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We strengthen  
democracy and  
good governance  
at the local and  
regional level

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 **SKL International**  
AFFILIATED TO THE SWEDISH ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND REGIONS

# Domains of Change

As part of the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and regions (SALAR), SKL International works globally to promote and strengthen local and regional self-governance and resilience. *Our vision is that all people have the power to shape their own lives in inclusive local democracies and sustainable communities.*

To achieve this we see three pivotal domains of change: decentralised democratic systems, effective and equitable service delivery, and local sustainable development.

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## Decentralised democratic systems

Decentralised democratic systems are a pre-condition for strong local and regional self-governance and thus people's opportunities to shape their own lives. A decentralised system provides the institutional framework that allows national, regional and local governments to interact in an effective manner in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity that ensures that decisions are being made as close as possible to the citizens.



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## Effective and Equitable Service Delivery

Effective and equitable service delivery, contributes to improved life quality and is the main vehicle in creating equal opportunities for everyone on the local level.

Locally-anchored decisions help to improve the effectiveness and quality of public services as they are based on local realities and people's different needs.

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## Local Sustainable Development

Local Sustainable development recognises the importance of local strategies and actions to address global trends and challenges like rapid urbanization and climate change.

Local and regional governments play a key role in local sustainable development both from an environmental, socio-cultural and economic perspective. With a proper institutional framework, local and regional governments are ideally placed to support local sustainable development.



# Our Places of Operation

With our roots in Swedish experiences we design and implement projects achieving sustainable results together with our partners.

We have experience working in over 50 countries, here is where our ongoing projects can be found.



# Case

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## Project: Governance in social care in Iraq.

On the initiative of the local government in Diwaniyah, Iraq, we have played an instrumental role in digitalizing and moving social assistance services closer to citizens through establishing local offices.

In spite of the highly complex context and thanks to a dedicated team with great patience, the project has been successful.

The result is less risk of corruption and available services to the most vulnerable, for instance widows who have lost their husbands in the war. The work continues in partnership with three governorates in Iraq – Diwaniyah, Dohuk, and Muthanna.

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## Result?

Less risk of corruption and available services to the most vulnerable.



1 NO POVERTY



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



# Case

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## Project: Institutional Strengthening for Citizens and Territorial Development (FOINCIDE) in Colombia.

In Colombia, it has oftentimes been difficult to find reliable and easily accessible data at the local level. The project, inspired by Swedish experience has created a tool, TerriData, to make statistics from all the regions and municipalities in the country easily available.

This will facilitate fact-based decision-making for improved community service, comparisons between different localities and improve the possibilities for transparency and accountability.

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## Result?

Making statistics from all regions and municipalities easily available.

17 PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR THE GOALS



# Case

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## Project: Global SymbioCity in Colombia.

Urban plans can in many countries be interrupted by local elections and the fact that municipal administrations are exchanged. In Colombia, in the cities of Apartadó and Pitalito, this trend is exchanged by two successful experiences. The project team worked with an integrated sector approach, also engaging citizens to develop plans.

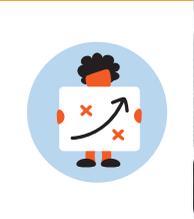
After the local elections in Apartadó the opposition party has decided to adopt and implement these plans. In Pitalito funding was secured from the national level to finance safer traffic solutions and bicycle lanes.

The populations will now experience the city centers develop in a more sustainable, pedestrian friendly way with green areas and accessibility for all. Cities are for the people!

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## Result?

Implementing long term urban plans.



# Case

## Project: U-LEAD with Europe project in Ukraine.

In Ukraine, as part of the decentralisation reform, we are supporting newly formed municipalities/hromadas in providing administrative services to its residents through the establishment of one-stop-shops/service centres.

It is a major effort with the objective of setting up to 600 administrative service centres that will serve at least 7 million of Ukrainian inhabitants. Residents will now enjoy more effective, inclusive and transparent services closer to where they live.

## Result?

More effective, inclusive and transparent services closer to the people.



16 PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



# Case

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## Project: Support to Serbian municipalities on the road to EU Accession in Serbia.

In Serbia, the association of municipalities, Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities (SCTM), is being supported as an entry point to assist and prepare Serbian local authorities for EU accession. This will in turn help improve conditions in municipalities for high-quality services, enhanced dialogue with citizens and more efficient local administrations.

As a result of the project efforts SCTM has been included in the national EU negotiation process, and a number of municipalities have increased their capacity to make use of EU funds for improved service delivery, including clean water, sewage and waste management systems.

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## Result?

Regions and municipalities included in the negotiations for EU-accession.



# Case

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## **Project:** Resilience in Local Governance (RESLOG).

Millions of people have fled from Syria since the war started in 2011, creating a strong pressure on the existing service systems in the local communities where they are now residing.

In Turkey and Lebanon the RESLOG-project responds to these challenges by strengthening the resilience and capacity of local government systems in accordance with principles of peacefulness and inclusiveness.

So far Migration Master Plans have been prepared in 12 municipalities from Çukurova and Marmara, supported by the RESLOG Experts. The plans include infrastructure, urban services, economic development and social cohesion and offer gender and conflict sensitive solutions for the most influenced service areas.

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## **Result?** Innovative solutions to reduce adverse impacts of mass migration.



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES





# Case

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## Project: SymbioCity Kenya.

Kenya's future is urban. Properly planned and managed cities and towns offer enhanced opportunities for people to live, meet, work, access public services and fulfil their life dreams. With urban planning being a newly devolved function in Kenya, the offer from SymbioCity has been support to promote sustainable urban development planning at the local level through a participatory and holistic approach.

In partnership with national and local representatives, seven counties have jointly gone through the SymbioCity Process, from planning to implementation of urban improvements – under the principles of planning for people, planning with people and working together.

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## Result?

Holistic urban development plans in seven towns in Kenya.



**SKL International's project activities contribute to the implementation of Agenda 2030. We work towards 9 of 17 global goals in our projects.**



# **THE GLOBAL GOALS**

For Sustainable Development

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