



CITIES & REGIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Local and regional partnerships for sustainable urban development



BRUSSELS
4-5 FEBRUARY 2019



UCLG AFRICA
United Cities and Local Governments of Africa
Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis d'Afrique
CGLU AFRIQUE

Side Event organized by UCLG Africa on: “Cooperate around Migration” Tuesday 05th February 2019, from 14h30pm to 18h00pm

In Partnership with
**The International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS)
& the International Association of Schools and Institutes
of Administration (IASIA)**



Venue: The Headquarters of the IIAS/IASIA
Street “Rue du Commerce 96”, 1040, Brussels, Belgium, Room C121

“Together for an Effective Local Africa”

- Identify and discuss good practices in governance and management of migration at the local level, including identifying the capacity building needs of local elected officials;
- See to what extent partnership and decentralized cooperation can be strategic levers to change the perception of crisis migration to migration-opportunity;
- Establish joint and concerted actions at territorial and local level to meet the needs of refugees and local populations and to the international commitments;
- Identify strategic areas to be pursued by European and African local and regional governments and around which to articulate the political dialogue with the European authorities, particularly in the framework of the Post-Cotonou negotiation, which will include a fundamental chapter on migration, recalling that the Charter of Local and Subnational Governments of Africa on Migration has indeed clear elements on it.

Date and venue

Tuesday February 5th, 2019, from 14:30pm to 18:00pm.

Venue: The Headquarters of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS), Street “Rue du Commerce 96”, 1040, Brussels, Belgium, Room C121

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Contexte

Decentralization, local governance and local development in Africa have been in recent years in a geopolitical context marked both by huge opportunities (the African Union Agenda 2063, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Climate Change Agenda, the New Urban Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Risk Reduction, the Sustainable Development Financing Agenda), but also the structural and conjunctural challenges facing the African Local Authorities on a daily base. Migration is one of those issues. It is even a kind of fixation in relations between Europe and Africa, causing controversies between these two Continents, within countries as well as at the territorial level.

It's an issue that polarizes and causes tensions among the hosting countries and those who refuse to be host lands and territories; those who make the free movement of people an asset or an opportunity, and those who see it as a risk to be addressed and blocked.

There is no need to show that migration benefits from a solid human and legal framework. The whole history of Humanity has been marked by movements of people. Countries have been created from migratory movements. The development and progress of many nations has been dependent on such movements, making it an extremely important and sensitive subject.

The Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) states:

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State.
2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

SDG 11 calls for cities and human settlements to be inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. **The UN Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (Pact of Marrakech, abbreviated PMM)** aims to bring together countries of departure, countries of transit and countries of destination for migrant people around a common vision of this phenomenon, and to promote greater international cooperation in this area, through both government and human rights-based approaches.

More recently, at the end of the 8th edition of the Africities Summit, the African Local Authorities adopted a **Charter on Migration** (attached to this Concept Note) where they undertake, on one hand, to «enforce the rights of migrants in its locality, to facilitate their peaceful integration into hosting communities, and to promote cohesion and conviviality between the hosting communities and the migrant populations; and on the other hand, to draw the attention of National Governments to the fact that it is the right to come and go that stabilizes migratory flows, and therefore ask all National Governments to facilitate the provision of legal entry and circulation visas to migrant populations in order to dry up the source of illegal and irregular migrations.»

Finally, at the end of the work of the 11th Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD), held in Morocco, in Marrakech, from 5 to 7 December 2018, under the theme «**Honouring International Commitments to Unlock the Potential of All Migrants for Development**», the two co-Chairmen of the Forum (Germany and Morocco) highlighted not only the huge challenge of migration, which together with the climate change, is the most important challenge of the 21st century, but also that human mobility is a global issue, and

that migration must be seen as «**a basis for development**» and «**an opportunity for all parties, especially for host and home countries and the migrants themselves**». They also stressed the need to involve Local Authorities and to take into account the local dimension in the implementation of the Global Compact on Migration. The achievements of the ten years of existence of this Global Forum mark a historic turning point and progress in the global governance of the migration issue.

The Forum of Cities and Regions for Development Cooperation organised by the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions, the 04th and the 05th February 2019 in Brussels, Belgium and which will specifically questions the place and responsibilities of Local and Regional Authorities in European policies, will be a timely opportunity to:

- **On one hand**, spark an intelligent debate and a serene dialogue on the deep causes of migration and the need for a holistic, multi-dimensional, multi-stakeholders and multilevel approaches to ensure that migration is no longer seen as a phenomenon of crisis, misunderstanding and tension, and to think about forms of partnerships and cooperation based on the multiple opportunities offered by this phenomenon;
- **On the other hand**, check the adhesion around the Charter of the Local Governments of Africa on Migration, adopted at the end of the 8th edition of the Africities Summit of UCLG-Africa, as well as the capacity of the Local Authorities to concretely engage in order to identify to what extent decentralized cooperation is indeed a promising lever, especially at the South /South level, and to raise awareness and discuss issues of European migration policy and ways to build a pan-African voice of Local Authorities on the migration.

UCLG-Africa takes this timely opportunity and this space of dialogue to organize a Side Event, on Tuesday February 5th, 2019, from 14:30pm to 18:00pm, on «Cooperate around Migration» at the Headquarters of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS), Street “Rue du Commerce 96”, 1040, Brussels, Belgium, Room C121.

Main Objective

Sharing and disseminating the Charter of Local and Subnational Governments of Africa on Migration adopted at the end of the Africities Summit 8 and create an intelligent and serene dialogue about the content of the Charter and about strategies that make migration a real opportunity for the different actors and stakeholders involved.

Specific objectives and expected results

- Situate the place and the role of the regional and local governments in the Global, African and European dialogue on Migration;
- Highlight the role and responsibilities of cities and territories in the management of migration flows and the reception of refugees and migrants, whether in countries of origin, transit or reception;