The Global Network of Cities, Local and Regional Governments

Published on Rabat 2013. IMAGINE SOCIETY, BUILD DEMOCRACY (http://www.rabat2013.uclg.org)
United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) represents and defends the interests of local governments on the world stage, regardless of the size of the communities they serve. Headquartered in Barcelona, the organisation’s stated mission is: *To be the united voice and world advocate of democratic local self-government, promoting its values, objectives and interests, through cooperation between local governments, and within the wider international community.*

**What do we do?**

United Cities and Local Governments is committed to promoting, through the action of its
members, a just and sustainable society based on solidarity, local democracy, autonomy and
decentralisation in the general defence of citizens.

Objectives:

- Strengthen the formal role of local governments as one of the pillars of the international
decision making system;
- Stimulate local action promoting development;
- Promote strong and effective local, regional governments and national associations of local
governments;
- Promote innovation in local governance.

A targeted work programme

UCLG’s work programme focuses on: - Increasing the role and influence of local government and its
representative organisations in global governance; - Becoming the main source of support for
democratic, effective, innovative local government close to the citizen; - Ensuring an effective and
democratic global organisation. United Cities and Local Governments supports international
cooperation between cities and their associations, and facilitates programmes, networks and
partnerships to build the capacity of local governments. It promotes the role of women in local
decision-making, and is a gateway to relevant information on local government across the world.

Visit:  WWW.UCLG.ORG

Publications

UCLG Strategic Priorities

Highlights 2012

UCLG 2004-2010: 6 years Making History

- Members of United Cities and Local Governments represent over half of the world’s
population
- UCLG is present in 155 of the 192 United Nation member states, representing both cities
and local government associations
- Over 1,000 cities and 112 national associations are direct members of UCLG.
- All members of UCLG and our partners meet every three years on the occasion of the UCLG
Congress, also the Summit of Local and Regional Leaders.
- Europe boasts the largest number of LGAs, which represent around 80 per 100 of the total
European population.

The Committees and Working Groups regularly bring together local elected representatives and
experts from all over the globe to share experiences, debate and innovate on diverse issues:

- Decentralisation and Local Autonomy
- Local Finance and Development
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- Culture
- Development Cooperation and City Diplomacy
- Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights
- Gender Equality
- Urban Health
- Mediterranean
- Peripheral Cities
- Urban Mobility
- Digital Cities and Knowledge
- Urban Planning
- Institutional Strengthening
- Migration and Co-development
- Sustainable and Solidary tourism
- Local Economic Development
- Cooperation in the Middle East

To become a member, please visit: UCLG webpage