



## **IOPD 2022 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **Preparatory meeting: December 7 from 15:00 - 16:00**

Théâtre Municipal

11 Av. Jean Pain, 38000, Grenoble, Isère, Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes, France

### **Asamblea General: 10 de diciembre de 9.30 - 12.00**

Amphitheatre Mont Blanc

1 place André Malraux, 38000, Grenoble, Isère, Auvergne-Rhone-Alpes, France

I Agenda

II Management Report

III Proposed work plan for 2023

IV Nominations for organizing the IOPD conference in 2023 and 2024

V Nominations for promoting members

VI Regional Antennas

VI Members registered to participate in the Assembly

## **I AGENDA**

### **Agenda of the General Assembly preparatory meeting**

Wednesday, December 7 from 15:00 - 16:00

- IOPD work plan for 2023: present the general outlines and what are the issues to be discussed: priority topics, activities.... - 20 minutes
- Nominations to be part of the coordination committee: to be presented at this meeting in case there are negotiations to be made before the Saturday assembly - 10 minutes
- Proposals for regional antennae: to be presented at this meeting in case negotiations need to take place prior to Saturday's assembly - 10 minutes
- Final declaration of the conference: present the declaration in case there are amendments to be added and time to negotiate - 10 minutes
- Presentation of the bids to host the 2024 IOPD conference - 10 minutes

### **Agenda General Assembly**

Saturday, December 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- Welcome to the Assembly: speech by President Éric Piolle and Secretary General Marc Serra - 10 minutes
- IOPD 2022 Management Report (Presidency, Technical Secretariat, IOPD Africa) - 20 minutes
- Presentation of the IOPD 2023 Conference: Rio de Janeiro - 10 minutes
- IOPD Work Plan for 2023: presentation of the proposed work plan, open for interventions to propose sessions, activities or topics to be incorporated into the work plan - 30 minutes
- Nominations for the Coordination Committee - 10 minutes
- Proposals for Regional Antennae - 10 minutes
- Election of the venue for the IOPD 2024 conference - 20 minutes
- Grenoble Political Declaration - 15 minutes
- Other political statements - 10 minutes
- Open floor - 15 minutes

## **II IOPD 2022 MANAGEMENT REPORT**

During the year 2022, the IOPD has continued its mission as a network for the exchange of experiences and discussions on participatory democracy and other practices of deepening local democracy. The IOPD aims to be a useful space for its members, for the World Organization of United Cities and Local Governments as a whole, and for the global ecosystem of municipalism, democracy activism and human rights. Below is a brief summary of the activities carried out during this year.

The IOPD technical secretariat carries out the basic tasks of coordination and dynamization of the network. It is in charge of maintaining and feeding the members' database, the web page, the secretariat's e-mail and the profiles in social networks. In this line, he carries out the work of disseminating the IOPD, participatory democracy practices and the experiences of its members. It is also responsible for coordinating the steering committee and facilitating the relationship between

members and the city organizing the conference. The Observatory's own work includes identifying, systematizing, publishing and disseminating good practices of local and regional governments, as well as publications and activities of interest.

We highlight the main activities carried out during 2022

### ***IOPD Conference***

The Secretariat supported the host city, Grenoble, in the organization of the event. All the necessary information was shared, communication about the conference was carried out, support was given in the elaboration of the program and the solidarity fund for participants was managed.

In terms of communication, newsletters have been produced with all the information about the conference, the call for activities and the call for the General Assembly. In terms of content, topics and speakers have been proposed and requests from members to be part of the program have been coordinated.

The coordinator carried out a preparatory mission at the end of March 2022 to visit the venues and meet with the different teams of the City of Grenoble. Virtual meetings and continuous communications have been taking place between the local organizing team and the technical secretariat.

Regarding the solidarity fund, different French municipalities and institutions have provided financial contributions to cover the cost of travel and accommodation for participants who did not have the resources to participate and whose participation was considered to help to have a greater representativeness and diversity. These funds and the management of travel has been managed by the secretariat with the support of the UCLG world secretariat.

### ***IOPD Award***

In a new edition of the IOPD Best Practice in Citizen Participation Distinction, the secretariat has prepared all the documentation: application forms, award rules, dissemination materials... This year a record number of applications was received: 122.

The secretariat was responsible for translating and uploading the summaries of the nominations to the ParticipateOIDP platform for the open evaluation phase. The jury's evaluation work was then coordinated, including a virtual meeting. Finally, the winners were contacted, the trophy and diplomas were prepared, and the publication of the award was prepared.

### ***Participatory Democracy Index***

As approved at the last General Assembly, the process to create an index to measure the quality of participatory democracy began. To this end, the secretariat organized two virtual meetings with interpretation on March 3 and April 21. During these meetings, the most appropriate objectives, indicators and methodologies were discussed. With the support of the ODP Africa secretariat, documents have been prepared and indicators have been refined, also through a participation space on the ParticipateOIDP platform.

### ***IOPD Memory***

Also at the request of the last Assembly, the Secretariat has carried out the work of recovering the memory of the IOPD. To this end, interviews were conducted with different people who worked or were closely linked to the IOPD from the beginning. A text on this memory has been drafted and is published on the IOPD website.

## ***UCLG***

The IOPD secretariat, which is also part of the UCLG world secretariat team, has collaborated in all the dimensions related to local democracy and participation. We highlight the participation in the Executive Bureau in Seville in June and in the World Congress in Daejeon in October. Three sessions were organized at the Congress: a thematic session on local democracy and participation, another on the IOPD 2022 award and the third on the UCLG awards. Among the work with UCLG, we highlight the participation in the Global Coalition for Democracy, coordinated by International IDEA.

Within the framework of the UCLG Congress, the GOLD VI report "Pathways to Urban and Territorial Equality" was launched, including a chapter on democratization to which ODP has made contributions.

## ***Other activities***

- IOPD cities and members meeting in France: January 18
- Meeting of the ODP Coordination Committee: January 20
- Launch of the Phoenix Project: February 16
- ODP Africa Assembly, participation of President Eric Piolle: February 17
- UCLG Retreat: February 21-25
- Session in the framework of the UNEA Assembly: March 1
- Participative democracy index session: March 3
- Working meeting with a delegation of Nepalese municipalities: March 10
- Technical working visit to Grenoble: March 30 and April 1
- Meeting with cities and IOPD members in France: April 8
- Second working meeting for the elaboration of the index: April 21
- International seminar organized by the Municipality of Contagem: 20 May
- UCLG Executive Bureau in Seville: 13-15 June
- Meeting of the IOPD Coordination Committee: 22 June
- Conference "Combatting vulnerabilities to corruption at the municipal level" in Sofia organized by IRI: 19-20 July
- Global Forum for Modern Direct Democracy in Lucerne: 21-24 September
- UCLG Congress in Daejeon: 10-14 October
- V Iberian Meeting on Participatory Budgeting in Cascais: October 19-21
- Seminar on Local Democracy and Human Rights organized by the CNFPT and the Council of Europe in Strasbourg: November 7-8.

## ***Finance***

The budget of the Technical Secretariat is supported by the following financial contributions from its members and the UCLG World Secretariat

Ajuntament de Barcelona 70.000 euros

Office de Consultation Publique de Montréal (OCPM) 10.000 Canadian dollars

Ville de Grenoble: 6,000 euros

Municipality of Valongo: 5,000 euros

This year 2022, several French territorial authorities have provided funds to cover travel and accommodation for participants at the Grenoble conference.

*Full financial information for 2022 will be shared in the final management report to be prepared in early 2023.*

### **III Proposed work plan for 2023**

For the work plan, it is important to define the thematic priorities, concrete actions and the resources to carry out these actions. The **IOPD invites its members to contribute to the implementation of a successful work plan.**

## **2023 Work Plan Proposal International Observatory on Participatory Democracy**

### **Introduction**

The International Observatory on Participatory Democracy is a network of local and regional governments, research centers and organizations from civil society that work to defend, boost and improve local democracy. The IOPD has collaborated with UCLG since 2006 and this work plan aims to reinforce this relationship by framing the action of IOPD more clearly in the domain of the network and aligning their strategies. UCLG is the main global network of cities and local governments, it represents these voices in the global context and its main principles are proximity, decentralization and political leadership. The IOPD should be the group that promotes reflection on democratic renewal and the defense of democratic values within the world organization.

In 2022, the pandemic situation has been under control in general terms, which has allowed the possibility to travel and organize face-to-face events again. We can highlight the UCLG World Congress held in Daejeon in October and the IOPD Conference in December in the city of Grenoble. The Pact for the Future of Humanity adopted at the UCLG Congress and the final declaration of Grenoble should be our reference guides for 2023 and the years to come.

In this work plan we want to define the strategic priorities, the thematic priorities and the lines of action as well as define the tasks and an approximate work schedule. The work plan must be implemented by the IOPD steering committee, the technical secretariat and the rest of the network members.

The IOPD working plan is divided into four parts:

PART 1. Strategic priorities

PART 2. Thematic priorities and axes of action

PART 3. Tasks to impulse networking

PART 4. Agenda

### **PART 1. Strategic priorities**

## Objectives

1. Strengthen IOPD' actions as an observatory
2. To expand the network and improving its utility
3. To frame some IOPD activities in the UCLG network

To achieve these objectives happen, we define the next strategic priorities:

- ❖ **PRIORITY A. Communication and awareness campaign.** Includes, on the one hand, the follow-up and internal IOPD communication, including its organs and its members. Its aim is to improve this kind of communication. On the other hand, it also includes external communication and awareness raising. Here the priority is to make IOPD activities more visible, to raise awareness among the general public about the importance of participatory democracy and to share the existing participatory experiences.
- ❖ **PRIORITY B. Evaluation of practices.** This kind of action has always been present in the IOPD and some activities have been developed along these lines, such as the Best Practice Awards. This kind of action would now be one of the four IOPD priorities as an observatory. The aim is for it to become not only a repository of experiences and a space for exchange, but also a tool for the promotion of the quality of participatory democracy, through the development of new actions.
- ❖ **PRIORITY C. Strengthening: growing the network.** This priority includes the identification of criteria to widen the network, like e.g. the kind of organisation/institution, the geographical location, etc. In addition, it includes the inclusion of new types of members, like for example social movements and informal platforms. Strengthening the network: to get new promoter members, governments or organizations that would co-leading the network
- ❖ **PRIORITY D. Learning: decentralised cooperation.** It is a priority not only to promote the growth of the network, but also to improve the quality of exchanges between members to incentivise decentralised learning.

## PART 2. Thematic priorities and axes of action

Democracy is in crisis in many countries according to a broad consensus with a peak of populist political parties, diminution of electoral participation and according to the trust indicators towards political parties and institutions.

On the other hand, the emergence of new forms of participation and political mobilizations are channeled through communication technologies. These same experts don't agree on the causes or possible solutions to the challenges our societies are facing. Local governments have a key role in developing democratic innovations, in carrying out public policies that strengthen social and community ties and in defending human rights. The IOPD considers this local governments' role and wants to contribute to weaving this network of cities and municipalities that work in promoting, defending and increasing local democracy.

[The agenda for local democracy](#) is the IOPD reference guide for local governments to develop democracy.

## 2023 thematic priorities:

Two themes will continue to be priorities this year: ***"the role of citizen participation in climate emergency and environmental challenges such as the loss of biodiversity"*** and the ***"gender perspective in citizen participation"***.

Other priority topics of the network are:

- strengthen the narrative of the network through the recovery of the origins and history of the IOPD
- monitoring and analysis of practices compiled by the IOPD
- establish a working group of professionals facilitating participatory processes
- develop a quality index of participatory democracy

### **PART 3. Tasks to impulse networking**

<b>PRIORITY A. Communication and awareness campaign</b>	
Internal communication	
Task 1	Diagnose of the existing communication mechanisms with members and proposal of new mechanisms in order to maintain permanent channels of exchange with them.
Task 2	Administration of the email account
Task 3	Update on activities and events, both to members and to the political representatives in the internal IOPD organs
External communication	
Task 4	Repository of experiences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Establishment of new criteria to systematize information about existing experiences, according to topics</li> <li>b. Reflect upon the added value of this repository, compared to others</li> <li>c. Active search of new experiences, activating the network</li> <li>d. Co-production of the description of experiences, jointly with local actors</li> </ul>
Task 5	Maintenance and update of the website and social media
Task 6	Publication of reports (related to tasks 10 and 11) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Publication of the annual report (coinciding with the annual conference)</li> <li>b. Publication of special reports</li> </ul>
Task 7	Annual Conference: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Annual conference communication support</li> </ul>

Task 8	Organization of three international events (according to priority contents, task 19)
Task 9	Participation in international events jointly with UCLG

**PRIORITY B. Evaluation of practices**

Task 10	Participation in the partnership between UCLG and the Global Coalition for Democracy
Task 11	Special reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Fundraising</li> <li>b. Assignment (in relation to the priority contents)</li> <li>c. Production of the report</li> </ul>
Task 12	Best Practice Awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Review of the criteria and process for the award</li> <li>b. Call for candidacies</li> <li>c. Applications and selection process</li> <li>d. Publication of results</li> <li>e. To look for funds in order to offer a monetary award</li> </ul>
Task 13	Coordination of mutual evaluation mechanisms (between members)

**PRIORITY C: Strengthen: widening the network**

Task 14	Clean up of the current list of members (previous contact with inactive members)
Task 15	Identification of strategic criteria for the addition of new members
Task 16	Admission of new members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Identification of potential members</li> <li>b. Contact and addition of new members</li> <li>c. Ask for information about their needs</li> <li>d. Ask for an authorization to publish their data</li> <li>e. Ask for contacts</li> </ul>
Task 17	Admission of new promoter members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Contact with local governments leaders in participatory democracy</li> <li>b. To improve the new promoter members' role definition</li> </ul>

**PRIORITY D: Learning: decentralised cooperation and joint actions**



Task 18	Study of the collaboration forms (existing forms, incentives, technical resources and new proposals) a. Assignment of the study b. Production of the study
Task 19	Identification of priority content
Task 20	Development of the online platform PARTICIPATE OIDP

**PART 4: Calendar**

<b>January</b>	
<b>February</b>	<i>UCLG Retreat</i> <i>Deployment of working groups</i>
<b>March</b>	<i>Global Forum on Modern Direct Democracy, Mexico</i>  <i>IOPD Webinar on participation and gender perspective / feminist municipalism</i>  <i>International Congress on Citizen Participation and Decentralization to be held in the city of Cordoba, Argentina on March 21, 22 and 23, 2023</i>
<b>April</b>	
<b>May</b>	
<b>June</b>	<i>IOPD Virtual Meeting</i>
<b>July</b>	
<b>August</b>	
<b>September</b>	September 15 Democracy Day - virtual meeting OIDP
<b>October</b>	Conference Rio de Janeiro (TBC)
<b>November</b>	Conference Rio de Janeiro (TBC)
<b>December</b>	

To be scheduled according to the dates of the Rio de Janeiro Conference:

- preparation of the IOPD Award call for proposals
- launching of the IOPD Award call for proposals
- IOPD Award evaluation
- preparation of the IOPD Award publication
  
- Call for proposals for the Conference
- Call for General Assembly
- Coordinating committee meetings
- Mobilization of the membership for the conference

Document with the work plan proposal: <https://www.oidp.net/docs/repo/doc1321.pdf>

Proposals to be included in the Work Plan

- The **Network of Participatory Municipalities of Portugal (RAP)** shares activities in which it can collaborate with the IOPD
  - Create a system of indicators to evaluate the quality of Participatory Budgeting.
  - We would also like to make the English edition of the game "Quien participa?" and put it on the website for downloading.
  - Make a digital publication on good practices of citizens' assemblies.
  
- The **Council of Citizen Participation and Social Control (CPCCS) of Ecuador** proposes to sign a Framework Agreement for institutional cooperation.
  
- The **city of Sfax** proposes the following topics to address:
  - Immigrant communities and participatory democracy in southern Mediterranean cities.
  - Participatory democracy in countries in transition and political instability.

It also proposes to reflect on a training program for municipal agents, actors and local leaders on participation and communication techniques to better develop their coordination skills for a more effective and efficient Participatory Democracy.

- The **Ville de Grenoble - IOPD presidency** proposes three working times in France: one during the *European Rencontres of participation* in Rouen in June, one during the *Biennale des villes en transition* in Grenoble and in the *meetings of the network for participatory budgets of France* which will be in autumn.
  
- Dr. **Savaş Zafer Şahin of the Ankara Hacı Bayram Veli Üniversitesi**, responsible for the experience of the Ankara Citizens' Assembly, special mention of the IOPD award in 2021 proposes to carry out a research project to make a time series analysis of all the cases presented to the award and their subsequent path. He is offering to participate in this group in charge of analyzing the award proposals.

- The **International Republican Institute (IRI)** confirms the interest to collaborate again with the ODP for the anti-corruption conference to be organized in Bulgaria in 2023.

#### **IV Bids to host the IOPD conference in 2024**

- Candidature of the Municipality of Cotonou, Benin / [Candidacy dossier](#)
- Candidature of the Municipality of Valongo, Portugal with the support of the Network of Participative Autarchies of Portugal / [Candidacy dossier](#)

As established in the [rules](#) for the election of the presidency, if a vote is necessary, local and regional government members of the IOPD registered for the General Assembly may vote.

#### **V Nominations of promoter members**

We invite IOPD partner cities and governments that would like to become more involved with the network to apply to become a promoter member. Promoters commit to participate in the political direction of the network and to make some financial contribution to ensure the functioning of the secretariat.

Currently the promoter members of IOPD are the cities of Barcelona, Grenoble, Montréal, Sfax and Valongo. These cities participate in the leadership of the network, represent the network in different events and contribute financially.

#### **VI Regional Antennas**

Currently the IOPD has an active regional antenna in Africa, members in other regions may decide to organize themselves into a regional antenna.

#### **VI Members registered to participate in the Assembly**

*List updated as of December 1, 2022 (registration is still open)*

Grenoble - France  
Cocody - Ivory Coast  
Iztapalapa - Mexico  
Barcelona - Spain  
Valongo - Portugal  
Sfax - Tunisia  
Montreal - OCPM Canada  
Rio de Janeiro - Brazil  
Cascais - Portugal  
Nampula - Mozambique  
Maputo - Mozambique  
Generalitat Valenciana - Spain  
Grenoble Alpes Métropole - France  
Boghé - Mauritania

Cotonou - Benin  
Nancy - France  
Gobernación del Valle del Cauca - Colombia  
Córdoba - Argentina  
Darou Mousty - Senegal  
Ngoye - Senegal  
Paris - France  
Bordeaux - France  
Vila de Boane - Mozambique  
Tours - France  
Florence - Italy  
Dannieh - Lebanon  
São Paulo - Brazil

Collaborators and observers

Association Humanitaire Yirwa  
Association d'enfant et jeunes de grand lahou( Côte d'Ivoire)  
Association ESKUHARTU PARTICIPACION  
ONG CONSTRUISE ENSEMBLE LE MONDE  
Oficina  
Réseau d'Education Civique au Congo RECIC  
Bangladesh Institute of Human Rights (BIHR)  
Center for Environmental Governance (CEGO-GHANA)  
Réseau d'Education Civique au Congo RECIC  
ASOCIACION DE AUTORIDADES LOCALES DE MEXICO AC  
FRESH IMPETUS  
Bios: participación política y desarrollo AC  
Association Mauritanienne des Communes du Sud ( AMCS)  
Stichting Mission Lanka  
Saint Rambert d'Albon  
ONG Labizey Hallassa "lutte pour le bien être des populations "  
FORED  
Fridays for future RDC  
Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth  
Conseil jeunesse de Montréal  
Réseau sénégalais des collectivités territoriales pour le budget participatif  
Young Youth Initiatives of Change Programs  
Turin, Centro Studi Sereno regis  
Legistive theatre  
City of Florence  
People Powered