

## **FOCUS SESSION 8:**

### **Local Economic Development. A partnership approach for promoting inclusive territorial economic growth and sustainable development**

Tuesday 15 April 2014 8:00–9:15, Room 8

#### **Objective:**

The Focus Session will discuss and provide evidence for Local Economic Development (LED) as a partnership approach fostering inclusive growth and sustainable human development at the local level. It will highlight the key importance of public-private partnerships at the local level for effective service delivery as well as showcase experiences of effective development cooperation at sub-national level.

#### **Session Format:**

Roundtable discussion

#### **Speakers/Panellists:**

- Paúl Carrasco, Prefect of Azuay, Ecuador, President of ORU/FOGAR
- Magdy Martínez-Solimán, UNDP's Deputy Assistant Administrator and Director a.i. of the Bureau for Development Policy
- Gregorio Arnulfo Morales, member of LEDA of Usulután, Mayor of California, El Salvador
- Juan Carlos Gossaín, Governor of Bolívar, Colombia, President of OLAGI
- Saskya Lugo, Technical Management Coordinator of the Technical Secretariat for International Cooperation (SETECI), Government of Ecuador
- Carles Llorens Vila, Secretary General ORU/FOGAR, former General Director of Cooperation of the Government of Catalonia
- Johannes Krassnitzer, ART Programme Specialist, UNDP
- Hubert Julien-Laferrière, Vice president of Grand Lyon, France, Co-president of UCLG's committee on Decentralised Cooperation and City Diplomacy

## Background/Narrative:

Cities, human settlements and territories have emerged as critical spaces where both development challenges and opportunities will manifest most acutely after 2015. The potential and resources in these spaces must be harnessed and managed in a sustainable manner to respond to the demands of their growing populations. Proposed approaches and responses have taken different forms, consolidating under various conceptual frames, including, most prominently, Local Economic Development (LED) which stresses strategically planned, locally driven partnership approaches to enable employment growth, poverty reduction, and quality of life gains through improved local economic governance.

As locally driven partnership approach the LED approach is focused on the key role of sub-national authorities and actors in development, and promotes dialogue and consensus-building platforms where the public and private sector, civil society, academic and research institutions are actively engaged in planning and using local resources in a sustainable manner. This consensus based approach presents an effective tool for increasing domestic accountability as well as a good basis for achieving mutual accountability at the local level.

This Focus session presents an opportunity to examine how effective development co-operation at the local level can be advanced in the context of the post-2015 development agenda. It will discuss how the LED approach promotes inclusive development partnerships at the local thereby promoting sustainable human development of the concerned territories. It will showcase innovative development cooperation modalities such as Decentralized, South-South and Triangular Cooperation as effective international partnership tools to further and promote such inclusive LED systems and it will present a tool for measuring development cooperation effectiveness at the local level.

## Related Links:

ORU/FOGAR <http://www.regionsunies-fogar.org/en/>

Measuring the effectiveness of development cooperation at the local level – Ecuador:  
[http://www.undp.org/ec/art/frontEnd/images/objetos/2013%20ART\\_Measuring%20cooperation%20effectiveness%20at%20the%20local%20level%20\(web\).pdf](http://www.undp.org/ec/art/frontEnd/images/objetos/2013%20ART_Measuring%20cooperation%20effectiveness%20at%20the%20local%20level%20(web).pdf)

World Forum of Local Economic Development  
<http://www.undp.org/content/brussels/en/home/presscenter/articles/2013/11/07/the-ii-world-forum-of-local-economic-development/>

## Organisers:

ORU/FOGAR: Forum of regional governments and global associations of regions.

With the support of UNDP.

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