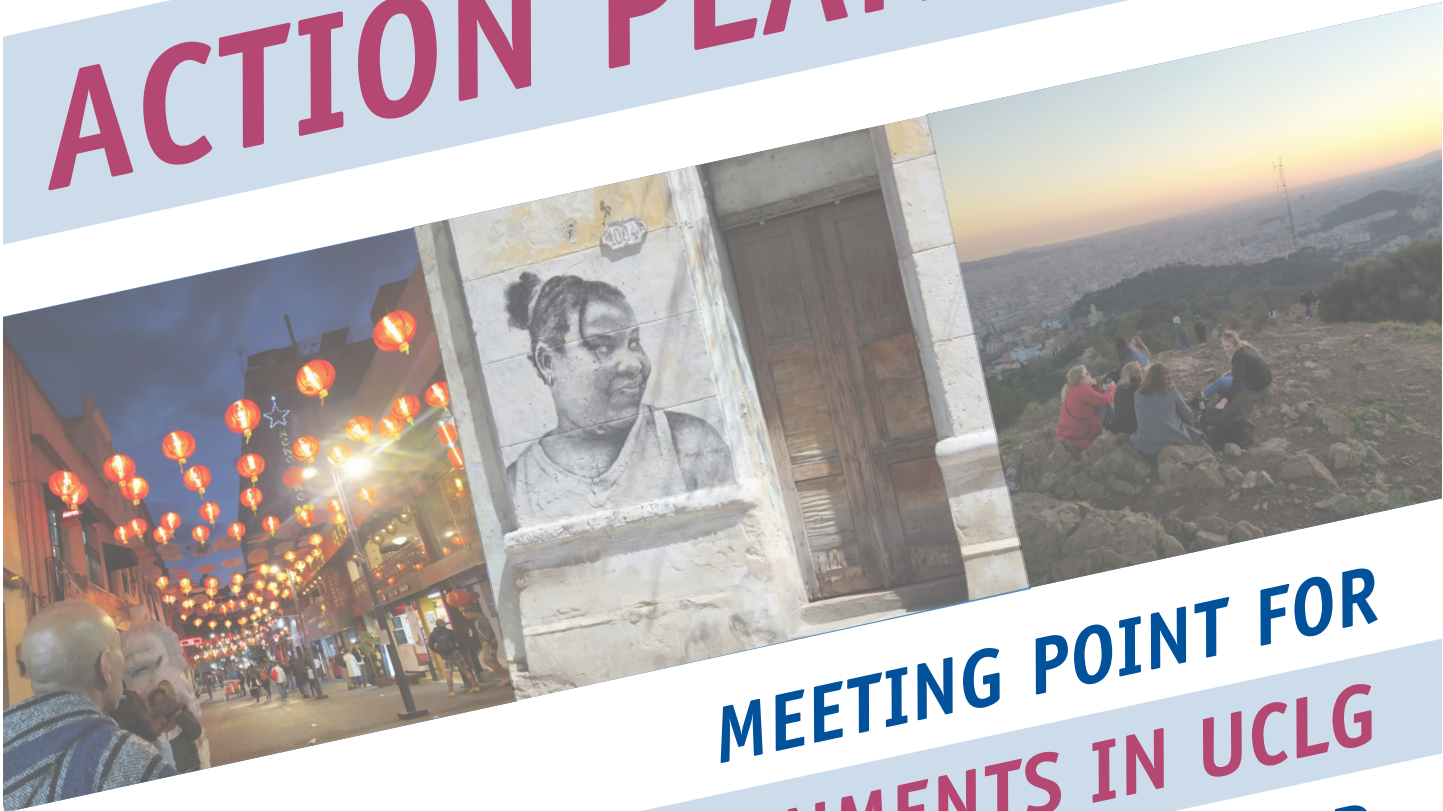


**UCLG COMMITTEE ON
SOCIAL INCLUSION, PARTICIPATORY
DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS
ACTION PLAN 2021**



**MEETING POINT FOR
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN UCLG
ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND
THE RIGHT TO THE CITY**



UCLG
Committee

Social Inclusion
Participatory Democracy
and Human Rights



UCLG
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ABOUT THE COMMITTEE 01

The **UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights** (UCLG-CSIPDHR) brings together local and regional governments committed – through their local action and their shared international initiatives – to the global advance of human rights and the right to the city. In the framework of UCLG, it offers a platform to shape the global agenda of the world organization of local governments on social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights issues.

The Committee is formed by more than one hundred member-local governments, actively collaborating with civil society, researchers and city networks. Throughout two decades, multiple local leaders have taken part in building the Committee's project, configuring a lasting legacy linked to the values of municipalism and the idea that:

“ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE AND IT STARTS IN THE CITY!”

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2021 02

A wide range of new challenges, priorities and solutions on social inclusion and human rights have emerged across the world as a consequence of the COVID-19 crisis, and **local governments have been at the forefront of this unprecedented transformation**. Indeed, over the last months, local government has become a key platform to tackle the emerging health, social and economic emergency as well as to trigger concrete transformations and adaptation forms to the new scenario. In doing so, it has amplified the voice of citizens' and contributed to make their most pressing needs be better recognized, while leading the fight against the inequality crisis.

As social agendas have been put under strain in 2020, they have **also become reinvigorated by new policy approaches developed by local governments** on areas like access to care, the right to food or the right to housing, as well in promoting the right to equality and non-discrimination. The strengthening of bottom-up dynamics of inclusion and solidarity has showcased the importance of local government and of public service delivery, as much as the central role social dialogue and cooperation with citizens plays in identifying priorities and produce new commitments.

In 2021, and building on this momentum, the UCLG-CSIPDHR will continue to provide **an international platform for networking and sharing** on local government social

agendas, advocating for a transformative vision based on human rights and the right to the city that is aligned with UCLG work plan and action agenda. The Committee will build on the voices and existing expertise of members to bring about this goal.

With regards to the **human rights agenda**, it will support the strengthening and expansion of the twenty years' old human rights cities' movement through the launch of a global campaign and update process around the **Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City** on the 10th anniversary of its adoption by UCLG. In parallel, it will also reinforce its knowledge sharing and policy development strategy on human rights, by launching a **dedicated MOOC** on this topic. These two processes will be developed in synergy with the strengthening of dialogue at the **United Nations** level and the 11th edition of the **World Human Rights Cities Forum** of Gwangju.



With regards to the **right to the city**, the Committee network will also spearhead a renovation of the collective agenda on areas like urban equality, local governments' fight of violence against women, the ecological transition or the urban commons vision. This encompasses various member-led specific projects. The **right to housing** and the implementation of the Cities for Adequate Housing Declaration as well as the **social inclusion of migrants** will also remain high in the Committee's agenda.

Parallel to these advocacy initiatives and learning exchanges, the Committee network will also strengthen its own capacity to capitalize and disseminate in a more sustainable way its work and the experience of its members through the **renewal of its website**. This new online platform will focus on valuing the existing wealth of experiences and resources developed within the network over these last years.

FOCUS ON HUMAN RIGHTS: CO-CREATING THE GLOBAL HUMAN RIGHTS CITIES MOVEMENT

- Advancing **dialogue and partnership between local governments, the UN Human Rights system and UCLG**, building on the process started in 2015 (A/HRC/30/49) which has recently seen the unanimous endorsement of the UN Human Rights Council through a new statement and resolution.
- Launching a **global campaign and update process around the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City** 10 years after its adoption by the UCLG World Council, with a view to better reflect the advances and current priorities of the human rights cities' movement.
- Developing a **MOOC course on human rights cities** in partnership with the UCLG Learning department and other partners, showcasing the network's rich experience on this matter as well as supporting member-local governments' policy initiatives.
- Co-organizing the **11th World Human Rights Cities Forum of Gwangju** and other human rights cities events proposed by local governments.



FOCUS ON THE RIGHT TO THE CITY: ADDRESSING THE INEQUALITY CRISIS AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- Supporting the development of a global initiative bringing together **local observatories and related initiatives to fight violence against women** through knowledge exchange, learning, political meetings and advocacy initiatives. Held in the context of a project led by the Seine-Saint-Denis co-presidency.
- Nourishing UCLG discussion on urban equality, supporting the development process of the **GOLD VI report addressing pathways to urban equality**, including issue-based contributions and study-case contributions.
- Supporting the development and participate in the Work Plan for 2021 of the **International Observatory on Participatory Democracy** (IOPD).

FOCUS ON THE RIGHT TO HOUSING: ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 AND PROMOTING “CITIES FOR HOUSING”

- Facilitating the **UCLG Community of Practice on Housing**, focusing on addressing COVID-19 impacts over the right to housing guarantee by local governments, as well as in promoting the “Cities for Adequate Housing” Declaration.
- Exploring avenues for **partnership on the right to housing** with the United Nations (Special Rapporteur, UN Habitat) and international partners.

THEMATIC FOCUS ON MIGRATION: FOSTERING AN INCLUSIVE NOTION OF URBAN CITIZENSHIP

- Supporting the final phase and conclusion of the **Mediterranean City-to-City Migration** Project (MC2CM), including the potential organization of learning events and publication of learning resources valuing its outcomes.
- Supporting local governments and partners networking initiatives on **inclusive urban citizenship and its relationship with participatory democracy**.

ENHANCING THE COMMUNICATIONS AND KNOWLEDGE HUB STRATEGY

- Closing the **renovation process of the UCLG-CSIPDHR website**, including an updated version of the Inclusive Cities Observatory and knowledge hub.
- Strengthening and enhancing the **communications strategy** to better inform members of relevant news and events according to their interest topics.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS AND STRENGTHENING THE NETWORK

- Support **members' initiatives**: co-organizing or supporting international events (on site or online); showcasing their practices and policies; or developing nationwide process on human rights and right to the city policy local implementation.
- Fostering dialogue and cooperation with **civil society** (Global Platform for the Right to the City, Urbamonde, Transformative Cities), **research partners** (Raoul Wallenberg Institute, CIDOB) as well as **international organizations** (OHCHR, Special Procedures, Fundamental Rights Agency).
- Looking for avenues for cooperation with different **UCLG Sections and Consultation Mechanisms** on the basis of shared thematic priorities.

UCLG CSIPDHR CO-CHAIRS AND PARTNERS

