

**UCLG (United Cities and Local Governments), GSEF (Global Social Economy Forum)  
Montreal / Seoul / Barcelona Cities and SACN (South African Cities Network)**

**Joint proposal for the XII Metropolis Congress**

**Title**

Economic Development for Inclusive Cities: Peer Learning on Social Economy Policies on Urban Regeneration for tackling inequalities

**Related Themes of XII Metropolis Congress**

- Inclusion and living together
- Economic Development, Collaborative Economy and Circular Economy

**General Description (Max 350 words)**

UCLG team in collaboration with GSEF will support Montreal and partner cities to showcase their best practices as well as holding a hands on inspirational debate on transferability of the practices for the inclusive urban development.

The central theme of the session is about the efforts of different cities in revitalizing declining metropolitan areas based on the principles of Social Economy. The session will be organized as a peer learning workshop for interactive exchange of the experience on the urban policy. As the cities are now facing complex urban challenges and require to reinforce the collaborative efforts to tackle them, it is crucial for partners take advantage of the lessons from innovative practices of others.

The learning program will be developed in partnership of leading social economy cities, particularly in the field of urban regeneration.

1. Montreal: Montreal is internationally recognized as a leader of co-construction of public policies and it will provide site visits for on-site policy discussions: *Montreal urban regeneration site visits; Technopole Angus / Ateliers créatifs*
2. Seoul: Within a very few years, it has developed an ambitious policy for the social economy, with the aim of overcoming the important inequalities within communities that emerged in the context of decades of strong growth: *Revitalizing local communities by establishing Seoul Social Economy Special Districts (Seongsu Social Fashion District)*
3. Barcelona: In building its recent Development Plan based on the social economy, Barcelona explicitly focused on territorial inequalities, in order to concentrate its efforts in the neighborhoods with more difficulties: *Barcelona urban renewal projects (The Barcelona Model) - El Raval / 22@ / Poblenou which reinvigorated the poorest part of the city*

4. SACN (South African Cities Network): SACN is interested in connecting with the UCLG peer learning activities and methods and can provide input from its network of metropolitan areas which are faced with both old (apartheid era) and new urban regeneration challenges : *eKhaya Neighbourhood Improvement Programme (eKhaya)*

### **Workshop Outline (Max 350 words)**

- 1) Expected date: 21<sup>st</sup> June, afternoon
- 2) Expected venue: one of the sites related to Montreal's urban policy for urban regeneration - Technopole Angus

Technopole Angus (<http://www.sda-angus.com/>): Société de développement Angus (SDA) is a social enterprise. Since its founding in 1995, SDA has strived to balance social and economic spin-offs in every one of their projects. Technopôle Angus, was both an urban renewal initiative and a real-life experiment in sustainable development. By 2011 SDA had hosted 2,000 new jobs on the site of a rezoned and decontaminated former industrial ruin.

- 3) Expected speakers (TBC)
  - Montreal (City representative)
  - Seoul (SMG or GSEF)
  - Barcelona (City representative)
  - SACN (City or Province representative)
- 4) Program Outline (3hour and 30 mins)
  - (5 min) Introduction
  - (15 min) Poster session
  - (7x4 min) Briefing on each case
  - (20 min) General Q&A
  - (40 min) Discussion by groups (One focus group by question raised / sub-themes (TBC) such as co-construction of public policy, governance and finance)
  - (20 min) Draw the lessons learnt
  - (1 hour) Look around the policy site
  - (20 min) Comments and conclusions
  - (2 min) Group photo

- 5) Main Organizers

UCLG: It is an umbrella organization for cities, local governments and municipal governments 'UCLG Learning' is a branch of UCLG looks into enabling active knowledge sharing among member cities in different formats and methodologies.

GSEF: It is a global initiative of cities including Seoul and Montreal. It will bring its global vision of the social economy and expertise on fostering collaborations between local governments and civil society actors.

### **Case studies and other resources provided (Max 350 words)**

The unequal access to opportunities and services among citizens is one of the major challenges metropolises face and it requires territory-rooted solutions that can empower populations. Urban regeneration is one of the most effective tools for addressing urban inequalities. Principles of co-construction of public policies and democratic governance, social economy projects are proven to be an effective tools.

The ‘gallery of the practices’ methodology will be used, presenting the policy cases in poster formats. In this learning program, visiting policy sites are crucial for delivering the contents. After the event, the results will be documented and published for further reference and assist joint projects between cities

#### *Cases / Resources*

Seoul: Throughout the Metropolitan area, it has established Social Economy Special Districts to revitalize areas that have unique regional problems such as gentrifications and industrial declines. There are 10 special SE districts (of which 4 districts are in their preparatory stages). Local communities identify their problems and the city administration consult with citizens to establish special districts to revitalize the troubled areas. The case of Seongsu social fashion cluster to revitalize areas affected by the leather industry decline will be highlighted.

Montreal (field visits): Technopole Angus

Barcelona: Well known for its urban regeneration strategies as it has been dubbed as ‘the Barcelona model’; the use of culture at the center of their urban renewal plans through participatory governance structures for designing the city. The Case of El Raval, 22@ and Poblenou will be drawn for lessons.

SACN (Johannesburg): The City of Johannesburg Inner City has experienced rapid transitions in the last two decades and, as in many areas globally where degradation has taken place, when there is reinvestment there is a risk of gentrification. The case of the Ekhaya (Home) neighbourhood in Hillbrow illustrates key policy, partnership and capital investments in re-investment of an area with the outcome of retaining existing residents. It was initiated by The Johannesburg Housing Company at a time when they only owned three buildings in the neighbourhood along one street in Hillbrow, which was a degenerated low income, high density “no-go” area in the inner city. eKhaya set out to organise property owners, their housing managers and caretakers, and residents to co-operate to create and maintain a safe, clean, healthy and well managed environment, for the benefit of the people who live and/or work in the area, the property owners, and all in the city. The programme has revitalised a low-income neighbourhood in the well-located Inner City with access to transport, job opportunities, social amenities and public open space.