Dear Reader,

welcome to the new issue of the DeLoG newsletter with the latest activities of the network and news on upcoming events as well as course announcements and recent publications. We would especially like to draw your attention to our e-learning course ‘Enhancing Development Effectiveness for Decentralisation and Local Governance’, in which 45 development practitioners participated. Due to the High-Level Political Forum 2018, this issue has a special focus on the 2030 Agenda/ Localising the SDGs.

All the best,
Your DeLoG Team
DeLoG Activities

Tutored E-learning Course on 'Enhancing Development Effectiveness for Decentralisation and Local Governance'

DeLoG’s e-learning course on Enhancing Development Effectiveness for Decentralisation and Local Governance took place from May 7 to July 7, 2018. During the e-learning course two webinars were conducted that addressed ‘Decentralisation & Local Governance in fragile and conflict affected settings’ as well as one webinar on ‘The SDG implementation on the local level and the commitment to leave no one behind (LNOB)’. Because of the high interest in this course, a second edition will be conducted from October - December, 2018. Further information on the upcoming course will be published on the DeLoG website.

News from our Members and Partners

First Local and Regional Governments’ Forum discusses conditions for localising the SDGs

The Local and Regional Governments’ Forum assembled for the first time, on 16 July, during the High Level Political Forum 2018. Co-organised by the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments, the United Nations Department of Economic Affairs (UNDESA), UN-Habitat and the Local2030 network, the forum recognised local and regional governments as important drivers of change that are indispensable for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

›› For more information, please click here

UNDP and RISE Research Institutes of Sweden launch ‘SDG Trend Scanner’

The UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the RISE Research Institute of Sweden jointly launched the ‘SDG Trend Scanner’— a new initiative to explore ways to harness rapid and disruptive trends to help advance the 2030 Agenda and deliver on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

›› For more information, please click here
Strengthening collaboration with local authorities crucial for localising the global agendas

The European Commission held the EU Partnership Forum 2018 in Brussels on 25-26 June, 2018. The Forum stimulated an open dialogue on how to further strengthen the collaboration towards the implementation and localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals and of the European Consensus on Development. It also enabled enhancing synergies between various stakeholders and the European Commission, including UCLG, other sister organisations and local authorities themselves.

For more information, please click here

International Seminar Localising Sustainable Development Goals: The Role of Management for Development Results

The 2018 Management for Development Results Seminar, co-organised by ADB, will take place from 27-30 August, 2018 in Seoul, South Korea. During this International Seminar, participants will have the opportunity to reflect on efforts to localise SDGs through effective Management for Development Results, and the challenges and opportunities created for making new progress through the 2030 Agenda.

VNG Annual Update 2018

VNG International has released its Annual Update 2018. VNG International are experts in strengthening local governments in developing countries and countries in transition. Their Annual Update contains an in-depth overview of their fields of expertise, their involvement in policy development, finances and further organisational affairs.

For more information, please click here
Towards a global Strategy on Localizing Financing for Sustainable Urbanization lead by UCLG with the support of FMDV

Resulting from a joint collaboration between UCLG and FMDV, the main principles of UCLG’s renewed strategy on Localising Finance were adopted by the Executive Board of UCLG in Strasbourg on May 25, 2018. A roadmap and a programme of actions are going to be formulated by the two Secretariats. This strategy will also serve as a basis of the integration of FMDV into the UCLG family.

For more information, please click here

Localise SDGs: Synchronising Local Aspirations to Global Agendas

Localise SDGs, a programme implemented by UCLG ASPAC and APEKSI and funded by EU, has designed activities to help local governments synchronise their current contributions on the local level to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. The programme is currently strengthening its partnership with initiatives in East Indonesia, where multiple local governments are testing innovative approaches to localise the SDGs.

For more information, please click here

Info, News, Links, Downloads

Africities 2018

From November 20-24, 2018, the Africities 8 Summit will be hosted in Marrakesh. The summit aims to address major questions based on the construction of the 2063 Vision of Africa with debate proposed by the African Union Commission. Africities is the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa’s flagship pan-African event that is held every three years in one of the five regions of Africa.

For more information, please click here
IAIA Special Symposium - The competing challenges of sustainability and economic development: Using impact assessment to achieve the SDGs in Asia

When: 1 - 4 October, 2018
Where: Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia

The IAIA Special Symposium aims to provide both the private and public sector with the necessary tools and techniques to better engage in a more balanced and equitable development approach to achieve the SDGs. About 300 delegates from more than 30 countries are expected to attend the symposium and the post-event training courses. The symposium aims to assess how voluntary impact assessment tools and techniques, such as sustainability assessments, life cycle assessments, risk assessments, and materiality analysis, can be utilised in Asia.

Spotlight on Sustainable Development 2018

The Spotlight Report 2018, published by the Civil Society Reflection Group on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, contains a comprehensive, independent assessment of the 2030 Agenda. The report declares that many countries are off-track on their way to fulfil the 2030 Agenda and therefore proposes fundamental policy changes in order to attain its potential, ingrained in transformative ideas as the principle of ‘Leave No One Behind’ (LNOB). Its presentation has been launched at the HLPF 2018.

Cities and Regions for Development Cooperation 2019

When: 4-5 February, 2019
Place: Brussels, Belgium

The sixth edition of the forum ‘Cities and Regions for Development Cooperation’ will take place in Brussels from 4-5 February, 2019. Organised jointly by the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions, this edition will focus on partnerships supporting urban development and helping deliver the Sustainable Development Goals at local and regional level.
Public Call For Evidence

The Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation is launching a call for evidence to draw on experience of country-level practitioners in delivering on effective development co-operation principles, the opportunities and challenges they have encountered, the solutions and approaches they have found useful and the situations where progress has been difficult to achieve.

›› For more information, please click here

Effective Governance for Sustainable Development: 11 Principles to Put in Practice

The UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) and UN DESA have prepared 11 basic principles that are important for a full realisation of the SDGs. Those principles aim to clarify the governance agenda, taking into account different governance structures, national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities. The mentioned principles focus on effectiveness, accountability, and inclusiveness.

›› For more information, please click here

Courses

UN System Staff College

›› UN Summer Academy
Date: 27-31 August, 2018
Apply by: 13 August, 2018
Place: The Hague, Netherlands

Swiss Peace

›› Conflict Transformation and the role of Religion Course: Methods & Approaches
Date: 9-10 November, 2018
Apply by: 30 September, 2018
Place: Basel, Switzerland

›› Business, Conflict & Peacebuilding Course
Date: 23-24 November, 2018
Apply by: 30 September, 2018
Place: Basel, Switzerland
The Hague Academy

» Local Economic Development
Date: 1-12 October, 2018
Apply by: 20 August, 2018
Place: The Hague, Netherlands

» Conflict, Rule of Law and Local Security
Date: 29 October-9 November, 2018
Apply by: 10 September, 2018
Place: The Hague, Netherlands

» Online Course - Inclusive Local Economic Development
Date: 29 October - 23 November, 2018
Apply by: 14 October, 2018

» Gender Responsive Governance
Date: 19-30 November, 2018
Apply by: 5 October, 2018
Place: The Hague, Netherlands

» Migration and Local Authorities
Date: 26-30 November, 2018
Apply by: 19 October, 2018
Place: The Hague, Netherlands

International Training Centre (ILO)

» Monitoring and Evaluation of Development Projects and Programmes
Date: 10-21 September, 2018
Apply by: 20 August, 2018
Place: Turin, Italy

» Project cycle management in fragile settings
Date: 10-14 December, 2018
Apply by: 10 November, 2018
Place: Turin, Italy
Local Governance and Decentralisation

Assessing the impact of governance programmes: GIZ support to citizen participation in local governance in Benin

DIE, 2018

This publication provides an exemplary impact assessment of a decentralisation programme in Benin. It analyses whether and how external support to citizen participation contributes to the quality of public services and local governance in the context of Benin's decentralisation process. The study measures the effect of GIZ activities on the quality of selected citizen participation formats and evaluates the impact of these citizen participation formats on the quality of public service provision and local governance.

›› For more information, please click here

Maintaining the Momentum of Decentralisation in Ukraine

OECD, 2018

This Multi-level Governance Series study by OECD focuses on Ukraine’s advances in regional development, territorial reform and decentralisation since 2014. The Government launched a reform to merge local governments and strengthen the decentralisation process, giving additional power and resources to sub-national authorities. In a short period, successful steps have been taken towards achieving municipal mergers and greater fiscal, administrative and political decentralisation, complemented by the State Strategy for Regional Development 2015-2020.

›› For more information, please click here

Re-shaping Decentralised Development Co-operation

OECD, 2018

This report analyses the evolution of financial flows, emerging trends and innovative paradigms related to the development co-operation of local and regional governments, including but not limited to official development assistance extended by sub-national governments. It promotes a territorial approach to development co-operation and provides policy recommendations to maximise the effectiveness, benefits and outcomes of DDC at all levels, while acknowledging the diversity of approaches, definitions and concepts across OECD DAC countries active in DDC.

›› For more information, please click here
Guide To Corruption-Free Local Government

UNDP, 2018

This guide is a practical instrument to assist local governments, UNDP Country Offices, international organisations and civil society organisations to design, implement and monitor anti-corruption at the local government level. This process includes corruption risk assessments; 2) integrity plans; and 3) integrity management systems that result in more transparent, effective, efficient and accountable local governments.

Fragility / Post-conflict settings / Migration

Rule of Law Annual Report 2017

UNDP, 2018

This Annual Report provides an overview of UNDP’s contributions to strengthen the rule of law and human rights in crisis-affected contexts and progress achieved with their partners at the global, regional, and country levels. Part I, Year in Review, reflects on the innovative aspects of the Global Programme and highlights UNDP’s intensified efforts to support the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus and the realisation of the 2030 Agenda. Part II, Country Profiles, presents a synopsis of UNDP’s engagement in 37 countries affected by crisis or conflict. Lastly, Part III, provides detailed financial information on the Global Programme.

Fiscal Decentralisation/ Local Finance

Fiscal Decentralisation and Inclusive Growth

OECD, 2018

This publication by OECD explores intergovernmental fiscal frameworks, which drive the division of roles of the central and sub-national governments, and critically influence growth and the inclusiveness of an economy. Consequently, the key aspects of intergovernmental fiscal relations and country performance are analysed, and their relation to inclusive growth is being assessed.
Towards the Localisation of the SDGs

The Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments & UCLG, 2018

This report presents evidence of the involvement of Local and Regional Governments in the ‘localisation’ of the Sustainable Development Goals. It complements the Voluntary National Reviews and ‘Main Messages’ submitted by 103 countries to the High-Level Political Forum in 2016, 2017 and 2018. It delivers first-hand information from LRGs in 61 different countries.

For more information, please click here

2018 SDG Index and Dashboards Report

Bertelsmann Stiftung and Sustainable Development Solutions Network, 2018

The SDG Index and Dashboards Report provides an assessment for country performance on the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. The annual report shows how leaders can deliver on their promise and it urges countries not to lose the momentum for important reforms. It is produced by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the Bertelsmann Stiftung.

For more information, please click here

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018

UN, 2018

The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018 reviews progress in the third year of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This overview presents highlights of progress and remaining gaps for all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, based on the latest available data, and examines some of the interconnections across goals and targets.

For more information, please click here
Utrecht: A Global Goals City

City of Utrecht, 2018

This publication describes Utrecht’s approach to localising the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the United Nation’s 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The aim is to share Utrecht’s experiences with others working to achieve the SDGs at local, national and international levels, as a means of knowledge-sharing and cooperation. The municipality’s top priorities are to increase awareness of the SDGs amongst Utrecht’s residents and businesses, and to stimulate them to take supportive and (where possible) crosssectional action.

► For more information, please click here

A Foreign Policy Perspective on the Sustainable Development Goals

Adelphi, 2018

This paper by Adelphi maps out the relevance of the SDGs to foreign policy. Taking the six SDGs under review at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) in 2018 as entry points, Adelphi analyses how progress on specific SDGs may support or undermine progress on foreign policy priorities, especially SDG 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions.

► For more information, please click here

‘Leaving no one behind’ through enabling climate-resilient economic development in dryland regions

PRISE, 2018

‘Leave no one behind’ is a principle central to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This policy briefing, based on five years’ research by the PRISE project, puts forward the view that governments, development partners and investors must prioritise investments to tackle poverty and climate vulnerability in dryland areas to ensure that no one is left behind and achieve multiple Sustainable Development Goals.

► For more information, please click here
Leaving no one behind: Some conceptual and empirical issues

UN, 2018

This paper provides an overview of the conceptual and empirical issues involved in the overarching goal of 'leaving no one behind' (LNOB). After reviewing some existing documents on the topic, it proposes ways to operationalise LNOB, discusses whether to take a country-focused or person-focused approach, examines various (multidimensional) ways to measure those who are left behind, argues for grounding LNOB on intrinsic and instrumental reasons, suggests ways to identify those at risk of being left behind, and discusses difficult trade-offs with other SDGs for an agenda focused on LNOB.

›› For more information, please click here

‘Leave no one behind’ index 2018

ODI, 2018

This index by ODI reviews the readiness of 86 countries to ‘leave no one behind’, monitoring the extent to which government systems are set up and ready to meet their leave no one behind commitment. Building on ODI’s 2017 ‘leave no one behind’ index, this year’s index adds an additional policy indicator on resilience. It also includes a new ‘leave no one behind’ outcome score for each country that captures the extent to which real-world outcomes on leaving no one behind are improving. The index measures governments’ readiness in the areas of data, policy, and finance.

›› For more information, please click here

Adolescents with disabilities: Enhancing resilience and delivering inclusive development

ODI, 2018

This report takes stock of the knowledge about adolescents with disabilities living in the so-called global South. It draws on interviews with 600 adolescent girls and boys with physical, visual, hearing or intellectual impairments, as well as interviews with their parents, teachers and other service providers. This report focuses, for the first time, on the intersection of age and disability – specifically the unique needs of adolescents with disabilities – and the gender dynamics that shape girls’ and boys’ lives. Alongside this, it also looks at the particular experiences of adolescents with disabilities who grow up in rural areas and conflict-affected contexts.

›› For more information, please click here
Urban & Territorial Governance

Africa’s future is urban: implications for EU development policy and cooperation

ODI, 2018

This paper builds on ongoing research to map relevant trends in the African continent and propose new directions for the EU’s urban agenda for Africa. It identifies priority issues, outlines the EU’s funding instruments and makes a number of recommendations for EU engagement with cities.

For more information, please click here

Rethinking Urban Sprawl

OECD, 2018

This report by OECD provides a new perspective to the nature of urban sprawl and its causes and environmental, social and economic consequences. This perspective, which is based on the multi-dimensionality of urban sprawl, sets the foundations for the construction of new indicators to measure the various facets of urban sprawl. The report uses new datasets to compute these indicators for more than 1100 urban areas in 29 OECD countries over the period 1990-2014.

For more information, please click here