

The European Urban Agenda in light of Habitat III and the 2030 Agenda

17 November 2017

Jordi Maragall Room, CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

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The Habitat III Agenda, adopted in Quito during the conference that took place in October 2016, establishes a new common framework that must guide European urban policies at different levels of governance. This implies, first of all, that the European institutions must guarantee the adaptation of the Pact of Amsterdam, the European Urban Agenda adopted in May 2016 as a contribution to Habitat III, to the new Agenda. At the same time, both should be framed in the process of localisation of the 2030 Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This includes the SDG11 “Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”, which is directly linked to the Urban Agenda. But, in addition, the 2030 Agenda as a whole must be translated into policies that reach all citizens to ensure that no one is left behind. This process, called the SDGs’ localisation, is an effort to coordinate and complement the different levels of government and an alignment of the agendas in the implementation of urban development policies.

Objectives

This seminar aims to analyse and debate the challenges for European urban development posed by the new framework of international commitments.

First of all, this session will analyse how the results of the Habitat III Agenda affect the commitments of the Pact of Amsterdam. At the same time, it will see how they are related to the 2030 Agenda regarding its implementation within the EU and how they can contribute to the achievement of the global goals.

Secondly, speakers will discuss the consequences of the New Urban Agenda for the framework of multi-level governance in Europe and for the implementation of the SDGs localisation process. They will identify policies and best practices for sustainable urban development and its adaptation to the 2030 Agenda. Among these, participatory tools and mechanisms for diagnosis, planning, monitoring and accountability for the Urban Agenda will be identified at different levels of government, including the local level.

In addition, the seminar is intended to raise awareness among civil society and institutional actors about the challenges of the New Urban Agenda for Sustainable Development and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda.

Programme

- 09.30 **Welcome remarks**
Antoni Segura, President, CIDOB
- 10.00 **The Habitat III and SDG challenges facing the European Urban Agenda**
Moderates: **Kontxi Odriozola**, Head of Europe and International Strategy Office, Barcelona Provincial Council
- The implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the new Urban Agenda in the update of the Pact of Amsterdam*
Nicolas Gharbi, Political analyst, European Commission
- The challenges of the implementation of the new Urban Agenda within the framework of the 2030 Agenda*
Paulius Kulikauskas, Representative for Europe, ONU-Habitat
- 11.30 Coffee break
- 12.00 **The global agendas and their localisation process in multilevel governance**
Moderates: **Anna Ayuso**, Senior Research Fellow, CIDOB
- Planning and management of local and regional public policies on the way to the localisation of the SDGs*
Andrea Ciambra, Research Officer, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
- The implementation of the Catalan Urban Agenda*
Josep Armengol, Deputy Director General of Territorial Action and Urban Habitat, Directorate General for Territorial Planning and Urbanism, Government of Catalonia
- The Barcelona Provincial Council implementation proposal and its role within the framework of the SDGs*
Salvador Gausa, Director of the Office of the President, Barcelona Provincial Council
- 13.30 Lunch
- 14.30 **Best practices in the localisation of the 2030 Agenda of the Urban Agenda**
Moderates: **Agustí Fernández de Losada**, Director of the Global Cities Programme, CIDOB
- Marina Casals**, Deputy Director of Citizen Participation, Sant Cugat del Vallès City Council
- Renske Steenbergen**, Senior Project Manager, International Agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG International)
- Zulima Pérez**, Vice-minister of Transparency, Social Responsibility, Participation and Cooperation, Government of Valencia
- 16.00 **Closure**

Working language: Catalan-Spanish/English with simultaneous translation