UNITAR: Local Development Programme
**Vision**

To be a centre of excellence for standard-setting methodologies, high-quality training, research capacity and knowledge systems.

**Mission**
Deliver innovative training and conduct research on knowledge systems to develop the capacity of partner countries.

**Historical Background**
Established as an autonomous body within the United Nations system in 1965.

**Thematic focal areas**

- **Governance**
  - E-Governance
  - Local Development
  - Public Finance and Trade

- **Environment**
  - Chemicals and Waste Management
  - Climate Change
  - Biodiversity
  - Environmental Governance and Law

- **Peace, Security and Diplomacy**
  - International Law
  - Multilateral Diplomacy
  - Peacemaking and Conflict Prevention
  - Peacekeeping Training

- **Research**
  - Knowledge Systems Innovation
  - UNOSAT
Local Development Programme

Implemented as an outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development

A multi-stakeholder partnership with the public sector, the private sector (Veolia, Total, ...) and civil society

**Mission:** To provide training to local actors in order to enhance their capacity to implement locally the Millennium Development Goals and other international conventions.

**Objectives**

- support local authorities in their local development through a participatory process (training workshops,)
- Enable exchange of knowledge, expertise and best-practices
- Promote decentralized and city-to-city cooperation
- Strengthen community and stakeholders’ involvement
- Promote local democracy and good governance through capacity building

"If my neighbor can do it, then so can I!"

Simon Compaoré, Mayor of Ouagadougou, President of MDP, Burkina Faso

LDP’s Target group:

Local authorities in partnerships with:
- National Governments
- Civil Society
- IGO’s
- Private Sector
Areas of action

The training sessions for local authorities focus on four major areas:

- **Sustainable Urbanization and Environment**
  - Urban planning
  - Urban environment services (transport, water, waste, energy)
  - Climate Change

- **Local governance and Economic Development**
  - Local governance (gender, public participation, e-Governance)
  - Local economic development (Income generation, PPP, employability, business skills and management)

- **Local Institutional Support**
  - Building local capacities (accountability and transparency, local leadership and municipal management, reform and decentralization support)

- **Health and Human Security**
  - Human security (urban safety and social coexistence)
  - Local health management (Urban management of HIV Aids, local risk management of pandemics)

The Unitar/UN-Habitat initiative on «Access to basic services for All» highlights the rights and responsibilities of the stakeholders involved in the provision of basic services and aims at improving the delivery of these services to the poorest.
LDP implements its training programmes through a network of 10 CIFAL centers:

- **Americas:**
  - CIFAL Atlanta
  - CIFAL Curitiba
- **Africa:**
  - CIFAL Durban
  - CIFAL Ouagadougou
- **Asia and Pacific**
  - CIFAL Kuala Lumpur
  - CIFAL Shanghai
- **Europe**
  - CIFAL Barcelona
  - CIFAL Bilbao
  - CIFAL Findhorn
  - CIFAL Plock

CIFAL centers are established in cooperation with local authorities and other stakeholders.

CIFAL is the French acronym for “International Training Centre for Local Authorities/Actors.”
Methodology

In the seminars, traditional training methods, such as presentations by practitioners, are combined with interactive approaches based on knowledge management techniques and field visits. This encourages cooperation between the participating cities.

Workshops objectives

- To assess current levels of competencies in each city
- To share experiences, knowledge, skills and innovative ideas with peer participants
- To learn from experts’ lectures and discussions
- To see and experience best practices in the field
- To find partner(s) for future city-to-city cooperation

LDP has been applying Knowledge Management techniques to its capacity-development activities since early 2003.

City Share methodology:

- Self-assessment exercise
- Discussions about good and bad practises
- Peer assist exercises
- Producing an Action Plan
- Building cooperation
Partnerships

- **Private Sector**
  - VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT
  - TOTAL
  - Bolloré
  - Addax Petroleum

- **State Governments**
  - Estonia
  - Spain
  - France
  - Republic of Korea
  - Switzerland
  - Principauté de Monaco

- **Local Governments**
  - Basque region of Spain, Generalitat de Catalunya (Catalan Government of Spain)
  - City of Curitiba
  - City of Atlanta
  - City of Findhorn
  - City of Plock
  - City of Ouagadougou
  - City of Durban
  - City of Kuala Lumpur
  - City of Shanghai

- **World and Regional Associations of Cities**
  - United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
  - The Regional Network of Local Authorities for the Management of Human Settlements (CITYNET)
  - Federación Latinoamericana de Ciudades, Municipios y Asociaciones (FLACMA)
  - Partenariat pour le Développement Municipal (PDM)
  - IT4ALL-Network of Local Authorities for the Information Society

- **Foundations and NGOs**
  - Fondation Albert II de Monaco
  - Global Ecovillage Network
  - The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF)
Access to Basic Services: Successful case study

multi-stakeholders partnership involving

- International organisations: UNITAR, UN Habitat, ILO, UNDP, OHCHR, WHO, UNEP
- National governments: Brazil, France, South Africa, Philippines
- Local authorities and their associations: FLACMA, UCLG, Citynet, PDM, Municipality of Ouagadougou, Municipality of Durban, Municipality of San Fernando, etc
- Private sector: World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Veolia Environnement,
- NGOs and Civil Society: global ecovillage network (GEN)

Objectives:

- clarification of the role and responsibilities of each stakeholder involved in the provision and delivery of basic services

Results:

- Adoption of three international resolutions (2005, 2007, 2009) calling for implementation of international guidelines on access to basic services
- Next steps: implementation of these guidelines at local level through the organisation of pilot projects in collaboration with CIFAL centres.
UNITAR

Local Development Programme

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