

Committee of Experts on Public Administration
Eleventh session
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Local public governance and administration for results

Transparency, accountability and
citizens' engagement

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Globalization is not what it used to be

XXI century brought something genuinely new:

GLOBALIZATION OF VALUES

Challenges:

- Providing a sufficient supply of global public goods
- Building a global, rights-based system
- Overcoming asymmetries of global economic system

ECLAC (2002) An Agenda for the Global Era

Institutions

The way in which people of a community organize their public life.

GOVERNMENT
leadership &
accountability

SOCIAL SECTOR
engagement &
commitment

PRIVATE SECTOR
innovation & social
responsibility

Millennium Development Goals

189 Member States of the UN
drafted the Millennium Declaration in 2000,
including 8 main goals



All stakeholders are responsible and a key factor is
BUILDING TRUST

Everything human is local



Social, grass-roots, community participation...

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Individual and collective **civil society actions** aimed to identify and address issues of public interest

CITIZENS' ENGAGEMENT

Actions and programs **advanced by governments** to promote citizens participation in public policies

Methods & Tools for Citizens' Engagement

- Popular Legislative Initiative
- Referendum
- Revocation of Mandate
- Citizens' Bench
- Public Hearings
- Participatory Budgeting
- Participatory Planning
- Collaborative Rule-making Procedure
- Thematic Forums, Commissions & Councils
- Neighborhood Boards or Centers
- Citizens' Audit Programs
- Advisory Boards
- Strategic Plans
- Public-Private Partnerships

Access to information, precondition for citizens' engagement

INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS

- Broad active legitimacy
- Broad passive legitimacy
- Maximum disclosure
- Information including all records held by a public body
- Positive obligation of the State to provide information
- Reasonable fee to those who request information
- Judicial recourse to guarantee the exercise of the right

Some actions to be taken by local governments

- Create a focal points network
- Provide training for public officials
- Offer technical assistance and on-line help desk
- Establish legal criteria for interpretation
- Organize web portal and electronic bulletin
- Produce graphic outreach tools
- Promote partnerships with civil society organizations
- Develop electronic information request system
- Facilitate free and unlimited Internet access
- Approve rules on access to information

Local Leader Profile

SOCIAL LEADERSHIP

Ability to get people together to resolve their problems.

Involves:

- ▶ recognizing difficulties
- ▶ exploring the costs and consequences of various courses of action
- ▶ taking the best decisions in each situation

Leaders can be found everywhere

government
neighborhood
religious people
seniors
school
adults
workers
men
foreigners
women
nationals
professionals
agnostics
business
young people
church
craftsmen

To Conclude...

LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CAN ...

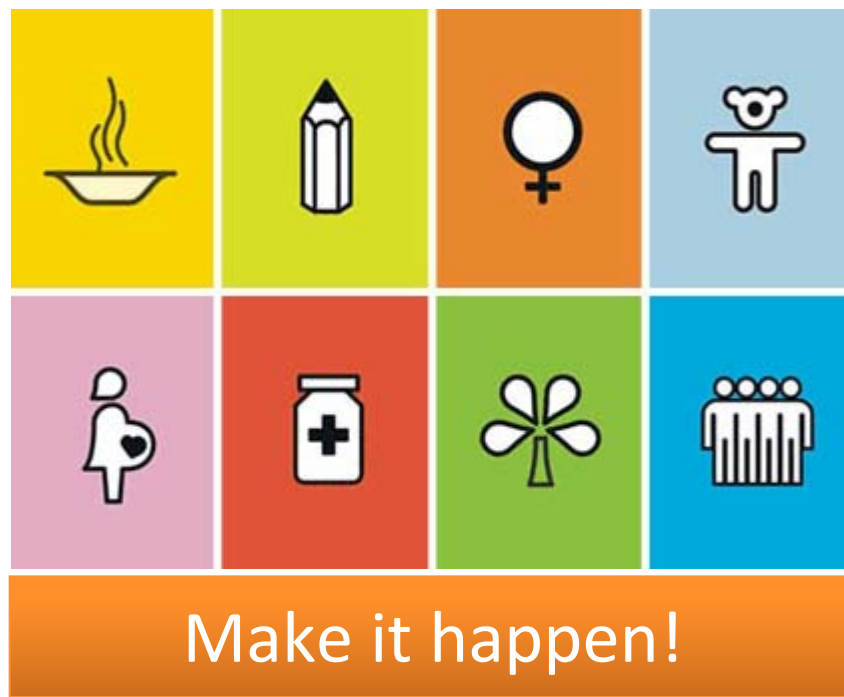
- Engage citizens (individuals & organizations)
- Relate to social stakeholders
- Find potential production clusters
- Attract investment
- Stimulate knowledge and local innovation
- Set up production and learning networks
- Develop competitive advantages for the region
- Coordinate skills with other public authorities
- Promote strategic partnerships with the social and private sector
- Involve think tanks and bring the city into a global context

In short...

Local Governments become main actors in a model of sustainable human development in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

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Thank you!
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