The range of instruments available for the international community to get a better knowledge of the financial health of local governments is very limited. Numerous initiatives are under way, but they don’t give a global vision of the state of local finances worldwide. Many countries do not even have their own national reporting system. Such a national system would allow, on the one hand, a framework for dialogue between various levels of government, and, on the other hand, a way of ensuring the follow-up of local and territorial development.

UCLG, through its Committee on Local Finance for Development, has launched, together with the OECD and the French Development Agency, a first study aiming at bringing to light the main financial indicators related to local governments in 80 countries worldwide.

This session offers a global overview of other initiatives under way, with the aim of thinking about drafting a roadmap that will allow methodology and information gaps to be addressed, towards the creation of a common tool for the follow-up of fiscal decentralization. The participants to the panel will be invited to share the outcomes of their own initiatives, and to express potential synergies that could be found in order to build such a tool, that will be crucial for the follow-up of the post-2015 development agenda.

Organizing partners: Committee on Local Finances for Development of United Cities and Local Governments:

With the support of:
AGENDA

Chair: Fathallah Oualalou, Mayor of Rabat (Morocco), Treasurer of United Cities and Local Governments, representative of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments

Moderation: Nathalie Le Denmat, Executive Secretary of UCLG Committee on Local Finance for Development

Introductory statement: Isabelle Chatry, Senior Policy Analyst, Regional Development Policy Division (GOV), OCDE

The benefits of having a National Database

Case of Benin, from the perspectives of the Finance and Local Governments’ Departments

- Assogba Zacharie Gbodjeydo, Permanent Secretary to the National Committee on Local Finances
- Hans Janssen, Mayor of Oisterwijk, in representation of the Committee of Regions, The Netherlands

Towards a Global Database?

Regional databases

- François Yatta, Head of Programs, UCLG Africa
- Bernardia Irawati Tjandradewi, Secretary General of UCLG Asia Pacific

Development partners

- Marco Kamiya, Municipal Finance Unit, UN-HABITAT
- Marie Bjornson-Langen, Senior Project Manager, Division Urban Development and Local Authorities, AFD

Climate finance?

- David Jackson, Director Local Development Finance Programme, UNCDF
- Ronan Dantec, French Senator, Chair of the climate negotiating group of UCLG and City Councilor from Nantes, France