



COMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP ACTIVITY REPORT **2011**

Committee of Digital and Knowledge-Based Cities

President: Mr. Iñaki Azkuna, Mayor of Bilbao

INTRODUCTION

Since its creation 5 years ago the Committee of Digital and Knowledge-Based Cities (formerly known as the Committee on the Information Society), chaired by the city of Bilbao, has worked hard to set up an efficient network of co-operation between local authorities with a view to seizing the opportunities provided by new information and communication technologies (ICTs), innovation and knowledge, sharing them, assimilating them and adapting them to local needs so as to create new opportunities for all.

ORIENTATION OF THE COMMITTEE

On the basis of the change of orientation approved by the Committee by the end of 2010 and that was ratified with the renewal of mandate of the Committee for the period 2011-2013, the committee has **focused in the following lines of work:**

- 1.** Dissemination of the Digital Local Agenda
- 2.** Identification and strengthening of the factors that make cities more innovative
- 3.** Positioning of cities as leaders in territorial innovation processes, in view of their ability to establish highly participative, efficient networks.
- 4.** Creation of an efficient co-operation network comprising UCLG member cities

We are currently working in the **thematic areas**, which include the elements that make up digital and knowledge-based cities

ACTIVITIES DEVELOPED IN 2011

Renewal of the government bodies of the Committee:

One of the main activities developed by the Committee in 2011 has been the **renewal of the government bodies of the Committee**. In the case of the Committee Vice-presidencies for Euro-Asia, Latin America and Africa held by the **City of Ulan Bator, the National Confederation of Municipalities of Brazil (CNM), and the Association of Municipalities of Morocco (ANCLM)** respectively, we are pleased to inform you that they have confirmed the renewal of their commitment to continue to leader and coordinate the work of the committee in their region. In the case of the Vice-presidency of Europe, the **City of Bordeaux** in France has accepted the commitment of holding the Vice-presidency of the region.

Members and Co-ordination with other Committees and Regional Sections:

Efforts have been made in 2011 to increase membership of the Committee, particularly in those regions of the world where there are as yet few members, i.e. The Middle East, western Asia, Euro-Asia and Europe. Currently the committee has **91 members**. In 2011, **3 new cities have incorporated to the committee, the Cities of Bordeaux, Suresnes and Stravropol.**

During this period the committee has worked to intensify co-operation and collaboration with other UCLG committees and working groups. In this sense, in 2011 the committee has begun to work on a **possible collaboration with the Committee on Urban Strategic Planning and with the Committee on Urban Mobility.**

Awareness & Dissemination:

Support has been given in 2011, for the **organising and development of events** to heighten awareness and disseminate the importance of implementing ICTs, innovation and knowledge at local level with a view to achieving sustainable development and improving the quality of life of citizens in the various regions of the world. • The following events can be remarked in 2011:

- XII Latin American Meeting of Digital Cities (28-30 September 2011, in Bilbao)
- Bilbao Web Summit (17-18 May 2011, in Bilbao)
- Digital Week (21-26 March, Bordeaux)

Communication:

For what it refers to communication, along in 2011, circulars have continued to be used as a channel of communication between the Committee and its members. During 2011, **5 circulars** have been sent to the members and an **invitation mailing** to the members for the Bilbao Web Summit. Also, an ongoing work has been developed, to continue on the updating of the technical instruments rolled out, i.e. the website, the Forum and the TV channel and efforts have been made to encourage the sharing of knowledge and experiences between local authorities.

Publications and Studies:

In this period, efforts have been made to produce benchmark publications and documents in the field, in this sense, in 2011 the Committee has begin to work in the "Smart Cities Study: **First study on the situation of ICT, Innovation and Knowledge management in UCLG Members**" and The National Confederation of Municipalities of Brazil (CNM) that holds the Vice-presidency of the Committee has recently published a **reflection on municipal management in the matter of "Technology and administrative modernization: from the electronic Government to the connected governance"**.

Observatory, news and newsletters:

The website has been the communication channel to keep members up to date on any news concerning the Committee and its members. In 2011, **5 committee newsletters** have been sent. These newsletters are available through the committee website.

Meetings:

In accordance with the terms of operation of these committees and working groups, the Committee will hold at least one face-to-face meeting, as a forum for analyzing the work done to date and discussing the working plan for the next period. The annual committee meeting will be held on December 9 in Florence, Italy. The Committee Secretariat took part in the meeting of the committee secretariats held the 22 and 23 February in Barcelona.

For more information: <http://www.cities-localgovernments.org/committees/cdc/>