

UCLG's Capacity and Institution Building Working Group
Take-aways from the Work Plan meeting 2022

On the 27th of January, the CIB working group officially kicked-off a new year full of activities, with an interactive discussion with 35 CIB members on the draft CIB work plan 2022. Peter Knip, chair of CIB, opened the meeting, welcoming participants from all around the world, and reiterating the wish to meet in-person in 2022, at a CIB annual meeting in Belgium on **8-9 June**.

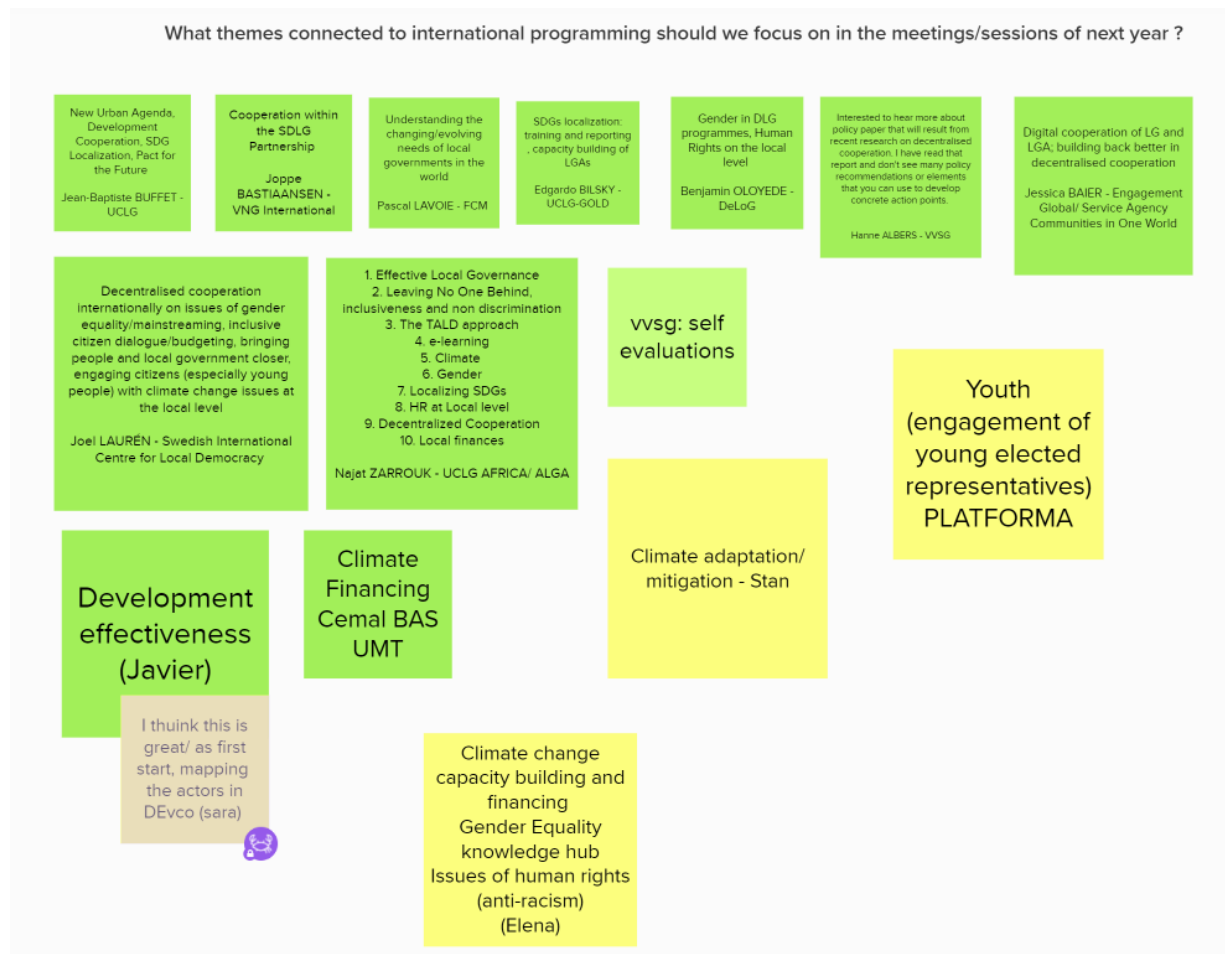
Ms. Sáiz congratulated CIB on its draft work plan. "We have a strong work plan in front of us, which is very aligned to the UCLG work plan. In general, the online working situation has strengthened connections between CIB and different parts of the UCLG secretariat (learning, research, policy). The work plan could use some additional focus on the role of local governments in critical areas we are trying to promote as UCLG, such as human rights and human mobility.

Online Tour de Table

After the opening remarks by CIB chair Peter Knip and UCLG's Secretary General Ms. Sáiz, the meeting started with a Tour de Table on everyone's **proudest achievements or moments** of last year. It became clear that aside from the ongoing challenges to organize in-person events and gatherings, different members were able to achieve a lot within the practical possibilities. As mentioned by Najat Zarrouk, UCLG Africa/ALGA managed to organize a large hybrid forum, and in Turkey, as mentioned by Cemal Bas, UMT even organized an event with more than 14.000 participants. Please find an overview of the other inputs on the screenshot of the Mural board on the right.



We continued with the question on what themes connected to international programming CIB should focus on in the different meetings and sessions in 2022. There is momentum for different topics: Human Rights at the local level, gender equality in decentralized local governance, climate change, youth (engagement of youth elected representatives), digital cooperation of local governance and local governments associations, capacity building and financing, localizing SDGs and development cooperation. Please find an overview of the members' inputs on the screenshot of the Mural board below:



The last question asked in the Tour the Table, was whether CIB members are organizing interesting events in 2022 themselves. This led to the following inputs:

- UCLG Africa will organize the annual "Africities" which, this year, will focus on intermediary cities (Najat Zarrouk, UCLG Africa/ALGA)

- Launch of the 3rd PLATFORMAwards in 2022. The winner of this year PLATFORMAwards will receive as a price the opportunity to make documentary film with the help of a filmmaker hired by PLATFORMA. Also, PLATFORMA will organize the 7th European Day of Local Solidarity Campaign (EDLS 2022) with several thematic webinars. (Boris Tonhauser, PLATFORMA)
- Organization of the Town Twinning Grant Programme Between Turkey and the European Union (Cemal Bas, UMT).
- VNG International will organize meetings for our new NL MFA programme (Jessie Post, VNG International)
- ACCD will organize a meeting for its Women Funds at the end of the year. Within this framework, Carme Gual Via underlined that ACCD has been reviewing and evaluating the gender approach of its projects and programmes. The association may offer a webinar on the results because they think that it could be useful for the network. (Carme Gual Via, ACCD)
- Metropolis is working on different events that would be very interesting for the network: Metrotalks, Learning From Cities, Learning programs on different topics, issue papers, etc. (Júlia Palmarola, Metropolis)
- UCLG will organize the review of the New Urban Agenda between April, 27th and 28th in New York City as well as the UCLG World Congress that will take place in Daejeon (South Korea) in October (Jean-Baptiste Buffet, UCLG)

Key activities within the CIB work plan

Jessie Post, coordinator of the CIB secretariat, presented some of the key activities for 2022, together with members and partners. A short recap:

CIB annual meeting in Belgium (8-9 June 2022)

Hanne Albers (VVSG) informed members that the VVSG is still happy to host the next CIB annual meeting in Sint-Niklaas (Belgium), in a COVID-proof manner. Possible topics to address at the sessions at this yearly event include working on climate, finance and gender within international programming. Najat Zarrouk (UCLG Africa/ALGA) mentioned that it would be very interesting to also visit the city hall of Sint-Niklaas and hear what they are doing on the topics discussed at the annual meeting, also related to their efforts in international work. The CIB secretariat and VVSG will work on a draft agenda and will update the network shortly. Hanne Albers (VVSG) consulted the members if they foresee to be able to attend the meeting in person and different members expressed their willingness to visit Sint-Niklaas, if travelling is possible at that time.

UCLG-CIB policy paper on development cooperation & local governments

Following the research paper developed and published by the Institute of Development Studies in Fall 2021, the CIB secretariat has hired consultant Sebastien Hamel (former co-chair of CIB on behalf of FCM) to transform the research findings into a concise and targeted UCLG-CIB policy paper. The paper will be prepared in the next months. After validation by CIB members and UCLG sections, it will be presented to the UCLG membership at the UCLG Executive Bureau in June, for approval. The

development of the policy paper is strongly aligned to UCLG's policy making process towards the UCLG world congress. This way, our policy recommendations and action plan will also enter into UCLG's strategic priorities for the next years, bundled in the 'Pact for the Future'. Between the Executive Bureau and the Congress, we will co-organise several dialogues with external stakeholders, together with UCLG, DeLoG and other partners. Sara Hoeflich (UCLG) stressed the importance to include different perceptions from regions from all around the world on international cooperation, to ensure the viewpoints of our global constituency are taken into account.

UCLG world congress in Daejeon, Korea (10-14 October 2022)

Maria Alejandra Rico Fallo gave a short sneak preview on the plans and set-up of the UCLG World Congress in Daejeon. She explained the motto and different components of the programme. The event will surely be another milestone event of UCLG, with many opportunities for CIB members to get involved. CIB plans to be actively present in Korea, through the (co-)organizing of different sessions, including a session for CEOs and Presidents of Local Government Associations (LGA Forum). UMT, FCM and VNG committed to be engaged in the preparations for this forum and encourage other representatives from LGAs to become involved as well.

New leadership for CIB

Peter Knip announced once again that he will retire by Summer 2022. This means that we will need to explore possibilities for new leadership of the CIB working group. A fruitful exchange with for example the idea to more substantially involve partners from the global south into the internal governance of our working group. Pascal Lavoie (FCM) informed the members that FCM is interested to continue co-leading the CIB working group. Boris Tonhauser (PLATFORMA) suggested that it could be interesting to work on some details as to what the leadership positions of CIB actually entails and what is expected for the new chair. Thus, Boris Tonhauser (PLATFORMA) questioned whether we should have one single person as the new chair or an organization. Finally, Cemal Bas (UMT) mentioned that it could be an idea if the secretariat stays with VNG International, and FCM continues its role in the leadership in order to honor its long time contribution and a member from another continent as Africa or ASPAC becomes the new co-chair. The CIB secretariat will look into the different questions raised and promises to communicate on the answers and criteria soon.

Please have a look at the work plan attached if you want to learn more about the other activities of CIB this year. We are happy to announce that all of the financial partners of CIB - UCLG (through its EU and Sida grants), FCM, the Generalitat de Catalunya, the City of Barcelona and VNG International have confirmed their contributions for 2022, making it possible to implement the work plan.

Next steps

The CIB secretariat will finalise and distribute the work plan in the first week of February. We will make sure to include many of your ideas mentioned in the call, or on the (very rich!) [Mural board](#). We hope to meet you at our various activities in the next months, including the UCLG retreat (which will



see two CIB sessions, one on SDG reporting by LGAs and one on the UCLG-CIB policy paper), the CIB annual meeting and the UCLG world congress!

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