



UCLG CONGRESS
WORLD SUMMIT OF LOCAL
AND REGIONAL LEADERS

New Generation
of Universal Local
Public Services

Tangier
Local4Action

From Advocacy to Transformation & Delivery: Financing the Next Generation of Territorial Public Services, Designing the Financing Architecture We Need

Roundtable

Date and time: Wednesday 24 June 2026, 16h30-18h

Duration: 90 minutes

Lead organizer (Name / Institution): Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV) and UCLG

Background

Over the past decades, local and regional governments have become central actors in shaping territories. Subnational government spending represented, on average, 21.5% of total public spending worldwide in 2020, confirming the structural role of local and regional governments in public action. The past decade has also brought important progress in the recognition of local and regional governments within global development finance debates.

Yet the structural conditions under which local and regional governments operate have evolved far more slowly than the scale of the responsibilities and crises they are expected to address. Local and regional governments are being asked to absorb growing economic, social, environmental and democratic tensions while continuing to deliver protection, inclusion, stability and everyday public services under tightening fiscal space, fragmented access to finance, constrained borrowing conditions, scarce de-risking mechanisms, uneven technical capacities and financial systems that were rarely designed around their public responsibilities and territorial realities.

This context requires more than expanded access to funding; it calls for a transformation of the financial architecture itself: reshaping fiscal frameworks, guarantees, public development banking, investment partnerships, data systems and financial engineering around territorial public value, democratic accountability, resilience and the long-term capacity of territories to deliver rights and shared prosperity.

The Tangier Outcome Document provides the political foundation for this shift by affirming universal local public services as the everyday infrastructure of rights, by placing care, territorial justice and intergenerational responsibility at the center of the municipal agenda, and by stating that the future of democracy, equality and peace will be built from territories.



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The Tangier Commitment also gives a clear mandate to reclaim finance as a democratic public tool for territorial development, rights and care. This session is designed to translate that mandate into a forward-looking conversation on the next generation of territorial finance.

Objectives / Expected outcomes

- Take stock of the “decade of recognition”: the progress made in placing local and regional governments within global financing debates and the gap between recognition and financing capacity.
- Identify and valorize existing solutions that can be scaled: country platforms for localizing finance and investment, finance structuring hubs, technical assistance mechanisms, data observatories, among others.
- Open a political discussion on the future architecture of subnational finance: fiscal space, borrowing frameworks, value capture, public return on public risk, care-centered investment, etc.
- Identify priorities and areas for future collaboration on territorial finance, investment and localization agendas.

Agenda

I. From Recognition to Transformation & Territorial Delivery: Rethinking Finance for the Next Decade (Framing intervention – 15 minutes)

Speakers:

- **Mr Paul Smoke**, New York University
- **Mr Anthony Berthelot**, Metropolitan Councilor of Nantes and Mayor of Indre
- **Mr Dada Morero**, Mayor of Johannesburg, South Africa

II. From Initiatives to Territorial Public Investment Systems: What Works, What Must Scale (First roundtable - 30 minutes)

Moderation by Carlos de Freitas, Executive Director, FMDV



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Speakers:

- **Ms Elizabeth Arciniegas**, Principal Executive, Sustainable Territorial Development Department, Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF) *(TBC)*
- **Mr Jean-Aloïse Biwolé**, Director of International Cooperation, FEICOM, Chair of the African Subnational Development Banks (SDBs) Alliance *(TBC)*
- **Mr Frédéric Blanc**, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs on financing decentralized cooperation
- **Mr Ivica Lekic**, Head of Sector, Unit for Local Authorities, European Commission
- **Mr Atte Oksanen**, OECD
- **Representative of UNCDF** *(TBC)*

III. Transforming the Financial Architecture Around Territorial Public Purposes & Opportunities (Second roundtable - 30 minutes)

Moderation by François Menguelé, Secretary General of UCLG Africa

Speakers:

- **Ms Aissata Dia**, Vice-Mayor of El Mina
- **Ms Carlota Rosés Montesinos**, Subdirector of International Support for Local Governments, Generalitat de Catalunya *(TBC)*
- **Ms Sandra Moreno**, Secretary general, RIPESS
- **Mr Harkirat Singh**, Vice-Mayor of Brampton *(TBC)*
- **Mr Eduardo Tadeu**, Secretary General of the Brazilian Association of Municipalities and Member of BRICS Cities Association

IV. Concluding Discussion and Audience Reflections (15 minutes)

Open exchange with participants to identify key messages, emerging priorities and reflections on the future of territorial finance and public investment.

Guiding questions:

- What is the most important gap that remains to be addressed?
- What should be the priority for the next decade?

Concluding remarks: Carlos de Freitas, Executive Director, FMDV