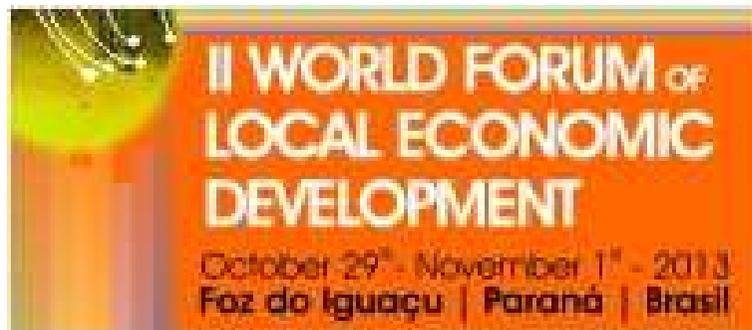
- ✓ *Demand-driven cooperation*
- ✓ *Reduction of fragmentation*
- ✓ *Development effectiveness at local level*

Local Economic Development



ART Programmes facilitate:

- the establishment of public-private, self-sustaining and integrated system of technical and financial services for socio-economic and human territorial development, to benefit the population (especially the most disadvantaged segments), and local businesses and institutions.
- this often takes the form of Local Economic Development Agencies (LEDAs)



Decentralized Cooperation



Decentralized cooperation is a key element of the territorial cooperation; it is the way the programme links organizations and agencies working at the regional and local level across countries, allowing local actors to learn from other country experiences.

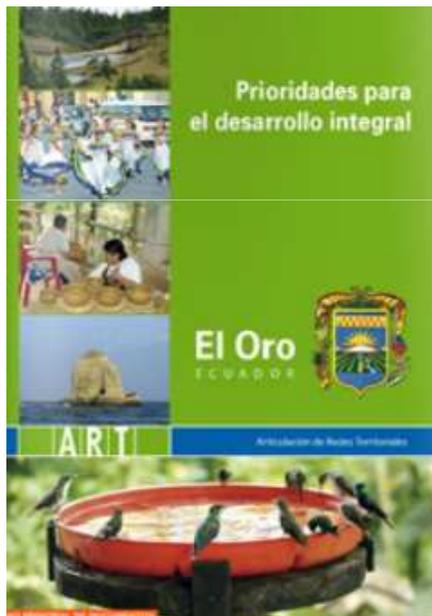
ART has established a very **large network of cooperation actors** which includes local and regional agencies, local government associations, civil society organizations and academic institutions from various countries.

ART facilitates the **exchange** and **mutual learning** on topics that are relevant to the local level:

ART instruments



Strategic Guidelines for International Cooperation



Thank you!



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