

Summary report of advances in 2009 . committee on Urban strategic planning

November 2008 In the last UCLG Istanbul World Council the committee chaired by the mayor of Rosario and the CEO of Durban agreed on the Agenda 2009/2010

- Sharing strategic planning processes through a policy paper (documento base)
- Promoting technical, specialized and other forms of support across municipalities
- Actively seeking out municipalities which require planning assistance to articulate support
- Providing a stage to showcase CDS work carried out by networks and international agencies

Februar: assistance to mentoring partnerships Johannesburg Lilongwe. UCLG has published a flyer on mentoring. Johannesburg is supporting the task force to coordinate requirements to drive a strategy. Lilongwe has received a CA preparatory grant and is finalizing a draft to apply for a Cities Alliance grant

March: workshop on strategic planning in Mozambique

Mozambique is a recently decentralized country and local governments are still in the process of defining the skills and resources. The committee (world secretariat and Durban and Salga) provided orientation on CDS and insights of practical work and agenda in South Africa. ANAMM has engaged itself in the agenda of committee. The cities of Nampula and Chimoio have drafted CDS proposals to Cities Alliance, and ANAMM envisages to publish a "state of cities report". Along the policy paper, ANAMM develops a national position on urban planning.

April participation on the CIDEU congress in Rosario

The committee, presented by Durban, Calbayog, ANAMM Mozambique and World secretariat held a session on employment strategies during the congress of CIDEU 2009. Afterwards, the members dedicated an internal session to first comparison on the policy paper.

May: assistance to mentoring partnerships Rosario- Ciudad Sur UCLG has published a flyer on mentoring. Ciudad Sur is both finalizing a draft to apply for a Cities Alliance grant that has been debated with the Chilean ministry for housing and the association.

June: Expert meetings and relations to other networks

Relations have been build with the Plusnetwork, that is operating from Canada, an international academic network Cityfutures, to AERYC that focuses on Iberoamerica, to Medcities and to Open cities that focuses on Local economic development. Besides a sounding board for outcomes, the networks want to promote activities and methodologies.

June: Cities Alliance CDS Sub-group meeting in Marseille

Cities Alliance, that recognize urban development strategies as key priority to reduce poverty. is supporting the work of the committee. The world secretariat in representation of the committee participated in the Cities Alliance CDS Sub-group meeting in Marseille. Cities Alliance is adjusting agenda to address the cities' demands and needs. UCLG lessons relate to ownership of local governments on CDS processes and access to grant. Cities especially in Africa need support to argue with the necessary data and analysis.

End July: mentoring Durban with 7 Namibian municipalities and the association

The UCLG Committee on USP is actively supporting the establishment of mentoring CDS partnerships between cities. The of South-South cooperation has proved to be very useful. In the case of Durban, Durban wants to set up an local government academy with the

support of CIFAL and their mentor partnership is more as a training and moderation process. As the event involved also rural South African municipalities, it revealed the very little attention rural municipalities have received in South Africa up to now. The work plan of the mentoring includes also assistance of SALGA to ALAN.

The policy paper. Questionnaires inputs of 30 cities received

The committee has advanced the development of the UCLG Policy Paper on Urban Strategic Planning, according to 2 objectives:

(1) To provide a general overview of the state of planning in different developed and developing countries, with a particular focus on framework, practices, challenges, and responses delivered. This overview is spread across regional chapters

(2) To draw around 15 global policy recommendations to meet a common understanding on strategic planning. Up to now, 5 European cities, 7 Latin-American, 4 African, 4 Asian and 1 Eurasian cities have delivered inputs to the policy paper on strategic urban planning through responses to the questionnaire.

Upcoming agenda: the Asian perspective

With the help of the League of Cities of the Philippines, the committee is planning to structure inputs to the policy paper and also to launch a workshop to prepare mentoring between the League, the Indonesian and the Nepalese association. Philippine city governments used the CDS tool, both as a planning process to formulate development priorities, and as a product to guide the city's long-term development. The city of Calbayog, is experiencing the benefits of the CDS which it began a decade ago.

Support and continuation of CityFuture

The last agreement of UCLG and Cities Alliance for promoting CDS, named Cityfuture will be continued. Cities Alliance has approved support that allows the world secretariat to run the technical secretariat and to develop some activities of the committee. Other supporting partners, such as Norwegian ministry explores to fund some activities of the Norwegian LGA KS that is interested in joining the committee.