



**REPORTING FORMAT FOR PARTNERS**

**Networking – Side – Training events**

**City Changer Room – Urban Library – Agora – One UN events**

**Deadline: 6 June 2014**

**Please send via email:** [wuf@unhabitat.org](mailto:wuf@unhabitat.org)

**Reporting Format for Partners**  
(Networking Events, Side Events, Training Events, City Changer Room, One UN Room, Urban Library, and Agora Room)

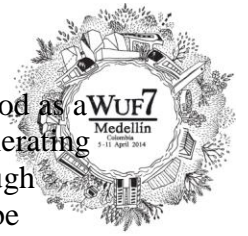
<b>Name of Reporter:</b>	Lurdes Gomez
Event title/number:	Local Economic Development: Strengthening Urban Rural Linkages for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development  A side event of the World Urban Forum (WUF7) Urban Equity in Development – Cities for Life
Date:	April 11th, 2014
Venue:	Medellin, Colombia
Time:	12h to 14h
Name of Organizing Institution(s):	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the International Labour Organization (ILO), Regions United/FOGAR and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).
Country/City where Organizing Institution(s) is/are based:	
Approximate number of participants:	

**Summary of the Event (max: 300 words):**

Urban and rural have traditionally been seen as separate, disconnected spatial domains. Cities function as service centres for their rural hinterlands, offering outlets for rural products, public and commercial services, and employment opportunities and rural areas provide raw and processed materials, labour and demand for urban goods and services. However, today both cities and rural areas include urban and rural elements. The economic, social and environmental interdependence between urban and rural areas and the need for a balanced and mutually supportive approach to development of the two areas is widely recognized. An important issue to design effective policies is to understand how these interdependences matter locally, and how they may be mobilized for local economic development efforts. Today’s urban geography comprises cities of different sizes, economic structure, and socio demographic characteristics. However, both metropolitan cities as well as smaller urban centres do usually play an important role as drivers for economic growth for a wider territory. An integrated urban and rural Local Economic Development (LED) approach can promote policy coherence between urban and rural areas and strengthen existing urban rural linkages for economic growth and higher quality of life.

All reports received will be included in the WUF7 final report to be published after the closing of the Forum. We kindly urge you to send the report of your session to us **before 30 April 2014** following this format. Please be aware that not delivering the report within the deadline will be taken into consideration when applying for future events at the World Urban Forum.





While definitions of LED vary broadly, today it is commonly understood as a strategically planned, locally driven partnership approach aimed at generating sustainable local economic opportunities and quality of life gains through improved economic governance. This approach to LED has shown to be effective as a way to respond to the needs of the urban-rural population by promoting urban-rural partnerships and thereby fostering the development of the overall territory.

This event is part of an on-going reflection process on LED and its related policies and instruments, aimed at harmonizing and aligning LED policies and interventions between a number of UN organizations as well as international associations of local governments.

### **Summary of the Discussion (max: total 500 words):**

#### 1. Outline of the discussion/debates

The event started with a keynote address, after which followed panel discussions. Following this was an interactive session of comments and contributions, questions and answers. The side event ended with closing remarks.

#### 2. Major emerging issues and position documents/declarations towards:

- *Habitat III*
- *POST2015*

Participants acknowledged LED as an effective approach to tackling many of the development concerns addressed by the MDGs, and therefore the important role that LED may play in advancing the future global development commitments, particularly in the context of the implementation of the post-2015 agenda at the local level.

Linkages between the urban and the rural dimensions allow for a comprehensive development including economic, social, and environmental aspects, an approach that ought to inform the post-2015 development agenda.

- *A New Urban Agenda*

This side event provided an opportunity to discuss successful national and territorial LED policies that have promoting urban-rural linkages as the basis for strengthened territorial development, as well as to present specific instruments and experiences for the implementation of integrated urban-rural LED strategies.

#### 3. Recommendations made during the discussion

(e.g. policy direction, good/best practices, resource mobilization, innovative funding mechanism, etc.)





- a. Urban and rural areas are increasingly integrated. Alongside an ever-growing urbanization, more and more rural population lives close to cities. Current and common challenges such as efficient use of natural resources (water, land), equal access to public services or demographic changes, just to name a few, can be tackled more easily if cooperation exists between urban, peri-urban and rural areas. To make this cooperation mutually benefitting, the urban-rural partnerships for socio-economic development (ex. labour markets, natural resources, spatial strategies) need to be included in national, regional and local policies and functionally managed.
- b. Urban and rural areas enjoy different and often complementary assets, and better integration between them is important for socio-economic performance. Policy recommendations need to be developed to help national, regional and local policy makers to build effective and sustainable rural-urban partnerships for better economic development.
- c. Integrated policy approaches at the regional scale can create positive results by considering and addressing the various dynamics of urban-rural relationships. Sustainable regional development approaches which take proper and balanced accounts of both rural and urban areas need to become integral part of national development strategies and plans.
- d. Urban and rural developments are both elements of a complex national development process and must be grounded in a multi-level governance process. Development planning at all levels, urban, rural, regional as well as national need to be closely linked and informing each other.
- e. Integrated urban-rural approaches need to be framed within an overall conducive environment for local governance and local development. Drivers of local governance and local development such as decentralization, empowered local authorities with adequate competences and resources, civil society participation, should be fostered.
- f. A bottom-up approach and inclusive dialogue allowing citizens' participation, particularly of traditionally marginalized groups, in decision-making and planning are key elements for the success in setting-up and running of urban-rural partnerships and effective LED strategies.
- g. Integrated LED strategies embracing both urban and rural dimensions, democratic governance policies and inclusive territorial development encourage positive social and economic dynamics at the local level that prove useful in strengthening peace-building processes and fostering reconciliation.
- h. A shift from project based funding to programs supporting integrated territorial development comprising urban and rural partners should be promoted.





4. Building partnerships, network and synergies with UN-Habitat  
*(e.g. agreements or Memorandum of Understanding committed/signed, amounts and number of pledged contributions and partnerships/networks, etc.)*

N/A

**Detail Information of Speakers/Presenters/Moderators:**

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Ines Brill
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Full name (Mr/Ms):	Kodjo Mensah-Abrampa,
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Full name (Mr/Ms):	Levina Owusu
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Full name (Mr/Ms):	Alvaro Obando
Nationality:	Colombian





Organization/Institution:	ADEL Nariño, member of the Colombian Network of LEDAs – ADELCO
Time:	
Position:	Manager
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Full name (Mr/Ms):	Paul Carrasco
Nationality:	Ecuadorian
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Position:	Prefect of the Azuay province, Ecuador, President of ORU-FOGAR and Vice-president of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
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Full name (Mr/Ms):	Carlos de Freitas
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Organization/Institution:	Global Fund For Cities Development, FMDV
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Position:	Head of Programmes
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Full name (Mr/Ms):	Henk P.M. Kool
Nationality:	Netherlanders/ Dutch
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Position:	Deputy Mayor
Contact address (Email):	

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Jacques Carrière
Nationality:	Canadian
Organization/Institution:	Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), United Cities and Local Governments (CGLU)-Working Group on LED
Time:	
Position:	Programme Director
Contact address (Email):	

### **UN-Habitat Thematic areas**

All events are identified by UN-Habitat priority substantive areas as below.

#### **URBAN LAND, LEGISLATION & GOVERNANCE**

*Land & GLTN, Urban Legislation, Urban and Community Management & Governance, Safety*

#### **URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN**





**URBAN ECONOMY**

*Urban & Municipal Finance, Urban Productivity, Youth and Job Creation*

**URBAN BASIC SERVICES**

*Water & Sanitation, Urban Energy, Urban Mobility, Urban Waste Management*

**HOUSING & SLUM UPGRADING**

*Housing, Slum Upgrading, Shelter Rehabilitation*

**RISK REDUCTION & REHABILITATION**

*Urban Risk Reduction, Infrastructure Rehabilitation, Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation, Resilience*

**RESEARCH & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

*Global Urban Observatory, Flagship Reports, Capacity Development*

*Cross-cutting issues:*

**GENDER**

**YOUTH**

**HUMAN RIGHTS**

