



ACTIVITIES REPORT 2008 - 2010

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATIVE DEMOCRACY (CSIPD)

President: Ricard Gomà, Deputy Mayor for Citizenship and Social Action. Barcelona (Spain)

Vice-president: Patrick Braouezec, President of the Plaine Commune intercommunality (France)

SUMMARY: The CSIPD aims to contribute to constructing UCLG's united voice on social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights, and to advise local governments on the design of these policies. To that end, it has promoted political positions with the documents **For a world of inclusive cities**, the **Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City** and the **European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City**. It has created a virtual platform for providing local governments with technical assistance - the **International Observatory on Local Social Inclusion Policies** - and has produced a study on the impact of citizen participation on social inclusion policies. It has strengthened its links with the **FAL**, the **FALP** and the **IOPD** and has established regular channels of communication with **UNESCO** and **UN HABITAT**. It has equipped itself with several **communication tools** and has participated in many **international events** in order to disseminate its work and increase the number of member cities.

1. MISSION

Since its creation in 2005, the Committee on Social Inclusion and Participative Democracy (CSIPD) has set itself the mission of promoting the following themed areas: (i) the institutional response of local governments to urban poverty and exclusion by means of designing local social inclusion policies, (ii) strengthening the quality of democracy by means of citizen participation policies and (iii) the role of local governments as guarantors of human rights. To that end, the CSIPD fosters political debates, the exchange of experiences and the collective generation of new knowledge that enables guidelines to be established for the design of reliable local policies for social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights.

2. POLITICAL IMPACT

FOR A WORLD OF INCLUSIVE CITIES. The CSIPD has led the way in the preparation of a social inclusion policy document which is today the focal point for the promotion of inclusion policies in the framework of the UCLG. The document, entitled *For a world of inclusive cities*, was produced after meticulous analysis and reflection on the various benchmark inclusion policies, which were selected in 2007 and subsequently presented at the "1st International Seminar on Innovative Local Social Inclusion Policies" (Barcelona, 2007). The document was subjected to intense political debate with the members of the CSIPD and, subsequently, with UCLG member cities. The regional sections and working committees of the organisation played a key role in the dissemination and discussion of the document. *For a world of inclusive cities* was finally approved in 2008 by the UCLG World Council at its meeting in Istanbul, thus becoming the united voice of UCLG cities on social inclusion. The document defines social inclusion policies as channels for the construction of active citizenship and participatory practices; as a mechanism to fit the objective of equality with the respect for both diversity and identity; and as a framework for guaranteeing rights.



This was all extensively discussed at a plenary session of UCLG World Council in Istanbul, chaired by the Mayor of Barcelona (Spain), with the participation of the mayors of Istanbul (Turkey), Guarulhos (Brazil), Jericho (Palestine), Montevideo (Uruguay) and Pixley ka seme (South Africa), as well as and the Deputy Mayor of Barcelona and CSIPD president, Ricard Gomà. The document was published in hard copy form in 2009, and sent to over 700 contacts, including all the members of UCLG, all regional sections and working committees, several international organisations and United Nations agencies.

THE GLOBAL CHARTER-AGENDA FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CITY. Taking its inspiration from previous initiatives at regional level, since 2007 the CSIPD has promoted the production of an international charter which covers the political commitment by cities in the human rights field. The document contains a list of 12 human rights that local governments undertake to safeguard, as well as an action plan for each right. After an initial preparation stage by an international group of experts (2007-2008), the Charter-Agenda has begun the discussion and political promotion phase, involving local governments all over the world, experts and representatives of international civil society (2009 – 2010). The document will be formally presented at the meeting of the UCLG Executive Bureau in Mexico (November 2010).

THE EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR THE SAFEGUARDING OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE CITY. In 2008, the CSIPD assumed responsibility for coordinating the promotion of the *European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City* (Saint-Denis, France, 2000). Since then, it has supported the organisation of the 6th and 7th Conference of the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City (Geneva, Switzerland in 2008 and Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina in 2010) and is currently working with the city of San Sebastián (Spain) on the eighth Conference (2012). In 2010, the Committee also began a process of compiling best practices for implementation of the Charter, and already has an archive of 20 experiences, which are currently undergoing analysis. The ongoing invigoration provided by the CSIPD has revitalised the network of signatory cities to the Charter and given it a greater political voice in the European continent.

POLITICAL REFLECTION ON PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY. In 2009, the CSIPD undertook a political debate on the topic promoting participatory democracy from the local level. The initiative, which is still at an early stage, has been carried out in conjunction with the FAL and the IOPD.

3. TOOLS

CREATION OF THE SOCIAL INCLUSION OBSERVATORY. In 2008, the CSIPD created an Observatory on Social Inclusion consisting of a database of innovative local policies for social inclusion. The objective of this platform is to learn from successful local practices and thereby to produce studies that can provide local governments with technical assistance in designing efficient social policies. The Observatory, hosted on the CSIPD website, has 15 cases (observed in 2007), which are currently being updated and reviewed. A new search for policies has begun in 2010, which will enable the Observatory to be expanded with 50 new benchmark cases that are being documented and assessed under the supervision of the CSIPD and the Social Studies Centre of the University of Coimbra (Portugal)

STUDY ON PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION. The policies included in the Observatory have been the basis for the production of a study on the impact of citizen participation on social inclusion policies. This study, which will be published in late 2010 in four languages (Catalan, Spanish, English and French) is being produced by the IGOP (Institute of Government and Public Policy) of the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain).

4. LINKS WITH OTHER NETWORKS / ORGANISATIONS

LOCAL AUTHORITIES FORUM (FAL) AND FORUM OF PERIPHERAL CITIES (FALP). The CSIPD has worked closely with the FAL and FALP and has reiterated its commitment to building



bridges with social movements and outlying cities (respectively) through these networks. In this respect, the CSIPD has participated actively in the organisation of the 8th FAL (Belem, Brazil, 2009) and the 2nd FALP (Getafe, Spain, 2010). It is currently also supporting the preparation of the 9th FAL (Dakar, Senegal, 2010) and the creation of an international platform of participatory budget networks.

INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATORY ON PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY (IOPD). The links and cooperation with the IOPD have been strengthened with the participation of the CSIPD in the international jury of the 3rd and 4th IOPD Prize for “Good Practices in Citizen Participation” and participation in the 8th, 9th and 10th IOPD Annual Conference (La Paz, Bolivia, 2008; Reggio Emilia, Italy, 2009; Mexico City, Mexico, 2010).

UNESCO AND UN HABITAT. Channels of cooperation have been established with UNESCO and UN HABITAT which have led to the joint organisation of 2 round tables at the 5th World Urban Forum (Rio de Janeiro – Brazil, 2010) and participation at several experts meetings. These channels have shown the two United Nations agencies the political positions developed by the CSIPD in the areas of inclusion and human rights, and the Social Inclusion Observatory.

5. COMMUNICATION TOOLS

The CSIPD has its own website¹, with permanently managed content, and various dissemination materials (information leaflets, folders and a poster). It has published the conclusions of the “1st International Seminar on Innovative Local Social Inclusion Policies” (Barcelona, 2007) and launched a hard copy publication of the document *For a world of inclusive cities*. It has also had a quarterly news bulletin and a CSIPD presentation video since 2009. Ongoing communication with members of the CSIPD and UCLG as a whole takes place using these tools, and it is reinforced by a circular which is sent every month.

6. INTERNATIONAL VISIBILITY

The CSIPD has participated in many international events in which it has raised the profile of its work and established new contacts which have led to a substantial increase in its member cities.

2008

- 24 – 25 January. Themed forum for the defence and promotion of public services, **Córdoba** (Spain)
- 13 – 16 February. World Conference on Development of Cities, **Porto Alegre** (Brazil)
- 3 – 5 April. Participatory Budgeting Experiences International Seminar, **Bergamo** (Italy)
- 26 May. Annual Conference of the EU – AL Decentralised Cooperation Observatory, **Barcelona** (Spain)
- 11 – 13 June. World Conference on City Diplomacy, **The Hague** (The Netherlands)
- 17 – 18 June. Conference on Participatory Governance, **Glasgow** (Scotland)
- 30 June – 3 July. 3rd World Forum on Human Rights, **Nantes** (France)
- 10 - 11 July. UCLG Executive Bureau, **Quito** (Ecuador)
- 28 – 30 August. 5th FLACMA (Federation of Latin-American Cities, Municipalities and Associations of Local Governments) Congress, **Mexico City**, (Mexico)
- 19 – 21 November. 8th IOPD Annual Conference, **La Paz** (Bolivia)
- 28 – 30 November. UCLG World Council, **Istanbul** (Turkey)
- 1 – 3 December. 6th AERYC Annual Conference, **Barcelona** (Spain)
- 8 – 9 December. 6th Conference on the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City, **Geneva** (Switzerland)
- 11 – 13 December. Participatory Budgeting International Seminar, **Belo Horizonte** (Brazil)

¹ www.cities-localgovernments.org/CISDP



2009

- 27 – 31 January. 9th World Social Forum, **Belém do Pará** (Brazil)
- 30 – 31 January. 1st Amazonas Local Authorities Forum (FALA) – 8th Local Authorities Forum for Social Inclusion and Participatory Democracy, **Belém do Pará** (Brazil)
- 18 – 20 March. International Meeting for Participative Democracy, Decentralisation and Local Development, **La Romana** (Dominican Republic)
- 19 May. Preparatory meeting for the event "Aubagne has a date with the world in 2011," **Aubagne** (France)
- 22 June. Presentation of the collection "Papers for the new town" and Paper no. 1, "The Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City," **Malaga** (Spain)
- 9 – 12 September. IN LOCO / CES / CSIPD Summer University on "Governance and participation defying the crisis," **São Brás de Alportel** (Portugal)
- 6 October. Meeting with UNESCO to explore opportunities for cooperation, **Paris** (France)
- 10 - 14 November. UCLG World Council, **Guangzhou** (China)
- 18 - 20 November. 9th IOPD Annual Conference, **Reggio Emilia** (Italy)
- 23 - 14 November. Preparatory meeting for the 2nd FALP, **Getafe** (Spain)
- 24 – 25 November. International Forum on "Territory, Decentralised Cooperation and New Active Multilateralism" - FAMSI, **Seville** (Spain)

2010

- 18 – 19 February. Meeting of UNESCO experts on the project *Inclusive cities for all: creative policies and urban practices for migrants*, **Barcelona** (Spain)
- 24 – 26 February. Meeting of UN-Habitat experts on social inclusion, **Nairobi** (Kenya)
- 22 – 26 March. 5th World Urban Forum, **Rio de Janeiro** (Brazil)
- 10-12 June. 2nd FALP, **Getafe** (Spain)
- 28 June - 1 July. 4th World Forum on Human Rights, **Nantes** (France)
- 16-20 July. 1st PARLOCAL Seminar – International Meeting of Participatory Budgeting Networks, **Santo Domingo** (Dominican Republic)
- 7-9 October. 7th Conference on the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City, **Tuzla** (Bosnia-Herzegovina)
- 4 – 5 November. 3rd FAL in Andalucia "Local power and global crisis," **Malaga** (Spain)
- 17 – 19 November. 10th IOPD Conference, **Mexico City**. (Mexico)
- 17 – 20 November. 3rd UCLG World Congress, **Mexico City**. (Mexico)

7. INTERNAL OPERATIONS

The CSIPD has organised two plenary session work meetings a year (except for 2009) and several meetings of the CSIPD Steering Group and the "Human Rights and Local Governments" Working Group.

- **PLENARY MEETINGS:** Milan (Italy) and Istanbul (Turkey) in 2008; Reggio Emilia (Italy) in 2009; Getafe (Spain) and Mexico City (Mexico) in 2010.
- **STEERING GROUP MEETINGS:** Barcelona (Spain) in 2009 and 2010.
- **"HUMAN RIGHTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS" WORKING GROUP MEETINGS:** 3 meetings in Barcelona (Spain) and 1 in Tuzla (Bosnia-Herzegovina) in 2009; meetings in Saint-Denis (France), Tuzla (Bosnia-Herzegovina) and Nantes (France) in 2010.

The face-to-face meetings of the CSIPD are the culmination of intense networking that guarantees the permanent participation of all Committee members, whether or not they are part of a working groups and whether or not they are able to participate in the face-to-face meetings.



8. COORDINATION WITH OTHER UCLG COMMITTEES AND REGIONAL SECTIONS

The CSIPD, through its Presidency and Executive Technical Secretariat, is in constant contact with the organisation's World Secretariat and has invited UCLG committees and regional sections on several occasions to participate in the Committee's initiatives, particularly the political discussion of the document *For a world of inclusive cities* and the detection of new innovative policies for the Social Inclusion Observatory. The results of these links have been very positive, as they have enabled the work of the CSIPD to be enriched with new contributions.

9. MEMBERS

The CSIPD currently has a total of 102 members from the different regions of the world, although the Latin American and European regions are strongly represented: North America (1), Latin America (34), Europe (42), Africa (5), Middle East – Western Asia (4) and Asia – Pacific (2). The number of members has increased by 80% since 2005 (45 new members), with a significant increase in the number of Latin American and European cities and the inclusion of the first North American and Asian members. This is the result of the firm commitment to ensuring representation of all the world's regions in the CSIPD and to work on an international a scale as much as possible. The CSIPD has also established interesting links with organisations in civil society (4), with other networks of cities (9) and with research centres (1).

AFRICA	
Burkina Faso	Ouagadougou
Burundi	Bujumbura
Mali	Bamako
Morocco	Tetouan
	Sidi Boumedhi
NORTH AMERICA	
Canada	Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)
LATIN AMERICA	
Argentina	Mendoza Rosario
	Santa Catalina
Brazil	Belo Horizonte Canoas Contagem Fortaleza Frente Nacional de Prefeitos (FNP) Guarulhos Osasco Porto Alegre Recife Rio de Janeiro Santa Maria Várzea Paulista
Chile	Chilean Association of Municipalities El Bosque La Pintana Puerto Montt
Colombia	Bogotá Medellín
Costa Rica	Escazú
Ecuador	Cuenca Quito



Mexico	Asociación de Autoridades Locales de México (AALMAC) Ecatepec de Morelos Federación Nacional de Municipios de México (FENAMM) Guadalajara Iztapalapa, Ciudad de México
Nicaragua	Managua
Peru	Villa El Salvador
Dominican Republic	Dominican Federation of Municipalities (FEDOMU)
Uruguay	Montevideo
Venezuela	Caracas

ASIA	
India	Calcutta
Sri Lanka	Federation of Sri Lanka Local Government Authorities

MIDDLE EAST – WEST ASIA	
Iran	Tehran
Palestine	Jericho Khan Younis
Turkey	Diyarbakir

EUROPE	
Belgium	Anthisnes Fontaine Lévéque Huy
Bosnia-Herzegovina	Tuzla
France	Arcueil Aubagne Bobigny Conseil régional Pays de La Loire Conseil régional Rhône-Alpes Conseil général Seine-Saint-Denis Conseil général Val-de-Marne Lyon Nanterre Nantes Saint-Denis Taverny United Cities France (CUF) Villeurbanne
Italy	Italian Committee of United Cities (CICU) Province of Milan Rome Venice
Poland	Lublin
Portugal	Gavião Palmela
Slovakia	United Cities Slovakia



Spain	Badalona Barcelona Cordova Diputació de Barcelona Diputación de Málaga Fondo Andaluz de Municipios para la Solidaridad Internacional (FAMSI) Fons Català de Cooperació al Desenvolupament Santa Coloma de Gramanet Santa Cristina d'Aro Santa Margarida de Montbui San Sebastián Terrassa Viladecans
United Kingdom	Local Government International Bureau (LGIB)
	London
Switzerland	Geneva

PARTNERS	
France	International Secretariat <i>Human Rights & Local Governments</i> – Nantes, Pays de la Loire (SPIDH)
Mexico	Operational Centre for Housing and Settlement (COPEVI)
Portugal	Centre for Social Studies (CES), University of Coimbra Association In Loco
Spain	Institute of Human Rights of Catalonia (IDHC)