

Answers to Survey of Local Authority Associations

Total Number of Local Authority Associations Surveys received: 146

General Note: The information gathered from local government associations has not been broken into regional or economic categories. The first factor in this decision is that many associations work with municipalities in more than one region or economic category. The second factor is that fewer surveys were received from associations than from authorities. It is felt that if divided each category would contain too few responses to be useful.

Question 2: What role is your association / institution playing in the development of LA21 or similar SD planning process for local authorities?

<i>Role</i>	<i>Number of Municipalities</i>
Not working on this presently	12
Advocating LA21 or similar SD processes	101
Involved in gathering information on LA21 or SD activity	81
Providing support to local authorities working on LA21 or SD activities	107
other	34
no answer	1

Question 3: If you are providing support for Local Agenda 21 please indicate the kinds of support:

<i>Kind of Support</i>		<i>Kind of Support</i>	
information	108	training	71
tools	49	workshops	82
seminars	80	seed or start-up money	22
conferences	68	policy guidance	62
advice	75	campaigns	37
networking	82	research	38
best practices	60	newsletter	44
projects	57	institutional strengthening	46
technical assistance	48	other	13
exchanges	36	no answer	12
support materials	57		

Question 4: Is your association / institution using a name other than Local Agenda 21 to

refer to your process?

<i>Yes</i>	58	<i>No</i>	84	<i>Unknown</i>	1
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Question 5: What are the range of criteria you are using to define your LA21 or similar SD process?

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Rank</i>
it must include a consensus on a vision for a sustainable future	2.49
it must include a participatory process with local citizens	2.13
it must establish a stakeholder group to oversee the process	3.52
it must address economic, social and environmental needs together	3.3
it must prepare an action plan	3.77
it must prepare an action plan with concrete long-term targets	4.19
it must establish a monitoring and reporting framework	5.58
it must establish indicators to monitor progress	5.6
other	4.13

Note: Criteria were ranked against each other with 1 being the most important criteria and 9 being the least. Therefore, numbers closer to 1 indicate a higher level of importance.

Questions 6 & 7:

6. Please indicate the number of local authorities in your association / country presently planning / implementing a LA21 or similar process?
7. Please indicate if any local governments have reached the following stages in their LA21 or SD planning process, and where possible, the number of local authorities at each stage.

Note: These questions were used as a starting point for verification of processes. The answers to these questions were never tabulated as these numbers alone were not considered sufficient proof of Local Agenda 21 processes and often association results overlapped. For this reason, these answers are not provided. The final number of Local Agenda 21 processes was calculated by eliminating association overlap, verifying the results of each association and by careful review of data. Please see the Local Agenda 21 Survey Report for full information regarding the spread of Local Agendas 21.

Question 8: What is the involvement of your national government?

<i>Role of National Government</i>	<i>Number of Associations</i>
formally committed to LA21 or similar SD processes	85

<i>Role of National Government</i>	<i>Number of Associations</i>
providing financial support to help local authorities develop and / implement LA21 or SD process	48
obliging local authorities to undertake a LA21 or SD process	32
not involved in LA21 or local SD processes	15
unknown	17
no answer	13

Question 9: What do you consider the major obstacles to starting or implementing an LA21 process for local authorities in your country?

<i>Major Obstacles</i>	
insufficient information	3.22
insufficient expertise	4.5
insufficient financial support	3.11
insufficient community interest	4.83
insufficient municipal interest	3.61
insufficient support from national / federal government	2.75
insufficient decision making power	4.29
insufficient linkages with international processes / institutions	4.97
insufficient interdepartmental cooperation	4.13
insufficient community consensus to set priorities	6.38
none	18.5
other	3.1

Note: Obstacles were ranked against each other with 1 being the most important obstacle and 9 being the least. Therefore, numbers closer to 1 indicate a higher level of importance.