

## Circular 20

### UCLG Committees and Working Groups

Barcelona, 6 May 2014

## Committee on Urban Strategic Planning

### Re-Imagining public spaces

“Creating & Maintaining Vibrant & People-Centered Public Spaces”

4-6 June 2014 in Durban, South Africa

Dear members,

As we move ahead with 21st century development, it becomes apparent that the well-being of citizens, including vulnerable groups, is influenced by immediate surroundings. That is why the Committee on Urban Strategic Planning is contributing to the expert group on public space of UN Habitat, which is developing a global toolkit document.

Particularly for African cities, it is very important that public spaces are produced, designed and managed to add value to the well-being of citizens and visitors alike. Public spaces designed with people for people do not only contribute to good health but have positive spinoffs to the safety, productivity levels, community actions and economy.

Please note the forthcoming Learning Exchange which will explore creative ways of planning, developing and managing public spaces as common assets. The 3-day exchange will use existing good practice to critically look at:

- People-centered design;
- Governance and management;
- Safety and security;
- Public spaces as catalysts for socio economic transformation

EThekweni Municipality through its **Imagine Durban Project** and its Municipal Institute of Learning (MILE) and KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) are partnering with UCLG Committee on Urban Strategic Planning and UCLG Africa to host this learning exchange. Discussions during the Learning Exchange will influence planning and practice on global, regional, national and local level.

Please don't hesitate contacting us if you need additional information at: [s.hoeflich@uclg.org](mailto:s.hoeflich@uclg.org) and [hyacinthia.naidoo@durban.gov.za](mailto:hyacinthia.naidoo@durban.gov.za)

Sincerely,

**The UCLG World Secretariat**

on behalf of the Committee on Urban Strategic Planning

Please click on the links below to access the following documents:

- [Invitation for the Learning Exchange on Public Space](#)
- [Concept paper for the Learning Exchange on Public Space](#)

**100 YEARS OF ACTION**  
**10 DECADES OF UNITY**