DeLoG NEWSLETTER

No. 30
06/2016

DECENTRALISATION & LOCAL GOVERNANCE

Dear Reader,

With Habitat III gaining momentum, this newsletter thematically focuses on issues of urban governance but also on localising the SDGs, climate change, and migration. In profile, we feature Dr. Lili Liu (World Bank) who will also tell us more about DeLoG's annual meeting in May 2016, local financing and the Bank's approach and role.

We hope you enjoy the current issue.

Your DeLoG Team
Contact: info[at]delog.org

Content

DeLoG Activities
- Learn4Dev: upcoming ADB/DeLoG joint learning event
- 11th DeLoG Annual Meeting
- In profile: interview with Dr. Lili Liu, World Bank
- Video tutorials on DeLoG and DLG
- German Habitat Forum

News from our Member Organisations
- Methodological guide: local economic development
- Integrated framework to support local governance and local development
- Guidance note: a development approach to migration and displacement
- VNG International's program to increase internally generated revenues
- Leveraging urbanization in South Asia: managing spatial transformation

Infos, Links, Downloads
- Recognising local governments at Habitat III
- Roadmap for localising the SDGs
- Localising the SDGs: goal 8 and 16
- Leave no one and no city behind
- Myanmar's local governance reform challenges
- How political dynasties undermine local governance in the Philippines
- Regions have the opportunity to establish regional development agencies
- UAH 42 billion received by the local level
- The 3rd Devolution Conference assesses decentralisation in Kenya
- Announcing Kenya as the host of the GPEDC Second High Level Meeting

Courses
- Local service delivery
- Conflict, rule of law, and local security
- Certificate of Advanced studies (CAS) in civilian peacebuilding essentials

Studies
- Decentralisation
- Agenda 2030
- Urban governance
- Refugees and migration
- Climate change

Contact, Newsletter & Website

▪ DeLoG Activities

Learn4Dev: upcoming ADB/DeLoG joint learning event on "Localizing global agendas"

ADB and DeLoG are jointly organising a learning event which will be held in Manila, Philippines, from 27-29 September, 2016. Exploring current approaches for localising global agendas and ensuring the role of subnational governments in urban development and climate change activities, this course will have a particular focus on SDG 11 and 13. The concept note, draft agenda, and call for contributions are now available online and registration has opened.

›› For more information, please click here.

11th DeLoG Annual Meeting in Paris, France

The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MAE) hosted DeLoG's 11th Annual Meeting from 18-20 May, 2016, in Paris, France. Around 40 participants from more than 20 member and partner organisations talked about "Localising the SDGs: Fiscal, Urban and Contextual Perspectives". Important topics were 1) sustainable local development financing, 2) opportunities, challenges and approaches for decentralisation in fragile environments, 3) urban and territorial governance. The full report will be available on our website soon.

›› For more information, please click here.

In-Profile: interview with Dr. Lili Liu, World Bank

Dr. Lili Liu has been the DeLoG focal point from the World Bank since 2015. In this interview, she gives her views on the 11th DeLoG Annual Meeting, highlights three characteristics of the Bank's approach regarding partnerships with countries in decentralisation reforms, and gives her opinion about what is necessary to achieve the goals set out by the international agenda as well as the role the World Bank can play.

›› To read the interview, please click here.

German Habitat Forum

The German Habitat Forum, held in Berlin from 1-2 June, 2016, brought together about 1000 attendees from 74 countries. The conference resulted in the "Berlin Recommendations for the Cities of Tomorrow". The document is suggested as an input for the ongoing negotiations on the New Urban Agenda (NUA), to be adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and

Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito, Ecuador, in October 2016.

At the conference, DeLoG convened a workshop together with ANAMM (National Association of Municipalities of Mozambique) on "Governance, Civic Participation and Capacities". Local governments are crucial for sustainable and inclusive development as well as for meeting the SDGs. The panel discussion with Dr. David Satterthwaite (IIED), Rose Molokoane (FEDUP and SDI), Silvia Haas (City of Leipzig), Eduardo Jossias Nguenha (ANAMM), Sara Hoeflich de Duque (UCLG), and facilitated by Martha Gutierrez (GIZ) shed some light on preconditions for urban governance.

›› Read about DeLoG's workshop and its key messages.

Related links:

›› The conference's outcome document: the Berlin Recommendations.

›› The press release of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

›› For more information on the conference itself, please click here.

Video tutorials on DeLoG and decentralisation and local governance

DeLoG has been working on improving its website for quite some time now. In the course of this process, it has commissioned two short videos, explaining the network 'DeLoG' as well as the concept of decentralisation and local governance (DLG), respectively.

Both clips are now online.

›› Watch the video: What is DeLoG?

›› Watch the video: Local Governance and Decentralisation.

■ News from our Member Organisations

Methodological guide: local economic development for African local elected officials

Economic development is one of the main concerns for local authorities in African cities. This methodological guide by AFD in partnership with LEDNA (part of UCLGA) helps local elected officials to strengthen local economic development. It is a decision-making and implementation tool that aims to assist local authorities and their partners in addressing issues of local economic development in order to strengthen local economic dynamics and job creation in African cities.

›› Links to the document: English version ::: version française.

Integrated framework to support local governance and local development

At this year's DeLoG annual meeting, Amy Gill, UNDP, presented the Integrated Local Governance and Local Development (LGLD) Framework, developed jointly by UNDP with its associated funds and programmes, UNV and UNCDF. This framework supports partners across societies and economies, i.e. governments at all levels, civil society, private sector, and development agencies, at different stages of development to design strategies to localise the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

›› Read the document.

Guidance note: a development approach to migration and displacement

UNDP works with partner countries to offset short-term responses to migration and displacement with long-term sustainable development solutions.

›› Read the guidance note.

VNG International's program to increase internally generated revenues for local development

At this year's annual meeting, Peter Jongkind, VNG International, presented the organisation's new approach to support municipalities to improve their tax collection and service delivery. In doing so, this approach also promotes civic engagement and government accountability. Piloting the approach in municipalities in Ghana, VNG International found that it leads to improvements in tax management and service delivery.

›› Download the paper here.

Related link:

›› For a related article by the Capacity and Institution Building Working Group, please click here.

Leveraging urbanization in South Asia: managing spatial transformation for prosperity and livability

Urbanisation presents South Asian countries with the potential to transform their economies to make their spaces prosperous and liveable. But while the region is making strides, it has struggled to capitalise on this opportunity. This report argues that undertaking difficult and appropriate reforms to improve South Asia's trajectory of development is essential.

›› Download the paper here.

▪ Info, Links, Downloads

Recognising local governments at Habitat III

The international community increasingly acknowledges local governments' important role in the Habitat III process. In March, the Habitat III Thematic Meeting on 'Financing Urban Development' emphasised the need for strategies and tools to ensure adequate access to funding for sustainable urbanisation at the local and regional levels. The Mexico Declaration recognised that "financing sustainable urbanization implies empowering local, metropolitan and regional governments".

In May, representatives of sub-national governments worldwide gathered in the context of the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments in New York and, in response to the Zero Draft of the NUA, agreed on recommendations. Mayors and local leaders then presented these recommendations at the Habitat III Hearings for Local Authorities. In addition, the campaign #Listen2Cities was launched in May.

›› Mexico City Declaration for Habitat III.

›› Second World Assembly calls for UN and states to listen to cities at Habitat III Local Authorities Hearings.

›› Local authorities bring input to Habitat III draft outcome.

›› For more information on #Listen2Cities, please click here.

Related links:

›› For more information on the Second World Assembly and the Habitat III Hearings for Local Authorities, please click here.

›› For the UNACLA Statement on Habitat III Zero Draft, please click here.

›› For more information on the reaction of the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights to the Zero Draft, please click here.

Roadmap for localising the SDGs

Together with UNDP and UN-Habitat, the Global Taskforce has published a roadmap for achieving the SDGs at the local level, i.e. in support of local and regional governments with regard to the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs. It covers a broad range of strategies as well as different areas of action including awareness-raising, advocacy, implementation and monitoring.

›› Download the report here.

Localising the SDGs: goal 8 and 16

UCLG recently published two short videos. The first video deals with localising SDG 8 which calls for sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. The second clip is on SDG 16 which calls for peace, justice and strong institutions. Local/ regional governments have long led

the way in trying out new forms of participatory decision-making and are called upon to ensure that no group is left behind.

›› Watch the video on SDG 8.
›› Watch the video on SDG 16.

Leave no one and no city behind

UNDP's DeLoG focal point, Hanne Kristoffersen, shares her experiences and views on responding to conflict and disasters. She argues that "Only by linking the aspirations of SDG 11 and 16 can we support cities to significantly reduce violence and work with governments and communities to find lasting solutions to conflict and insecurity."

›› Read Hanne's contribution to the UNDP blog.

Myanmar's local governance reform challenges

This article focuses on the governance challenges Myanmar faces as it moves away from its military past and towards democracy. The author argues that local governance is an area where change is proving to be very challenging.

›› To read the article, please click here.

How political dynasties undermine local governance in the Philippines

Although the Philippine constitution proscribes political dynasties, they still hold key positions of power in the country. This article discusses how political dynasties, remaining in positions of power in the cantons, subvert the spirit of local governance and political competition.

›› To read the article, please click here.

Regions have the opportunity to establish regional development agencies

On 6 April 2016, the Government of Ukraine published a resolution, approving a model regulation on the regional development agency. The document determines its organisational and legal status, fundamental rights and functions, management bodies and sources of financing. Regional development agencies are currently successfully operating in countries such as Germany, France, Great Britain, Poland, Australia, and Canada.

›› For more information, please click here.

UAH 42 billion received by the local level; increase of revenues of amalgamated communities

Over the first four months of 2016, local councils in Ukraine have received UAH 41.7 billion - around 42 % of the annual revenues they plan to spend this year and an increase of UAH 13.3 billion compared to the same period last year. Further, in May 2016, the Ministry of Regional Development published an assessment of the financial capacity of 159 amalgamated territorial communities that were created in the previous year. The report indicated that amalgamation has significant financial advantages.

›› Close to UAH 42 billion have already been received by local budgets.
›› Total revenues of communities that amalgamated in 2015 increased by a factor of five and their earned revenues doubled.

The 3rd Devolution Conference assesses decentralisation in Kenya

The third Devolution Conference took place from 19-23 April, 2016. More than 5,000 participants including the Governors of Kenya's 47 counties gathered for this annual national meeting which addresses the status quo of the Kenyan decentralisation constitutional process which was initiated in 2013. With a focus on health and water, the conference looked at positive achievements as well as current challenges.

›› For more information on the conference, please click here.

Announcing Kenya as the host of the GPEDC Second High Level Meeting

The Government of Kenya announced that it will host the second high-level meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation from 28 November to 1 December, 2016, in Nairobi. The conference is an inclusive global forum which aims to help governments, civil society and businesses to work better together to end poverty. One year after the adoption of the SDGs, the Nairobi high-level meeting will prioritise actions to make development cooperation more effective across a diverse group of actors.

›› For the full press release, please click here.

▪ Courses

The Hague Academy for Local Governance

›› Local service delivery and the SDGs

Date: 3-14 October, 2016
Apply by: 5 August, 2016
Place: The Hague, Netherlands

This course on local service delivery and the SDGs discusses the following questions: How can we increase the quality and accessibility of basic services such as waste collection, clean water, housing, health and social services? How can they be financed? And how can we engage citizens and the private sector? This training is designed for professionals working in the field of decentralisation, local governance, public service provision and development.

Those, who mention in their application form that they apply through the DeLoG newsletter, will get a 10% discount on the course fee.

›› Conflict, rule of law, and local security

Date: 7-18 November, 2016
Apply by: 30 October, 2016
Place: The Hague, Netherlands

The key issues in this training are: How can governments promote citizen security and protect human rights after violent conflict? What policies and instruments do they have to foster reconciliation and peacebuilding amongst different ethnic or religious groups? And what attitude and skills do government officials need to lead conflict transformation processes? The training is designed for those who have been working directly with or on issues related to societies in early transition and fragile and conflict affected areas.

Those, who mention in their application form that they apply through the DeLoG newsletter, will get a 10% discount on the course fee.

Swiss Peace

›› Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in civilian peacebuilding essentials

Date: September 2016 – August 2017
Apply by: 30 June, 2016
Place: Basel, Switzerland

This course provides a holistic understanding of civilian peacebuilding, analysing theories, concepts, debates, policies and practices in: 1) peacebuilding analysis & impact; 2) peacebuilding & statebuilding; 3) gender in conflict & peacebuilding; 4) peace mediation; 5) dealing with the past; 5) business, conflict & peace.

The course can be taken over one or two years. On-site classes take place once a month (Friday and Saturday) and there are two 3-day trainings from Wednesday to Friday. It is designed for practitioners and academics.

- ## Studies

Decentralisation

Decentralisation in West Africa: the implications for urban climate change governance

Loan Diep, Diane Archer and Cheikh Gueye; IIED (2016)

Conducting a literature review, supported by two city case studies (Saint-Louis in Senegal and Bobo-Dioulasso in Burkina Faso), this paper looks at the linkages between decentralisation and urban climate governance. Decentralisation needs to progress further: confusion regarding overlapping roles and responsibilities between the central government and agencies acting at different levels need to be addressed and financing at the city scale remains a challenge.

›› Download the paper here.

Nepal's divisive new constitution: an existential crisis

International Crisis Group (2016)

In 2015, Nepal adopted a new constitution amid deadly protests that continued for months. Protesting groups argued that the statute backtracked on addressing structural discrimination. If implementation begins before contentious issues are addressed, the mainstream parties risk wholesale rejection of the constitution by a large section of the population. Conducting local elections also carries grave risks of violence, boycotts, intimidation and, in some areas, rejection of the state and its political system.

›› Download the report here.

Agenda 2030

Urban governance for sustainable global development: from the SDGs to the New Urban Agenda
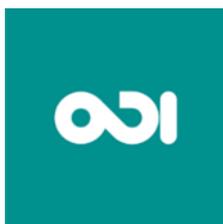
Eva Dick; DIE (2016)

This briefing paper identifies urban governance issues which are currently neglected in the SDGs and require further consideration. Although there seems to be an increased awareness of the importance of cities for development, this paper argues that issues of urban and local governance need to be addressed in further detail and as cross-cutting issues. This applies to SDG 11 but also to goal 16 or sectoral goals such as SDGs 9 and 13.

›› Download the paper here.

The SDGs at city level: Mumbai's example

Paula Lucci and Alainna Lynch; ODI (2016)

With urbanisation ever increasing, how countries deal with growing urbanisation over the next 15 years will define governments' ability to achieve most of the SDGs. Analysing the performance on three SDG targets at slum and settlement levels in Mumbai, this report provides recommendations for early action regarding SDG implementation in cities.

›› Download the report here.

Achieving the impossible: can we be SDG 16 believers?

Alan Whaites; OECD GovNet (2016)

This paper focuses on SDG 16 and discusses how development partners and other actors can better support developing countries to achieve this goal. The development community needs to focus increasingly on factors that can either positively or negatively influence the speed of progress on governance reform. Taking advantage of these factors, however, will require many development actors to radically change their practice.

›› Download the paper here.

Urban governance

Open cities: from economic exclusion to urban inclusion

Solomon Greene, Rolf Pendall, Molly Scott and Serena Lei; Urban Institute (2016)

While cities drive economic growth in high-income countries, the benefits of urban economies are not widely shared among city residents. Income inequality is increasing, poverty persists and economic mobility appears blocked for many of those living in cities. Vulnerable groups face structural barriers and recent protest in cities across high-income countries highlighted the instability of the status quo.

›› Download the paper here.

Are we underestimating urban poverty?

Paula Lucci, Tanvi Bhatkal and Amina Khan; ODI (2016)

As poverty measures and data collection methods have not caught up with the reality of an increasingly urbanised world, it is more and more likely that urban poverty is underestimated. This has important implications for interventions and allocating resources with regard to the 2030 Agenda. This report explores current problems with the definition of 'slum' settlements and data collection in urban contexts, providing recommendations on how to address these issues.

›› Download the report here.

Why is water still unaffordable for sub-Saharan Africa's urban poor?

Diana Mitlin and Anna Walnycki; IIED (2016)

Across sub-Saharan Africa, water services for low-income urban communities vary and are often unaffordable. Achieving SDG target 6.1 — universal and equitable access to safe and affordable water for everyone by 2030 — will require action on urban water costs.

›› Download the briefing here.

Refugees and migration

The global refugee crisis: the key role of cities

Eva Dick and Benjamin Schraven; DIE (2016)

More than 80 % of refugees worldwide are located in developing countries and emerging economies and many people are displaced within their own nations. While Syria and its neighbouring countries are affected the most, displacement is also a significant issue in Colombia, Nigeria and Sudan. Contrary to popular belief, it is cities rather than refugee camps that receive most of these displaced persons.

›› Download the paper here.

Climate change

Making strides on community adaptation in Canada: final report

ICLEI Canada (2016)

This was a project created to bridge the gap between planning and implementation by increasing the uptake of existing implementation-related resources. There is a growing implementation gap amongst Canadian municipalities. This final report gives seven recommendations and case study examples of accessible strategies designed to address common constraints to implementing adaptation actions.

›› Download the report here.

Urbanising Thailand: implications for climate vulnerability assessments

Richard Friend, Chanisada Choosuk, Khanin Hutanuwatr, Yanyong Inmuong, Jawanit Kittitornkool, Bart Lambregts, Buapun Promphakping, Thongchai Roachanakanan, Poon Thiengburanathum, Pakamas Thinphanga and Santiparp Siriwattanaphaiboon; IIED (2016)

Summarising a series of studies, this report focuses on the dynamics of urbanisation and climate change risks as well as on the linkages between urbanisation, climate change and emerging patterns of urban poverty and vulnerability. The paper argues for a fundamental rethinking of urbanisation in Thailand. Current trajectories of urbanisation need to change; the future course needs to be based on a policy process founded on informed public dialogue.

›› Download the paper here.

▪ Contact, Newsletter &Website

Please refer to our website: http://www.delog.org