

UCLG COMMITTEE ON

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

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



MEETING POINT IN UCLG

FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

**ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND
THE RIGHT TO THE CITY**



UCLG
Committee

Social Inclusion
Participatory Democracy
and Human Rights



**UCLG
CGLU**

01 ABOUT THE COMMITTEE

The **UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights** (UCLG-CSIPDHR) is an international platform bringing together local and regional government representatives from across the world to debate, share and advance collective initiatives on social inclusion, participatory democracy and human rights.

As a thematic committee of **United Cities and Local Governments** (UCLG), the CSIPDHR aspires to articulate the common voice of the world organization of local and regional governments on key issues encompassing this vast thematic agenda, with a view to realize the right to the city in worldwide cities and urban territories.

The Committee fosters local government collective thinking and action on contemporary **human rights issues** (such as housing, women rights or the social inclusion of migrants) through political debates, advocacy campaigns, learning and knowledge sharing. To this end, the Committee works in close cooperation with the UCLG network, as well as civil society and academia partners, the UN human rights system and other city networks.

Throughout two decades, multiple local leaders have contributed to the common narrative, configuring a lasting legacy linked to municipalism and the idea that:

ANOTHER WORLD IS POSSIBLE AND IT STARTS IN THE CITY!

02 OVERVIEW OF 2021

The world has changed much since the inception of the pandemic and the crisis that followed. For many populations and territories, the crisis only exacerbated exclusion and discrimination trends already in place before the pandemic. For others, it caused a sudden drop of livelihoods and standards of living, or even a rise psychosocial trauma at both individual and group levels. Along the pandemic, other global crises and disruptive global phenomena (climate emergency, financialization of the economy, digitalization) are playing a major role in shaping the current scenario.

This Annual Report is a clear proof that **local governments have been at the forefront in addressing most of these challenges and building collective responses based on policy innovation and international solidarity**. This is especially true when it comes to addressing the impacts of these phenomena in the day to day lives of fellow residents: inequality and poverty, exclusion and discrimination, conflict and lack of trust. In

embracing transformative narratives and long-term goals, local governments become guardians of human rights and key pioneers in revamping the social contract.

The following Annual Report contains a compilation of our activities this 2021; all of which followed the shared goal of supporting local government organizing and strengthening its impact capacity at a global level. In embracing a twofold roadmap based on “Human Rights” and the “Right to the City”, much has been achieved with regards to fostering transformative action by showcasing local innovations and building new alliances with global partners. We invite you to read the whole report to discover the multiple layers of our work and find those parts of it which interest you the most!

03 ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED

FOCUS ON HUMAN RIGHTS



Fostering cooperation and strengthening the network

The **Annual Meeting of our Committee** held at the occasion of May’s Executive Bureau outlined the main priorities for members and partners in 2021. On one hand, it allowed active members to openly discuss the **Human Rights Roadmap for 2021 and 2022**, including the follow-up process to the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City; strengthened human rights campaigning; a renewed learning strategy; and strengthened partnership with the OHCHR. Key members also introduced leading initiatives in our right to the city agenda, including the launch of an international project gathering local governments to address violence against women.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE](#)

2021
ANNUAL
MEETING OF
THE UCLG
CSIPDHR
HELD IN THE
CONTEXT OF
THE UCLG
EXECUTIVE
BUREAU



This Human Rights Roadmap is intertwined with UCLG’s global agenda, which has taken a renovated interest in the “New Generation of Rights” concept and the potential of human rights to renovate UCLG’s social agenda. This trend will allow to bring bolder human rights perspectives to the **Pact for the Future** process by UCLG: A renewed collective roadmap by and for UCLG members to move forward fairer from this crisis and revamp the social contract based on a Pact for People, Government and the Planet.

The **Policy Council on the Right to the City** has been a critical vehicle for members to take part and bring forward human rights perspectives to the UCLG conversation.

While the **Policy Council’s edition held on February 9** witnessed a myriad of thematic priorities related to the human rights agenda being introduced by members, the **Policy Council held in October 25** focused on more concrete cooperation tools and joint initiatives such as the Global Charter-Agenda update process and the Lampedusa Charter. Both Policy Councils contributed to map emerging priorities, especially related to the new generation of human rights agenda: including intergenerational dialogue, universal social welfare, inclusive digitalization or right to a healthy environment.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT FEBRUARY’S POLICY COUNCIL](#)

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OCTOBER’S POLICY COUNCIL](#)

The **UCLG World Council** held in November confirmed this increasing integration of human rights values in UCLG’s agenda of priorities, with the featured participation of OHCHR’s High Commissioner Michelle Bachelet in the opening session of the Council ([more detailed information in the next section of this Annual Report](#)). Leading members of the Committee – including the Grigny and Utrecht co-presidents Philippe Rio and Linda Voortman respectively – addressed the Council on this occasion to introduce the work led by the Committee and the action plan of our network in coming months.

WHRCF
OPENING
EVENT
(LEFT) AND
FESTIVAL
HAM
(RIGHT)



The **World Human Rights Cities Forum of Gwangju** (South Korea) remained one of the most significant spaces of articulation and cooperation between local governments and key stakeholders in the human rights cities’ movement. The 11th

edition of the Forum focused on the role of human rights in moving forward fairer while addressing crisis, with a view to achieve social resilience and justice.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE WHRCF FORUM](#)

The coordinator of the Committee also participated in the **2021 HAM Festival – Human Rights Festival of Indonesia**, held in Semarang by INFID and the National Human Rights Commission. The Festival fostered discussions about human rights cities in Indonesia and beyond. Our Committee contribution focused on highlighting good practices by local governments across the world, as well as in introducing the work led by UCLG on human rights. In line with this close relation with Indonesian actors, another representative of the Committee took part in an INFID event held within the WHRCF on human rights cities practices on tolerance and conviviality.



Building partnership and meaningful participation

Advancing a letter agreement with the OHCHR and fostering local participation in the UN Human Rights system

The 2021 edition of the UCLG World Council held in Barcelona from 15 to 18 November saw the official presentation of a **Letter of Agreement between UCLG and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights**. This landmark document was developed throughout 2021 by the CSIPDHR, OHCHR and UCLG.

The letter of agreement was presented to the Council by the **UN High Commissioner Michelle Bachelet**. In her intervention to the Council, the High Commissioner recalled how local governments are at the forefront in addressing key social demands, promoting people-centered approaches that renew the social contract. The High Commissioner stressed how the existing cooperation between the OHCHR and UCLG would be strengthened through a letter of agreement, **containing 10 action proposals**.

HUMAN RIGHTS DISCUSSION AT THE 2021 UCLG WORLD COUNCIL



The words of the High Commissioner received an enthusiastic reception by members of the Council. The Mayor of Grigny and co-president of the UCLG-CSIPDHR, **Philippe Rio**, argued how the agreement between UCLG and the OHCHR would inspire more territories

across the world to promote human rights values in a meaningful and determined way. The Alderman of Utrecht and co-president of the UCLG-CSIPDHR, **Linda Voortman**, argued how this agreement would help enhance communications and participation between local governments, UN Human Rights bodies and UCLG, while giving more visibility to local innovations and engagement on human rights.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE 2021 WORLD COUNCIL](#)

On October 7, the UCLG-CSIPDHR, the OHCHR and Gwangju International Center organized a **High-level dialogue on the future of the human rights cities' movement**, held as a plenary session of Gwangju's WHRCF Forum. This event brought together local governments with representatives of the OHCHR and UCLG leadership (Deputy High Commissioner Nada Al-Nashif and Secretary General Emilia Sáiz) to continue building synergies around the "Local Governments and Human Rights" agenda. The event highlighted the leadership of local and regional authorities, while exploring concrete and meaningful pathways for local government international cooperation and meaningful participation and exchange with the OHCHR and UN Human Rights.

PARTICIPANTS
TO THE
HIGH-LEVEL
DIALOGUE
ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
AND HUMAN
RIGHTS



[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON HUMAN RIGHTS](#)

On October 1, a **Side event of the Human Rights Council** addressed the UN Agenda on "Local Governments and Human Rights". It gathered representatives from national delegations to the Human Rights Council, the OHCHR leadership and local governments. These included the Core Group of States in the UN Council sponsoring the "Local Government and Human Rights" resolution, including: The Republic of Korea, Chile, Egypt and Romania. The event welcomed the contribution of active local governments within the Committee, as well as our own Executive Coordinator, who introduced the collective human rights roadmap by UCLG and CSIPDHR members to the audience.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OCTOBER'S HRC SIDE EVENT](#)



Fostering local government international engagement

The Myanmar support initiative

In 2021, the human rights agenda has also been marked by international events such as the **Myanmar February Coup and Military Takeover**. Under the leadership of the Gwangju co-presidency, and in partnership with the OHCHR, a **joint Statement to denounce the situation in Myanmar** and claim respect for human rights and democratic standards by the authorities of this country brought together the UCLG-CSIPDHR co-presidency, 17 Mayors and Governments representing all of the high-level local governments in Korea and 10 active mayors and local government leaders within the CSIPDHR. This initiative was well articulated with **UCLG's previous statement** on the Myanmar crisis, gathering the support of co-presidency members and members.

CONSULTATION
EVENT ON THE
MYANMAR
CRISIS HELD
BY GWANGJU
WITH THE
UCLG AND
THE OHCHR



A **Consultation event on Myanmar** and the role of local governments in finding a way out of the crisis was held in April with OHCHR High-Commissioner's Michelle Bachelet, Gwangju and Barcelona Mayors, UCLG Secretary General Emilia Sáiz and the Director of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute Morten Kjaerum.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE JOINT STATEMENT](#)

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CONSULTATION EVENT](#)



Driving forward the next generation of human rights

Developing a human rights roadmap in UCLG and the CSIPDHR

The first element of the human rights roadmap is the **Update process of the Global Charter-Agenda for Human Rights in the City**, formally launched in May at the occasion of the Executive Bureau. Later on, new features to channel members and partners' online participation were added to the **UCLG Meets Platform**.

This process was launched on the 10th anniversary of UCLG's adoption of the Charter-Agenda, with a view to collect local government emerging perspectives, priorities and proposals at both local and global levels. These priorities should nourish a **renewed version of the Charter-Agenda** as well as the UCLG "Pact for the Future" process.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CHARTER-AGENDA UPDATE PROCESS](#)

An **Asia Pacific Consultation on Local Governments and Human Rights** was held as part of the Global Charter-Agenda update process. This event was held within the framework of the WHRCF Forum by the UCLG-CSIPDHR and the UCLG ASPAC regional section. Accordingly, it gathered local governments and urban stakeholders in the Asia Pacific region to collectively reflect on local challenges, policy innovations and priorities on human rights at the local level key for the regional agenda.

PARTICIPANTS
TO THE ASIAN
CONSULTATION
ON HUMAN
RIGHTS AT THE
LOCAL LEVEL



[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ASIA PACIFIC CONSULTATION](#)

The Charter-Agenda process is well aligned with other processes running in parallel in UCLG. The **Pact for the Future** is the most evident, as the Charter-Agenda process seeks to provide a specific input based on the human rights and the right to the city.

Within the broader UCLG network, there has been an increasing interest by the role of human rights in reinforcing local agendas on inclusion and participation. The **Lampedusa Charter** seeks to develop an unprecedented vision by local governments in favor of peace, conviviality and respect of universal rights of migrants.

On the occasion of the Culture Congress held this year in Izmir (9 – 11 September), the Culture Committee of UCLG organized a follow-up event to its **2020 Rome Charter on Cultural Rights**; an important document which managed to bring together local and regional inputs on cultural rights and their role in fostering sustainable development.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE IZMIR SESSION ON THE ROME CHARTER](#)

Several sections of UCLG are promoting their own regional processes about human rights too. Our Committee participated in an event held by **Mercociudades** on this topic last August (10 August), which counted with a good participation of local governments and

human rights partners in the region. On the occasion of its Congress, **UCLG ASPAC** held a similar event in partnership with the Raoul Wallenberg Institute (7 September) and the participation of local governments from Nepal and the Philippines.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MERCOCIUDADES EVENT](#)

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE UCLG ASPAC EVENT](#)

Undoubtedly, the **Fundamental Rights Forum** (11 – 12 October) organized by the Fundamental Rights Agency of the EU and the City of Vienna, along with the adoption of a European Framework of Commitments on Human Rights Cities, have been relevant initiatives for the European context. Two co-presidents of the Committee, Alderman Linda Voortman from Utrecht and Mayor Philippe Rio from Grigny, attended the event to better connect European and global perspectives on human rights cities.

LINDA
VOORTMAN
(UTRECHT)
INTERVENTION
AT THE
FUNDAMENTAL
RIGHTS
FORUM



[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS FORUM](#)

Preparations to launch the **10>100>1000 campaign** to support the human rights cities movement are underway. The official launch of the campaign should take place in late 2021 and 2022, where an initial group of local authorities kicks off a process of systematic international engagement on human rights. The campaign is endorsed by members of the UCLG-CSIPDHR co-presidency, and will target local governments across the world. The campaign is intertwined to the update process of the Global Charter-Agenda and the letter of agreement with the OHCHR. Its main aim is to expand the number of local leaders who are explicitly committed to human rights and engage in a dynamic of international cooperation with other local authorities.

The CSIPDHR has also been working with the UCLG Learning and its partners (such as RWI, GPR2C, OHCHR and GIC-WHRCF) **on a new MOOC** showcasing the expertise of

member-local governments on human rights at the local level. The first outcomes of this project are set to be launched throughout 2022. For the first time, the UCLG constituency will count with a global study program on human rights based on local practices. More precisely, it will cover key issues such as: how to mainstream the rights-based approach in local government; how to create dedicated human rights institutions and action plans at a local level; or how to participate in the UN Human Rights system.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE UCLG-CSIPDHR E-LEARNING STRATEGY](#)

FOCUS ON THE RIGHT TO THE CITY



Fostering renewed local approaches to citizenship: Migration agenda

An **MC2CM Peer Learning** event held online on March 16-18 by Grenoble addressed the concept of **Local Inclusive Citizenship** in connection to the social inclusion of migrant residents. This dialogue provided a meaningful platform for members and partners from our Committee to showcase the existing wealth of experiences on this topic from a human rights and right to the city perspective - altogether with MC2CM members and other key partners in the Euro Mediterranean region and beyond.

The event was mostly structured around three thematic sessions that combined the use of interactive learning methodologies with the presentation of practices. These sessions covered three **key pathways to build local citizenship**: Local mechanisms on human rights protection and non-discrimination; Local innovations to overcome administrative barriers; Establishing institutions to foster migrants' participation and recognition.

PARTICIPANTS
TO THE MC2CM
PEER LEARNING
EVENT ON LOCAL
CITIZENSHIP



[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS PEER LEARNING EVENT](#)

Following-up on this successful learning event, the UCLG-CSIPDHR was invited to facilitate a new local government discussion dedicated to this topic, held this time **in the context of the MC2CM Days** (21 September). In her introductory remarks to the event, the UCLG-CSIPDHR coordinator Amanda Fléty argued how the local citizenship vision is allowing local governments to advocate for a rights-based migration agenda that fosters conviviality, full participation and harmonious ways to live together.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE MC2CM DAYS](#)

As a follow-up to our 2020 event **Dialogue on Migrant Women in Cities**, and in order to celebrate Women's Day, the UCLG Migration team, the MC2CM project and our Committee published the report of this important event for our constituency and our right to the city agenda. Don't miss this valuable report and its key messages and findings by local leaders and practitioners working on migration and women rights.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE DIALOGUE ON MIGRANT WOMEN IN CITIES](#)



Local governments tackling violence against women and girls (VAWG): Women Rights agenda

Our Women Rights agenda has been marked this year by the launch of the **"Territories Protecting Women from Gender-based Violence"** initiative; led by Seine Saint Denis, UCLG and the CSIPDHR with the support of the AFD Agency. This initiative seeks to bring together local experiences in addressing violence against women in a dynamic of international cooperation, mutual learning and political solidarity.

The formal signing of the cooperation agreement between the Seine Saint Denis, UCLG and the AFD took place in the **Femmes du Monde seminar** held in Seine Saint Denis from 21 to 29 November. The coordinator of the Committee attended this event to showcase UCLG's commitment towards this project. Our network will be mainly charged with developing its international cooperation and engagement agenda.

SIGNING
OF THE
COOPERATION
AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
SEINE SAINT
DENIS AND
THE AFD



[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE LAUNCH OF THIS PROJECT](#)

The first event in the international agenda of this meaningful initiative was held on the occasion of the World Human Rights Cities Forum, in the form of the special session **Guaranteeing the Right to the City for All: Local governments addressing violence against women**. Interventions by inspiring local leaders committed to address violence against women and girls (VAWG) revolved around the responsibilities of local governments to put in place meaningful policies in this regard. They also stressed how VAWG and city-making are closely intertwined, making a strong case in favor of considering this issue as a core concern in any right to the city vision. They agreed on the need to advance more ambitious policies face to the COVID-19 crisis, and to make sure that local feminist leadership leads the way to a better, more equal future.

PARTICIPANTS
TO THE SPECIAL
SESSION ON
VAWG HELD AT
THE WHRCF



[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE WHRCF SPECIAL EVENT ON VAWG](#)

In line with the work led on this issue, our Committee sent a formal contribution to the **Call for Contributions by the UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women**. This contribution focused on local governments role in preventing femicide and putting in place other meaningful measures to protect women from violence.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE RAPPOREUR'S CALL](#)



Addressing discrimination and socio-spatial segregation: Right to Housing agenda

The Right to Housing agenda also had a good follow-up this year, with the holding of a **Consultation event in partnership with the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Housing**, Balakrishnan Rajagopal. This public consultation held on May 14 gathered local and regional government representatives and the **UCLG Community of Practice on Housing** to address emerging challenges on housing discrimination and spatial segregation from a territorial and right to housing perspective.

Participants shared specific interventions to promote equal access to housing through public housing, community-led initiatives or by putting in place non-discrimination mechanisms. Access to data and raising awareness of stakeholders involved was also seen as critical for these efforts. They also highlighted innovative approaches to zoning, urban planning and informal settlements' upgrading that recognize historical marginalization as a way to tackle segregation. Tapping into the multiple roles of public housing is critical (providing affordable housing, triggering renewal of deprived areas, fostering mixticity) as much as fostering access to adequate facilities and leisure.

PARTICIPANTS
TO THE
CONSULTATION
EVENT WITH THE
UN SPECIAL
RAPPOREUR ON
THE RIGHT TO
HOUSING



[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CONSULTATION EVENT ON HOUSING](#)

The event helped to connect practices put in place by members with the process of reflection initiated by the UN Special Rapporteur Balakrishnan Rajagopal this year. Indeed, the UCLG-CSIPDHR disseminated the [Call for Contributions by the Rapporteur](#) to his next Report on Housing Discrimination and Spatial Segregation, and send its own contribution in the form of the final report of May's event.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS](#)



Unveiling the transformative potential of participation: [Participatory democracy agenda](#)

Our partnership with the **International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (IOPD)** remained strong this year, with the successful organization of joint events and the participation in specific initiatives related to our common agenda.

From 20 to 22 October, we participated in the [IOPD Conference held in Cocody](#) (Ivory Coast). This year's IOPD conference focused on sustainable and resilience as central topics for participatory democracy, ahead of the climate emergency and other

crisis impacting urban territories. The Conference provided a platform for local actors in Ivory Coast to recall the importance of expanding and aligning decentralization and citizen participation to achieve more inclusive territories. The coordinator of the UCLG-CSIPDHR moderated a policy session of the same conference, addressing access to housing, health and education and central issues for African right to the city agendas.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE COCODY IOPD CONFERENCE](#)

From 29 to 2 December, the IOPD organized online sessions to make it possible for all its members to attend and contribute to its annual summit. Our Committee organized a special session on “**Municipalism, social movements and feminist approaches**” which gathered a good number of women leaders in local government to share meaningful messages on this crucial issue. The coordinator of our Committee was also part of the Jury behind the Annual IOPD Distinction, awarded to the city of Quito.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR SESSION ON FEMINIST MUNICIPALISM](#)

SESSION HELD
BY THE UCLG-
CSIPD AT THE
IOPD
CONFERENCE
OF COCODY



At the occasion of **International Democracy Day**, we joined forces with the IOPD and UCLG to highlight the voices of some of our members on **emerging trends in participatory local democracy**. To this end, we gathered the voices of key members and partners from around the world on new priorities and proposals to reinvent participatory democracy agendas from the bottom-up. This document offers a good compilation of key messages delivered by local leaders on this important topic in recent months.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR CAMPAIGN FOR DEMOCRACY DAY](#)



New perspectives on caring, urban commons and inclusion: [Urban equality agenda](#)

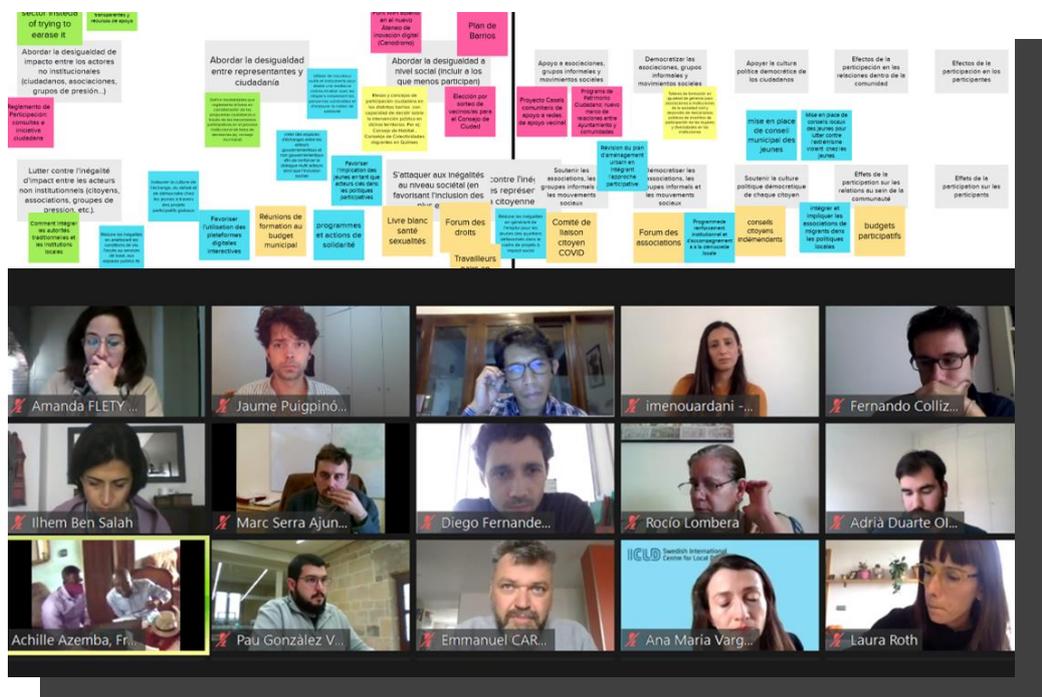
One of our most significant contributions to the participatory democracy agenda this year was connected to urban equality. Indeed, the UCLG-CSIPDHR and the IOPD

organized last 18 March a **Workshop on participatory democracy and urban equality**. The event gathered a good number of member-local governments from across the work to highlight their political approaches and practical knowledge on the **potential for citizen participation to advance urban equality**.

Contributions to the event identified emerging priorities and policies linked to topical issues such as the COVID-19 crisis and the digital transformation. These messages helped to build a meaningful contribution to the **GOLD VI Report on Urban Equality**, and to identify participatory democracy challenges from a local government perspective.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR EVENT ON PARTICIPATION AND EQUALITY](#)

PARTICIPANTS
TO THE
WORKSHOP ON
URBAN
EQUALITY AND
PARTICIPATORY
DEMOCRACY
HELD WITH
THE IOPD



The **GOLD VI process** has been the main platform for members to propose new political and policy perspectives for the Urban Equality Agenda. This process is addressing the inequality crisis and its multiple dimensions as experienced at the local level. In doing so, it explores meaningful pathways developed by local governments in recent years to build more inclusive and equitable cities. GOLD VI also places an important focus on innovative collaboration patterns with civil society and grassroots organizations.

The UCLG-CSIPDHR has played an important role in the development of GOLD VI report and contributed to articulate local governments' contributions. More specifically, the CSIPDHR articulated specific contributions on the Right to Housing, Urban Commons, Caring for Youth and the Elderly, Social Assistance, Gender-Based Discrimination, Peace Culture, Welcoming Cities, Civic Participation, Transparency and Accountability.

[CLICK HERE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT OUR PARTICIPATION IN THE GOLD VI PROCESS](#)

FOCUS ON KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND COMMUNICATIONS

After months of work, we completed the [renovation process of the website](#) of the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights:

Telling our story right to a diverse audience

We focused on making our legacy and action plan more accessible to members and local governments, but also people and organizations who don't know our work yet. It is now easier to understand where we come from and where we are headed. Try exploring our [Work Areas](#) section to better understand the Committee's background and action plan!

A renewed visual identity

Navigating our site is now more pleasing! We completely renovated the layout of all sections and hundreds of documents, including [all case studies of the Inclusive Cities Observatory](#). Visit our [YouTube](#) and [Flickr](#) for a visual rendezvous.

Expanding our knowledge hub capacity

Explore [case studies](#), [interviews](#), [reports](#) and [publications](#) according to your search preferences. We brought together our resources with city and partner contributions. Showcasing members' work and inspiring local transformative action.

Furthermore, this year we continued to produce new contents telling local stories about our members and partners. Here some examples:

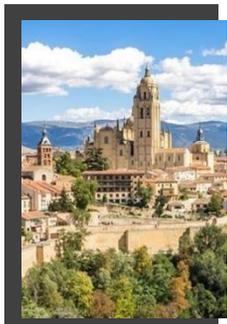
Human Rights Cities and Regencies in Indonesia



Over the last years, numerous Indonesian local and national stakeholders have taken a more prominent role in global human rights city discussions. Spearheading the consolidation of the human rights cities' movement in the Asia Pacific region along partners in Gwangju's World Human Rights Cities Forum, Indonesian actors also played a fundamental role at the global level. How is this international momentum connected to local realities in Indonesia? What innovative policies can be found among the country's more than 500 regencies (*kabupaten*) and cities (*kota*)? This report sheds light on these questions, building on the expertise of our members and partners in Indonesia.

[READ OUR REPORT ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS CITIES AND REGENCIES IN INDONESIA](#)

Segovia, in Spain, is the latest city to join the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City



Following the agreement of its municipal council on February 26th, the Castilian city of Segovia has become the most recent adherent to the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City. This event, which was ratified by the UCLG-CSIPDHR Secretariat in charge of monitoring new commitments to the Charter, confirms the commitment of this municipality to regional cooperation in favor of human rights. It also shows how the European Charter still remains an important source of inspiration twenty years after its adoption.

[READ OUR REPORT ABOUT SEGOVIA JOINING THE EUROPEAN CHARTER](#)

Multiple forms of discrimination induced or exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic: What responses by local governments?



The deep impacts of the pandemic over liberties, public health and socioeconomic conditions of people everywhere in the world have brought leaders and experts from global to local institutions to frame the current situation as a human rights crisis. A public event organized by Barcelona in April explored this situation from the perspective of non-discrimination, especially with regards to vaccine access. A dedicated report by the CSIPDHR explored the role of local government practices in addressing different forms of discrimination that have arisen or have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[READ OUR REPORT ABOUT COVID-19 AND DISCRIMINATION](#)

Contribution by the Seine Saint Denis to International Women's Day 2021: A local policy to tackle violence against women and girls



Our co-president local government of Seine Saint Denis joined the global conversation aimed at celebrating the International Women's Day by sharing its own policy in the field: The Departmental Observatory on Violence Against Women. This is a pioneer policy, with more than 20 years' in coordinating action at the local level to address violence against women through awareness raising, monitoring, capacity building and establishing immediate protection channels.

[KNOW MORE ABOUT SEINE SAINT DENIS POLICIES TO TACKLE VAWG](#)

THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE HAS BEEN POSSIBLE THANKS TO THE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:



WITH THE SUPPORT OF:

