

We are pleased to present you the latest news on City Development Strategies (CDS):

1. *Policy Paper Meeting in Rosario: main results*
2. *Inputs with the questionnaire*
3. *EU Project on Urban Strategic planning*
4. *Mentoring partnerships*



### 1. Policy Paper Meeting in Rosario: main results

From 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of April, Rosario invited members of the Committee to participate in the coordination of a UCLG **interregional roundtable in the 17<sup>th</sup> CIDEU Congress**. CIDEU is an ibero-american city network on strategic planning and this year the Congress focused on “economic activities and employment at the local level”. The UCLG roundtable debated on local labour policies and practices of sustainable employment creation in Africa and Asia.

Secondly, the Committee dedicated one day to discuss the main objectives of the policy paper. The participants of the “task force” were: the city of Rosario (Argentina), the Province of Santa Fe (Argentina), the city of Durban, the National Association of Municipalities of Mozambique (ANNAM), the city of Calbayog (along with the League of Cities of the Philippines), the Association Ciudad Sur (Chile), the city of Belo Horizonte (Brazil), the city of Medellin (Colombia) and UCLG.

The debate concentrated on the strengths and the challenges concerning planning in the different geographical regions:

In Southern Africa, it seems that the prioritized issues are overall social, economic and governance. The land is mainly publicly owned and like many other cities internationally, the risks of corruption always present. Spatial planning is not always appreciated and grand master plans are often associated with colonialism... How is planning supposed to address these challenges?

In Latin America, social dialogues and spatial instruments are increasingly reflected in the municipalities but sometimes remain theoretical. How could Latin American cities increase the quality of urban development and at the same time compete economically? Should strategies look more into financial and intergovernmental aspects?

In the European case, spatial and economic planning are very important, with consistent and deeply rooted regulatory procedures. The private sector is sometimes deeply involved and helps to provide continuity in the processes. The main challenge is how to adapt to economic or social changes: are planning instruments flexible enough to tackle for example financial crises, aging or migration? Can lessons be drawn from the South?

In the case of Asia, services and governance are high priorities for the local governments. Central government in the Philippines is reforming thanks to the results of local governments on responsive and effective governance. However, the ownership observed in Rosario still remains a dream. The question is: how best address people’s needs? How could planning, in the context of centralized states, help LGs to promote social inclusion?

The participants also agreed on the next steps and the division of tasks to collect data to draft regional chapters:

- **Asia:** UCLG Secretariat and the League of Cities of the Philippines. Meet in **September 2009** to support learning event of Cities Alliance and LCP
- **Africa:** UCLG Secretariat and Durban. Possibly meet at 5<sup>th</sup> Session of Africities, Marrakesh, Morocco **December 2009**.
- **Europe:** UCLG Secretariat helps Cologne to debate the draft with the German and European Associations.
- **Latin America:** Rosario will collect data and feedback during the 14<sup>th</sup> Mercociudades Summit **July 2009**, Rosario

The **Follow-up on the draft document** will be coordinated by the Province of Santa Fe, Argentina

1. **November 2009:** Discussion of advance during UCLG World Council, Guangzhou, China,
2. **October/ November 2010:** The policy paper is presented before the UCLG World Congress, Mexico City

### 2. City inputs and questionnaire on urban strategic planning

We are pleased to announce that to date we have received 13 completed questionnaires from five different geographical regions:

**Europe:** 1. *Cologne* 2. *Bilbao* 3. *Lille* 4. *Medcities*

**Asia:** 1. Calbayog (Philippines) 2. New Delhi (through Indian Association of Urban Management and Development Authorities AMDA)

**Latin America:** 1. Association Ciudad Sur (Chile) 2. Rosario 3. Province of Santa Fe 4. Belo Horizonte

**Africa:** 1. Durban 2. Lilongwe (Malawi) 3. Mozambique municipalities

**Euro-Asia:** 1. Moscow

We strongly encourage all the municipalities and associations to complete the questionnaire and make available concrete information supporting the implementation of the policy paper.

### 3. EU Project on Urban Strategic Planning



On 7<sup>th</sup> of May, the city of Rosario officially submitted the full application for the EU Proposal on urban strategic planning. In the last newsletter, we were reporting on the concept note, which by now has been pre-selected.

The partners involved were: the city of Rosario (applicant), the city of Durban, the South African Local Government Association SALGA, the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), the Kenyan Association of Local Governments (ALGAK) and UCLG. All partners showed outstanding commitment and dedicated time and resources to shape a substantial application.

The project implies two sets of activities:

- Knowledge production: publication of a catalogue of good practices on urban strategic planning, creation of a website, elaboration of a methodology to monitor and evaluate experiences of strategic planning technical assistance.
- Technical assistance: consolidation of a network of cities and LGAs, able to identify and to assist the cities and LGAs requiring help to implement urban strategic planning. Through mentoring programmes and regional capacity building workshops on USP, the partners will support the adaptation of USP tools.

If this project is accepted by the EU, it will boost the work of the Committee on USP. Both topics, on knowledge and on training activities, are furthermore in line with the cooperation between UCLG and Cities Alliance on CDS.

### 4. Mentoring partnerships

The UCLG Committee on USP is actively supporting the establishment of mentoring CDS partnerships

between cities. This form of South-South cooperation has proved to be very useful in the cases of Johannesburg/Lilongwe or Durban/Windhoek, Namibia.

You can download on our website a report on the challenges of mentoring partnerships. We also welcome any inputs from your city, if it is involved in any programme of city-to-city cooperation.

So far some recommendations have been presented to make the mentoring more efficient: avoid the one-size-fits-all approaches; define clearly aims and objectives; encourage leadership in both parts; clarify the roles and responsibilities of the mentor and the mentee; respect the different temporalities and adapt to internal challenges; the need of a communicative and responsive staff to provide continuity.

The Committee is preparing a flyer presenting the key cases in different regions.

#### ZOOM: Mozambique, Workshop on CDS

Last April, the Committee on Urban Strategic Planning co-organised a workshop on CDS in Maputo, along with the Association of Municipalities of Mozambique (ANAMM). The Secretary General of ANAMM chaired the sessions to screen the complex situations of all the municipalities in Mozambique.

Mozambique is a recently decentralized country and local governments are still in the process of defining the skills and resources necessary to perform in public services and urban development.

UCLG provided a framework and an orientation on CDS processes and necessary policy development, while the city of Durban and SALGA gave insights of practical work and presented the very dense planning agenda in South Africa that still is dominated by large cities and needs to consider smaller and rural municipalities, similar to Mozambique.

Since its participation in the Johannesburg City Future Workshop in July 2007, ANAMM has built up a task force and engaged itself in the agenda of urban planning and CDS. The cities of Maputo, Nampula and Chimoio have drafted CDS proposals and the city of Matola will soon follow them, thus making Mozambique an interesting case to study "the first steps of a CDS". The Cities Alliance responded positively to an ANAMM funding request for a preparatory grant, which will be used to finance a "state of cities report". Along the UCLG policy paper, ANAMM wishes to develop a national position on urban strategic planning, with the support of GTZ.

#### For further information:

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