

## WORK OF COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE IN 2019-2020

### COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE ON DIGITAL CITIES

#### 1. Main activities of the Community of practice in 2020 organised according to the main components of UCLG's strategic priorities when relevant

##### A. Implementation

**UCLG's process of reflecting on its operational structure** led to the creation of a **new structure of consultation mechanisms** made up of policy councils, committees, working groups, communities of practice and forums. Based on this new structure, it was proposed that the Committee of Digital and Knowledge-based Cities be converted into the **"Committee on Digital Cities"**, which continues to be chaired by the City of Bilbao.

The **Committee on Digital Cities' main goal is to update the "Smart Cities Study" every 2-3 years**. This study has a comprehensive and cross-cutting approach to the various levers for a city's potential for growth and transformation.

The proposed schedule of activities is as follows:

##### **End of 2019: the study is completed**

In the last few months of 2019, the study will be finalised and ready for official publication.

##### **2020: promoting and publicising the study**

The Smart Cities Study Communication and Promotion Plan will be defined and implemented and will include the study's official launch through the various communication channels available both to the Committee and UCLG: website, social networks, newsletter and others. Likewise, international forums will be identified to present and circulate the main conclusions of the study.

As well as preparing and publishing the Smart Cities Study, there will be collaborative work with other institutions, drafting documents with recommendations on Smart Cities-related issues.

##### B. Advocacy

The **City of Bilbao, represented by its Mayor, Juan Mari Aburto**, continues to chair the work carried out by the Committee on Digital Cities.

In addition to chairing the Committee on Digital Cities, the City of Bilbao is part of the leadership team of the following UCLG consultative bodies, facilitating the **creation of possible synergies**:

- Co-president of the "Opportunities for All, Culture and City Diplomacy: Keys to Sustainable Development and Peace" Policy Council
- Vice-Chair of the Committee on Culture

##### C. Monitoring and follow-up

The Committee reports periodically to the World Secretariat on the progress made in implementing its activities, in particular in preparing the third edition of the Smart Cities Study.

##### D. Learning

Collaboration on organising **learning events** with other international institutions working on Smart Cities-related issues: UN-HABITAT, Urafa Platform, WeGo, WBA, among others, to position new technologies as a tool to achieve the sustainable development of cities.

## E. Strengthening the UCLG network

In preparing this third edition of the Smart Cities Study, we have sought as much involvement as possible from the members of the UCLG Committee and UCLG.

### 2. Update in the leadership of the Community of practice and any relevant information

No change is anticipated in the Committee's leadership in 2020.

### 3. Two paragraphs summarizing the results of 2019

#### SMART CITIES STUDY

Throughout 2019, work has been carried out on **drafting the third edition of the Smart Cities Study**. In this third edition, the study focuses on **"Smart Governance"** in cities. On the one hand, smart governance is open (incorporating principles of open governance, such as transparency, participation, open data, accountability and collaboration) and, on the other, involves strategic and sophisticated management, with a strong emphasis on anticipating future challenges, conducting strategic planning based on issues that have already been identified, evaluating actions and using data in decision-making. The study therefore aims to determine the status of cities with respect to open government and advanced strategic management and to identify best practice. It also plans to identify the main "Smart Governance" technology trends in cities considered key in the next 4-5 years. **Twenty-four cities** took part in this edition, most of them members of UCLG's Community of Practice for Digital Cities.

#### COLLABORATION

We are working with the Uraía Platform (UN-Habitat and FDV) to organise a panel of cities for the **6th UCLG Congress** under the title "Using urban innovation to listen to citizens."

We are also collaborating with Uraía Platform to organise its **annual event** to be held in Málaga (date to be confirmed) under the title "Trends in Municipal Innovation to achieve the SDGs".

