



Dear Reader,

Welcome to the newest issue of the DeLoG newsletter. This edition will provide you with updates on the network's latest activities and news on upcoming events, courses and recent publications. We are very pleased to introduce you to our new network member LOGIN Asia, represented by Preeta Lall, in our 'In Profile' section.

In our publication section we will highlight some of the newest publications concerning

- (1) local governance and decentralisation,
- (2) fragility, post-conflict settings and migration,
- (3) fiscal decentralisation and local finance,
- (4) the 2030 Agenda and localising the SDGs as well as
- (5) Urban and Territorial Governance.

Make sure to click on 'More' for additional information and access to the stories highlighted in this newsletter and visit our [DeLoG Website](#) to discover even more new [publications](#) as well as [courses](#) offered by our members and partners.

We wish you an enjoyable and educational read over the holidays!

All the Best,

Your DeLoG Team

Contact: info@delog.org

DeLoG Activities



© Preeta Lall 2019

In Profile – Interview with Preeta Lall, LOGIN Asia

Preeta Lall is the Executive Director of the Local Governance Initiative and Network (LOGIN). Set up in 2013, she has accompanied the growth and transition of LOGIN to an independent network from the beginning. Prior to working with LOGIN, she was a Senior Thematic Advisor at the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in India managing the portfolio of partnerships and programs in the area of decentralisation and local governance. She has studied Economics and has earned a Masters in Rural Management from the Institute of Rural Management, Anand, India.

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Recording of DeLoG's Webinar: World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment (SNG WOFI) Now Available

On 28 November 2019 DeLoG conducted a webinar on Local Finance, focussing on the World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment (SNG-WOFI). Launched as a joint endeavor of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and United Cities and Local Government (UCLG) in 2017, the SNG-WOFI initiative is the world's leading source of internationally comparable data and analysis on subnational government structure and finance. Both Isabelle Chatry, OECD Senior Policy Analyst, and Serge Allou, UCLG Senior Policy Analyst, contributed to the webinar as speakers and highlighted the benefits and potential of the SNG-WOFI initiative for practitioners and management in international cooperation. A recording of the webinar is now available.

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News from our Members and Partners



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Local Action for and by the People: UCLG World Congress – World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders

The 2019 UCLG Congress – World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders, convened by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), was held in eThekweni / Durban, South Africa, from 11 – 15 November, 2019. During the Summit, with around 3000 participants, it became clear that the voices of local governments are more relevant than ever. Globally acknowledged problems like climate change, migration or inequality need local approaches. Exchanging best practice examples, fostering mutual learning and discussing different points of view is crucial for local leaders to improve solutions at the local level.

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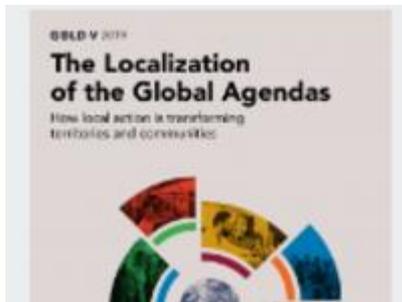
© UNCDF, UCLG, FMDV 2019

Meridiam Named Fund Manager for International Municipal Investment Fund (IMIF)

Meridiam has been formally selected as the fund manager for the unique International Municipal Investment Fund (IMIF). The IMIF fund focusses exclusively on providing financial support to cities and local governments, in particular municipalities in developing countries. UNCDF and UCLG in collaboration with FMDV will support cities in getting access to IMIF funding. Moreover, they will provide policy and regulatory support at the national level to open up domestic capital markets for sub-national governments, as well as technical support at the city level to help with project identification and structuring. IMIF will be open to investment proposals by eligible cities. UCLG with FMDV, UNCDF and Meridiam will jointly design a common and transparent filter and investment process to

select, develop and finance IMIF projects with cities and local governments from developing countries.

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© UCLG 2019

The Localization of the Global Agendas: How Local Action is Transforming Territories and Communities

UCLG (2019) The fifth Global Report on Decentralisation and Local Democracy (GOLD Report) by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) assesses the progress of the 2030 Agenda. The report analyses what efforts have been made to localise the 2030 Agenda and carves out challenges and opportunities still faced at the local level. Underscoring that there is still a long way to go, UCLG stresses that cities and territories are the backbone of social, economic, environmental and cultural development. Therefore, UCLG encourages all spheres of government and all stakeholders to support the ‘whole of society’ approach via localisation. Moreover, the report outlines trends affecting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and provides policy recommendations.

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Global Festival of Action in Bonn, Germany

The Global Festival of Action is an annual event, which takes place at the World Conference Centre in Bonn, Germany. Supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Federal Foreign Office and other partners, the festival supports the visibility of global initiatives. It aims to strengthen the impact of local and innovative actions and solutions regarding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The UN SDG Action

Campaign powers this networking event, which takes place from 1 – 3 April 2020. Until 10 January 2020 you can apply to be part of the programme or register to participate.

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Additional News



© UNDP, Ministry of Finance of Slovak Republic 2019

Public Finance for Development Programme Launches New Website

In 2009 the Slovak Ministry of Finance and UNDP initiated the Public Finance for Development Programme (PFD Programme). It aims to strengthen the Public Financial Management systems of Slovakian partner countries. With this goal in mind, the Programme primarily provides technical assistance to East European countries and the Western Balkans currently undergoing reform processes with the intention of becoming part of the EU. Recently, the PFD Programme launched its new website. It provides information on the latest activities in the region, including background on events as well as testimonial partner and animated project videos.

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© Regions 4 Sustainable Development 2019

Preparations for the 2020 HLPF

In July 2020, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) will once again host the next high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF). 50 countries are scheduled to present their national voluntary reviews (VNR). The theme of the forum will be 'Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realising the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development'. Prior to the HLPF, the regional commissions and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), in collaboration

with relevant UN-system entities and other partners, will hold regional preparatory meetings as well as expert group meetings and workshops.

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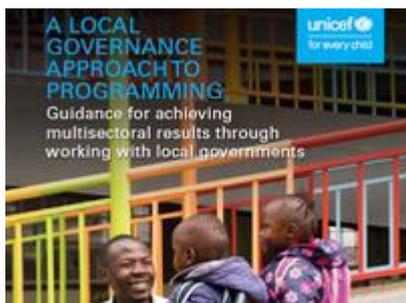
COP25: Cities Demonstrate how Circular Development Supports Climate Action

At the 2019 UN Climate Summit in Madrid, Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) together with cities from around the world demonstrated how circular development drives ambitious and systemic climate action at the local level. ICLEI presented practical examples of how cities and regions can consider resource consumption within their climate strategies. In addition, cities like Bonn (Germany), Turku (Finland) or Yokohama (Japan) introduced their projects and campaigns to contribute to circular development such as the 'Become a cupster' campaign or the 'PREVENT Waste Alliance'. Despite their different approaches all participants agreed that circular development at the local level plays a key role in closing the current emissions gap.

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Studies and Publications

Local Governance and Decentralisation



© UNICEF/UN066583/Ohanesian 2017

A Local Governance Approach to Programming: Guidance for Achieving Multisectoral Results through Working with Local Governments

UNICEF (2019) The well-being of marginalised groups such as children and adolescents is frequently determined by decisions made at the local level. The important role of local government

concerning access to goods and basic services is hence increasingly recognised in the humanitarian context. Cross-cutting programming that takes into account both local government as well as local stakeholders can therefore be very beneficial to development efforts, particularly in fragile contexts. This handbook summarises UNICEF's experience concerning community engagement and support of local decision making in the areas of disaster risk preparedness, peacebuilding and humanitarian response. Thereby it provides guidance for stakeholders working in humanitarian contexts in rural and urban settings.

[More](#)

Fragility • Post-conflict settings • Migration



© Thomas Lohnes/Brot für die Welt 2019

Land and Conflict Prevention: How Integrated Solutions Can Help Achieve Sustainable Development Goals

FriEnt (2019) FriEnt's new study on 'Land and Conflict Prevention' analyses the interlinkages between violent conflict, land and natural resources. Drawing on 16 case studies from around the globe the publication summarises good practices, political achievements, challenges and lessons learned in the prevention of violence in struggles over land and natural resources. It advocates for integrated solutions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular goal 16.1 (Reduce and Prevent Violence at all Levels).

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Fiscal Decentralisation • Local Finance



© Kieran Dodds/Panos Pictures 2019

Country Experiences with Decentralised Climate Finance: Early Outcomes

ODI (2019) This working paper by ODI analyses the impact of public government-led climate fund investments and their responses to locally determined priorities. The study, with its focus on effectiveness and equity, is guided by three main questions: How is climate resilience being defined and measured at national and sub-national levels? What outcomes have been achieved from climate finance investments, and what can be learnt from these? To what extent does the level of government involved in the investment decision-making process affect the outcomes of activities that aim to strengthen climate resilience? In order to answer these questions a centralised fund in Ethiopia and decentralised funds following the same design in Kenya, Mali and Senegal are compared.

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2030 Agenda • Localising the SDGs



© UN Photo/Marco Dormino 2018

The World Youth Report: Youth and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

UN DESA (2018) The World Youth Report by UN DESA focusses on the relevance of young people for sustainable development. It examines how youth development efforts can contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and other related frameworks and vice versa. By highlighting manners in which evidence-based youth policies can help accelerate youth-related objectives, the report pays particular attention to the role of the 2030 Agenda for enhancing youth development efforts. While recognising that all SDGs are important to youth development, the report concentrates primarily on the areas of education and employment. Other goals such as gender equality, good health, reducing inequality, among others, are touched upon briefly.

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Urban and Territorial Governance



The Future of Cities: Opportunities, Challenges and the Way Forward

JRC (2019) In its report 'The Future of Cities: Opportunities, Challenges and the Way Forward' the JRC identifies key drivers affecting urban development. By highlighting both challenges as well as strengths, the report informs the discussion on the future of cities and offers alternatives to both scientists and policymakers. To increase momentum, the report is part of an online 'living' platform that makes use of additional analyses, discussions, case studies, comments and interactive maps. The platform serves as a permanent virtual space for researchers, practice and policymaking communities to exchange views and increase their knowledge on the future of cities.

[More](#)

For access to more inspiring publications on local governance and decentralisation, fragility, post-conflict settings and migration, fiscal decentralisation and local finance, the 2030 Agenda and localising the SDGs or Urban and Territorial Governance make sure to visit the [Knowledge Section](#) of our DeLoG Website - Updates occur regularly!



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