



Alcaldía de Manizales

MANIZALES  
+GRANDE



LABORATORIO  
DE INNOVACIÓN  
PÚBLICA



**Summary**  
**1st Voluntary Local Review**  
**Manizales, Colombia**  
**2022**

# FIRST VOLUNTARY LOCAL REVIEW

## Manizales, Colombia

Our commitment to a better world began in 2020, when we formulated the development plan '*Manizales + Grande*'. We had as a frame of action the agenda for sustainable development that had been adopted by the United Nations since 2015 and that Colombia ratified and adopted with CONPES 3918 of 2018, in which, in addition to adapting specific goals for the country, it created an institutional architecture that allows us to dynamize and follow up on the progress of the agenda.

The challenge became greater when we had to face the pandemic generated by COVID-19, the biggest economic crisis in our history, and with it the need to reallocate many of the resources that Manizales had. From the Public Innovation Lab we quickly initiated a dialogue with institutions and experts that would allow us to develop the best possible strategy and as a result of this dialogue we began the task of turning Manizales into the SDGs capital of Latin America through a set of actions that we call '*Manizales en Clave de ODS*' (SDGs Go Local, Manizales).

The strategy includes tracking indicators that will allow us to follow up on the goals of the global agenda, the conversation with hundreds of citizens for the construction of a vision and a prospective plan for Manizales in SDGs by 2030, which will allow us to prioritize actions and generate a governance scheme that will lead us to achieve the goals in the most relevant way for the city.

We also recognized that the initiatives of citizens, entrepreneurs and the efforts of researchers are part of the actions that must be developed so that Manizales can achieve the goals and make a good contribution so that the world can achieve the SDGs, citizens can enjoy a better quality of life and Manizales can be a more sustainable city. That is why we undertook the task of mapping them, recognizing them and inviting them to different scenarios such as SDGs in the Neighborhood, SDGs in the company and the research grant fund '*Manizales Más Innovadora*'.

All of these actions are only possible if a dialogue is maintained with other cities and territories that are also in search of a more sustainable world. We must tell the rest of the world what Manizales is doing to become the SDGs city of Colombia, receive feedback and accelerate the transformations needed to achieve it. With this objective in mind, we are presenting our first Voluntary Local Review, with which we intend to maintain our commitment with transparency and ensure that together we can move towards a more sustainable Manizales.

## SDGs Go Local | Manizales: integral strategy towards the localization of the SDGs agenda in the city

SDGs Go Local is Manizales strategy to adopt the Sustainable Development Goals at the local level. It is our contribution to a more sustainable planet.

### A Multiactor strategy

Its implementation seeks to permeate different actors and scenarios of the city with the SDGs to achieve a true localization, one in which all the forces of the city are the ones who design, prioritize and put into action the sustainable development agenda of Manizales.



**Participative Vision of Manizales to 2030:** participative construction of a vision for the city in which the objectives of the global agenda and their relevance to Manizales were reviewed. Built in 2021.

**Strategic Plan:** construction of a strategic city plan to make the prospective vision for 2030 a reality.

**Governance Roundtable:** During 2022, a citizen dialogue was initiated with the objective of defining a governance model oriented towards the management of the 2030 Agenda for Manizales in terms of SDGs.

**Database of Indicators and follow-up to the SDGs agenda:** construction of a tracking mechanism for the progress of the agenda in Manizales, monitoring the indicators associated with each SDG. Built in 2021.

**Voluntary Local Review:** during the first half of 2022 we will present the first Voluntary Local Review of Manizales, in which we share with the world the city's progress in the implementation of the SDGs.

**SDGs in the Neighborhood:** Mapping of citizen initiatives that recognize the importance of citizen collectives as accelerators for the achievement of the 2030 goals.

**SDGs at School:** Recognition of sustainability initiatives within schools and creation of a network of SDGs schools.

**SDGs in business:** Mapping and acceleration of business initiatives to accelerate the achievement of SDGs (Starts in 2022).

**'Manizales más Innodadora' Scholarship Fund:** Scholarships for master's degree students who develop their research work on topics that contribute to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs in the city.

**Annual SDGs Action Event in Manizales:** promotion and dialogue event on the SDGs in Manizales and other regions of the continent.

SDGs Go Local Strategy:

<https://laboratorio.manizales.gov.co/manizales-en-clave-de-ods/>

## A decade of progress on the SDGs in Manizales

1 NO  
POVERTY



**Challenges:** to resume the poverty reduction path that Manizales A.M. had been on until 2019.

Between 2012 and 2019, approximately 18 thousand people left monetary poverty and 3 thousand 500 people ceased to be in extreme poverty. However, between 2019 and 2020 about 53 thousand people fell back into monetary poverty and 26 thousand into extreme poverty.

2 ZERO  
HUNGER



**Achievements:** Manizales has had 12 years without deaths due to malnutrition in children under 5 years of age in the period 2005-2019. It is the second city in the country with the highest number of years without deaths from this cause in children under 5 years of age.

3 GOOD HEALTH  
AND WELL-BEING



**Challenges:** Manizales must take action to address mental health issues and reduce the suicide rate, which is well above the national target of 4.1.

**Achievements:** Manizales has been the city in Colombia with the greatest reduction in adolescent births (females between 15 and 19 years old) between 2009 and 2020.

4 QUALITY  
EDUCATION



**Challenges:** Manizales has difficulties in achieving full coverage in basic and secondary education.

**Achievements:** Improvements in gross coverage in higher education reflect increases in access to higher education typical of a city that projects itself as a university capital.

5 GENDER  
EQUALITY



**Challenges:** Like Colombia's main cities, Manizales must work to reduce gaps in the labor market.

6 CLEAN WATER  
AND SANITATION



**Challenges:** The city must make progress in wastewater treatment.

**Achievements:** Aqueduct coverage reached 100% by 2020.

7 AFFORDABLE AND  
CLEAN ENERGY



**Achievements:** Manizales has almost full electricity coverage (99.9%) and the energy intensity of the economy has been decreasing since 2012, indicating greater energy efficiency.



8 DECENT WORK AND  
ECONOMIC GROWTH



**Achievements:** Although there is still a long way to go in improving labor conditions, Manizales A.M. has shown greater progress in the generation of formal employment compared to the rest of the country.

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE



**Challenges:** Strengthen the research capacity of the city and the department, connecting these capacities with the productive sector.

**Achievements:** Household Internet access has doubled in the last 10 years, from 38.4% to 81.4%.

10 REDUCED  
INEQUALITIES



**Challenges/Achievements:** Manizales A.M. is among the cities with the lowest GINI coefficient in the country, however, the level is still classified as high inequality according to UN Habitat.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



**Challenges:** The city must rethink the way its citizens move around. The number of private vehicles doubles every 5 years and trips made by public transport have been falling since 2010.

12 RESPONSIBLE  
CONSUMPTION  
AND PRODUCTION



**Challenges:** The recycling rate reported for Manizales (3.3%) is very low even in the national context. To reach the national target of 35% by 2030, the city must work on the disposal of its waste.

13 CLIMATE  
ACTION



**Challenges:** Air quality is starting to become a major challenge for Manizales. None of the city's measurement stations meet the World Health Organization's long-term standards.

15 LIFE  
ON LAND



**Achievements:** The current Land Use Plan defines a main ecological structure that includes areas of environmental protection and interest, with a clear conservation policy.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



**Achievements:** The homicide rate has been reduced by 23 percentage points in the last decade, from 33.2 in 2010 to 10.1 in 2020.

**Challenges:** Further work is needed to reduce other crimes against life and property, such as presumed sexual crime, interpersonal violence, and theft from persons.

## COVID-19 and the SDGs in Manizales

### The reactivation plan of Manizales

From the first moment of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were aware of the economic crisis that we would face as a consequence of the isolation measures, the increased mortality, the change in the consumption patterns of the world population, the loss of jobs and income and other factors that severely affected the economy of the region since the second quarter of 2020 and whose effects we still do not know the magnitude and duration.

During the second half of 2020, while we were working with the different guilds and companies in the city on the implementation of biosecurity protocols for the reopening of businesses and the restarting of activities, we decided to start a broad dialogue that would allow us to mark the way out of the economic crisis that Manizales was facing. Together with organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce of Manizales for Caldas and its Laboratory of Creativity and Innovation, NeuroCity, we developed a dialogue in which companies and institutions from all sectors helped us to route ourselves towards a challenging goal for the city: **By 2024 we will conquer labor income exceeding 3.5 billion and more than 235 thousand jobs.**

We then prepared a reactivation proposal based on four pillars of action, with which we would adapt some elements of our institutions to current needs, we would make significant fiscal efforts including tax relief for contributors, we could develop a broad and diverse set of actions to restore our business network and we would make the greatest effort to build public works that in addition to giving an important boost to aggregate demand and the economy of the city, would allow us to achieve the city that we all dream of together.

At the beginning of March 2021, we began a direct dialogue with different guilds, companies, universities, civil society organizations and citizens to present, as the Municipality of Manizales, the proposal of the economic reactivation plan for our city in which we would not only reach a level of economic activity to overcome the crisis, but also to resume the path of long-term economic growth while making the Manizales we dreamed of a reality; a challenge that we could not take on alone as a municipal administration.

More than an economic reactivation plan, what we built together was a great **Pact for the Reactivation and Growth of Manizales.** This Pact became the city's roadmap for the next three years.

Our Pact for the reactivation and economic growth of Manizales gathers the recommendations and experience of different organizations on economic

reactivation plans to recover local economies from this crisis and combines them with the possibilities of action of a limited investment budget, seeking alliances for the development of different programs and projects that can maximize the result of the interventions.

***Economic recovery model that supports the Pact for Reactivation and Growth***



## The Public Innovation Lab of Manizales: A tool for the achievement of the SDGs

In order to implement the actions required and coordinate the complex challenges implied by the SDGs agenda, a public management modernization exercise must be carried out to build trust with the city's different stakeholders, advance in open government and transparency, and incorporate evidence-based management practices and tools to optimize the allocation of public resources.

In order to facilitate the innovation process and experiment with different ways of creating public value, Manizales created the Public Innovation Lab; a physical and virtual space that seeks to modernize the relationship with citizens and generate new forms of citizen participation. The lab was designed in 2020 by the municipal planning secretariat and during 2021 most of its lines of action, which are four, were implemented:





See the full version of the VLR at:  
<https://laboratorio.manizales.gov.co/manizales-en-clave-de-ods/>

## Public Innovation Lab

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