

Title of session: Global Influence: How to collectively influence the new global agenda

Objectives:

- Dialogue on different stakeholders' perspectives on contributing to the realization of the Agenda 2030, including the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, particularly with regard to shaping/promoting effective development cooperation policies
- Discuss the linkages and possible contributions of the EU, CSOs and LAs to the UN Conference of Habitat III and the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation, 2nd High Level Meeting (2 HLM).
- Share the vision of EU member states, EC, EP, local governments and civil society on the key challenges and opportunities to build inclusive, safe, prosperous and sustainable cities as a contribution to the Habitat III conference.

Background:

Habitat III

The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, *Habitat III*, is to be held in Quito, Ecuador, on 17-20 October 2016. During this Summit, UN member states will adopt the *New Urban Agenda* (NUA) that will guide the policies and cooperation on cities and human settlements of a wide range of actors –and particularly for the international cooperation and United Nations programmes — over the next 20 years.

Although Habitat III will be the first UN summit after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and should contribute to its implementation, the New Urban Agenda should develop a more comprehensive view of the transition towards an increasingly urbanized world. As such, this agenda will lay the groundwork for policies and strategies that will influence the management of cities and human settlements.

Previous to this final summit in Quito in October, a whole series of conferences will be taking place throughout 2016 to prepare for Habitat III. The European Regional Conference will take place on March 16-18 in Prague, immediately after the PFD.

Civil society, local and regional governments and the EU are promoting several debates to present their perspective and foster a robust advocacy position. Following the Statement of the European Union of the 2nd preparatory Committee for the Habitat III Conference held in 14-16 April 2015, the EU considers four main strands to guide reflexion:

- Promoting innovative and productive cities
- Promoting green, compact and resilient cities
- Promoting Inclusive cities
- Promoting good urban governance

Questions for the dialogue:

- What does the EU propose to better link the New Urban Agenda (NUA) with the SDGs? What is missing or should be better developed in the NUA to promote sustainable urban development, particularly in partner countries?
- To create an enabling environment for urban management, how could the EU support strong and collaborative National Urban Policies (NUP) to promote sustainable urban policies and a more balanced territorial approach to development?
- To improve urban governance, how can NUPs contribute to ensure effective decentralization and multilevel governance? How can we strengthen local governments' role to improve urban management and citizens' active involvement in local decision-making?
- To support more inclusive cities, how to put the "Right to city" at the heart of European policies to support the new urban agenda and fight against increasing inequalities? How could the EU help civil society and local governments to get this rightly recognized and promoted?
- How could the EU support the transition process towards decarbonized cities and alternative energies in partner countries? How could the EU cooperation policies contribute to transforming the patterns of consumption and production in future cities?
- How can the EU better support to city-to-city learning to share experiences and support the implementation of the new urban agenda?

2nd High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)

All countries and all stakeholders have committed to implementing the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals. The 2nd High Level Meeting of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) is taking place amidst the backdrop of Agenda 2030 and the new Sustainable Development Goals that vows to eradicate poverty, address inequality, social exclusion, and resolve the climate crisis. Agenda 2030 therefore, underscores the need for enhanced and effective development cooperation. As a global multi-stakeholder partnership that strives for greater effectiveness, quality and development impact of all types of development cooperation, the GPEDC is in a strong position to support Agenda 2030.

In the run-up to the 2nd High Level Meeting of the GPEDC in November 2016, a 2nd Round Monitoring is underway with around 80 countries participating to: (a) take stock of the progress in the implementation of the principles of effective development cooperation; (b) identify and help scale up initiatives and innovative approaches to development; and (c) serve as a learning space and contribute to the implementation of the SDGs and the Addis Ababa Agenda for Action.

Questions for the dialogue:

- What are the challenges and opportunities for delivering on effective development cooperation?
- How can these principles be upheld and mainstreamed into the Financing for Development follow-up, Development Cooperation Forum, and High Level Political Forum discussions?
- What outcomes should HLM2 have to ensure the relevance and importance of effective development cooperation in the Agenda 2030?

Expected Results:

- Understand how attending stakeholders envision their contributions (including challenges and opportunities) to the Agenda 2030
- Clarify what attending stakeholders expect as outcomes of the Habitat III and HLM2 meetings this year and, based upon this, understand how stakeholder can work together to achieve these results

Methodology: (4 hour session plus 30 minute coffee break) Moderated session with two expert panels and plenary discussion, talk-show style

Moderator: Jorge Balbis, Executive Secretary, ALOP, PFD CSO Co-Chair

I. Panel I: Habitat III (1 hour 30 min)

Speakers:

Paolo Ciccarelli, Head of Unit , Water, Infrastructures, Cities, DEVCO

Patrick Braouezec, President of La Plaine Commune, Co-President of UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participative Democracy and Human Rights (CISDP), France

Alvaro Puertas, Secretary General, Habitat International Coalition

Panel discussion with audience participation

Coffee break

II. Panel II: GPEDC Second High Level Meeting (1 hour 30 min)

Speakers:

Erica Gerretsen, Head of Unit, Effectiveness and Financing, DEVCO

Maria Theresa Lauron, Asia Pacific Research Network, CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE)

Edgardo Bilsky, Director of Research, UCLG World Secretariat

Panel discussion with audience participation

III. Conclusions (30 min)