



UCLG COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL INCLUSION, PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

**Call for contributions about
community-based monitoring practices
at local/regional/provincial level**

CIRCULAR 68

Dear members,

United Cities and Local Governments –with the support of the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights– together with the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy and the Center for Social Studies of the University of Coimbra, Portugal, is developing a brief **report** entitled “**The Inclusive City and the Use of Community-based Monitoring for Poverty Reduction – Overview of International Experiences**”.

The study seeks a collective reflection on the contributions of the growing number of experiences of Community-Based Monitoring Systems to territorial governance and to the effectiveness, efficacy, and accountability of local policies and projects. As we usually do with this type of research, **we are opening a call among our member-cities, with confidence that you have many skills, ideas, and experiences that could contribute to the collection of experiences government authorities are undertaking, or have recently experienced.**

Below, we briefly define the types of practices we are interested in collecting:

- 1. Short- and mid-term practices** of social accountability and participation that involve citizens, social organizations, and watchdogs in the monitoring, assessment, and/or evaluation of projects and policies in one or more sectors of activity of local/regional/provincial political and administrative institutions.



2. **Permanent or recurrent structures** (such as Local Observatories, Citizens' Juries with or without Randomized composition, or Accompanying Committees) that act as a tool/space for evaluating and monitoring results of public policies and other local government activities, involving mixed typologies of stakeholders providing information on and monitoring such activities.
3. Experiences that have already produced some visible results in **improving the monitored policies** and also enhancing collective actions and citizens' awareness – including spaces of training and consciousness-building about human rights and citizens' rights.
4. Articulated experiences and pilot-projects that have collectively elaborated and then measured **indicators of performance** of local/regional authorities and **of service provision** (also, when the latter are outsourced to private or community sectors).

We are interested in all of the above-mentioned types of experiences and pilot processes, regardless of whether they started from grassroots actions or from stimuli given by local/regional authorities or external donors, provided that in some phase of their development they have created a constructive dialogue, synergies, and collaborations with local/regional/provincial authorities. **Every experience, in every continent and subarea of the world, is more than welcome. Suggestions (and contacts) on other cities' experiences – which you have heard about – will also be much appreciated.**

Please, find below a form that you can fill out **before April 25, 2013** and send us to the e-mail addresses CBM@ces.uc.pt and cisdp1@uclg.org. To access and complete the community-based monitoring practices **form**, please follow this link: [form](#).

Thank you very much for your kind and enthusiastic collaboration.

Best regards,

The UCLG World Secretariat

on behalf of the Committee on Social Inclusion,
Participative Democracy and Human Rights