



Dear Reader,

We are glad to present 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 publications.

'In profile' we feature Christel Alvergne, regional advisor and coordinator at the UNCDF regional office in Dakar.

Furthermore, this issue contains a review on DeLoG's Joint Learning Event on 'Local Governance and Sustaining Peace' in Brussels as well as a brief report on the Joint Workshop on 'Enhancing the Capacity of Local Governments in Localising the SDGs' in Cambodia. We would especially like to draw your attention to the upcoming webinars open to the public that DeLoG will offer in May and June.

We hope you enjoy this issue!

Your DeLoG Team

DeLoG Activities

In Profile - Interview with Christel Alvergne (UNCDF)



Christel Alvergne is regional advisor and regional coordinator at the UNCDF (United Nations Capital Development Fund) regional office in Dakar. In this interview, Christel discusses UNCDF's approaches and policies regarding the importance and relevance of

Decentralisation and Local Governance and the main challenges for Western and Central Africa in this field. Further, she explains how decentralisation and democratic local governance play a role in the local economic development and inclusive finance and shares future topics of the UNCDF in this area. Christel also elaborates on her highlights of being a DeLoG member and where she sees opportunities to continue and deepen the cooperation between the UNCDF and the DeLoG Network.

» For more information, please click here

DeLoG Joint Learning Event on 'Local Governance and Sustaining Peace' Took Place in Brussels



DeLoG conducted a joint learning event, providing insights on the nexus between local governance and sustaining peace in fragile and conflict-affected settings. The event was jointly organised by the DeLoG Secretariat, UNDP, UNICEF and the Swiss Development Cooperation and took place on 12-15 March in Brussels, hosted by the Belgian Development Agency, Enabel.

» For more information, please click here

Joint Workshop on 'Enhancing the Capacity of Local Governments in Localising the SDGs' in Cambodia



In early April DeLoG conducted a joint workshop on 'Enhancing the Capacity of Local Governments in Localising the Sustainable Development Goals' in Siem Reap, Cambodia. It was hosted by the National League of Local Councils of Cambodia. Other organisers were UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), UCLG ASPAC (United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific), LOGIN Asia (Local Governance Initiative and Network Asia), and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM). The workshop aimed to enhance the capacity of local governments and their associations in contributing to the achievement of the SDGs in their respective countries and enable local government representatives to contribute to the preparation of Voluntary National Reviews for the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

» For more information, please click here

Upcoming DeLoG Webinars Open to Public



In the context of the currently ongoing e-learning course 'Enhancing Development Effectiveness for Decentralisation and Local Governance', DeLoG will offer two webinars open to public. The first webinar on 'Localising the SDGs' will be held in the 3rd week of May. The second webinar will be conducted in the 1st week of June and will discuss the topic of 'Local Governance in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings'. Date and time will be published soon on our website.

» For more information, please click here

14th DeLoG Annual Meeting in Bern



The 14th Annual Meeting of the DeLoG-Network is coming up soon! The event will be hosted by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and will be taking place from 20-22 May, 2019, in Bern, Switzerland. Apart from the special focus on SDG16 the meeting will also deal with the four focus

topics of the network which are Localising the SDGs, Urban & Territorial Governance, DLG in Fragile Contexts and Local & Fiscal Decentralisation.

» For more information, please click here

News from Our Members and Partners

UCLG: The II World Forum of Local Governments Showcases Local Policies Committed to 2030 Agenda

The II World Forum of Local Governments, that took place in Seville from January 24 to 26, is an international meeting that gathers local governments' representatives from around the World to debate and analyse the challenges that cities face.

In the debates that took place in these three days, the key was to develop joint

sustainability action plans as well as criteria for a new model of governance.



» For more information, please click here

Venice 2030: the Conclusions of the Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Are Online

The conclusions of the November 'Venice City Solutions 2030-Financing the SDGs at the local level' event have just been published by the organisers PLATFORMA, AICCRE, UN-Habitat, UNCDF, UNDP and UCLG. More than 100 representatives of local, metropolitan and regional governments, as well as national governments, UN agencies and development banks, participated in this event, financially supported by PLATFORMA and the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA).



» For more information, please click here

Localise SDGs: Mobilising Indonesia's Local Governments for Sustainable Development

Recognising the important connection between SDGs and national development, Indonesia took a significant step by enacting the Presidential Decree no. 59/2017 in July 2017, which led to the establishment of the national governance structure and mechanisms for SDGs. It also underlines the indispensable roles of local

governments in this endeavour. In order to support Indonesia's efforts in this regard, UCLG ASPAC launched a flagship project called 'LOCALISE – Leadership, Ownership and Capacity for Agenda 2030 Local Implementation and Stakeholders Empowerment'. The project directly contributes to Indonesia's aim to scale up its SDGs-related work nationwide.



» For more information, please click here

The World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders Will Be Celebrated from 11 to 15 November 2019 in EtheKwini-Durban (South Africa)

Held every three years, the United Cities and Local Governments Congress, commonly known as 'World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders', is a unique event, a model for all local and regional leaders.

Over its last editions, this event has taken on huge importance throughout the international community, having become a key meeting on the agenda of local and regional governments around the world.

The UCLG World Congress brings together over 3000 civil society, business and academia representatives, who come from cities, metropolis and regions around the globe to exchange ideas with their international counterparts.



» For more information, please click here

Additional News

Launch of the World's First Voluntary Local Review (VLR) Online Platform

The Voluntary Local Review (VLR) is an international initiative in which the local government voluntarily reviews the status of its efforts on the SDGs and publishes the results as a comparable report. IGES shared VLR reports at HLPF 2018 and received a great deal of positive feedback. Subsequently, on 25 March, the 'VLR Lab' was launched as the world's first Voluntary Local Review online platform offering comprehensive information.



» For more information, please click here

10th Annual Global Forum on Urban Resilience & Adaptation

When: 26-28 June 2019

Where: Bonn, Germany

Resilient Cities – The Annual Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation – is hosted every year in Bonn.

For a decade, ICLEI Resilient Cities has been providing a global and open space

where local governments, researchers, businesses and civil society could meet as equals, contributing with their knowledge and expertise to the advancement of urban resilience. More



than 500 participants and beyond 30 partners each year helped make Resilient Cities a milestone event connecting local government leaders and climate adaptation experts to discuss adaptation challenges facing urban environments around the globe.

» For more information, please click here

European Urban Resilience Forum



When: 25 June 2019

Where: Bonn, Germany

Join the annual European Urban Resilience Forum, taking place back to back with Resilient Cities on 25 June 2019 in Bonn, Germany.

The Forum will bring together leaders, practitioners and stakeholders from European cities and regions of all sizes to discuss strategies and actions for adapting to climate change and building urban resilience. Participation is free of charge.

» For more information, please click here

Venice City Solutions 2030 - Creating citizenship: the SDGs as an opportunity for all



When: 24-26 October 2019

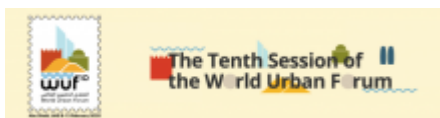
Where: Venice, Italy

The second edition of Venice City Solutions 2030 will focus on the role of local and regional governments in creating active citizenship, and how the SDGs can facilitate this process in close cooperation with social and economic stakeholders, communities and civil society.

The event will be jointly organised by UN-Habitat, UNDP and the Italian Association for CEMR and financially supported by Platforma.

» For more information, please click here

10th World Urban Forum



When: 08-13 February 2020

Where: Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

The World Urban Forum, which is convened by

UN-Habitat, is the world's most important conference on cities. As a non-legislative forum open to all, it provides the opportunity for thousands of participants involved in all aspects of urbanisation to share practices and knowledge on how cities are built, planned and managed.

In this occasion, the Local Government Unit will be involved in supporting and enhancing local government participation. A number of spaces will be available to organise events in the Forum.

» For more information, please click here

Courses



Swiss Peace

» CAS Civilian

Peacebuilding Essentials Program

Date: September 2019 - August 2020

Apply by: 30 June 2019

Place: Basel, Switzerland

» CAS Religion, Peace & Conflict

Date: September 2019 - August 2020

Apply by: 30 June 2019

Place: Basel, Switzerland

» Dealing with the Past & Conflict

Transformation Course

Date: 09 - 13 September 2019

Apply by: 15 July 2019

Place: Basel, Switzerland



German Institute for
Human Rights

» Online Course:

Human Rights in Development
Cooperation

Date: Ongoing

Place: Online



The Hague Academy

» Summer Course:

Sustaining Peace and Local Governance

Date: 1-5 July 2019

Apply by: 7 June 2019

Place: The Hague, Netherlands

» Summer Course:

Localising the SDGs

Date: 1-5 July 2019

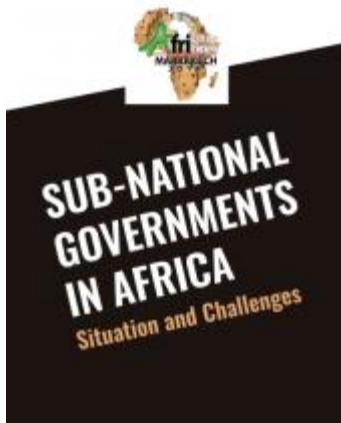
Apply by: 24 May 2019

Place: The Hague, Netherlands

Studies and Publications

Local Governance and Decentralisation

Sub-National Governments in Africa: Situation and Challenges



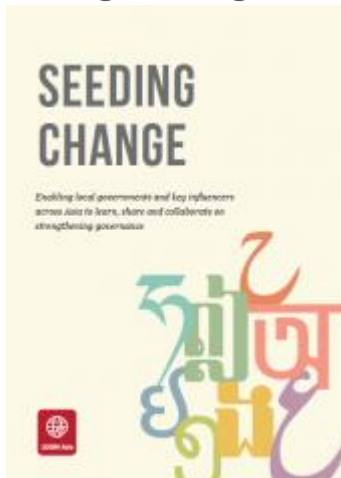
UCLG Africa, 2018

In all regions of Africa, the principle of self-government translates into a transfer of competencies previously exercised by central governments to sub-national governments. These bodies, within the framework of the exercise of these competencies, benefit from the legal persona and the financial autonomy necessary for the good fulfilment of their public missions. Although there are often large differences between African countries in terms of local government's competencies, their definition has been an important aspect of decentralisation policies. This paper

attempts to provide precise answers to questions on the quantity, regional distribution of the sub-national governments in Africa, as well as analyse leeway offered to them by their central governments.

» For more information, please click here

Seeding Change - Enabling Local Governments and Key Influencers across Asia to Learn, Share and Collaborate on Strengthening Governance



LOGIN Asia, 2019

This booklet captures a view of the many ways in which LOGIN has contributed to creating a more vibrant space for citizens and local governments in Asia. It showcases how transformation is enabled once peers across borders commit themselves to partnerships that are grounded in experiential learning.

» For more information, please click here

Gender Equal Cities

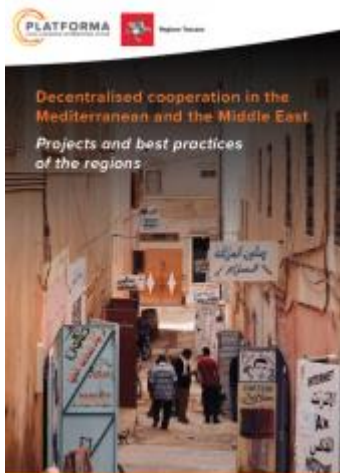


Urbact Knowledge Hub, 2019

This Urbact report shows how creating space for women's voices, needs and capacities is a necessary step towards building thriving cities. The report themes mirror city departments and sectors, providing practical guides for professionals who work both in specific policy-areas and across sectors. It is relevant for citizens and citizen organisations too, to help them them inspire and support their local administrations.

» For more information, please click here

Decentralised Cooperation in the Mediterranean and the Middle East



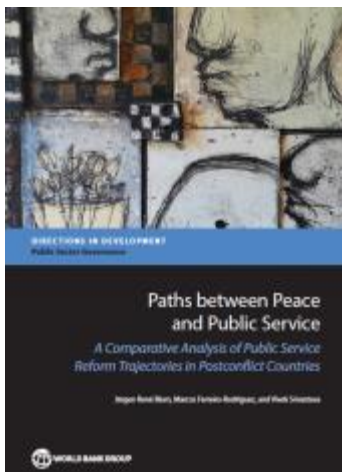
The Tuscany Region & PLATFORMA, 2019

The Tuscany Region and PLATFORMA have recently published a mapping of Italian decentralised cooperation projects in the Mediterranean and in the Middle East. It combines a quantitative analysis on the data relating to all cooperation projects promoted in the Mediterranean basin and a qualitative survey on some of the most significant experiences in this area.

» For more information, please click here

Fragility • Post-conflict settings • Migration

Paths between Peace and Public Service - A Comparative Analysis of Public Service Reform Trajectories in Postconflict Countries



World Bank, 2019

A new World Bank study aims to answer the question: 'Considering the short-term compromises, what is the best approach to rebuilding public services in post-conflict settings?' Paths between Peace and Public Service compares public service reform trajectories in five countries - Afghanistan, Liberia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, and Timor-Leste - in the aftermath of conflict. The report investigates four crucial issues: size and composition of the public service; pay reforms; public service management

bodies; and parallel structures.

» For more information, please click here

Fiscal Decentralisation • Local Finance

Gender and the Formal and Informal Systems of Local Public Finance in Sierra Leone



ICTD, 2018

This ICTD Research in Brief is a two-page summary of ICTD Working paper 87 by Vanessa van den Boogaard. This series is aimed at policy makers, tax administrators, fellow researchers and anyone else who is big on interest and short on time. In recent years, activists and policy-oriented researchers have begun to explore how tax policy and administration reform may serve to reinforce or address gender inequities. The majority of research in this area has focused on taxation in high-income countries; it is thus

unsurprising that policy-oriented work has tended to think about tax and gender through a narrow, westernised lens, which predominately focuses on formal taxes, administration, and institutions.

» For more information, please click here

Fiscal Decentralisation Indicators for South-East Europe



NALAS, 2018

The Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South East Europe (NALAS) has published the seventh edition of its Fiscal Decentralisation Report aimed at providing policy-makers and analysts with reliable comparative data on municipal finances and up to date information on intergovernmental fiscal relations in South–East Europe.

The report provides an overview of the structure and functions of municipal governments in the region, examines selected indicators of macro-economic performance and fiscal decentralisation and focuses on the evolution of intergovernmental finances in each NALAS' member country or entity.

» For more information, please click here

Blended Finance in the Poorest Countries - The Need for a Better Approach



ODI, 2019

This report aims to provide hard evidence to inform the discussion on the role of blended finance in plugging the SDG financing gap in developing countries by: reviewing the amounts of private finance mobilised and estimating leverage ratios to assess the scale and potential of blended finance, analysing the blended-finance landscape of country groups and economic sectors, focusing on low-income countries (LICs), where the need for additional finance is greatest, and identifying factors likely to

constraint blended finance's potential there.

» For more information, please click here

Equity Budgeting Tool - How to Analyse Equity in Public Budgeting and Contribute to Leaving No One Behind



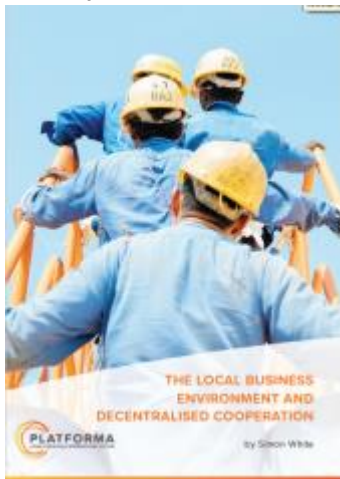
GIZ, 2019

Equity issues are high on the international policy agenda through the principle of “Leaving no one behind” of the Agenda 2030 as well as Sustainable Development Goal 10 “Reduce inequality within and among countries”. The publication at hand aims at contributing to this endeavour by presenting the role of Good Financial Governance and more specifically public budgeting can play in that regard. The aim of the Equity Budgeting Tool (EBT) is to provide practitioners with the necessary core understanding of equity, but more so offer a generic framework to analyse to

what extent the reduction of inequality is reflected in the drafting and the execution of public budgets.

» For more information, please click here

The Local Business Environment and Decentralised Cooperation



PLATFORMA, 2019

National business environment reform does not always lead to an improvement of business conditions at the local level, but through decentralised cooperation, local and regional governments can lead reforms that support business growth, create jobs and drive innovation, writes Simon White in a new study published by PLATFORMA. The first objective of this study is to show that improving local business environment requires building the capacity of local and regional governments in partner countries and promoting decentralisation reforms. The second objective is

to show the potential contribution of decentralised cooperation to help local and regional governments undertake business environment reforms and advocate for decentralisation reforms.

» For more information, please click here

2030 Agenda • Localising the SDGs

Equity-Focused, Gender-Responsive Evidence: a Blind Spot in VNR Reporting

IIED, 2019

Analysis of the voluntary national reviews (VNRs) found that, although monitoring is strong, evaluation receives almost no attention. VNR reporting is not incorporating evaluative evidence, particularly equity-focused and gender-responsive evidence. Access to disaggregated data is a core challenge to tracking progress. Nevertheless, countries are actively looking for solutions, recognising that gender equality is an enabler and accelerator in achieving all the SDGs. Equity-focused, gender responsive implementation, assessment and evaluation of the 2030 Agenda offers an opportunity for transformative change to achieve gender equality and equity in the SDGs era and beyond.

» For more information, please click here



World Water Development Report 2019

UN-Water, 2019

The United Nations World Water Development Report 'Leaving no one behind' launched 19 March 2019 during the 40th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), and in conjunction to the World Water Day, demonstrates how improvements in water resources management and access to water supply and sanitation services are essential to addressing various social and economic inequities, such that 'no one is left behind' when it comes to enjoying the multiple benefits and opportunities that water provides.

» For more information, please click here



Localisation of the 2030 Agenda in Mexico: Systematisation of the Installation and Operationalisation of the 2030 Agenda Follow-Up and Implementation Bodies

UNDP Mexico, 2019

In this publication, UNDP presents the status of the localisation of the 2030 Agenda at the subnational level in Mexico. In particular, it seeks to systematise the installation and operationalisation process of the 2030 Agenda Follow-up and Implementation Bodies at the state level in order to generate greater understanding regarding the design and potential of these bodies, as well as the challenges they face. In addition to inviting critical reflection on the actions that Mexico is promoting in this field, this publication serves as an instrument of South-South cooperation, being particularly useful for countries with a federal system similar to that of Mexico.



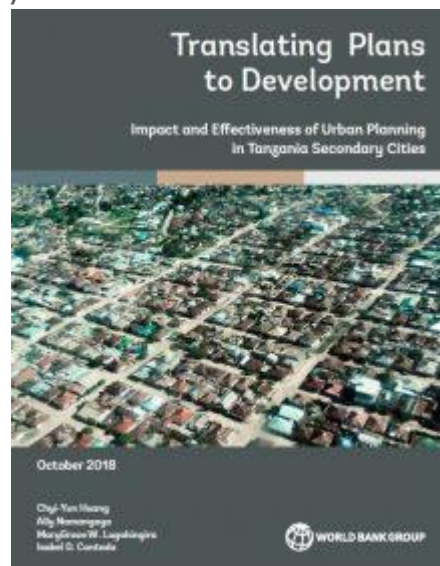
» For more information, please click here

Urban & Territorial Governance

Translating Plans to Development - Impact and Effectiveness of Urban Planning in Tanzania Secondary Cities

World Bank, 2018

'Translating Plans to Development' is a study investigating the impact and effectiveness of urban planning on city spatial development in seven Tanzania secondary cities: Arusha, Dodoma, Kigoma, Mbeya, Mtwara, Mwanza, and Tanga. It was conducted in support of the Tanzania Strategic Cities Project.



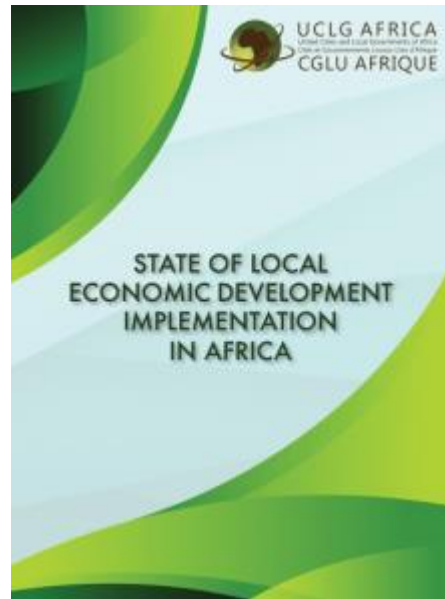
» For more information, please click here

State of Local Economic Development Implementation in Africa

UCLG Africa, 2018

This assessment of local economic development programmes and projects in Africa documents ongoing initiatives and innovations developed in Africa on Local Economic Development (LED), but also reports on emerging narratives and debates emerging from these experiments. The publication deals with the genesis and debates on local economic development in Africa, looks at the space, the territory and the time in the implementation of LED programmes and projects, and analyses the regional dimension of the five thematic axes and the twelve LED guiding principles.

» For more information, please click here

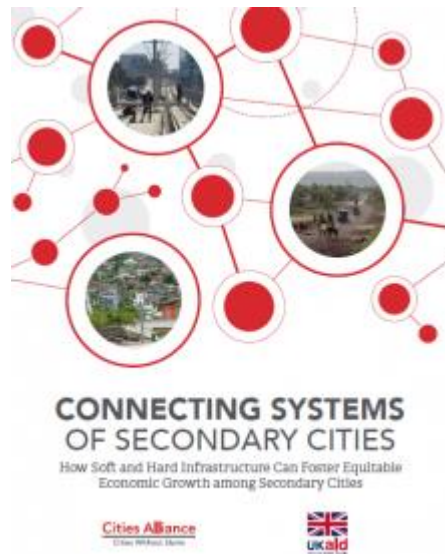


Connecting Systems of Secondary Cities: How Soft and Hard Infrastructure Can Foster Equitable Economic Growth among Secondary Cities

Cities Alliance, 2019

The publication by Professor Brian Roberts provides a continuing narrative to Professor Roberts' 2014 work 'Managing Systems of Secondary Cities', which provided much-needed data on the changing trends of secondary cities and the role they can play in regional and national development. 'Connecting Systems of Secondary Cities' further explores the issues that strain equitable economic growth in cities, especially the role of soft and hard infrastructure to improve intercity connectivity.

» For more information, please click here





DECENTRALISATION &
LOCAL GOVERNANCE

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