



Launch of IOPD Africa Thematic Discussions

CONCEPT NOTE

1. Context

The International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IOPD) is an open space at the service of States, local governments, civil society organizations, universities and research centers that wish to exchange and deepen their knowledge and practice in the field of participatory democracy, governance and local development.

The Africa Coordination of the International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IOPD Africa) was launched on December 7, 2012 in Dakar and aims to:

- Observe democratic processes, support and strengthen participatory democracy approaches;
- Capitalize on the experiences of participatory democracy in Africa and share them with the rest of the world;
- Promote a vast community of knowledge, exchange of experiences and pooling of good practices of participatory democracy.

In carrying out its mission, IOPD Africa intends to organize four (4) thematic discussions on participatory democracy. In accordance with its philosophy, IOPD Africa wishes to define the themes in a participatory way and launches this call for proposals for discussion themes on participatory democracy. The proposed themes must be related to:

- **Participatory budgeting ;**
- **Citizen participation;**
- **Prevention and fight against corruption;**
- **Inclusion of vulnerable groups**
- **Financing local development**

These discussions will be held in two stages: a launch consultation to present the initiative and the various steps of theme selection, and four (4) discussion forums.

2. Objectives

The objective of the thematic discussions is to catalyze exchange and reflection between practitioners and researchers in local governance and participatory democracy. Specifically, it will be about:

- Proposing in a participatory manner relevant discussion themes in relation to current issues of participatory democracy;
- Pre-selecting the ten (10) most relevant proposals;
- Proceeding to the vote of the four (4) proposals that will be the subject of thematic discussions during the year 2022.

- Organizing four (4) discussion forums

3. Organizational Arrangements

The consultation to launch the thematic discussions will be held on Thursday **April 14, 2022 from 10 a.m. GMT** by videoconference, via the link: webinaire.oidp-afrique.org, with to the following agenda:

- **Introduction and framing**
- **Presentation of the mission of IOPD Africa**
- **Presentation of the thematic discussions' organization steps**
- **Debates with participants**
- **Closing**

Proposals can be submitted in advance, until **April 14, 2022** via the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqq43OrLFML4Tf5SfoKRGx44sL6iRtx76dlDHAMUJFW8ooWQ/viewform?usp=pp_url

Moderator: Mr. Bachir KANOUTE, Enda ECOPOP and IOPD Africa Coordinator.

Languages: French and English