

WORK OF COMMITTEES IN 2015

COMMITTEE OF DIGITAL AND KNOWLEDGE-BASED CITIES

Please make an effort to deliver one page only. This will be included in the file to be presented to the World Council.

1. Description of long term objective of the Committee towards 2016

The Committee of Digital and Knowledge-based Cities of UCLG will continue during the next two years (2015 and 2016) with its main objective of becoming a space for boosting the exchange of knowledge and collaboration between cities. The Committee will also seek to align its activities with the UCLG Global Agenda, especially on the field of the Urban Governance.

2. Key activity of the Committee in 2015 and budget

With the aim of boosting the exchange of knowledge and collaboration between cities, and most of all, to focus the work developed by the Committee, it is scheduled the organization of thematic and operative working meetings that allow having a "real" exchange and debate. These meetings will be focused on the key areas of performance identified during the elaboration of the "[Smart Cities Study](#)", which incorporates a "holistic" vision of Smart City, bringing together 6 key Areas of performance that affect the development of cities: economy, governance, people, mobility, environment and living. The first working meeting took place in May 2013 in Bordeaux and was focused on the "Smart Local Economy". The second one was held recently in Bilbao on the 6 and 7 November 2014 and was centered on the "Smart Local Governance". Following this dynamic, it is scheduled the next meeting to be held in 2015, and will be center on the "Smart People". The differentiating element between a digital city and a smart city is Smart People. People are smart in terms of their skill and educational levels, as well as the quality of social interaction in terms of integration and public life and their ability to open to the "outside" world.

3. Envisaged contribution of the Committee to UCLG Global Agenda

As follow-up to the annual meeting of the Committee Secretariats, held on April 20th 2014 in Barcelona in which the Committees were informed that the World Secretariat has recommended the Commission on Statutory Affairs to maintain most part of the Committees and working groups of the currently 17 existing, and to regroup them in the 6 themes that have been defined in the Global Agenda until the end of the current term of office in 2016 and in which the Committees were requested to inform UCLG the topic in which they would like to contribute, from the Committee of Digital and Knowledge-based Cities, we made a reflection on the thematic area in which both the Committee and the City of Bilbao could contribute with their experience and knowledge, taking into consideration the holistic vision of "Smart City" in which the committee is working on, the Presidency informed UCLG World Secretariat with a letter that it would like to take part in the thematic area "Urban and Territorial Governance", without closing the door of cooperation in other thematic areas. The first contribution to the UCLG Global Agenda in this field was made with the organization in 2014 of the Committee meeting on Smart Local Governance and the Committee will seek to continue its contributions in the upcoming years.

4. Description of Committee Leadership

The Committee is currently integrated by a President, the City of Bilbao which is the one that leads the Committee and boosts its activities. It also counts on with 4 vice-presidents (City of Bordeaux, The National Confederation of Municipalities of Brazil, the City of Ulan Bator and the Association of Municipalities of Morocco). The Committee also has more than 84 members (cities and associations of cities and municipalities).

Most part of the members take part in punctual activities and meetings, however, the degree of implication of the members is not strong. Having this into consideration, the Committee will make in 2015 a reflection to define a new working model that can be more operative.

5. Description of Committee Secretariat

The Committee has a Technical Secretariat which is based in the City of Bilbao and is responsible of the communication with the Committee members, update of the website and social network and also the organization of the annual and working meetings.

6. Two paragraphs describing key achievement in 2014

Organization of the working meeting "Smart Local Governance: the challenge of good governance in local administrations" held in Bilbao from 6-7 November 2014

The Committee chaired by the City of Bilbao organized in November 2014 in collaboration with UN-HABITAT, the Committee on Decentralization and Local Self Government, the LSE Cities Program and EUDEL (Basque Association of Municipalities) the working meeting centered on "Smart Local Governance".

More than 80 representatives of cities, association of municipalities, international organizations and academic world took part in the meeting. The meeting represented a unique opportunity for the exchange of knowledge and debate about some of the main challenges that local governments face to achieve good governance, such as: strategic local public management; transparency and citizen participation; City intelligence: Big data + open data; and the modernization of public Administration and online Public Services

During the meeting, diverse experts from international organizations and academic world such as the Norwegian Nord-Trøndelag University College (HiNT), the George Washington University, the European Institute of Public Administration, Transparency International, the OECD and Microsoft among others, shared their vision regarding these challenges. The meeting also enabled participants to learn about the experiences carried out by cities such as Bilbao, Mannheim, Sant Cugat del Vallès, Tampere, Barcelona, the Provincial Government of Barcelona and also form Associations and Networks of Cities and Municipalities such as EUDEL, FLACMA and Citynet.

Collaboration and synergy with other UCLG Committees and UN-Habitat:

Bearing in mind that the issues the Committee is working on are closely related in some cases with other Committees thematic, the Committee has seek to create synergies with other Committees. Therefore, the Committee on Decentralization and Self-government collaborated in the organization of Bilbao´s meeting on Smart Governance.

On the other hand, in 2014 the Committee has initiated the collaboration with UN-Habitat in diverse projects related with new technologies. The Committee Secretariat took part in the workshop "SMART Technologies for municipal sustainability" held in June 2014 in Santander and the Committee currently collaborate with UN-Habitat in the resulting project "Uraia Platform: SMART technologies for municipal management". UN-Habitat was also a partner in the organization of Bilbao´s meeting.

More information:

Web: www.cities-localgovernments.org/committees/cdc

Twitter: https://twitter.com/uclg_cdc

Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/CDCdeCGLU>

Flickr: https://www.flickr.com/photos/uclg_cdc