



REPORTING FORMAT FOR PARTNERS

Networking – Side – Training events

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

Deadline: 30 April 2014

Please send via email: wuf@unhabitat.org

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

Name of Reporter:	Michelle Soeller
Event title/number:	Localising the post 2015 development agenda / 46464
Date:	10 th of April
Venue:	Urban Library
Time:	12.15 pm to 01.15 pm
Name of Organizing Institution(s):	DeLoG (Development Partners Working Group on Decentralisation and Local Governance)
Country/City where Organizing Institution(s) is/are based:	Germany
Approximate number of participants:	50

Summary of the Event (max: 300 words):

- *Brief background of the event, including overall objectives and purposes*
- *Relevant Focus Areas (Refer to below: UN-Habitat’s thematic areas) and cross-cutting issues*

One of the noted lessons learned from the implementation of the MDGs is that the achievement of critical objectives such as eradicating poverty, reducing inequalities and exclusion, and achieving environmental sustainability, depends on strong local action embedded in a well-coordinated multi-level governance system. The new post-2015 agenda will hence only improve development outcomes if successfully implemented at the local level. This underlines the importance of bringing the perspectives of local and regional governments to the discussion on the renewed agenda – a process referred to as ‘localising’ the post-2015 agenda.

In light of the above, the Development Partners Working Group on Decentralisation and Local Governance (DeLoG) organised an urban library event on “Localising the post-2015 development agenda”. During the session presenters from UN-Habitat, UNDP and the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments (GTF) introduced the consultation process that they are jointly leading. Further, the Urban Institute presented initial findings of the DeLoG study “The Local Public Sector’s Role in Achieving Development Goals” that will feed important empirical evidence into the consultation process.

By investigating the link between the local public sector and the achievement of development goals and by working towards positioning local governments as key

*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.*



actors for pro-poor service delivery in the post-2015 process, the session contributed to the UN-Habitat focus areas urban basic service delivery and research and capacity development.



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

1. Outline of the discussion/debates

Kodjo Mensa Abrahma from UNDP and Joe Hooper from UN-Habitat started off with introducing the 'localising post-2015' process. While previous consultation processes have set potential thematic areas that need to be included in a post-2015 agenda, it is now becoming more relevant to obtain ideas on how to make the agenda work. Both presenters stressed that empowering local institutions will be key to increase opportunities for poverty reduction.

The continuation of the consultation process will therefore focus, amongst other, on 'localising' the agenda. UNDP and UN-Habitat will sponsor, together with national, regional and local governments, consultations on the means of implementation of the post 2015 agenda at the local level. Sara Hoefflich (UCLG) representing the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments (GTF) stressed that the GTF will be co-facilitating this consultation process and highlighted the strategic partnership between the GTF and DeLoG through facilitating technical inputs and expertise.

In light of the above, Jamie Boex from the Urban Institute fed empirical evidence into the discussion. He argued that initial results from the DeLoG study on the role of the local public sector in achieving development goals pointed towards the fact that public funds spend at the local level have a bigger impact on sectoral development outcomes.

Preliminary findings of the study show a correlation between the amount of education sector spending channelled through the local level and the improvement of literacy levels. Furthermore, there is a consistent negative correlation between local health sector spending and health threats, i.e. the more public funds are spent at the local level, the fewer children under 5 die.

Mr. Boex concluded that the preliminary results are fairly convincing that there is a positive correlation between local spending and development outcomes. If the results are found to be robust, this would provide important empirical evidence about the role of local governments in achieving development results and serve as crucial empirical backing for positioning local governments in the post-2015 agenda.

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

- *Habitat III*
- *POST2015*
- *A New Urban Agenda*

Acknowledging local and regional governments as key actors of development should be an important element of the post-2015 agenda, as they play a crucial role in enabling local development and adequate (urban) service delivery. 'Localising' the post-2015 development agenda is hence crucial for translating its goals, targets and indicators to the local reality. Further local governments are key actors for achieving





sustainable urban transformations. Currently critical urban issues such as health, employment, housing, migration and climate change are mainly dealt with at the national level, but truly tackling them will require attention to their local dimensions and implications.

3. Recommendations made during the discussion

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

Inclusive and responsive service delivery and transformative and sustainable development take place at the local level where services are delivered and where the people interact with government officials. So far the empirical evidence of the DeLoG study suggests that greater development progress could be achieved by relying more on the local public sector. However it also became clear that a functioning multi-level-governance system needs to be in place that provides local governments with adequate financial resources, competencies and capacities in order for them to deliver inclusive local public services.

Greater progress towards the global development agenda could be made if central authorities and international development agencies would be willing to rely more on the local public sector as catalysts and implementers of pro-poor public services. An increasing share of official development assistance as well as an increasing share of public sector resources in developing countries should be funnelled towards the local public sector.

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.)

DeLoG represents a platform for joint action in the field of decentralisation, local governance and aid effectiveness. It provides a space to meet with and learn from partners in multilateral and bilateral organisations and global networks.

DeLoG furthermore feeds important expertise into the work of its member organisations. An example is the above mentioned study that will support the ‘localising post-2015’ consultation process led by UNDP, UN-Habitat and GTF. UN-Habitat has been a member of this network since 2009, though the jointly organised event at the WUF the partnership between the DeLoG secretariat and Joe Hooper, the focal person to DeLoG from UN-Habitat, could be refreshed and strengthened. It is envisaged to continue the fruitful cooperation.

Detail Information of Speakers/Presenters/Moderators:

Full name (Mr):	Jochen Mattern
Nationality:	German
Organization/Institution:	DeLoG (Development Partners Working Group on Decentralisation and Local Governance)
Time:	
Position:	Coordinator DeLoG Secretariat
Contact address (Email):	jochen.mattern@giz.de





Full name (Mr/Ms):	Jamie Boex
Nationality:	American
Organization/Institution:	Urban Institute
Time:	
Position:	Senior Research Associate
Contact address (Email):	JBoex@urban.org

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Joe Hooper
Nationality:	Canadian
Organization/Institution:	UN-Habitat
Time:	
Position:	Head of Local Government and Decentralisation Unit
Contact address (Email):	Joe.Hooper@unhabitat.org

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Kodjo E. Mensah-Abrampa
Nationality:	Ghanaian
Organization/Institution:	UNDP
Time:	
Position:	Local Governance Policy Advisor
Contact address (Email):	kodjo.mensah-abrampa@undp.org

Full name (Ms):	Sara Hoeflich
Nationality:	German
Organization/Institution:	UCLG, representing the Global Task Force of Local and Regional Governments for post 2015 and towards Habitat III (GTF)
Time:	
Position:	Project Manager
Contact address (Email):	s.hoeflich@uclg.org

If there were more speakers/presenters/moderators in your events, please feel free to add the above tables.

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

Regional & Metropolitan Planning, City Extensions & Enlargements, Market





Town & Intermediate City Planning

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

