Circular 46
UCLG Committees and Working Groups
Barcelona, 25 June 2018

Community of Practice Digital Cities

**New structure of consultation mechanisms in UCLG**

Dear members,

The UCLG Committee of Digital and Knowledge-based Cities –Chaired by the City of Bilbao- was created in 2005 with the aim of reducing the digital divide and boost the implementation of digital local agendas as a mean to improve the quality of life of citizens from the decentralized governments.

Since its creation, through the Committee, it has been promoted the development of a common vision and dynamics among local governments in favour of an inclusive Information Society that favours the reduction of the digital divide and the use of new technologies as a lever for the development of more sustainable and competitive cities.

As you already know, in 2016 a **reflection process on its functioning structure was initiated in UCLG**, which gave as a result the creation of a **new structure of consultation mechanisms** integrated by: Policy Councils, Committees, Working groups, Committees of Practice and Forums.

Taking into consideration this new structure, it was propose to turn the Committee of Digital and Knowledge-based Cities into the **“Community of Practice Digital Cities”** that will still be leader by the City of Bilbao and that will have a more practical focus.

**Activities**

The UCLG Community of Practice Digital Cities will work on **3 fields of activities**:

1. **Update of the “Smart Cities Study”**

The main objective of the Community of Practice Digital Cities is the** update each 2-3 years** of the **“Smart Cities Study”**. A study, with a global and cross-cutting approach of the different levers in which the potential for a city to grow and transform lie.

The study has the following objectives:

- To characterise the **current situation** and the **opportunities** of these fields at the local level.

- To identify the **key elements** that may either slow the development of these fields at the local level, or may facilitate their growth.
• To identify **successful case studies** (good practices) that can serve as a reference for other cities to advance the “smart city” concept.

The Community of Practice will also collaborate with other organizations in the elaboration of papers with recommendations on issues related with the Smart Cities.

**2. Learning meetings**

Collaboration in the organization of **learning meetings** on issues related with the Smart Cities Study.

**3. Collaboration**

Collaboration with other international organizations that work on issues related with the Smart Cities such as: UN-HABITAT, Uraía Platform, We-Go, WBA, among others, to position new technologies as a tool for a sustainable development in the cities.

**NEXT EDITION OF THE SMART CITIES STUDY**

In this new phase as Community of Practice we would like to count with active members interested in working together in the activities to be developed by the Community of Practice.

In this sense we inform you that at the end of the year, we will begin working in the next edition of the Smart Cities Study, for which we would like to create a **small working group of cities** (10 cities maximum) with the aim of working together in the approach and development of this new edition of the study.

The Cities interested in taking part in the working group may contact the Community of Practice Secretariat: info@uclg-digitalcities.org

Sincerely,

**The UCLG World Secretariat**

On behalf of the Committee of the Digital and Knowledge-based Cities

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