

European cities and regions engage citizens for global sustainable development

Dialogue and exchange session in the frame of the European Days of Local Solidarity

20th November

1, Square de Meeûs (1st floor) – 1000, Brussels
(Council of European Municipalities and Regions' Headquarters)

Background

The **European Days of Local Solidarity** will celebrate its second edition on November 2017 with the aim of strengthening and promoting European cities and regions' action in awareness raising on sustainable development. Labelled with the EDLS logo, over 10 activities in different regions and cities in Europe will be organized between 10 and 24 November.

On 20 November 2017, within the framework of the EDLS 2017, PLATFORMA invites its partners and all other actors involved in awareness raising to discuss with the European Union's institutions and exchange on the **added-value and challenges of European cities and regions' actions to raise awareness for sustainable development**.

More precisely, this event aims at:

- Fostering the dialogue with the European Institutions and key European partners active in global education and awareness raising.
- Facilitating the exchange and learning between European local and regional governments and strengthening collaboration with key partners around Europe.
- Concluding the two-years cycle of the initiative by discussing lessons learnt, challenges identified and opportunities to be explored in the future.

Participation

If you wish to participate to this event, **please register before Friday 10th November by filling in [this form](#)**. Interpretation services are foreseen (English – French).

Please note your travel expenses and accommodation can be covered by PLATFORMA. For this, please indicate your preferences in the same form and find attached to this invitation the explanatory note related to reimbursements.

Do not hesitate to contact the Secretariat for further information (laia.vinyesmarce@cce-cemr.org).

AGENDA

9h30 – 10h00 Welcoming coffee

10h00 – 10h15 Round table of presentation and brief introduction on the EDLS

10h15 – 11h30 Building a common message in favor of global solidarity at the European scale: opportunities and challenges for stronger synergies

Round-table discussion with PLATFORMA partners and key actors active in awareness raising at the European level. What does “solidarity” mean today and how to link it with “global solidarity”? How to build a common message in favor of sustainable development for a European-scaled audience? How to further mobilise cities and regions under the umbrella of the European Days of Local Solidarity?

11h30 – 11h45 Break

11h45 – 13h00 Promoting recognition for Europe’s cities and regions’ role in informing and mobilising citizens for sustainable development: the European Union policy frame

The panel will focus on the role given to development education and awareness raising in the New Consensus for Development and broadly in the new SDGs framing. Speakers (10’ per presentation):

- Mr Bernard Combes, UNESCO Section of Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship
- Mr Bogdan Wenta, Member of the European Parliament, DEVE Committee
- European Commission representative
- Mr Miguel Silva, South-North center of the Council of Europe - MSG DEAR group member
- Ms Marie-Hélène Nedelec – Vice-President Nantes Metropole

Exchange between participants (35’) on the added-value of cities and regions’ actions in the field of development education and awareness raising.

13h00 - 14h00 Lunch break

14h00 – 14h45 Exposition and live broadcasting of innovative practices on awareness raising for sustainable development

Partners are invited to present concrete experiences and practices on awareness raising promoted by cities and regions (audiovisual tools will be available).

14h45 – 16h30 How to better communicate on local and regional governments’ international action and mobilise citizens and local actors?

Exchange session aimed to analyse the concrete opportunities and challenges faced by cities and regions when communicating on their international action and decentralised cooperation, and on how to articulate with local actors and citizens for a better impact.

16h30 – 17h00 Wrap up and closing words