

Final 2023 work plan of the Capacity and Institution Building Working Group - 2023

Introduction

This is the work plan for UCLG's Capacity and Institution Building (CIB) Working Group for 2023. The Capacity and Institution Building Working Group is a community of enablers, of practitioners working at national associations of local governments and cities. All members are engaged in international activities, and most are involved in international capacity building programs. These programs and activities relate to the three pillars of the Pact for the Future (people, planet and government). The working group as such relates mostly to the pillar 'government'. Therefore, this work plan is arranged along the following **three objectives**:

1. Strong information exchange, knowledge exchange, coordination & learning among CIB members, leading to **increased development effectiveness and a stronger local government development cooperation sector**
2. Continued policy work & advocacy, leading to **further acknowledgment of the need and relevance of local government development cooperation**, within UCLG and towards the international community and national governments
3. Strengthening the UCLG and CIB network and internal structure, leading to **active engagement of a geographically spread CIB membership**

Main activities in 2023

- ➔ CIB annual meeting 2023 in Marrakech, hosted by UCLG Africa/ALGA
- ➔ Roll-out of the implementation plan for the UCLG-CIB policy paper on development cooperation of local governments (2022)
- ➔ Roll-out of the work plan for the CIB gender knowledge hub, with hub partners
- ➔ Mobilisation & learning efforts with regard to SDGs, incl. SDGs & decentralized cooperation and SDG reporting (VSRs), together with UCLG

Financers in 2023: UCLG (through its EC and Sida grants), City of Barcelona, Generalitat de Catalunya, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, VNG International

CIB annual meeting host: UCLG Africa/ALGA

Detailed activity work plan 2023

Objective 1: Strong information exchange, knowledge exchange, coordination & learning among CIB members, leading to **increased development effectiveness and a stronger local government development cooperation sector**

- The CIB working group will continue its activities aimed at **information exchange between members**, through CIB and UCLG channels (i.e. UCLG newsletter, CIB newsletter, CIB circulars, CIB WhatsApp group, CIB LinkedIn and CIB Twitter). We aim to strengthen communication through:
 - Developing a first, global CIB communication strategy in early 2023
 - An extensive review of the CIB website www.cib-uclg.org, with the aim of making it more user-friendly, accessible for all and dynamic.

- The CIB secretariat will organize the **an in-person annual meeting in Marrakech**, Morocco, together with UCLG Africa/ALGA, between **15-18 May**. The annual meeting will make sure to provide input to the three pillars of the Pact for the Future: People, Planet and Government. Moreover, the secretariat of DeLoG will organize a back-to-back (side) event of its network and the province of Barcelona has offered to arrange for a field visit to their international cooperation project in the Marrakech region.
- Facilitation of **online coordination meetings among members of CIB and partners**, on specific topics (i.e. **gender, climate actions (and finance)**, digital gap/capacity building, youth, human rights, SDGs & municipal processes) or countries (i.e. Ukraine, Latin American countries, Sub-Saharan Africa), **upon request of members** and linked to the activities at the CIB annual meeting.
- Two more specific trajectories in view of coordination/development effectiveness and mutual learning:
 - Further development and roll-out of the **CIB knowledge hub on gender equality and inclusive local governance**, in partnership with DeLoG, Metropolis, UCLG Learning, FCM, the city of Barcelona, the province of Barcelona and the Generalitat de Catalunya, and based on the multi-annual work plan (TBD in Q1 of 2023). The priorities for 2023 are:
 - An improved access for LGAs and local leaders to existing evidence and research about the impact of gender mainstreaming in LRG's affairs, through an online repository, as part of the CIB website.
 - Set-up of a champion program for female local elected leaders to increase their capacities and opportunities to contribute to the global feminist municipal movement.
 - Developing a toolkit to equip Local Government Association (LGA) with material and tools available to mainstream gender equality in local policies, programs and actions – with a focus on the provision of gender-sensitive public services.
 - CIB will continue to actively contribute to UCLG's work on SDG reporting, and particularly on **SDG reporting of national associations of local governments** (Voluntary Subnational Reviews; VSRs), in view of showcasing the progress we have made on the SDG agenda since the adoption of Agenda2030. CIB's contribution includes:
 - Mobilization/information sharing/awareness raising on the VSR process, how to write a VSR, what UCLG is doing, how you can join this community.
 - Group workshops (online) or webinars, introducing VSR concept to LGAs which are new to it (one of which will be organized at the CIB annual meeting 2023)
 - Dissemination of the VSR MOOC (and potentially other learning materials) which CIB has co-developed with UCLG learning last year.
 - Connecting to the processes of VSRs in Cambodia and Tanzania, where FCM (Cambodia) and ICLD (Tanzania), both CIB members, will be involved in the coaching of the LGAs in these countries, in their VSR processes.
- Continued promotion of the UCLG-PLATFORMA learning module 4 on SDGs and decentralized cooperation; and cooperation on its roll-out.

- Enhanced efforts in the field of **knowledge management and assembling of good practices**, building on the thematic knowledge hub pilots of CIB as well as the review of the Compendium tool on the website, together with partners including PLATFORMA, UCLG Learning and the province of Barcelona.

Objective 2 : Continued policy work & advocacy, leading to **further acknowledgment of the need and relevance of local government development cooperation, within UCLG and towards the international community and national governments**

- Following the adoption of a new **UCLG-CIB paper on development cooperation & local governments** in 2022, CIB plans to :
 - **Series of calls** with CIB member organisations (focal points & teams) on the existence of the policy paper and its content, and how this can be used in the national context.
 - **Develop concrete tools** which will help CIB members respond to the calls for action mentioned in the policy paper (e.g. conversation guide for talks with national governments, calendar of important events and meetings of donor organisations (and ideas on how to contribute to those events))
 - Explore the options for **re-establishing (a light version of) the UCLG/CIB champions programme**, with special attention for **female leaders**, from local governments and other organisations.
 - Organize **1-2 high-level multi-stakeholder dialogues on the content of the policy paper**, with presence of national governments and donor organisations (and **in collaboration with DeLoG and regional sections**)
 - Bridge and connect to relevant third parties, building of **strategic partnerships** between donor, policy makers and implementers of (local government) development cooperation, based on the content of the paper, with for instance: DeLoG, OECD (Global Policy Toolkit), UNDP, national governments.
- Moreover, CIB will continue to **feed into UCLG's other advocacy work**, with special focus on Agenda 2030, the climate agenda and local financing.

Objective 3: Strengthening the UCLG and CIB network and organisation, leading to **active engagement of a geographically spread CIB membership**

- In light of the new term of UCLG, the new CIB leadership and many new people at the CIB member organizations, we would like to use 2023 for a **strategic review of CIB**, restating our narrative and added value for the UCLG network and for the cause of a greater role of local government in development.
- The strategic review is an important entry point for **reviving of relations with the core CIB members from both Global North & Global South**, after personnel changes and COVID. It will also help to further build **relations with all UCLG regional sections**, to assure the **global perspective** in CIB and its activities and to broaden the member base.

- **Active knowledge exchange with the other consultation mechanisms** of UCLG (working groups, fora etc.) including
 - the **UCLG Working Group on territorial prevention and management of crises**, in view of the work in the field of crisis management and resilience by CIB members,
 - the **LGA Forum**, in view of the number of active LGAs within the CIB membership; CIB is an important channel towards exchange between CEOs and Presidents of LGAs.
- Moreover, we plan to roll-out and follow-up activities based on the findings of the CIB study on international cooperation activities of cities, carried out in 2022 with the support of the city of Barcelona, in view of **attracting cities to the CIB working group**.