



**UCLG CONGRESS
WORLD SUMMIT OF LOCAL
AND REGIONAL LEADERS**

**New Generation
of Universal Local
Public Services**

**Tangier
Local4Action**

Integrating Care into Local Governance and Public Policies

Roundtable / Dialogue / **Lab** / Launch

Date and time: Thursday, 25 June 2026, 10:00–11:30

Duration: 90 minutes

Room: C - Medina

Lead organizer: UCLG

Co-organizers: WYDE

Background

Current times of crises and instability are exacerbating existing inequalities and revealing the unsustainability of the ways in which our communities and societies are organized. Care, understood as the reproduction and sustainability of life in all its forms, is the foundation that enables individuals, communities, and human and natural systems to thrive over time. Yet care has long remained absent from political and public debate: care responsibilities have been disproportionately borne by women and vulnerable populations, relegated to the private sphere, and overlooked in policymaking and governance frameworks. In this context, local and regional governments (LRGs) are emerging as key actors in advancing caring cities and territories through public services, inclusive policies, community-based approaches, and governance models that place the sustainability of life at the center of development.

This Lab aims to explore how LRGs can integrate care into local governance and public policies. Conceived as a hands-on and action-oriented learning experience, it will provide the first opportunity to test and collectively reflect on the materials, exercises, and methodologies of the care-policy module currently being developed as part of UCLG's contribution to the Women and Youth in Democracy Initiative (WYDE). Drawing on the evidence, experiences, and recommendations gathered through UCLG's [GOLD VII Multimedia Journal on the Economies of Equality and Care](#), and aligned with the principles of UCLG's [Local Social Covenant](#), the Lab will examine how care-based approaches to governance can be translated into concrete territorial action.

Developed through a Training of Trainers approach, the care-policy module follows UCLG's facilitator-centered pedagogy, combining conceptual grounding, territorial evidence, and participatory methodologies. The module seeks to move beyond reflection towards implementation, supporting LRGs and partners in operationalizing care and equality agendas in their territories and strengthening multilevel and multistakeholder approaches to governance.



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Objectives / Expected outcomes

- Position care as a core principle of local governance grounded in human rights, equality and democracy, and highlight the role of LRGs in developing inclusive care systems and infrastructures.
- Leverage the WYDE Care-Policy Module developed by UCLG and grounded in the GOLD VII research process on the Economies of Equality and Care to strengthen capacities for designing and implementing care-based approaches.
- Foster political commitment, peer learning and multistakeholder collaboration on care governance, through the exchange of practical experiences and the identification of shared priorities and pathways for integrating care into local and multilevel policy agendas.

Agenda

- Welcoming remarks (5 mins)
- Interactive consultation (15 mins)
- Setting the scene: "Growing care infrastructures" (10 mins)
- Activity: "Caring cities in practice" (30 mins)
- Collective reflection (20 mins)
- Concluding remarks (10 mins)