



Development Partners Network on Decentralisation and Local Governance (DeLoG)

13th Annual Meeting, 23 – 25 May 2018

The Hague



Hosted by

VNG International



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Abbreviations

AFD	Agence Française de Développement
BMZ	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
CEB	Council of Europe Development Bank
CLGF	Commonwealth Local Government Forum
CMI	Centre for Mediterranean Integration, Marseilles
DeLoG	Development Partners Network on Decentralisation and Local Governance
DLG	Decentralisation and Local Governance
Enabel	Belgian Development Agency
EU DEVCO	European Commission International Development and Cooperation
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GTF	Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments
HLPF	High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development
LG	Local Government
MAPS	Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support
MEAE	French Ministry of Europe, Foreign Affairs and International Development
NUA	New Urban Agenda
ODI	Overseas Development Institute
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
PPP	Public Private Partnership
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SAHEL	Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso and Chad
SSG	Strategic Support Group, DeLoG Network
TALD	Territorial Approach to Local Development
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
UNCDF	United Nations Capital Development Fund
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
VNG Intern.	International Cooperation Agency of the Association of Dutch Municipalities
VNRs	Voluntary National Reviews



Introduction

The 13th DeLoG Annual Meeting was held 23 – 25 May 2018 and was hosted by the International Cooperation Agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG International) in The Hague, The Netherlands at VNG's head office. DeLoG members and partners from 18 organisations attended, and guest speaker experts from five other related organisations brought the number of participants to 42. (See Appendix 1 for the List of Participants and Appendix 2 for the agenda of the meeting.)

Thematic sessions

As in past years, the purpose of the annual meeting was to take stock of developments and innovations in the thematic areas of interest of the network members. Inputs from specific experts and organisations broadened the discussion and were used as a spring-board to define common interests and synergies of members and partners in order to continue working closely together in the coming year. The thematic sessions are covered in Part 1 of this report.

The special focus of this year's meeting was decentralisation and local governance in fragile contexts, migration and forced displacement. With this as the first session and as a cross-cutting theme, the following thematic sessions covered the topics of the other three DeLoG work streams: urban and territorial governance, local financing, and localising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Each session was designed to maximise participation and build the DeLoG annual work plan in an integrated way. For each session there was thematic input to frame the debate, followed by working group discussions on related issues and innovations that had arisen since the last meeting. This led to the presentation of ideas for action DeLoG members could pursue together. On the third day of the meeting participants worked in detail to refine these working group 'results' into tentative plans that will feed into the DeLoG 2018-19 work plan. A document outlining possible outcomes for working groups, with examples of outputs from previous years, helped participants focus their planning around activities that had worked in the past: regular exchange on specific common topics, side events at conferences, working papers, webinars and learning events. In the report, the details of the tentative work stream plans have been added to each thematic session.

In addition, there was an opportunity for members and partners to disseminate information about their organisations' key publications, projects, or events that had direct relevance to the DeLoG Network in the 'News from members and partners' session, as well as informally through networking during breaks and social events.

DeLoG business

Part 2 of this report covers the DeLoG business sessions. The DeLoG Secretariat presented an account of what the Network had achieved in 2017-18 in terms of working group outputs and learning events. The role of the Strategic Support Group (SSG) and the draft DeLoG charter were agreed. Next steps were also agreed about how to pursue core funding beyond SDC and BMZ's commitment, which ends in 2020, and where the next annual meeting would be held.



Opening remarks

In his welcoming words, **Christoph Jansen**, coordinator of the DeLoG Secretariat, pointed out the importance of the annual meeting for the network. Building on various DeLoG activities throughout the year, the annual meeting provides the opportunity to meet fellow network members, partners and stakeholders and to contribute experience, knowledge, time and energy to the common cause of DeLoG. The role of the DeLoG Secretariat, which works with limited resources, is to coordinate communication among members, follow up on ideas and initiatives, and function as a knowledge hub and service provider for all network members. This means the key to the success of the work of the Secretariat – apart from receiving adequate and sustainable funding – is to have strong and active partners.

That is why the cooperation and support of VNG International as this year's host was highly appreciated. The contributions of Rolf Swart and Chris van Hemert of VNG International were particularly valued because their efforts resulted in the smooth running of the annual meeting; this was appreciated by all participants present.

The mission of DeLoG, namely the promotion of Decentralisation and Local Governance, could not be fulfilled without adequate funding, which is currently provided by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, represented at the meeting by Ms Corinne Huser, and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, represented at the meeting by Ms Kerstin Remke. An important role in planning and organising the annual meeting was played by Psyche Kennett, the facilitator of the meeting, whose work was highly appreciated by the DeLoG Secretariat.

In his opening address, **Pieter Jeroense**, Deputy General Director VNG, outlined three major developments in local governance from the Dutch perspective:

- a greater acknowledgement of the importance of local government as the first level of government in contact with people on the ground, and therefore key to establishing government credibility, especially in conflict situations;
- the importance of improving the capacity of municipalities in order to improve their legitimacy;
- a focus on local politics and increased citizen engagement in self-government which in turn is renewing citizens' trust in government.

VNG International makes it possible for EU municipalities to share their experience with municipalities in countries such as Lebanon, Jordan and Uganda where a huge number of refugees are hosted. In the context of forced displacement, local governments are often overlooked because of the common belief that forced displacement and migration are national sovereignty issues to be handled by national governments and country-to-country agreements. However, VNG International has been able to ensure a place at the table for local authorities in Jordan and Lebanon and has improved their standing with both national governments and UN agencies such as UNHCR. Mass migration puts immediate pressure on the basic services local governments are directly responsible for: waste management, water, sanitation, local roads and settlements. This is why local authorities in contexts of forcible displacement need our support for basic service delivery. In addition, it is important to acknowledge the local initiatives borne out of these crisis situations because successful local initiatives can be translated into national successes. Local and national governments need to work together to develop policies that can be replicated and scaled up.

In his opening address, **Jelte van Wieren**, Director of the Department for Stabilisation and Humanitarian Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, welcomed the theme of the meeting for its direct relevance to the work of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA). Migration and development aid has been important to the MFA since the 1970s. MFA works



closely with implementing organisations, such as VNG International, who achieve real results at local level.

The recently released MFA policy note regarding trade and development, prioritises preventing conflict and instability, decreasing poverty and social inequality, improving sustainable inclusive development and reducing climate change worldwide. Support for development aid in The Netherlands is under pressure from those who believe it is outdated, so the new policy note is an important rebuttal of this negative trend. It explicitly sets out to achieve the internationally agreed target of 0.7% GDP expenditure for development aid. In practice, the new policy means a focus on the Sahel, the Horn of Africa, and the Middle-East and North-Africa regions. Priorities include conflict prevention, education, employment, youth and women's rights, migration and the policy stresses the importance of youth having positive reasons to stay in their regions. Providing training and support for employability is important in this respect, as is engagement in local politics. The local aspect has increased in importance in the policy note. Results are achieved at the local level and government legitimacy through citizen endorsement can foremost be achieved via local-level results. People need a more responsive government, and at the same time need to know how to exercise their rights and responsibilities to government. The local level is closest to them.

As some of the big city problems in fragile states are similar to those in big cities in the Netherlands, the MFA also emphasises the potential of intercity cooperation such as the development cooperation seen between Amsterdam and Al Za'atari in Jordan.

Part 1 Thematic sessions

DLG in fragility, migration and forced displacement

Input 1



Dr. Sanya KF Wilson, Mayor of Koboko Municipal Council, National Vice Chairman Urban Authority Association UAAU, *Building resilience in Northern Uganda: perspectives on forced displacement; the humanitarian-development nexus*¹

Koboko Municipality has to deal with a large number of self-settled refugees, who stay in the city because of kinship and tribal ties, common language and heritage. In this context the local government won't deport them because as Ugandans on the border they too have been refugees in the countries where the refugees now come from. However, the central government of Uganda does not allow Koboko to host the refugees for security reasons and as a result does not recognise their existence in the city. This means there is no extra central government financial assistance to Koboko's municipal budget despite the huge increase in population. Money is still only given according to the Ugandan population. This puts a huge strain on local government service delivery.

- Schools are overcrowded; classroom size has increased from 56 to over 100 and are so packed the desks are removed to fit all the children in.
- Cemeteries are also over crowded. When a refugee dies, no-one claims the body because there is nowhere local to bury them and they can't take the body over the boarder for proper homeland burial because of the security situation.

¹ The speech can be found [here](#), the presentation [here](#).



- With only four health centres in the municipality, over subscription of health services means medication intended for three months now does not last for more than two weeks. Aid agencies provided two ambulances but the number of health care centres remains the same. The ambulances can now rush a woman about to give birth even more quickly into an overcrowded situation that cannot help her.
- Pressure on resources has doubled and led to new conflicts over diminishing water supplies, firewood for cooking, waste management, as well as inflated food prices and shortages which are a result of UN cash allowances for refugees, and demand outstripping supply.
- Many refugees live in the city but return to the UN camps in order to claim food allowances, often leaving their children unprotected in un-policed areas of the urban environment. This, in combination with the vulnerability of many child head of households, leads to child exploitation, and especially for girls, prostitution and HIV/AIDS. The Police Child Protection Unit is struggling to cope.

Some of the solutions that the Municipality of Koboko has adopted are cultural and have worked by changing social norms. For example getting full household use of a scarce number of toilets was achieved by persuading South Sudanese refugee men to overcome tradition and use the same toilet as their mother in law. A fairer distribution of resources was achieved through better data collection: when a limited number of mosquito nets were available, past records showed which Ugandan households had already received them, freeing up more of the new nets for refugee households.

Community issues are solved by appointing local/tribal leaders and activating informal local governance mechanisms amongst refugee groups. This means refugee communities can be taxed, for example if they set up a market stall. Local leaders can also be used to sort out their own community issues without involving an over-stretched police force (such as disputes over water). Provision of land by the municipality for cemeteries has stopped bodies being abandoned in the hospital.

Long term solutions however need to shift traditional thinking about how problems are approached. Many government authorities still believe refugees are a rural, camp-based population, when in fact the overwhelming majority live in cities. Solutions in the long term in conflict affected areas have to shift from humanitarian aid dispensed by the UN, to long-term host government support for decentralised local governance and integrated local government service delivery.



Anton Baaré, Partner Nordic Consulting Group, commented on the issue of the Ugandan government not recognising the legal status of self-settled refugees. It classes them as illegal either because they have left the camp without permission, or because they are deemed migrants who have overstayed. So a legal approach to reclassifying and recognising the legal status of self-settled urban refugees is needed as a long term solution. In addition, urban planning that accommodates an increased and fluctuating population should be factored in.

Susan Jansen works for VNG with Dutch Municipalities who also handle large numbers of urban refugees. She described some of the issues they are facing. Although funds are available for refugee housing and welfare, the system tends to be bound by spending regulations and systems that compartmentalise service provision. This bureaucratic approach does not necessarily support the combination and coordination of services that are really needed to help refugees integrate in society. As a



result, VNG is working on a cross-departmental system overseen by a specialist who advises local authorities on coordinated responses.

Annelies Risseuw, who works for VNG on their response to the Syrian refugee crisis, pointed out that there were many similarities between Jordan, Lebanon and Uganda. These include cross-border kinship ties, national governments as well as NGOs not taking into account the subnational level, and the need for better coordination of services within the municipalities. Even though the camp might provide refugees with food and shelter it makes refugees feel like prisoners, controlled by the host government. But after eight years Syrian refugees are beginning to be integrated in host community cities despite the bureaucratic challenge to existing systems. More than ever it is important that the municipalities involved are included in the decision-making process about services they will then be required to implement.

Input 2

Increasing legitimate stability in conflict-affected states: the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs' approach

Marjolein Jongman, Thematic lead on Peace Processes and Governance, Department for Stabilisation and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

Rogier Nouwen, Thematic lead on Migration, Department for Stabilisation and Humanitarian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

First speaker:

Marjolein Jongman,

Results framework Security and Rule of Law: the place of local governance²

Local governance has gained more prominence in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands' theory of change for Security and Rule of Law. The Department for Stabilisation and Humanitarian Affairs focusses on three key long-term outcomes in order to achieve legitimate stability and lasting peace:

- human security through reduced violence;
- rule of law and increased citizen participation through legitimate institutions;
- the resolution of conflict in a non-violent and inclusive way through effective peace processes and political governance.

It is this third outcome that emphasises the importance of local governance:

'National and local level governance is more inclusive and accountable, by strengthening political parties and parliament and promoting democratic space and inclusive political decision-making.' In practice, the theory of change advocates an increase in community engagement in political decision-making at local level in order for the citizens to feel included which thereby increases stability.

The theory of change works through strategic partners to do advocacy work and through implementing partners like VNG to get local authorities involved in conflict transformation decision-making processes. The Department for Stabilisation and Humanitarian Affairs does not work on local governance service delivery unless the service delivery is related to achieving stability. But it may not be possible in reality to separate service delivery that increases political decision-making at the local level from service delivery that simply increases social welfare. This means the theory of change may impose a silo mentality where a more integrated approach is necessary. For example, in South Sudan, improving water delivery systems could

² The presentation can be found [here](#).



only be reported through the Department's theory of change once they said it had increased stability.

In addition, there is increasing demand for results to be aggregated and impact to be more visible. But every context is different and it is hard to demonstrate the broader relevance of results achieved at the local level. If the Department focuses at municipal level, inputs are very context specific and outputs might not aggregate well in the theory of change. If the Department focuses on the bigger picture, the local level is left out. In order to resolve this dilemma, local government associations are needed to spread best practices and scale up.

Second Speaker:

Rogier Nouwen, *Results framework Migration and development: local governance*³

In the context of forced displacement in transit and host countries, the international community is trying to move from humanitarian to longer-term development aid. For the Department for Migration and Development in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands this involves establishing protection and legal status, education, integrated service delivery, and economic development and employment for refugees.



The Department has a geographical focus on the Horn of Africa, Lebanon and Jordan. With 65 million people displaced worldwide, 90% in neighbouring countries, more and more are urban refugees. This has been the situation for some time in Lebanon and Jordan but in the Horn of Africa refugees have mostly been in camps and the urban shift is new there. As urban refugees increase the burden for host communities in terms of basic services, education, and work, it is increasingly important to prevent tensions between refugees and host communities over access and resources. In terms of strengthening refugee protection and rights, improving the legal status of refugees through data, registration and documentation is key. People without registration cards cannot access health or social services, or register for household amenities. They are also vulnerable to exploitation, and fall foul of the police.

Local authorities play a key role in all this and often have a more nuanced view of refugees than central governments. They may shoulder the burden of refugees in terms of land degradation and oversubscribed resources and services. But they may also make use of the potential to reap the benefits of such a large influx of people in terms of taxing remittances and employment.

It is important for local authorities to achieve a balance between host and refugee needs. Integrated service delivery for both communities is required, especially in urban settings. This can only be achieved by integrated local development planning (spatial planning, waste, water and financial management). In this regard, coordination between implementing agencies and municipalities needs to accommodate both populations.

³ The presentation can be found [here](#).



Peer to peer exchange between municipalities in the Netherlands and host countries works better than an expert coming in. They ‘speak the same language’ and the exchange raises awareness in the Netherlands about urban refugee problems and solutions.

Nevertheless, it is difficult to get those working on long term development aid and those working on humanitarian aid to work together on the problems of migrant populations. One issue is how to mobilise donor money – like World Bank funds – at local level, when fiscal transfers are usually deployed at central level. IDA 18 – the International Development Association’s 2018 initiative to support gender and forced displacement from the World Bank’s Fund for The Poorest – for example, cannot be easily used for municipal development projects, as politically it is very difficult to account for. It goes to central government with no guarantee that municipalities hosting refugees will get a share.

Working group 1

Input

Anton Baaré, Partner Nordic Consulting Group, *An urban lens on forced displacement: municipal systems, services and social cohesion*⁴

Results

In general, the discussion for members and partners is about how they can strengthen the voice and role of local governments in urban refugee settings. Municipalities need to be in a stronger negotiating position with central governments. They need to become more involved in coordinating inputs and working as implementing partners rather than simply being the conduit of central government decisions.

Looking at forced displacement through an urban lens means, among other aspects, looking at the problem from a spatial scenarios perspective. It involves developing a resilience framework for forcibly displaced people in communities in urban environments and making assumptions about migration patterns – whether people stay, go, or are involved in a circular migration pattern. Scenario planning visualises future possible courses of action: where the hot-spots are going to develop, and what will happen in best and worst case scenarios in the long term. Using this type of approach to planning, it is possible to transfer data to decisions. The DeLoG Network should be realistic about what is possible and consult existing knowledge hubs to capitalise on lessons learnt and go for ‘low hanging fruit’.

If DeLoG gets involved in a more deliberate way, then they could work on developing an analytical framework of forced displacement through an urban lens which captures a common perspective.

Possible courses of action for the 2018-19 DeLoG work plan

- Conduct a stock-take of existing documents and approaches from e.g. The World Bank Group policy note on Cities of Refuge in the Middle East: Bringing an Urban Lens to the Forced Displacement Challenge; AGORA, (<http://www.impact-initiatives.org/agora>); 100 Resilient Cities (<https://action.100resilientcities.org/page/s/join-the-global-resilience-movement#/-/>); the NUA; and the Marseilles Centre for Mediterranean Integration (CMI, <http://www.cmimarseille.org/>).
- Develop spatial planning scenarios for different patterns of migration.
- Develop or adapt an e-learning module on the topic.

⁴ The presentation can be found [here](#).



Working group 2

Input

Katharina Lampe, Senior Planning Officer GIZ,
*Decentralisation approaches in fragile contexts*⁵



Results



Although there are an increasing number of decentralisation and local government projects implemented in fragile contexts, much of the work is context specific and begs the question if a common approach is possible or to be recommended. GIZ's approach is to use a DLG sector specific guide for conducting the required initial peace and conflict analysis that all GIZ projects have to do in fragile contexts.

This is the result of learning from SDC. Six case studies were produced on Mali, Burundi, Afghanistan, Ukraine, and

Honduras and findings directed at implementers, organisations and the DeLoG Network. The studies looked at interventions that spanned from long term governance approaches to short term result-focused interventions, many of which have potential value for DeLoG. But the conclusion was there was no standardised approach. However, common threads included

- the need for inclusive governance at local level in fragile contexts;
- the danger of creating parallel systems;
- the capacity development that is required to give local authorities a recognised and productive seat at the table;
- the need for better conflict sensitive and inclusive local governance monitoring;
- the question where to draw the red line when it comes to including informal actors.

Possible courses of action for the 2018-19 DeLoG work plan

- Quantify what needs to be done differently for DLG in fragile contexts, including aspects of dealing with hybrid forms of governance and the role of local governments in conflict prevention, conflict transformation and post conflict situations.
- Compile a 'compendium' of experience that has a literature review, evolving guidance notes, training material, a survey of members' experience, and the experience of the larger community of practice on fragility.
- Do a stock-take of monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) for DLG programmes in fragile contexts with a particular focus on inclusion; link this to GovNet.
- Arrange a webinar to discuss the results of these initiatives.
- Organise a follow-up course on *DLG and sustaining peace*.

⁵ The presentation can be found [here](#).



Urban and territorial governance approaches

Input

Dr. Nuno F. da Cruz, LSE Cities, Assistant Professorial Research Fellow and Coordinator of the New Urban Governance Project, *Data and the urban governance research agenda*⁶



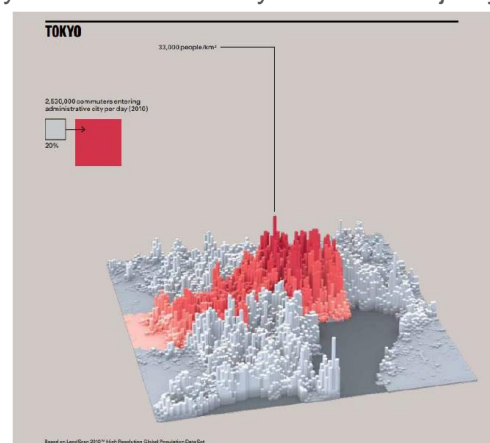
LSE Cities, in conjunction with UCLG and UN Habitat, and initially co-funded by the MacArthur Foundation, has been researching how cities are governed, based on empirical data, for the New Urban Governance project. Using a sample from a universe of 127 voluntarily participating cities from around the world (two from each country to avoid bias), the city governance sectors of education, transport, development, energy, health, water and security were analysed. Other topics like the influence of the political city on the functional metropolitan area (for example in Tokyo) were also debated, including issues of spatial equity, the power and autonomy of mayors, and who is influencing planning. In addition,

extensive interviews were conducted, but as these just scratched the surface, LSE Cities delved deeper using a network analysis approach. This enabled the researchers to look at certain topics like transport, for example in London and New York. The data they collated was visualised (www.urbangovernance.net) and emphasised through the way it is presented, the importance of communicating findings, not just collecting them, and communicating them in a non-academic way.

The findings showed where cities were leading, for example on renewables and energy conservation, but also where they had problems. There was a lack of data on the urban policy sector, and who had real influence in each sector. For example, both housing and culture were high on what cities said they had influence over and could deliver on but it transpired that they were highly dependent on the private sector to do so. Spatial increase – urban ‘sprawl’ – was another factor influencing planning where spatial equity was being challenged.

In most cases the mayor was in charge and local democracy carried out by elections, but representation of women remained a big issue with only 7% of cities surveyed with a majority of women councillors. Sometimes the results challenged commonly held perceptions – like the Mayor of London was actually more powerful than the Mayor of New York because in New York the real power lay with the state Governor (based in Albany).

The data can be used to understand the NUA’s priorities and adds another dimension not prioritised by the NUA: local democracy and local government legitimacy. The network data approach is a useful tool for good governance in that it collects and shows the informal connections and lines of power that really control cities and influence urban policy decisions.



⁶ The presentation can be found [here](#).



Working group 1

Input

Irene Oostveen & Rolf Swart, VNG International, *City deals*

The VNG International City Deals programme helps municipalities address real social needs in the city which are not met through existing central and local governance systems, cash flows or segregated sector approaches. A City Deal is an agreement between the city, the central government, business and civil society organisations to strengthen the growth, innovation, and quality of city life. The Deal makes stakeholders work in a more integrated way across sectors to tackle new urban challenges, such as renewables, climate change, and healthy urban living. The Deal gives cities two years to conduct action research on their new approach, and gather ‘proof’ on what it changes or what needs to be changed as a result.

VNG International has translated this approach into its international development work in Manilla in the Philippines, Patheingyi in Myanmar, Beira in Mozambique, Kumasi in Ghana, and Pereira in Colombia, for example. Two of the main challenges working internationally on the City Deal approach is to bring the right actors together and to measure sustainability.



Results

There is little shared knowledge of what partners are doing in urban governance. More learning could take place if project results and experience were more visible/shared.

Possible courses of action for the 2018-19 DeLoG work plan

- Share innovative approaches and lessons learnt through a sub-page on the DeLoG website or through the sharing platform on the UNDP website.
- Inform members and partners about related up-coming events through a DeLoG calendar.
- Organise a DeLoG side event at the UCLG Africities Summit 20-24 November 2018.
- Organise speakers for, and/or a side event at, the ADB International Seminar on Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Management for Development Results, Seoul, South Korea, 27-30 August 2018.

Working group 2

Input

Joëlle Piraux, Government expert, Enabel, *Territorial governance and economic development*⁷

This year, Enabel focuses – among other things – on the role of local economic development in territorial approaches to DLG. There has been increasing interest from donors over the past five years as to the role of the private sector, its (potential) contribution to territorial governance, and what the enabling factors are that can make it happen.

Enhancing the role of local authorities in local economic development is key, with reference to Enabel’s focus areas: Rwanda, Palestine, and West Africa.



The SDG emphasis on inclusive economic growth, global migration and forced displacement also helps push the private sector higher up the agenda. Enabel has tried to track and

⁷ The presentation can be found [here](#).



document the results and lessons learnt about local economic development in territorial development. In West Africa there has been an integrated approach to promote inclusive growth at the regional level. In Burkina Faso, for example, private sector development is mostly through the informal economy and through agro-business development in secondary cities and the hinterland of larger urban centres.

Enabel supports developing market systems to promote small and medium enterprises and local access to agricultural value chains at a regional level through a vertical approach. Key to this is a more sustainable approach to business development services: financing, access to markets, business competency development and linking businesses to business incubators. In terms of creating an enabling business environment, the focus is on business policy reform that can be done at subnational level. This includes reducing administrative barriers for business registration, licensing, tax and land registration; enhancing and incentivising public-private dialogue and partnerships; increasing public investment in infrastructure; and enabling better access to finance.

Results

Discussion included how local economic development can be integrated in DLG programmes, what kind of interventions it includes, how it delivers results on the ground, what the role of local government is (in terms of spatial planning, and community mobilisation) and how it can be measured.

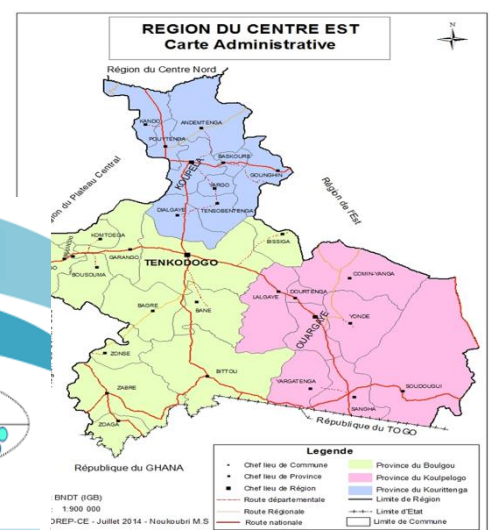
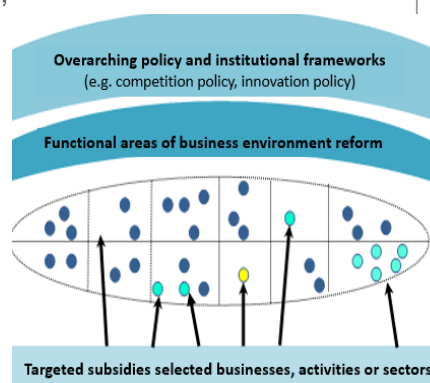


The complexity of local economic development was discussed and how it was broader than just local governance. A definition of what is meant by the private sector was pursued and whether in the context of territorial governance it referred more to very small informal enterprises than to multi-lateral companies. The challenges around sustainable support for small PPPs in small cities was discussed in terms of domestic finance mobilisation, central government transfers, the role of the banks, and how local governments were making use of their own assets. Inclusion is another challenge: the need for gender equal local authorities and gender equal local markets to combat youth unemployment and the exclusion of women who are often the small business owners but not represented on the local council.

Possible courses of action for the 2018-19 DeLoG work plan

With a focus on smaller urban settlements and their hinterlands, DeLoG members and partners could

- draw on existing materials to define the role of local governments in building effective relations with both the private sector and civil society;
- identify and measure good practice in local economic development.





Fiscal decentralisation and local financing

Input 1

Isabelle Chatry, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD,
*Subnational governments around the world: structure and finance*⁸



The main findings of the study, *Subnational governments around the world: structure and finance* were presented. It was an OECD-UCLG joint initiative with support from AFD, UNCDF and CEB among others, and contributed to the establishment of the World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment which was launched in November 2017.

The study had three main objectives: to ensure standardised, reliable and transparent access to data on subnational governance structure, finance and investment; to support international dialogue and enhance synergies with other observatories, platforms and networks; and to serve as a capacity-building tool on subnational governance and finance.



Data was collected from 101 countries, representing 82% of the world's population and 88% of GDP worldwide. Income groups were very diverse, including 37 high income countries and 38 low and lower middle income countries. The study collected information from 17 federations and 84 unitary states, including more than 520,000 subnational governments (but India's 'panchayats' – Indian local authorities – accounted for half this number). As well as subnational finance, the data provided information on territorial organisation, decentralisation and territorial reforms, allocation of responsibilities, fiscal rules, etc. but was analysed without an advocacy agenda.

Findings show that subnational governments are responsible for 25% of public expenditure worldwide, or 9% of GDP. However, this differs from the most centralised countries like China, Canada and Denmark, to the least centralised like Chad, Jamaica and Guinea, and figures can be misleading due to deconcentration rather than decentralisation.

The highest rates of subnational government expenditure as a percentage of GDP, and as a percentage of public expenditure, are found in Europe and Asia. When spending ratios are analysed by geography, lower ratios are found in lower income groups (between 0 and 2%), compared to high income countries (between 12 and 14%). The bulk of subnational spending is on education, roads and administrative services.

When subnational government expenditure as a percentage of GDP is compared to GDP per capita, it appears wealthier countries tend to be more decentralised. But it is not clear if this is a case of wealth because of decentralisation or decentralisation because of wealth. To say the poorer the country the more centralised it is, is to say correlation equals causality, which is not the case. There are examples in the study of wealthy centralised countries.

⁸ The presentation can be found [here](#).



Subnational governments account for 40% of public investment. Even though 60% of this is found in OECD countries, many lower and middle income countries have made investment a priority, for example China, Peru and Vietnam. Nonetheless, there are huge differences between countries.

On average, grants and subsidies are the first source of revenue at global level but with significant variations across countries. Taxes account for 32% of subnational revenue, but again, there is great variation between countries. Low income countries are more dependent on grants and subsidies from central government.

In terms of debt and borrowing, data was more difficult to collect and was only obtained in the end from the OECD countries and 20 others. Many low income countries do not give their subnational governments the right to borrow; access to loans is a problem. It is difficult to isolate debt, but subnational governments account for 14% of debt, and this goes up to 25.5% in federal countries compared to 10.3% in unitary states.

The study will continue and the 2019 report will cover more countries (including more of the least developed countries). It will have more categories on expenditure, revenue, governance of public investment. It will distinguish between state and local government in federal countries, include more analysis for policy-makers, tailor findings to groups of countries and regions with similar characteristics, and include a system of evaluation to assess the quality and reliability of data. In addition, the OECD has prepared a practical methodological guide to the research, which builds capacity in collecting, processing and analysing subnational government finance data.

Input 2

Khady Dia Sarr, Programme Director Dakar Municipal Finance Programme,
*Local Finances in Africa: the case of Dakar City*⁹



There is a large mismatch between the spending needs of African municipalities for sustainable local development and the funds available to them. In 2008, Dakar went through a Public Expenditure, Finance and Accountability assessment (PEFA) for developing the city's infrastructure, which led to a series of loans from AFD, the Arab Bank, the African Development Bank and Ecobank. The maturities for each loan differed and together the interest was too high. This, along with the possibility of reorganising the city's administration, and launching the city on the stock market, incentivised the mayor to go to the capital market and through the Gates Foundation apply for a capital bond. As city financing through a bond was something new for Senegal, the mayor took his team to South Africa to study Jo'Bonds in Johannesburg. Johannesburg had the first listing and investment-grade rated infrastructure project bond held entirely by institutional investors, and Dakar became the first municipality in West Africa to attempt to use a bond borrowing system to fund its infrastructure projects. The process of securing the bond took four years and involved picking the right infrastructure project, purchasing the land, conducting all the feasibility studies, getting a confidential rating with Moody's and an investment grade, and securing a private guarantee on the bond. A day before the bond was launched, the central government stopped the whole process, claiming there was too much collateral risk. But as the bond had a reserve fund in Commercial Bank and a USAID

⁹ The presentation can be found [here](#).



guarantee, it was in fact very secure and the real reason for central government to halt the process was political.

Despite the huge disappointment shared by the team who had worked for years on the plan, as well as the whole of the municipality's administration and partners, important lessons learnt gave the whole experience a positive spin. Local leadership, capacity development of the administration, multi-partner approaches, participatory processes, and budget transparency were all strengthened. The municipality also learnt to deal with the constraints of lengthy local and regional bureaucracy, the lack of capacity of local staff, the need to align the judicial and legal context, institutional instability and the volatile political context. Despite not securing the bond, Dakar City continues to access money from the market, and work on public private partnerships. There is more transparency and citizen participation now. Dakar is now sharing its experience with other cities in Senegal, Mali and Guinea.

Working group 1

Input

Isabelle Chatry, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD, *Data for Subnational Finance*

The working group continued directly from Isabelle Chatry's presentation and looked at how DeLoG could continue to support the data collection of subnational finance.

Results

The working group discussed how DeLoG members and partners could

- increase the extent of the data base, and fill the gaps, especially for SE Asia (Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and Malaysia) and the SAHEL (Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso and Chad);
- improve the quality and reliability of the data;
- raise awareness and increase transparency for multi-level stakeholder dialogue at local authority, municipal, state and national level, and through that
- increase accountability through reporting systems.

Possible courses of action for the 2018-19 DeLoG work plan

- Explore the possibility of DeLoG increasing its support for the World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment (for example by becoming a member).
- Develop and deliver a workshop for strengthening subnational financial monitoring with the participation of ADB, OECD, UCLG, UNCDF, AFD, and MEAE.
- Get DeLoG members or partners to ask their organisations to help augment and validate subnational finance data.

Working group 2

Input



Christel Alvergne, Regional Advisor Local Development Finance UNCDF and **Khady Dia Sarr**, Programme Director Dakar Municipal Finance, *Problems and solutions for financing local development: enhancing the role of municipalities*¹⁰

There was a recap of the DeLoG 2016 (Paris) discussion on the need to develop a system for private sector assistance for local development and the difficulties involved in doing so; also, participants reviewed the DeLoG 2017 (Brussels)

¹⁰ The presentation can be found [here](#).



discussion on bridging the supply and demand issues of local development finance, the lack of access to finance and how to use development aid for leverage on unleashing domestic finance. New flows of private capital for local development were outlined, including from project sponsors (private companies, co-ops...), investors (banks, pension funds, equity providers...), governments and local governments, development partners and local technical support service providers (research, legal and financial advisory firms).

Results

In order to enhance the role of municipalities, local level financing needs to be addressed in terms of a systematic approach to capital investment plans, grants, revenue generation and collection, and access to lending. More often than not, donors have neither the means nor the tools to support municipalities in these new environments because of a lack of knowledge or experience within their own organisations. DeLoG members and partners should work on a multi-level approach to subnational government financing.

Possible courses of action for the 2018-19 DeLoG work plan

- Collect approaches, success stories and lessons learnt for municipal based local financing through a webinar.
- Include the EC's work supporting cities in the global seminar series.
- Discuss fiscal response to the SDGs as a side event at the Africities conference and/or the ADB's Managing for Development Results Conference in August 2018.
- Conduct a webinar on local finance and gender equity and inclusion.

Localising the SDGs

Input 1

Pytrik Dieweke Oosterhof, Sustainable Development Consultant,
*Localising the SDGs from a UN perspective*¹¹

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, many countries have defined national strategies, approaches, development plans and institutional reforms towards achieving the SDGs.

The 2030 Agenda is often referred to as an integrated and transformative Agenda. Its universal character requires multiple levels of government to collaborate across sectors. While implementation at the national level is at the core of the Agenda, SDG achievement depends strongly on progress made at the local level. The 2030 Agenda directly and indirectly makes reference to sub-national efforts and LRGs. All of the SDGs have targets that relate to the role of LRGs in terms of their responsibilities in basic service delivery as well as their ability to promote and integrate inclusive and sustainable territorial development. Two specific Goals that explicitly relate to SDG localization are; SDG 16: 'Promoting effective, accountable and transparent institutions' and SDG 11: 'Making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable'.

There are several established mechanisms and partnerships that support localising the SDGs.

- Platforms include the UNDP, UN Habitat and GTF 'Localizing the SDGs' platform (www.LocalizingtheSDGs.org) and the Local2030, which is a multi-UN Agency initiative that works as a convergence point between local actors, national governments, and the



¹¹ The presentation can be found [here](#).



UN System and supports the ongoing ‘on-the ground’ partnerships that contribute to SDG achievement. Local2030 works through thematic and local hubs: which are spaces where local actors together with the UN system and external actors—identify their SDG priorities and implement innovative SDG solutions that address local needs e.g. a climate data).

- Initiatives to localize the SDGs are included in the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) common approach. The MAPS approach is a capacity building programme to implement the SDGs at national and local level in developing countries and helps identify priorities.
- The ‘follow-up and review process’ of the SDGs and the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) **that are** country-led and country driven reviews of progress at the national and subnational levels Offering a perspective of countries’ approaches to, and progress made on their respective SDG implementation, the VNR reports describe the national SDG strategies, plans and frameworks, consultation processes and other relevant processes in implementing the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs of 2016-2017 revealed that far from all countries include SDG localization in their SDG implementing processes. Only a few countries reported on reforms and programmes promoting decentralisation, vertical coordination, multi-level governance, or sectoral changes that have direct impact on local government. Apart from the limited amount of reporting on DLG, challenges include; lack of disaggregating data at the local level, the need for financial and technical support in completing the VNR, and the expense of the VNR exercise for any country which carries out the review in a reliable way at local level.

This year, a stronger emphasis on SDG Localization is expected during the High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF), with the review of SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities, a first Local Government Forum as well as a ‘Voluntary Local Review’ which is carried out by New York City, marking it as the first city to report on SDG progress at the local level.

Input 2

Paula Lucci, Senior Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute (ODI),
*Localising the SDGs: state of play*¹²



Although awareness raising is important, the process of localising the SDGs needs to accelerate. Some progress has been made through the VNRs – 58% now include local governments in the process – but the quality of how they were involved differed. The 2018 Local and Regional Forum on sustainable development at the HLPF will focus on SDG11, urban governance, and this may make a difference. Some examples of localising the SDGs that were presented include Medellin, Sao Paulo and Bristol. These three cities linked SDG indicators to either their planning, transparency or multi-stakeholder engagement, although not without specific challenges.

Another impetus that may strengthen localising the SDGs is the current emphasis on ‘Leave No One Behind’. This means implementing the SDGs on inclusion at local level to eradicate extreme poverty and reach the furthest behind first, pro-actively including specific vulnerable groups in DLG (disadvantaged or at risk because of poverty, gender, ethnicity, disability, language or displacement) and addressing ‘horizontal’ as well as ‘vertical’ inequality.

¹² The presentation can be found [here](#).



ODI is trying to define inclusion at local level in order for local authorities to move to action in a practical way. This includes analysing contextual factors for eradicating extreme poverty, looking at equality and differing priorities in different groups and dealing with horizontal inequalities. More pro-active planning is needed to address group-based inequality and this in turn leads to the need to disaggregate data by geography, gender, vulnerable children, etc.

Inclusion should not be a tick-box agenda. The principles of inclusion should be brought in as a cross-cutting commitment to localising the SDGs and applied to all the targets. But as a cross-cutting commitment the risk is inclusion may not be fully implemented and the difficult area of entrenched poverty may not be addressed. In addition, the overlap of the monitoring framework makes it hard to disaggregate 'Leave No One Behind'-data. For example, half the World Council on City Data/UN City Prosperity core indicators overlap with the SDGs, raising the need to identify core indicators common to all three agendas. The increasing burden of indicators is creating indicator fatigue on top of the challenges of capacity, institutional reform and finances.

Input 3

Frank Landman, Director the Municipality Rheden, the Netherlands¹³

The city of Rheden has used the SDGs to get rid of traditional thinking and rules that keep service provision compartmentalised. They have used the SDGs to re-organise the way the city works by integrating sectors. The impetus began through politicians and then schools which were already doing project work on the SDGs. The Municipality has an 'ambassador' for each goal and a Strategic Advisor for Global Goals (**Rick de Ruig**, also present at the session) who coordinates assignments with the policy team and ensures their work contributes to the SDGs. Rheden, which recently won the 'Global Goals Campaign' award, has used localising the SDGs as a vehicle for becoming a networked organisation which links entrepreneurs, schools and local government in a 'triple helix'. The next step will be re-aligning the budget to the networked global goals approach.



Working group

Input

Claudia Büntjen, Principal Public Management Specialist, Asian Development Bank, *Localising the SDGs: Approaches & Frameworks in Comparison*

A DeLoG study has already been proposed for 2018 on quantifying approaches to localising the SDGs amongst DeLoG members and partners. The objectives include where the current debate stands, an overview of the different definitions and policies for localising the 2030 Agenda, a comparison of donor approaches and their alignment at subnational policy level, good practice, lessons learnt and entry points for possible pilot projects.

Under this umbrella two working groups looked at the issue from different angles: 1. The SDGs in DLG and 2. Localising the SDGs.

Results Group 1: Localising the SDGs

Sharing experience and best practices is challenging because localising the SDGs is different for every context. For example peer to peer capacity building differs from municipality to municipality. This would make it difficult to produce a publication or a training course. So a first

¹³ The presentation can be found [here](#).



step would be to establish the aim of the publication, which audience it would target and how it would be used. A better classification for grouping experience and narrowing the focus would also be needed, for example DEVCO approaches versus other approaches, and the way organisations work with different partners.

Possible courses of action for the 2018-19 DeLoG work plan

- Conduct a survey to identify which countries/partners are working on the localising process and follow up with other networks such as the Global Taskforce for Local and Regional Governments (GTF), Local 2030 and the Toolbox for Localising the SDGs.
- Carry out a mapping exercise, for example on how local governments work with the private sector or how Leave No One Behind (LNOB) approaches are linked to Local Economic Development (LED).
- Disaggregate Leave No One Behind-data in M&E in order to know if local governments are really making a difference with inclusion initiatives.
- Quantify failings as well as successes in lessons learnt.
- Support country policy dialogue with multi stakeholders.
- Run a regional or national learning event, adapting the GTF/UNDP training module on Advocating for Localising the 2030 Agenda; possibly in collaboration with the Hague Academy.

Results Group 2: The SDGs in DLG



It is difficult to get an overview of the impact of the localising agenda on DLG but many see it as a real chance to 'break the silos' and work across traditional lines of service delivery in a more integrated way. Some organisations already have indicators to quantify cross cutting issues such as Leave No One Behind or gender inclusion. In addition, the localising agenda provides a good umbrella for organisations to work on DLG and reinforce its importance, especially in recent years where donors have moved away from funding DLG.

Even where SDG indicators are not crucial at local level, they provide a good framework for communicating to donors.

Possible courses of action for the 2018-19 DeLoG work plan

- Share experience on measuring the Leave No One Behind-agenda and the connection between DLG programming and localising the SDGs. This could be done by producing a fact sheet or by organising a DeLoG side event at one of the upcoming conferences.
- Link existing DeLoG work streams to the SDGs, for example, the fragility work stream: carry out a simple stock-take regarding the challenges of working on the SDGs in fragile contexts and find solutions and possible entry points.

News from members and partners

Gemma Aguado de la Fuente, UNDP,
*UNDP's current work on localising the SDGs*¹⁴

Current work includes the UNDP-UN Habitat platform and the Toolbox for Localising the SDGs. Some case studies were presented from local governments in Brazil, Bolivia, Cape Verde and

¹⁴ The presentation can be found [here](#).



India. Examples of localising the SDGs were also presented from local governments in Europe with a focus on Madrid, Cataluña and the Basque Country. This made the point that the SDGs are a global agenda and there is value for donors to focus on their own country activities as well as their international development initiatives. Other aspects of the website were also presented: the process steps for localising the SDGs, the tools, documentation and lessons learnt resources and the page which promotes events.

Luc Aldon, Research Officer, UCLG World Secretariat,
*Local governments on their way towards the localisation of the SDGs*¹⁵

A brief overview was given of UCLG's report to the HLPF on local and regional governments and the role of local government networks and associations in raising awareness about localising the SDGs. The 38 countries who mentioned the role of local and regional governments in their VNRs were mapped. Of these 30 were followed up with a survey. Progress on UCLG's learning strategy was also outlined: module 1 on an introduction to localising the SDGs and module 2 on alignment with national policy.

In general the report concludes that

- awareness raising is very uneven: going well in Europe and Latin America but with more difficulty in North America, Africa, Asia and the Middle East;
- although local and regional governments play an increasingly recognised role, national governments still have a large responsibility in coordinating, enhancing dialogue, and providing adequate resources at local level;
- civil society, grassroots associations, private sector and academia are essential in the localising process and more participatory approaches are needed to counter the predominate top-down decision making processes.

Part 2. DeLoG Business

Report on DeLoG activities 2017 – 18

Lea Flaspoehler, DeLoG Secretariat¹⁶

DeLoG network activities 2017-2018 included

- facilitating the networking session on Localising the SDGs by implementing the New Urban Agenda at WUF9 February 2018;
- developing terms of reference for a publication on localising the 2030 Agenda;
- facilitating the session on Supporting Local Economic Development and Integrated Local Development during the 4th World Forum on Local Economic Development, October 2017;
- participating in the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, November 2017;
- drafting a table on different approaches to innovative financing mechanisms;
- discussing partnering with the Global Observatory on Subnational Finance and Investment;
- evaluating the possibility of organising a joint webinar on EU DEVCO's Territorial Approaches to Local Development (TALD).



The key learning event of the year was the development of '**Local Governance and Sustaining Peace**' and the delivery of the course in January 2018 at the European

¹⁵ The presentation can be found [here](#).

¹⁶ The presentation can be found [here](#).



Commission in Brussels which was organised by DeLoG under the lead of UNDP, UNICEF and UNCDF. 34 selected professionals from 12 different DeLoG member organisations and over 20 countries, based in both head offices and the field, came together to learn from each other's work on local governance in fragile and conflict-affected settings. The training was structured around three main topics – social cohesion, service delivery and local economic development – and how they link to local governance and sustaining peace.

Despite a heavy timetable the learning event was very successful due to thought provoking academic inputs, the way implementers and policy makers worked together as participants, the quality of the content that they shared, the links to organisations like VNG and ODI, and in particular the session on theory of change which generated a lot of discussion.

Structure and governance of the network



Kerstin Remke, BMZ, and Corinne Huser, SDC, representing DeLoG's core funders, outlined the composition and role of the Strategic Support Group (SSG) and presented the DeLoG charter for discussion and approval. The purpose of the charter is to explain how the DeLoG Network works, its structure and modus operandi. The charter was discussed, a few revisions made, and a final version agreed by the Network. It will now be formally endorsed and distributed to members and partners. The main change made during the meeting was that DeLoG *strategic partners* were accorded the same voting rights as DeLoG *members*. The participants decided, however, to keep the

distinction between those two groups.



The issue of funding was discussed. BMZ and SDC's contractual commitment as core funders only runs till 2020. Decisions about how core funding will continue beyond that point have to be made in 2018. Members agreed to carry this message back to their organisations and start the discussion about new core funding. To support this, it was agreed that the DeLoG Secretariat would prepare the following documents for member organisations:

- a performance based report showing how the work of the DeLoG Network has supported DLG over the years;
- the DeLoG Network's project documents: objectives, approach, log frame and action plan;
- a budget overview;
- a time frame for when this information will be provided by the Secretariat and when new funding will need to be secured.



DeLoG planning process for 2018 - 19

Next steps for the work plan

The DeLoG work plan 2018 - 19, based on ideas explored during the annual meeting and recorded in this report, will be drawn up as follows. The DeLoG Secretariat will propose a draft which will be discussed together with DeLoG members and partners via Skype sessions. The DeLoG Secretariat will develop the tentative plans into the annual plan and follow up interest expressed by those who put their names down for specific work streams or specific activities.



Annual Meeting host 2019

SDC may be able to host the DeLoG Annual Meeting 2019 but this is to be confirmed. UNCDF in Senegal was expressed as a back-up possibility.

Strategic Support Group members

The new voluntary member of the SSG was not decided.



Appendix Annual Meeting Agenda

13th DeLoG Annual Meeting

Day 1: Wednesday, 23 May 2018

- 09.00 **Arrival and registration**
- 09.15 **Opening remarks and welcome**
Pieter Jeroense, Deputy General Director, VNG
Jelte van Wieren, Director Department for Stabilisation and Humanitarian Affairs of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Christoph Jansen, Coordinator, DeLoG Secretariat
- 09.45 **Introduction and meeting overview**
Psyche Kennett, Facilitator
- 10.15 Thematic Session 1 on this year's main topic:
DLG in contexts of fragility, migration and forced displacement
Input
Building resilience in Northern Uganda: perspectives on forced displacement; the humanitarian - development nexus
Dr. Sanya K.F. Wilson, Mayor of Koboko Municipal Council, National Vice Chairman Urban Authority Association UAAU

Discussion
- 11.15 ***Morning break***
- 11.30 Input
Increasing legitimate stability in conflict-affected states: the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs' approach
Marjolein Jongman, Thematic lead peace processes and governance, Department for Stabilisation and Humanitarian Affairs
Rogier Nouwen, Thematic lead on Migration, Department for Stabilisation and Humanitarian Affairs
- 12.00 Discussion



- 12.30 **Lunch (and group picture)**
- 13.45 Parallel working groups: **DLG in contexts of fragility, migration and forced displacement**
- Group 1: **An urban lens on forced displacement: municipal systems, services and social cohesion** (group leader: Anton Baaré, Partner Nordic Consulting Group)
- Group 2: **Decentralisation and Local Governance in fragile contexts. Revisiting our analytical instruments and approaches – A stock taking** (group leader: Katharina Lampe, Senior Planning Officer GIZ)
- 15.15 **Presentation of working group results and proposals for activities 2018-2019**
- 16.15 **Afternoon break**
- 16.30 – 18.00 **DeLoG Session 1:
Review of DeLoG activities and achievements, 2017-2018**
- Overview of 2017-18 including Capacity Development / Learn4Dev activities
 - Strategic outlook 2018-19:
 - Role of the Strategic Support Group (SSG)
 - Decision on the DeLoG Charter
 - Funding
 - Discussion and feedback
- 19.00 **Dinner hosted by VNG International**

Day 2: Thursday, 24 May 2018

- 09.00 **Wrap up Day 1, opening Day 2**
- 09.15 Thematic session 2: **Urban and territorial governance approaches**
- Input
- Data and the urban governance research agenda**
Dr. Nuno Ferreira-Da-Cruz, LSE Cities, Assistant Professorial Research Fellow and Coordinator of the New Urban Governance Project
- 09.30 Discussion
- 10.00 **Morning break**



- 10.15 Parallel working groups: **Urban and territorial governance approaches**
Group 1: **Territorial governance and economic development** (group leader: Joëlle Piraux, Government expert, Enabel)
Group 2: **Urban perspectives** (group leader: Rolf Swart, Business Unit Manager, VNG International)
- 11.45 **Presentation of working group results and proposals for activities 2018-2019**
- 12.30 **Lunch**
- 13.45 Thematic session 3: **Fiscal Decentralisation and local financing**
Input
Subnational governments around the world: structure and finance
Isabelle Chatry, Senior Policy Analyst OECD
Local Finances in Africa: the case of Dakar City
Khady Dia Sarr, Programme Director Dakar Municipal Finance Programme
- 14.15 Discussion
- 14.30 Parallel working groups: **Fiscal Decentralisation and Local Financing**
Group 1: **Data for subnational finance** (group leader: tbc, resource person: Isabelle Chatry, Senior Policy Analyst OECD)
Group 2: **Problems and solutions for financing local development: enhancing the role of municipalities** (group leaders: Christel Alvergne, Regional Advisor Local Development Finance UNCDF and Khady Dia Sarr, Programme Director Dakar Municipal Finance)
- 15.45 **Afternoon break**
- 16.00 – 17.00 **Presentation of working group results and proposals for activities 2018-2019**
- 18.00 **Guided tour to the House of Representatives of the Netherlands**



Day 3: Friday, 25 May 2018

- 09.00 **Wrap up Day 2, opening Day 3**
- 09.15 **News from our members and partners**
- UCLG update on the GOLD report and the World Observatory**
 Luc Aldon, Research Officer UCLG World Secretariat
- UNDP's current work on Localising the SDGs**
 Gemma Aguado de la Fuente, ART Initiative UNDP
- 10.00 Thematic session 4: **Localising the SDGs**
- Input
- Localising the SDGs from a UN perspective**
 Pytrik Dieuwke Oosterhof, Sustainable Development Consultant
- Localising the SDGs: state of play**
 Paula Lucci, Senior Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute
- 10.30 Discussion
- 10.45 ***Morning break***
- 11.15 **Working group: Localising the SDGs: approaches and frameworks in comparison**
- (group leader: Claudia Büntjen, Principal Public Management Specialist, Asian Development Bank)
- 12.30 ***Lunch***
- 13.45 **Presentation of working group results and proposals for activities 2018-2019**
- 14.30 **DeLoG Session 2: Wrap up and next steps**
- Summary of the working group session results
 - Summary of potential DeLoG learning events
 - Development of the 2018 - 2019 work plan
 - Hosting the DeLoG Annual Meeting 2019
- 16.30 **Closing remarks**



**Chris van Hemert, Deputy Business Unit Manager, VNG
International**