



**UCLG Committee on Social
Inclusion and Participative Democracy**

**COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL INCLUSION,
PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

1ST BIENNIAL MEETING 2011, DAKAR

WORKING DOCUMENTS



United Cities and Local Governments
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis
Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos



Ajuntament de Barcelona



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1. AGENDA

Date: Thursday, 10 February 2011

Time: 5 pm - 7 pm

Venue: Hotel des Almadies, Dakar

SINGLE-ISSUE SESSION ON THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OBSERVATORY

5 pm – 5:40 pm

Welcome and introduction of the participants

Presentation of the study *Social inclusion policies and participatory democracy*, produced by the Barcelona Institute of Government and Public Policy (IGOP) – Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB), by Ricard Gomà (Chair of the Committee and 2nd Deputy Mayor of Barcelona)

Presentation of the research undertaken by the Social Studies Centre (CES) of the University of Coimbra to expand the Observatory's data bank, by María Paula Meneses and Giovanni Allegretti (executive coordinators of the project)

5:40 pm – 6:40 pmh

Debate in groups with participants

18:40 am – 7 pm

Groupwork idea-sharing session

Closing words and convening of the 2nd 2011 Committee meeting

Translation into Spanish, French and English available



2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE STUDY “SOCIAL INCLUSION POLICIES AND PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY”

Social inclusion is a concept that has been quite successful at redefining the goals of social policy, in the face of the challenges of a new era characterized by speeded change, mobility, instability and fragmentation at all levels: in the economy, in the society and in the vital trajectory of each individual. Citizen participation is also an idea that enjoys great acceptance, understood as a way to save democracy from its increasing distance and inefficiency with respect to the problems and demands of the people.

The incorporation of the mentioned concepts in the governmental speeches and, to a lesser extent, in its policies, has improved the respect for human rights, but it obviously has been insufficient to eradicate social exclusion and defective democracies. The advances are selective, and go in parallel with multiple situations of stagnation or even regression, manifested, for example, in precarious jobs, degrading public services or negation or the lack of political rights.

We can't blame this situation only on the current economic crisis. Certainly, while increasing the number of victims, the crisis has reduced the capacity of governments at all levels to tackle the problems through their own resources and policies. But these had already been weakened previously, by the lack of real commitment of many rulers and by the policy approaches that see the market as the only valid and possible form of social regulation.

How can such difference between speeches and realities be explained? Perhaps we can find an answer in the fact that we have assumed that the words social inclusion and participative democracy correspond with meanings that are univocal and evident for everyone. However, it is not the case. There are several ways of understanding democracy: Liberal, republican, freelance... associated with diverse forms and degrees of exclusion/inclusion. Even citizen participation can be originated by very different, even contradictory motivations: from the work for the definition of a public interest to the effective defense of private interests. And under the umbrella of social inclusion we can find phenomena such as the stigmatization of all those that do not fit in a "correct" model of person, family or community, with consequences as execrable as assimilation, segregation or elimination.

It is for that reason that the research begins with a critical conceptual analysis and a **stand taking**: we understand that social inclusion and participative democracy only make sense as political goals committed to the recognition of the other -to equality within the difference- and to civil, political and social right. The mentioned goals allow, however, the application of very diverse, institutional and non institutional, tools.

From here we investigate about the relationship between two concepts which, intuitively, we would say that they belong together. The concrete research question is if the existence of a more participative democracy is a necessary condition to advance towards more inclusive societies, and search the answer putting the focus on the cities, because it is in the urban areas where the problems and challenges put by globalization are manifested with all their crudeness; as well as the possible ways of solution, in which the local governments will play a crucial role.

We build an answer from the theoretical development of two ideal types: policies of inclusion without participation and policies of inclusion with participation. This allows us, besides ascertaining and grounding the bond between inclusion and participation in all the spheres (work, public services, education, daily life in the neighborhood, etc.), mapping concrete proposals for putting in value and reinforcing the mentioned bond.

What emerges is a constellation of alternatives where the solution is not to apply a model based only in the market, which has failed, neither to go back to a protective social state, which is too rigid and smothers social autonomy, but a model that is able to extract the best of the state, the market and the third sector to reinforce the public: public values, public services, public places... as the basis of social inclusion. A strong public sphere has to be constructed day by day, incorporating participation, formally adapted to each context, to institutions, firms and NGOs.

3. LIST OF POLICIES SELECTED FOR THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OBSERVATORY

Region	Country	City	Draft title
Africa, Eastern	Tanzania	Ubungo Darajani	Ubungo Darajani, Tanzania: Urban planning and land rights
Africa, Eastern	Mozambique	Maputo	Maputo, Mozambique: The General Union of Agricultural and Livestock Cooperatives of Maputo
Africa, Northern	Egypt	al-Darb al-Ahmar (Cairo)	Cairo, Egypt: al-Darb al-Ahmar housing rehabilitation programme
Africa, Northern	Mauritania	Nouakchott	Nouakchott, Mauritania: The restructuring of the vulnerable neighbourhood of Elmina
Africa, Southern	South Africa	Phoenix/Wentworth	Phoenix/Wentworth, South Africa: DOJCD medium-term strategy framework, 2007-2013: Enhancing access to justice
Africa, Western	Mali	Sibi	Sibi, Mali: Participatory planning for social, cultural, and economic development in a rural commune
Africa, Western	Cabo Verde	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz, Cabo Verde: Participatory sanitation: A system of allowances
Asia, Eastern	China	Chengdu	Chengdu, China: Policies supporting rural migrant workers
Asia, Eastern	Japan	Hichikawa	Hichikawa, Japan: Dynamising citizens through decision-making on 1% of taxes: An example growing through cross-pollination
Asia, Southern	Vietnam	Mekong River Delta	Mekong River Delta, Vietnam: 'Three reductions, three gains': A new approach to agriculture
Asia, Southern	Sri Lanka	Bandarawela	Bandarawela, Sri Lanka: Grama Praboda: A village reawakens through participating in decision-making
Central America	Dominican Republic	Salcedo	Salcedo, Dominican Republic: 'Rua del Café': A cooperation project promoting sustainable agriculture and responsible tourism
Central America	Cuba	La Habana	La Habana, Cuba: Organopónico gardens and 'My green program': Towards sustainable agriculture and food sovereignty
Eastern Europe	Russian Federation	Ekaterinburg	Ekaterinburg, Russian Federation: City without drugs
Eastern Europe	Bulgaria	Blagoevgrad	Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria: Real support for people in disadvantaged situations: Long-term unemployed serving the isolated elderly and ill
Eastern Europe	Ukraine	Odessa	Odessa, Ukraine: Integrating and enabling disabled people
Eastern Europe	Poland	Wroclaw	Wroclaw, Poland: Generation of a local support group for the regeneration of the Nadodrze District
Eastern Europe	Ukraine	Lviv	Lviv, Ukraine: Development of a participative cultural planning framework for the city of Lviv
Europe	United Kingdom	Luton	Luton, England: The March Farm Outreach Community Enterprise and Resource Centre: Urban regeneration through social enterprise
Europe	Portugal	Amadora	Amadora, Portugal: The critical urban areas program in Cova da Moura
Europe	Italy	Capannori	Capannori, Italy: Zero waste by 2020
Europe	Sweden	Malmö	Malmö, Sweden: The variable geometry of participation in VASVD water services
Europe	Italy	Venice	Cambieresti? Consumi, Ambiente, Risparmio Energetico e Stili di vita OR Aeres – Venezia for Another Economy
Europe	Spain	Seville / Cordoba	To be determined
Europe	Spain	Barcelona	Barcelona, city of rights
Europe	Armenia	Kashatakh	Kashatakh, Armenia: Creating sustainable settlements in the Kashatakh district
Middle East-West Asia	Turkey	Çanakkale, Antaka, Kars	Çanakkale, Antaka and Kars, Turkey: Invisible cities: Building capacities for local cultural policy transformation in Turkey
North America	United States of America	San Francisco	San Francisco, United States: Implementing the UN convention on women's rights locally
North America	Canada	Toronto	Multiple cities, Canada: Social inclusion audit and toolkit for local libraries
North America	United States of America	New Orleans	New Orleans, United States: Participatory processes and town meetings in the reconstruction after Hurricane Katrina
North America	Canada	Vancouver	Vancouver, Canada: City of Vancouver civic youth strategy
Oceania	Philippines	Tayabas	Tayabas, Philippines: Green currency
Oceania	East Timor	Dili	Dili, East Timor: Basic strategies to assist people with trauma
Oceania	Australia	Port Phillip	Port Phillip, Australia: Community Pulse Project: Measuring citizen values and aspirations through community indicators
Oceania	Indonesia	Surakarta	Surakarta, Indonesia: Empowering the informal sector: Street vendors management OR Community-based solid waste management
South America	Colombia	Armenia	Armenia, Colombia: Gardening for conservation CHANGED
South America	Brazil	Recife	Recife, Brazil: The City Academy Program: A health promotion strategy
South America	Turkey	Kocaeli	Kocaeli, Turkey: 'Milk for my mother and health for me': Public health services aimed at the final stages of pregnancy and the beginning of baby's life
South America	Colombia	Medellin	Medellin, Colombia: The methodology of integrated urban projects in marginal areas
South America	Peru	Lima	Lima, Peru: Cities farming for the future: The Lima pilot
South America	Brazil	Santarem	Santarem, Brazil: Indigenous farming in the Amazon floodplain

4. COMMITTEE'S 2011 – 2013 WORKING PLAN

a. BACKGROUND

The origins of the Committee lie in the first Local Authorities Forum for Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (FAL), a forum for reflection and political discussion made up by progressive local authorities from all over the world, an event which has been held at the same time as the World Social Forum since 2001. In 2005, a year after the creation of the new international organisation of local governments - United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) - the towns of the FAL decided to establish a more institutionalised working structure within a new organisation. This led to the creation of the Committee on Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy (CSIPD).

Since its beginnings, the CSIPD has been present at the various FAL events (Caracas, 2005; Nairobi, 2007 and Belém do Pará, 2009) and has maintained an ongoing dialogue with international social movements and civil society in the international social forums held in those cities. It has thus become the communication channel between the political debates held in these events and UCLG, and has undertaken its own political initiatives based mainly on two areas: social inclusion and participatory democracy. A third area, human rights, was added to the Committee's work soon afterwards, and was extensively developed with the production of two documents, the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City (currently in the policy discussion phase within UCLG) and the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City (Saint-Denis, 2000). As a result, five years after it was established, the Committee on Social Inclusion and Participative Democracy wishes to rename itself the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights (CSIPDHR).

b. MISSION

The Committee aims to contribute to articulating a common voice for cities in UCLG on social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights, and to advise local governments on the design of these policies. To that end, the CSIPDHR fosters political debate, the exchange of experiences and the collective generation of new knowledge in order to establish guidelines for designing robust local policies in the three areas in which the Committee works.

c. INTERNAL ORGANISATION

COMPOSITION. The CSIPDHR consists of:

- local governments (individual cities or associations of local governments)
- local government networks
- partners (universities and civil society organisations)

Becoming a member of the CSIPDHR is free and must be arranged through UCLG's World Secretariat and the Committee's Executive Technical Secretariat. The CSIPDHR aims to ensure balanced geographic representation, and those members not belonging to UCLG will be encouraged to adhere to the organisation.

GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND TASKS. The 102 Committee members are the plenary body, which is responsible for defining the general political directives of the CSIPDHR.

Specification and implementation of the political directives will be the responsibility of the CSIPDHR bureau, which consists of a President, First Vice-president and several Regional Vice-presidents. The Committee will ensure balanced political representation in its bureau. We propose the following governing body for the period 2011 – 2013:

President: Barcelona (Spain)

First Vice-president: Saint-Denis / Plaine Commune (France)

Regional Vice-presidents:

Africa: South African Local Government Association – SALGA (South Africa)

Latin America: Guarulhos (Brazil) and Montevideo (Uruguay)

Asia: Federation of Municipalities of Sri Lanka (Sri Lanka)

Europe: Aubagne, Nantes (France) and FAMSI (Spain)

The President of the Committee is its leading political representative. The First Vice-president will be in charge of the institutional relations of the Committee in general, and will particularly participate at UCLG statutory meetings on behalf of the CSIPDHR. The regional vice-presidents will contribute to expanding the work of the Committee in their respective territorial areas and will represent it on a collegiate basis. The members of the bureau will ensure the financing of the Committee.

Working groups will be created based around the Committee's three areas of work (social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights) in order to contribute to the development of each one of these areas, and they will support the bureau in the definition and execution of the working plan. Each working group will be chaired by a bureau member.

The Executive Technical Secretary will be responsible for co-ordinating the implementation of the working plan, fostering the 3 groups and organising and following up Committee meetings.

OPERATION. The CSIPDHR meets twice a year in a plenary session to monitor the progress of its strategic objectives. Committee meetings will take place at the statutory meetings of UCLG (Executive Bureau, World Council or World Congress) or on the occasion of events organised by an international network or organisation with which the CSIPDHR collaborates.

The political directives of the CSIPDHR will be specified in these biannual meetings, and will be produced using participatory methodologies with decisions reached on the basis of consensus. Members that are unable to attend these meetings will be able to send their contributions in writing to the Executive Technical Secretary, who will be responsible for presenting them at the meeting and duly informing them of the decisions taken.

The Committee's working groups can also convene sectorial meetings, the proposals of which will be notified to the bureau by the Executive Technical Secretary for assessment.

The working languages of the CSIPDHR are Spanish, English and French.

d. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2011 – 2013

After a process of collective reflection, the Committee members propose to implement the following strategic priorities during the 2011 – 2013 mandate:

- Reinforcing the capacity for reflection and political positioning.
- Structuring a powerful social research space.
- Beginning public decentralised cooperation processes.
- Consolidating links with other networks of cities.
- Reinforcing the strategy of communication and international visibility.
- Fostering greater coordination with other UCLG committees and regional sections and with the organisation's general strategy.

REINFORCING THE CAPACITY FOR REFLECTION AND POLITICAL POSITIONING. On the one hand, the Committee aims to analyse several themed areas concerning local policies for social inclusion; and, on the other hand, it endeavours to contribute to the political positioning of UCLG in human rights and participatory democracy, as it did in 2008 regarding the social inclusion area with the document *For a world of inclusive cities*. To that end, the Committee establishes the following objectives:



- To study in depth the following questions relating to local policies for **social inclusion**: migrations and management of cultural diversity, urban development and management of the public space (including accessibility and mobility), economic promotion, education and life cycle policies (children and senior citizens). This objective will be promoted by **Barcelona**.
- To politically promote the *World Charter-Agenda for **Human Rights** in the City* (its formal adoption by the organisation as a whole, its signature by member local governments and, finally, local implementation) and the *European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City* (mobilisation of mayors from signatory cities before European institutions and promotion of local human rights policies). These activities will be co-ordinated by **Nantes** and **Saint-Denis / Plaine Commune** respectively.
- To continue the political reflection that began in 2009 on **participatory democracy** in order to learn from the best practices that have made the biggest contribution to empowering citizens and transforming the political culture of local government. This task will be co-ordinated by the town of **Aubagne**.
- To have sufficient capacity for reaction and for definition of political position according to contextual changes (e.g. in the context of the global recession, our Committee must consider what type of measures should be adopted at local level, and which others should not be taken based on the perspective of inclusion). This work will be promoted by the Committee's **bureau** as a whole.

Based on its tried and tested ability for political positioning, the Committee aims to increase its links with other agencies and international organisations (especially UNESCO and UN-HABITAT) as regards local policies for inclusion, citizen participation and human rights.

STRUCTURING A POWERFUL SOCIAL RESEARCH SPACE. The International Observatory on Local Social Inclusion Policies must be formally established, obtain sufficient annual financing, and define research plans that are relevant and of interest to the local arena. The Observatory must become a knowledge pole for local social policies where leading research centres on social sciences and public policies converge. A second study will be produced, based on the range of policies collected. This work will be promoted by the Committee's **bureau** as a whole.

BEGINNING PUBLIC DECENTRALISED COOPERATION PROCESSES. The subject to which the CSIPDHR of the future must give the most consideration is the transition towards cooperation, in terms of the direct transfer of experiences and innovations in design and implementation of policies. To that end, the CSIPDHR accepts the challenge of achieving the financing sources necessary to undertake specific projects by means of a city-city relationship and/or between groups of cities. This is the only way that the Committee can make the transition from promoting policies to building policies on the ground, thanks to the multinodal transfer of experiences and practices and North-South and South-South cooperation. This activity will be promoted by **Barcelona** and the **Andalucian Fund of Towns For International Solidarity (FAMSI)**.

CONSOLIDATING LINKS WITH OTHER NETWORKS OF CITIES. The normal line of cooperation with FAL, FALP and IOPD will continue. A close relationship will be embarked upon with the Brazilian Participative Budget Network and with Mercociudades. This activity will be coordinated by the Latin American vice-presidency, consisting of **Guarulhos** and **Montevideo**. Means of collaboration with existing networks in Africa and Asia will be examined, with the support of the African (**South African Local Government Association – SALGA**) and Asian (**Federation of Local Authorities of Sri Lanka**) vice-presidencies.

REINFORCING THE STRATEGY OF COMMUNICATION AND INTERNATIONAL VISIBILITY. It is by any reckoning necessary that the relationship of the CSIPDHR with cities and other bodies is subject to the criteria of accessibility, transparency and significance of information. To that end, it will be necessary to reinforce the web platform now available, making it more conspicuous and providing it with virtual and interactive means of communication-relations. Efforts will also be continued to ensure that the CSIPDHR participates in international events, especially in Africa and Asia, which can contribute to raising the profile



of its work and increasing the number of members. This work will be promoted by the Committee's **bureau** as a whole.

CONSOLIDATING COORDINATION WITH OTHER UCLG COMMITTEES AND REGIONAL SECTIONS AND WITH THE ORGANISATION'S GENERAL STRATEGY. The Committee will consolidate the dialogue it is engaged in with other UCLG committees and regional sections. It undertakes to invite them to participate in their initiatives, and offers to collaborate with their activities. In the interests of greater consistency in the organisation as a whole, the CSIPDHR will work to contribute to the implementation of the general strategy of the UCLG. This work will be promoted by the Committee's **bureau** as a whole.

e. MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR 2011

The following meetings are currently scheduled for 2011:

- **1st CSIPDHR Biannual Meeting:** February 2011 in Dakar (Senegal) during the IX Local Authorities Forum for Social Inclusion (FAL).
- **Latin American Seminar on Participatory Democracy:** Guarulhos (Brazil), 1st semester 2011 (date to be confirmed)
- **Meeting of the Human Rights Working Group:** Nantes (France), April 2011.
- **Meeting of the Participatory Democracy Working Group:** Aubagne (France), October 2011.
- **2nd CSIPDHR Biannual Meeting:** autumn 2011 during the UCLG World Council (venue to be confirmed).

f. BUDGET

Barcelona City Council will finance the CSIPD secretariat in 2011 and the other vice-presidencies of the Committee will contribute to the financing the activities they have p