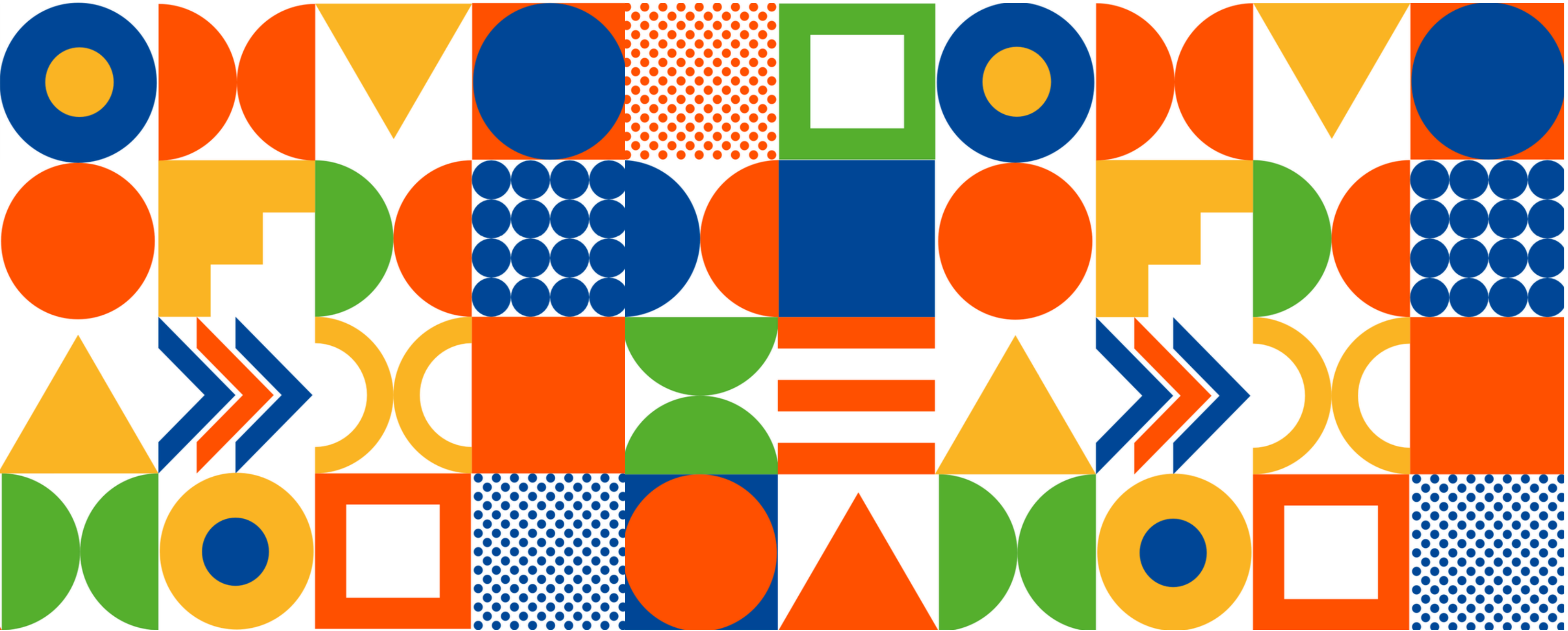


Management Report 2024





The [International Observatory on Participatory Democracy \(OIDP\)](#) is an international network open to all cities, organizations and research centers interested in learning, exchanging and applying experiences of participatory democracy at the local level. It was created in 2001 in the framework of the decentralized cooperation projects of the URB-AL program of the European Commission, and was officially constituted in November of the same year in Barcelona, at the first OIDP Conference. Since 2006, it has also been working jointly with [United Cities and Local Governments \(UCLG\)](#) as a mechanism for consultation on local democracy.

Objectives



To be the world reference center for local participatory democracy.



Exchange experiences on local democratic innovations in all regions of the world.



Create synergies between local governments, organizations and research centers to reflect on democratic quality on a global scale.



Recommend policies to public administrations around the world, preferably at the local level.



To produce and improve existing knowledge in the field of local democracy.



The OI DP people

Presidence 2024



José Manuel Ribeiro
Mayor of Valongo
President OIDP 2024
Co-president OIDP 2025



Nelly Ouassenan
Second Deputy Mayor of Cocody
OIDP Gender Equality Co-Chair
2023-2025



Lluís Rabell
Councilman of Barcelona
Secretary General of the
OIDP

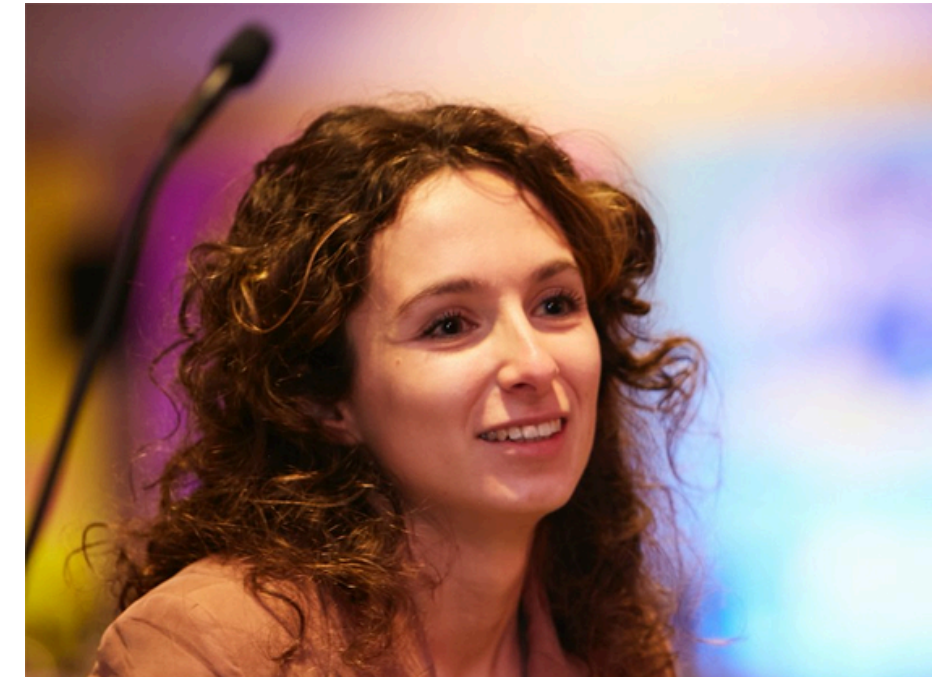
Technical Secretariat



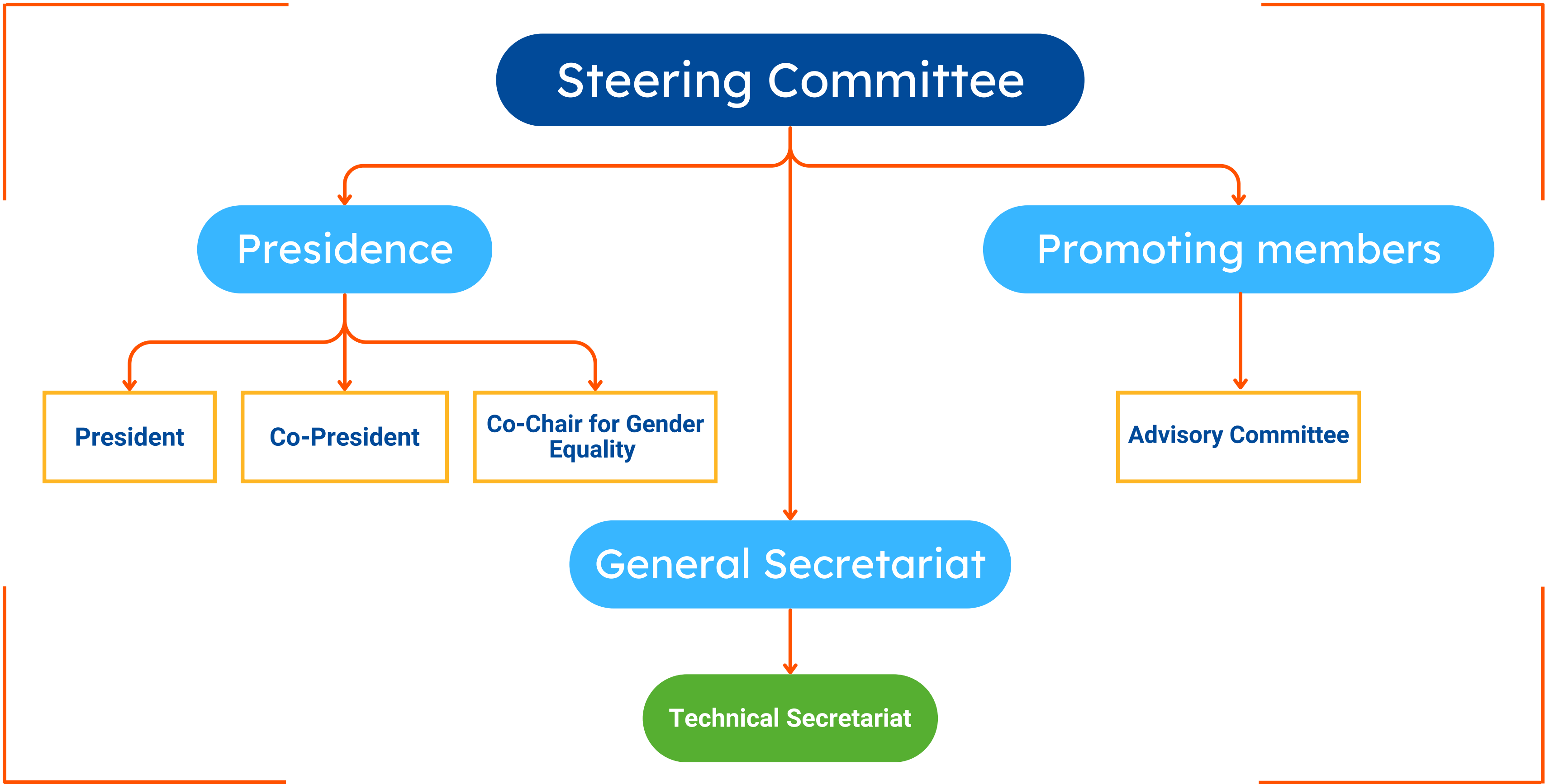
Adrià Duarte
Coordinator



Viviana Itzel Herrera Silva
Communications Officer



Elisa Vachon
Intern



Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee's mission is to support the work carried out by the OIDP, to give it rigor and connection with the scientific, intellectual and practical debates on democracy and the municipalist movement.

It is made up of a group of experts in these issues from the academic, associative, consulting and practice of participatory and deliberative democracy.

This group of people come from different contexts and territories and perform this work on a voluntary basis without receiving any remuneration.

Main activities:

- Guide the definition of work themes.
- Review main OIDP working documents.
- Support the Scientific Committee of each annual conference.



Giovanni Allegretti



Silvia Cervellini



Nelson Dias



Diana Dajer

Local team of the Municipality of Valongo, organizer of the 24th ODP Conference





Mission

In 2024, the OIDP reaffirmed its [mission as an international network for the exchange of good practices](#) and consolidated its role as a [consultative mechanism on local democracy within UCLG](#). In a context of increasing democratic challenges, the OIDP remains committed to being a dynamic space where its members can share the challenges they face and strategies to address them effectively, thus responding to the current needs of local communities. [Today more than ever, the network is at the service of UCLG and the global ecosystem of municipalism, democracy and the defense of human rights.](#)

The OIDP Technical Secretariat plays a key role in the [coordination, dynamization and facilitation of the network](#). Its functions include keeping members informed, encouraging their active participation in the collective construction of this space and strengthening the adhesion of new members. To this end, it manages strategic communication and the maintenance of information channels, updates the membership database and promotes face-to-face and online peer-to-peer learning activities, in addition to promoting the international visibility of its members' local projects.

One of the most important annual processes of the network is the [organization of its international conference](#), which is coordinated and facilitated by the Secretariat and the relationship between the host city and the Steering Committee. Likewise, to [ensure that the network and the annual conference remain aligned](#) with global debates on local democracy, the Secretariat coordinates the relationship with the Advisory Committee and [relevant partners](#).

Another fundamental pillar of the OIDP's work is the identification, systematization, publication and dissemination of good practices in the field of local and regional government. In this sense, the [OIDP Award "Best Practice in Citizen Participation"](#) represents a key process within the network. The Technical Secretariat is responsible for launching the call for applications, managing the nominations and coordinating the evaluation jury.





Activities and processes



23rd Conference of the OIDP



18th OIDP Award
"Best Practice in Citizen Participation"



OIDP Peer Learning Sessions and Notes



Relationship with global ecosystem partners



Other projects



23rd Annual International Conference in Valongo



Over 350 participants from 43 countries gathered in Valongo from October 17th to October 19th for the 23rd Annual Conference of the International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (OIDP), organized with the support of the OIDP Technical Secretariat, UCLG and the municipality of Valongo. With the theme “Populist Threats: Building Democratic Resilience with Participatory Communities”, the three-day event brought together local and regional government representatives, civil society leaders and experts to explore how local participatory democracy can meet the challenges of rising populism and safeguard the future of democratic governance.

The conference was inaugurated with an opening session at the Fábrica do Carvalho, where our President José Manuel Ribeiro, Mayor of Valongo, welcomed the participants and emphasized the importance of the event: “This is a crucial moment for our municipalist movement. Let’s celebrate the best practices to strengthen democracy through participation!”

Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), shared these sentiments, highlighting the role of our Conference in reshaping democratic processes globally: “From UCLG and OIDP, we are committed to creating tools and actions that bring democratic learning and resilience into the global conversation. What happens in places like Valongo impacts multilateralism and the world.”

The keynote speaker, Cas Mudde, an expert in populism, emphasized the critical role of local communities in rebuilding democratic trust. “It is at the local level, where people are in non-political environments, that trust can be rebuilt,” he said, stressing the importance of local engagement in strengthening democracy.

The conference featured 39 different sessions, including panels, workshops, and other activities co-organized by OIDP, UCLG, and other partners and collaborators. These spaces showcased inspiring participatory democracy initiatives from cities in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and Europe, providing practical examples of how participatory mechanisms can counter authoritarianism and ensure citizen participation in decision-making.

The second day hosted the ceremony for the 18th OIDP Award for “Best Practice in Citizen Participation.” The prize was awarded to Iztapalapa for its exemplary work in local public service delivery and its care for UTOPIÁS - Units of Transformation and Organization for Inclusion and Social Harmony. Additionally, seven special mentions were given to cities such as Quezon, Bohicon, and Valle del Cauca for their initiatives in gender equality, climate change, and public services.

On the third day, the Assembly of Local and Regional Leaders and Looking Toward the Future took place, moderated by Emilia Saiz, to discuss the state of democracy at the local level, the role of local governments in promoting and strengthening democracy, and what is needed from the multilateral system to achieve this. Our Secretary General Lluís Rabell, Councilor of Barcelona, emphasized the importance of OIDP and UCLG as global networks to drive world solidarity.

Finally, during the closing ceremony, we announced Krakow as the host city for our 25th Conference in 2026. Emilia Saiz expressed her gratitude to the Mayor of Valongo and the local team for hosting our Conference: "Valongo is now on the map of our global municipalist movement." At the conclusion of the 23rd edition of the Conference, Juan Domingo Viola, Secretary of Citizen Participation and Youth of Córdoba (Argentina), invited participants to the next edition in his city.



[More information](#)

[Read the Valongo Declaration](#)

Watch the videos:

[Day 1](#)

[Day 2](#)

[Day 3](#)

Recover the pictures:

[Day 1](#)

[Day 2](#)

[Day 3](#)

18th OIDP Award “Best Practice in Citizen Participation”



This edition of the award set a record with 47 countries of origin, from which local and regional governments shared 127 practices of participatory local democracy. More than just a number, this is a testament to the rich diversity, innovation, and determination of our municipalist movement to move toward a happier and more equitable future, built from the dreams, needs, and aspirations of local communities.

This year, to facilitate the application process for membership, the OIDP Technical Secretariat introduced an online application form on the OIDP website, available in all four working languages. The Secretariat was responsible for designing the form and reviewing it to make the instructions as clear as possible. Additionally, an application guide and graphic materials were created to support the process.

The Secretariat was also in charge of the communication strategy and the dissemination of the call on social media and in monthly newsletters. Social media posts were made, and graphic materials were designed. Likewise, a direct dissemination strategy was carried out with contacts to amplify the call.

Once the call was closed, the Secretariat took charge of translating and uploading the summaries of the applications to the ParticipateOIDP platform for open voting. The work of the jury was then coordinated, which included a virtual meeting and several deliberation sessions. Finally, the winners were contacted to confirm their participation in the conference and the awards ceremony. The trophy and diplomas were prepared, along with the digital publication compiling the 127 submitted practices in three languages: English, French, and Spanish.

The jury decided to hand the 18th OIDP Award to the Iztapalapa City Hall for their practice “UTOPIÁS - Units of Transformation and Organization for Inclusion and Social Harmony,” a megainfrastructure developed and maintained through community participation, bringing public services closer to the two million residents of this peripheral municipality of Mexico City.

Seven Special Mentions of the 18th OIDP Award:

Seven special mentions were awarded to other local and regional governments for their bold local participatory actions:

1. Civic Technology and Artificial Intelligence: Bohicon (Benin): “Civic-Tech Bohicon.”
2. Gender and Care: Cotopaxi (Ecuador): “Community Defenders.”
3. Water Management: Djougou (Benin): “Local Water Committee for the Djougou Dam.”
4. Contribution to Organic Waste Recycling: Durham, NC (United States): “Design of a Community Organic Waste Collection Program.”
5. Child and Youth Participation: Surakarta (Indonesia): “Surakarta Inclusive City Movement.”
6. Most Supported Community Practice by OIDP: Valle del Cauca (Colombia): “Integrated Social Management System - SIGESI eGov.”
7. “Sustainable Participatory Practices for Ecological Transition,” in collaboration with the Phoenix Project: Quezon City Government (Philippines): “Let’s Go QC, Let’s Grow QC!”

[More information](#)

[Consult the digital compilation.](#)



OIDP Peer Learning Activities

Sesión de aprendizaje sobre participación infantil y juvenil: Mar del Plata y Molina de Segura...

OIDP - SESIONES DE APRENDIZAJE

UCLG Learning

Mar del Plata (Argentina)



Molina de Segura (España)



Temática: Participación infantil y juvenil
Fecha: 20 de marzo 2024

OIDP Observatorio Internacional de Democracia Participativa

CGLU Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos

0:05 / 51:27 • Introducción >

The OIDP Technical Secretariat, with the support of the Learning Team of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), has organized the OIDP Peer Learning Sessions in March and April 2024, a series of online meetings between local and regional governments (LRGs) to deepen citizen participation practices at the local and regional levels. The learning sessions provide spaces for cross-fertilization among professionals of the organization and engagement with participatory democracy from the LRGs.

Nine OIDP Peer Learning Sessions were held with the following local and regional governments:

- Mogi das Cruzes and Cascais
- Rosario and Mogi das Cruzes
- Cuenca and Esplugues de Llobregat
- Mersin and Lisbon
- Colombes and Grez-Doiceau
- Oeiras and Mogi das Cruzes
- Mar del Plata and Molina de Segura
- Nuevo León and Accra
- Brussels, Milan, and Bogotá

[Access the videos of the OIDP Learning Sessions.](#)

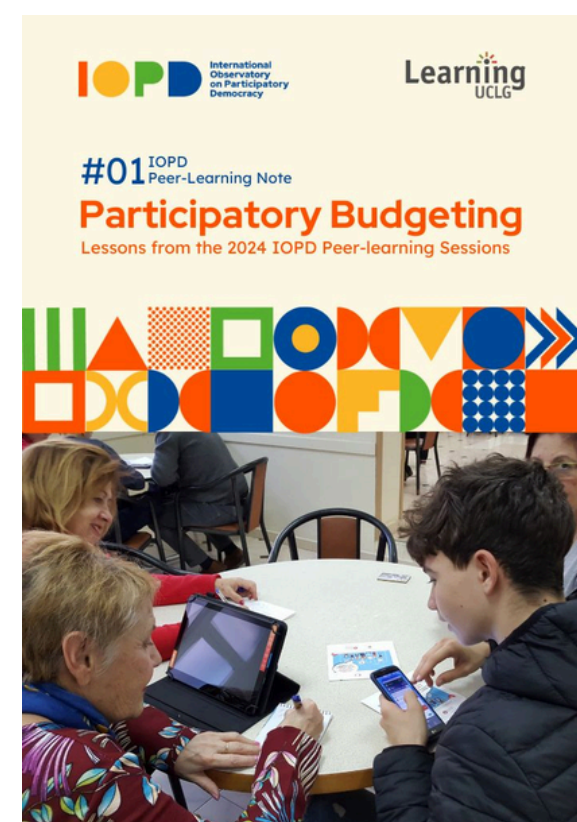
OIDP Peer Learning Notes

As a result of the OIDP Peer Learning Sessions, the Secretariat has produced four Peer Learning Notes, which analyze and compile experiences on co-creation and participatory democracy from 15 local and regional governments. We invite you to consult them and share them with anyone interested in promoting participation in their territories.



In this 2024 OIDP Peer Learning Note, Bogotá, Brussels, Lisbon, and Milan share their municipalist experiences in promoting citizens' assemblies and deliberative processes, aimed at involving the local population in all its diversity in decision-making on the most urgent development agendas, such as ecological transition, care, and the building of empowered and informed communities.

[Download the publication here](#)

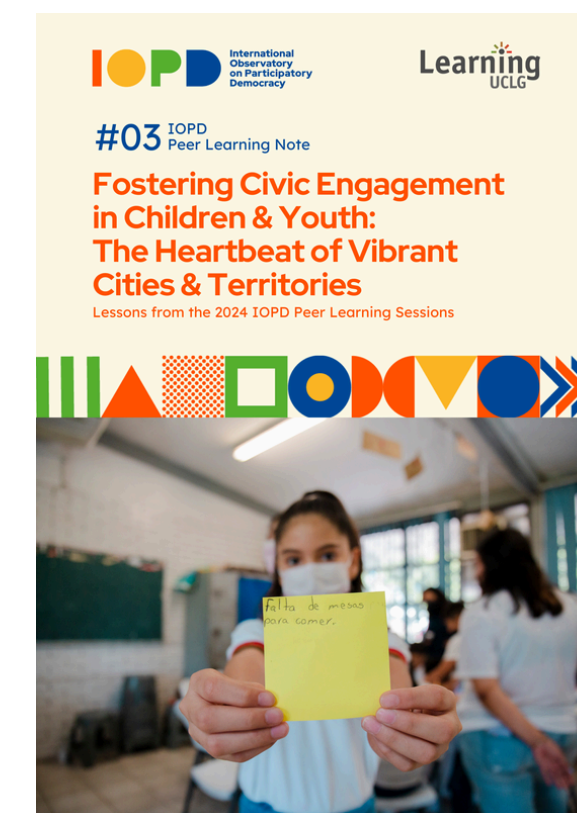


In this 2024 OIDP Peer Learning Note, Colombes, Cuenca, Esplugues de Llobregat, Grez-Doiceau, and Oeiras share their municipal experiences in championing participatory budgets as a tool to include specific groups (such as women or immigrants), ensure transparency and accountability in public management, and regain the trust of residents in institutions.

[Download the publication here](#)

In this OIDP 2024 Peer Learning Note from the learning sessions, Nuevo León, Mar del Plata, Molina de Segura, and Accra share their municipal experiences in involving children and youth in public decision-making, specifically in the agendas of ecological transition, sustainable mobility, social inclusion, and bridging the urban-rural gap.

[Download the publication here](#)



#37

Participatory democracy processes

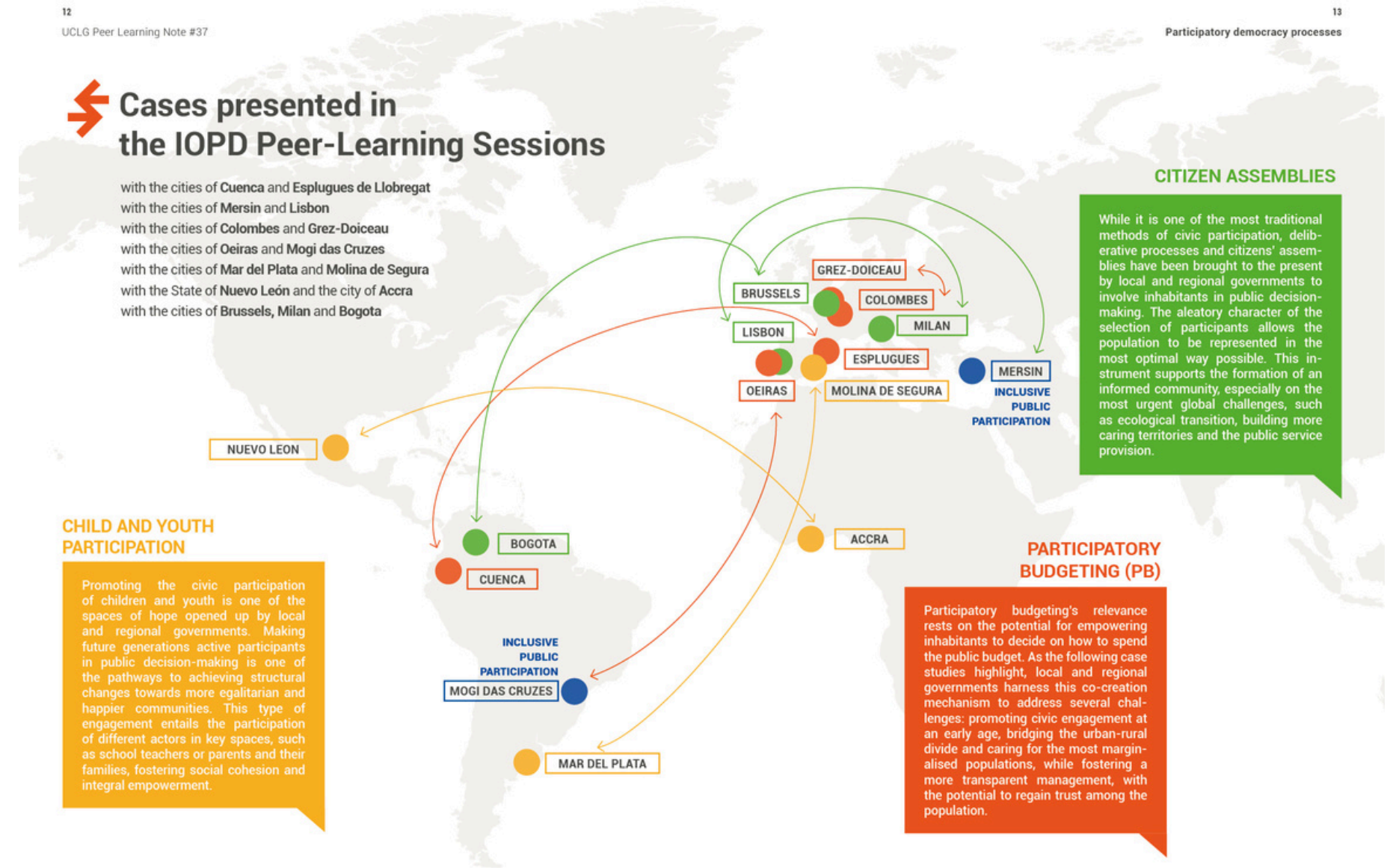
Sharing pathways for Co-creating cities and territories with the inhabitants

Peer Learning (online)
March and April 2024



The OIDP, in collaboration with the Learning Team of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), launches this Peer Learning Note No. 37 "Participatory Democracy Processes: Sharing Paths to Co-Create Cities and Territories with the Inhabitants." This is a special edition that analyzes and compiles 15 cases from local and regional governments across four continents (America, Africa, Asia, and Europe) and their co-creation experiences with inhabitants through four democratic participation mechanisms: Participatory Budgets (PB), deliberative processes and citizens' assemblies, child and youth participation, and inclusion.

[Download the publication here \(available in English only\)](#)





Preparation of the call for applications for the 18th OIDP Award

Throughout January 2024, the OIDP Technical Secretariat was responsible for preparing the call for applications for the 18th OIDP Award. As a novelty for this edition, the Secretariat provided an online application format on our website, available in Spanish, French, English, and Portuguese. This innovation was introduced in response to the membership’s need for a more intuitive tool to submit their applications. To support the application process, the Secretariat also prepared an application guide.

In addition, in line with the key agendas of UCLG and the OIDP membership, the Secretariat proposed five categories to classify and evaluate the practices:

- 1) Building more democratic and peaceful cities and territories
- 2) Urban planning and public space
- 3) Gender and care
- 4) Ecological transition and the environment
- 5) Civic technology and Artificial Intelligence

[More information](#)



Start of the collaborative study for the 7th GOLD Global Report

As part of the OIDP’s academic collaboration activities, the Technical Secretariat kicked off the collaborative study for the 7th GOLD Global Report – Local Democracy and Decentralization “Economies of Equality and Care”: “Local Democratic Innovations Expanding the Notion of Assistance: Participatory Budgets as Facilitators of Care-Based Local Economic Development,” which will be released in the second quarter of 2025.

This study takes as case studies some of the candidate practices from the 2022 and 2023 editions of the OIDP Award. The project is being carried out in collaboration with Yves Cabannes, Emeritus Professor of Development Planning at University College London and a long-time collaborator of the OIDP.

The Secretariat has been responsible for contacting the 44 local and regional governments (20 from 2022 and 24 from 2023) that were selected from a joint review and analysis conducted with the academic.

This study exemplifies the core mission of the OIDP and the OIDP Award: nurturing the global ecosystem of participatory democracy through local practices. In this sense, the OIDP Award fulfills its role as more than just a recognition: it is the starting point for a multitude of networking initiatives between local and regional governments.

19 OIDP Peer Learning Session

Facilitation of the session between the governments of Mogi das Cruzes and Cascais.



09 Peer Learning Session OIDP

Facilitation of the session between the governments of Rosario and Mogi das Cruzes.

12-13 Congress of the International Republican Institute

Adrià Duarte, coordinator of the OIDP Technical Secretariat, participated in the Congress of the International Republican Institute, which took place from February 12 to 13, 2024. With the presentation "Approaching citizens and promoting civic participation to improve accountability and the elaboration of public policies - Instruments of good practices", our coordinator presented the work of the OIDP in gathering instruments and good practices of local democracy in this area.



19-23 UCLG Retreat 2024: "Acting for the Future of Humanity: The Power That Unites Us"

At the beginning of each year, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) holds its Retreat and Campus in Barcelona, the city that hosts its World Secretariat. The Retreat and Campus is an interactive exercise that brings together UCLG members and partners to maximize opportunities for exchange and promote forward-looking dialogues on the topics that will be worked on throughout the year. The OIDP was present at UCLG's annual meeting to enrich the conversation and guide the UCLG agenda around Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16: "Promote just, peaceful, and inclusive societies."

Specifically, on the second day, dedicated to the Global Taskforce (GTF) of Local and Regional Governments, our president, José Manuel Ribeiro, mayor of Valongo, took the opportunity during his speech to invite participants to our 23rd Conference "Populist Threats: Building Democratic Resilience with Participatory Communities," which will be held in his city from October 17 to 19, 2024.

On the third day, dedicated to UCLG's Factory of the Future, our Coordinator, Adrià Duarte, participated in the Market to invite participants to apply for the 18th OIDP Award: "Best Practice in Citizen Participation."

Finally, on the fourth day, dedicated to UCLG's Instruments to define political areas and ensure they are enriched with the talent and capacity of the members and partners of the international organization, the instrument "Care Systems" was discussed. Yves Cabannes, Emeritus Professor of Planning and Urban Development at University College London and a member of the jury of our Award, gave a preview of the OIDP study conducted in collaboration with UCLG's Research area to explore experiences of participatory budgeting that promote care systems.

[More information](#)

 **The ODP during the 2024 UCLG Retreat**





March

05 OIDP Peer Learning Session

Facilitation of the session between the governments of Cuenca and Espluges de Llobregat on Participatory Budgets.

- From Cuenca, the following spoke: Mónica Vargas, Director of Participation and Governance.
- From Espluges de Llobregat, the following spoke: Montse Zamora, Deputy Mayor, and Ruth González, Citizen Participation Technician.

[Watch the session](#)

OIDP - SESIONES DE APRENDIZAJE

Cuenca (Ecuador) **Espluges de Llobregat (España)**

Temáticas del webinar: Presupuesto Participativo: modelos, dificultades y oportunidades
Fecha: 5 de marzo 2024

OIDP Observatoire International de Démocratie Participative **CGLU** Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos

13 OIDP Peer Learning Session

Facilitation of the session between the governments of Colombes and Grez-Doiceau on Participatory Budgets.

- From Colombes, the following spoke: Joachim Muller, Head of Local Democracy Projects, and Laura Monteverdi, Head of Participatory Budgets.
- From Grez-Doiceau, the following spoke: Pascal Goergen, Councilor, and Julien Vanden Steene, Head of Citizen Participation.

[Watch the session](#)

OIDP - SESSIONS D'APPRENTISSAGE

Colombes (France) **Grez-Doiceau (Belgique)**

Thématique : Budget Participatif
Date : 13 mars 2024

OIDP Observatoire International de Démocratie Participative **CGLU** Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis

27 Interview with Annabelle Bretton, Councilor for Participatory Democracy in Grenoble

The OIDP conducted this interview with the local leader of Grenoble, a city promoting the OIDP. In this interview, Ms. Bretton explains the challenges and opportunities of participatory democracy in her context.

[More information](#)

[Watch the interview](#)



28 OIDP Peer Learning Session

Facilitation of the session between the governments of Nuevo León and Accra on the Participation of Children and Youth.

- From Nuevo León, the following spoke: Alejandra Silva, Capacity Building Coordinator for the Government of Nuevo León.
- From Accra, the following spoke: Kofi Ocean, Official and Adjunct Professor at the Institute of Public Administration and Management of Ghana, in the city of Accra.

[Watch the session](#)

IOPD - LEARNING SESSIONS

Nuevo León (Mexico)

Accra (Ghana)

Themes of the webinar: Child and youth participation
Date: 28 March 2024

IOPD International Observatory on Participatory Democracy

UCLG United Cities and Local Governments



April

10 OIDP Peer Learning Session

Facilitation of the session between the governments of Bogotá, Brussels, and Milan on Deliberative Processes.

- From Bogotá, the following spoke: María Alejandra Victorino Jiménez, Advocacy Coordinator of the Open Policy Institute of Bogotá.
- From Brussels, the following spoke: Jonathan Moskovic, Advisor on Democratic Innovation to the Presidency of the French-speaking Parliament of Brussels.
- From Milan, the following spoke: Christina Paci, Project Director at the Department of Ecological Transition and Coordinator of Milano Cambio di Aria - Air and Climate Plan Area 5, and Sara Copelli, Consultant and Sustainability Facilitator at AMAT.

[Watch the session](#)

IOPD - LEARNING SESSIONS

Milan (Italy) Brussels (Belgium) Bogotá (Colombia)

Themes of the webinar: Deliberative processes
Date: 10 April 2024

IOPD International Observatory on Participatory Democracy **UCLG** United Cities and Local Governments

15 The OIDP Technical Secretariat and the City of Valongo launch the call for proposals for sessions or interventions at the 23rd OIDP Conference in Valongo

The OIDP Technical Secretariat led the preparation of the call for proposals. First, a registration form was created to gather proposals from interested parties. Then, the call was disseminated through the OIDP's social media channels and shared with the organization's partners as part of the communication strategy. Finally, in collaboration with the Municipality of Valongo, the proposals were evaluated and selected to form the program for the 23rd OIDP Conference.

[More information](#)

CALL FOR PROPOSALS
IOPD CONFERENCE 2024

IOPD International Observatory on Participatory Democracy **UCLG** CGLU **Valongo**



Populist threats: building democratic resilience with participatory communities

17, 18 and 19 October 2024 Valongo Portugal

24 Webinar on the European Citizens' Initiative in Rennes, co-organized by the OIDP and Décider Ensemble

As part of the Trophées de la participation et de la concertation (Awards for Participation and Consultation), Décider Ensemble and the OIDP jointly organized an online debate on the initiative « Initiative Citoyenne Européenne à la rennais: pour un accueil digne des migrants en Europe » (European Citizens' Initiative the Rennes Way: for a dignified reception of migrants in Europe) from the Metropolis and City of Rennes, which was one of the jury's favorites for the Trophées 2023 and winner of the 17th OIDP Award 2023.

Participants included:

- Xavier Desmot, Deputy Delegate for Local Democracy and Citizen Participation.
- Stéphanie Poppe, Project Director, European Citizens' Initiative (ICE) and Labo Europe, City of Rennes.
- Julien Roirant, founder of Agoralab and facilitator of the ICE.
- Garance Foglizzo, Project Leader of Dignitour (a bicycle and train tour across Europe to meet local actors involved in migrant reception and the promotion of ICE).
- Fatimata Hamey Warou, French signatory of the ICE, member of the International Popular University of the International House of Rennes and the Villejean Neighborhood House.
- Adrià Duarte, OIDP Coordinator.

[More information \(in French\)](#)

[Watch the session](#)



22 Online Session "Safeguarding SDG 11.3.2," co-organized with Our City Plans, UN-HABITAT, UCLG, and the GTF

This online event aimed to safeguard the SDG indicator 11.3.2: "Proportion of cities with a structure for direct civil society participation in urban planning and management that operates regularly and democratically." This indicator was at risk of being removed from the Global SDG Database due to insufficient participation from governments at all levels in providing relevant data. In response to this situation, the OIDP, UCLG, and GTF joined the call from Our City Plans and UN-HABITAT to strengthen the participation of networks and local and regional governments in this process.

[More information \(in English\)](#)

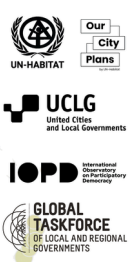
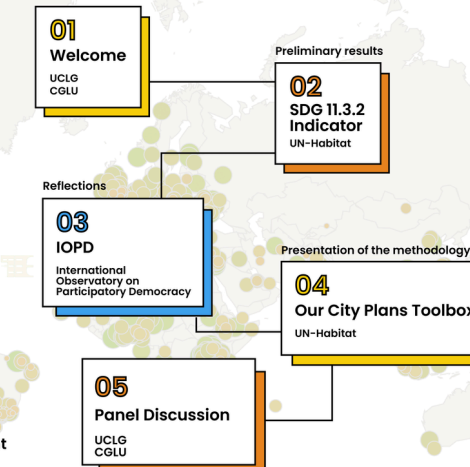
SAVE THE DATE

**SAFEGUARDING
SDG 11.3.2 INDICATOR
ON CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
AND PARTICIPATION**

22 May
4:00pm – 5:00pm CEST
5:00pm – 6:00pm EAT
8:00am – 9:00am MEX

Join UN-Habitat, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and the International Observatory of Participation and Democracy (IOPD) in an event to discuss the role of participation in city planning and support the data gathering for SDG 11.3.2 indicator.

AGENDA



15-18 The OIDP participates in EUROSFAT 2024

Adrià Duarte, OIDP Coordinator, attended the Modern Direct Democracy Global Forum held in Bucharest to participate in the roundtable "Mayors for Democracy," which took place on May 18. The panel connected mayors, regions, and projects in an open dialogue between decision-makers and the public.

[More information](#)



12-14 Iberian Meeting on Participatory Budgets in Vic

Adrià Duarte, Coordinator of the OIDP Technical Secretariat, participated in the opening session and the Networks Meeting session, held on Thursday, June 13. Prior to the event, the OIDP carried out a dissemination strategy through social media and its newsletter.

[More information](#)

18 The OIDP launches the open voting to choose the favorite practice for the 18th OIDP Award

The OIDP Technical Secretariat opened the voting to select the favorite practice among the 40 finalist entries for the 18th OIDP Award 2024 "Best Practice in Citizen Participation." As part of the process, the Secretariat oversaw the publication of the finalist practices on the ParticipateOIDP platform. Additionally, the voting was accompanied by a communication campaign through the website, social media, newsletters, and direct outreach with partners, aiming to encourage participation from the global OIDP community.

[More information](#)



04 The OIDP launches the pre-registration for the 23rd OIDP Valongo Conference 2024

The OIDP Technical Secretariat launched a communication campaign inviting attendees to pre-register for its annual conference. The campaign was disseminated via the website, social networks, newsletters and direct communication with members. In addition, special attention was paid to providing key information to help participants organize their trip and stay in the city of Valongo.

[More information](#)

09 The OIDP launches the call for hosting the 25th OIDP Conference in 2026

The OIDP Technical Secretariat prepared the necessary documents for the launch of the call, including the regulations and terms of reference, so that interested governments could understand the requirements for hosting the annual local democracy meeting. The call was accompanied by a communication campaign through the website, social media, newsletters, and direct contact with partners.

Subsequently, the Secretariat gathered the applications received and organized an online session where the candidate cities presented their proposals. Finally, it oversaw the voting on the ParticipateOIDP platform, where members chose the hosting city.

As a result, the 25th OIDP Conference will be held in Krakow in 2026.

[More information](#)



17 The OIDP launches the invitation to participate in the 2024 Assembly

The OIDP Technical Secretariat invited all cities, entities, and members of the network, including partners (local and regional governments) and collaborators (research centers and civil society organizations), to participate in the 2024 Assembly. During this meeting, the political direction, thematic priorities, and work plan of the organization were discussed and decided.

The invitation was disseminated through a communication campaign on the OIDP's official channels, including the website, social media, and newsletters, in addition to direct contact with partners.

[More information](#)



07 ODP General Assembly 2024

The ODP Technical Secretariat facilitated the 2024 General Assembly, responsible for creating the slides for the presentation, as well as designing and coordinating the session's agenda. Adrià Duarte, ODP Coordinator, presented the results of the year and the Work Plan for 2025.

14-17 23rd ODP Valongo Conference 2024

As every year, the ODP Technical Secretariat carried out preparation work for the Conference, assisting Valongo, the host city, in organizing the event. In this process, the Secretariat shared its experience with the municipal team, providing support in the selection of venues, preparing the program, developing the communication and information strategy, and managing the logistics for welcoming participants, among other key aspects.

During the Conference, the Secretariat took charge of managing the agendas of the keynote speakers and high-level guests, overseeing the event's development, and coordinating communication tasks, including photography and live coverage through social media.

[More information](#)
[Read the Valongo Declaration](#)

16 Presentation of the 18th ODP Award and Special Mentions

The ODP Technical Secretariat was responsible for contacting the awarded local and regional governments and coordinating their attendance at the ODP Award Ceremony, held as part of the ODP Conference in Valongo. Additionally, it managed the production of the Award and the diplomas awarded, as well as the creation of the digital compilation of the 127 practices received in this edition.

[More information](#)
[Read the digital compilation of the 127 practices received](#)

2024 INTERNATIONAL OBSERVATORY ON PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

18th AWARD BEST PRACTICE IN CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Alajuelita Amman Ansemasse Comuna 12 La América Medellín Aragón Área Metropolitana de Buenos Aires Ascunción Atuzuy Baia Mare Bandikhan district Barcelona Belfast Belgium Belo Horizonte Bizerte Bohicon Bologna Bontheur Bmo metropolitan area Brusque, Santa Catarina Bukavu Bursa Cape Town Catalunya Cocody Comandante Andresito, Misiones Contagem Provincia de Córdoba Provincia de Cotopaxi Cuenca Curitiba Djougou Dudelange Durham, NC Envgado Provincia de Esmeraldas Esppluges de Liobregat Estado de Goiás Feira de Santana, BA Florence Fortaleza Gandia Górnośląsko-Zagłębiowska Metropolia Gruz-Dorcestu Guayas Istanbul Istanbul, Eserler Istanbul Fatih Istanbul, Kadikoy Rantlaem Izmir Iztapalapa, Ciudad de México Jalisco district Jolo Pessoa Kaduna Kampala Karistado municipality Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Kocaeli Koulikoro Lamu County Le Kremlin-Bicêtre Lisboa Maia Provincia de Manabí Maputo Marmara, Bursa Mashhad Massana e Monte Abrão Medellín Merani Mogi das Cruzes Montréal Mordón Mufuna, Copperbelt province Najaf Nassaji kommun Natalo Nijamena et les dix communes pilotes Niufes, Bursa Estado de Nuevo León Ocoyoacac Oeras Ormoc City Osório Pastaza Portoviejo Provincia de Badajoz Provincia de Barcelona Ramallah Región Metropolitana de Santiago Rocafuerte Rosário da Limeira Russian regions Salvador Samarkand district San Salvador centro São Paulo Selsukku Surakarta, Solo Tehran Territoire de Nyiragongo Valle del Cauca Vienna Villa de San Diego de Libarte Ville de Goma Xiaming City Zabo-Nador

IOPD www.oidp.net UCLG www.uclg.org



04-08 The ODP participates in WUF 12

Adrià Duarte, Coordinator of the ODP Technical Secretariat, participated in various sessions of the World Urban Forum – WUF 12, held in Cairo from November 4 to 8.

- World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments
- Putting People First: Inclusive Cities for All
- Stronger Communities, Better Cities: The Power of Planning Together – Experiences and Practical Tools to Deliver Inclusive and Participatory Planning Processes for Better Communities and Cities
- It Starts with Children – Local Actions for Inclusive Urban Futures
- Inclusive Territories and Sustainable Development: Home for All, the Right to a Decent, Affordable, and Healthy Habitat. What Tools Should Be Used? Examples of Governance Strategies

[More information](#)

11 The ODP launches the invitation to join the webinar series “Discovering the Winners of the 18th ODP Award”

The ODP Technical Secretariat organized this series of webinars in which local and regional governments awarded with the winning practice and the special mentions of the 2024 edition of the “Best Practice in Citizen Participation” award shared their local experiences. The sessions featured the participation of members of the ODP Jury.

The Secretariat was responsible for planning the online sessions, coordinating the participation of the presenters, and designing a dissemination strategy through the ODP communication channels to encourage attendee participation.

[More information](#)



15 The OIDP launches the call for the 19th OIDP Award

The OIDP Technical Secretariat led the launch of the call for the 19th OIDP Award. Based on feedback received from participants in previous editions, the OIDP conducted an evaluation and improvement of the application process to ensure a smoother experience for local and regional governments, as well as participating organizations. Various materials were prepared, such as the online application form, the call for proposals guidelines, the application guide, and the official OIDP Award website.

As a new feature in this edition, the OIDP introduced a special mention for the durability and sustainability of the practice. This change allowed for the nomination of practices that, although no longer active in 2024, have remained in effect for more than five years, maintaining their name and characteristics without significant changes.

The call was supported by a comprehensive communication strategy, which included everything from the creation of graphics to guide the application process, to the design of communication kits so that the UCLG ecosystem and OIDP partners could spread the call through their own channels. As a result, 137 applications were received from 108 local governments by the closing of the call on January 31, 2025.

[More information](#)

19th AWARD BEST PRACTICE IN CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO APPLY FOR THE 19th ODP AWARD 2025

Who can apply?

- Any local, supra-local or regional government.
- Any organisation or individual with the authorisation of the relevant government.

How many applications can be submitted?

1 or 2 nominations per city or territory. A third one is allowed if the themes are very different.

What can be applied for?

Present your practice of local democracy involving citizen participation in one of these 5 categories:

- Building more democratic and peaceful communities
- Urbanism and public space
- Gender and care
- Ecological transition and environment
- Civic Technology

Timeline:

- 15 JANUARY: Deadline to apply for the OIDP membership
- 31 JANUARY: Deadline to submit your application
- FEBRUARY: Finalists selection by the jury
- MARCH: Open voting on the ParticipateOIDP platform
- APRIL: Evaluation of finalists and selection of the winner
- 21-25 MAY: Awards ceremony at the 24th OIDP Conference in Córdoba (Arg)

The OIDP Award is an opportunity to showcase your work in protecting democracy from local communities on an international stage. Join us!

Questions?: oidp@uclg.org | www.oidp.net |

29 Webinar: Discovering the Winners of the 18th OIDP Award

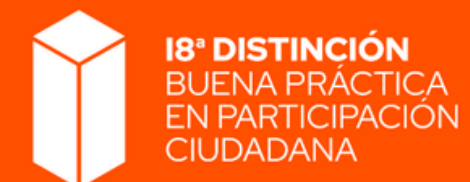
“Comprehensive Social Management System (SIGESI eGov),” Valle del Cauca, winner of the Special Mention for the Most Community-Supported Practice OIDP.

- Presented by: Liza Nathalia Rodríguez Galvis, Secretary General of the Government of Valle del Cauca.
- Comments from the Jury of the 18th OIDP Award: Serge Alllou, Former General Director of Gret (NGO). Former Senior Urban Specialist at Cities Alliance. Former Special Advisor to the Secretary General of UCLG.

[Watch the webinar](#)

Serie de webinarios

Descubriendo a las ganadoras de la



18ª DISTINCIÓN BUENA PRÁCTICA EN PARTICIPACIÓN CIUDADANA



Valle del Cauca:
“Sistema Integral de Gestión Social - SIGESI eGov”

Jueves 28 de noviembre de 2024
09:00 - 10:00 EST / 15:00 - 16:00 CET
vía Zoom (regístrese en el código QR)



CGLU
Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos



02 Webinar: Discovering the Winners of the 18th ODP Award

"LET'S GO QC, LET'S GROW QC!", Quezon City, Winner of the Special Mention "Sustainable Participatory Practices for Ecological Transition," in collaboration with the Phoenix Project.

- Presented by: Francis Ian L. Agatep, Senior Environmental Management Specialist, Quezon City
- Comments from the Jury of the 18th ODP Award: Giovanni Allegretti and Sinara Sandri: CES Coimbra and the PHOENIX Project; Marco Meloni, University of Southampton and the PHOENIX Project; Manuela Gervasi: EEB and the REAL_DEAL Project.

[Watch the webinar](#)



03 Webinar: Discovering the Winners of the 18th ODP Award

"UTOPIÁS - Unidades de Transformación y Organización Para la Inclusión y Armonía Social. Iztapalapa, Ciudad de México," Iztapalapa (Mexico City), Winner of the 18th ODP Award "Best Practice in Citizen Participation"

- Presented by: Rocío Lombera, International Relations Advisor to the Government Chief of Mexico City, and María Antonieta Pérez Orozco, General Director of Community Cultural Linkage at the Ministry of Culture of Mexico City.
- Comments from the Jury of the 18th ODP A: Serge Allou, Former Director General of Gret (NGO), Former Senior Urban Specialist at Cities Alliance, Former Special Advisor to the Secretary General of UCLG.

[Watch the webinar](#)

Serie de webinaros

Descubriendo a las ganadoras de la



18ª DISTINCIÓN BUENA PRÁCTICA EN PARTICIPACIÓN CIUDADANA



Iztapalapa:
"Unidades de Transformación y Organización Para la Inclusión y Armonía Social"

Miércoles 4 de diciembre de 2024
11:00 - 12:00 CST / 18:00 - 19:00 CET
vía Zoom (regístrese en el código QR)





Communication and social media

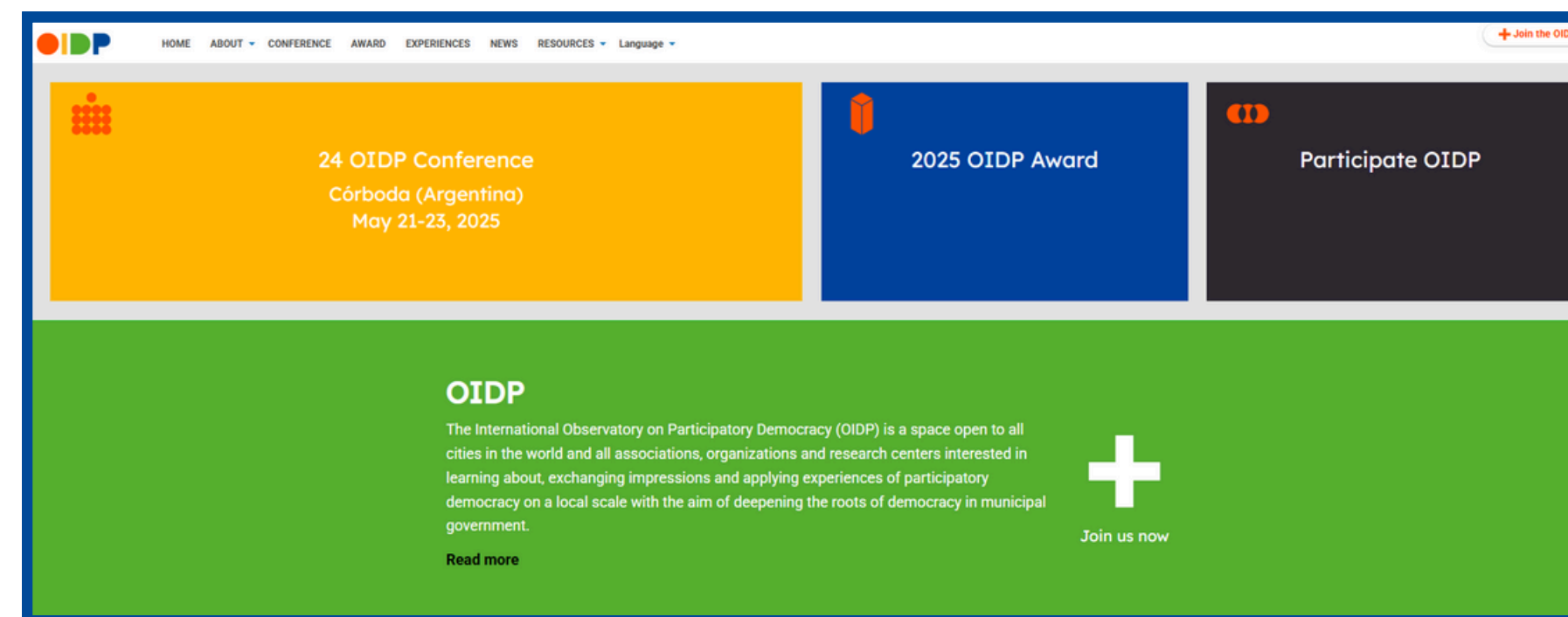
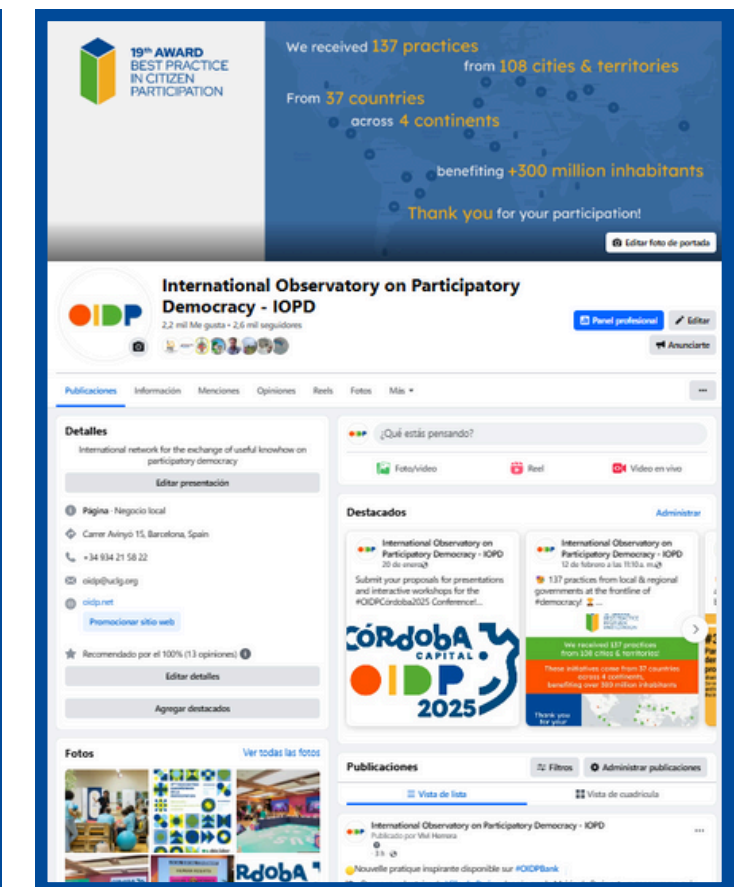
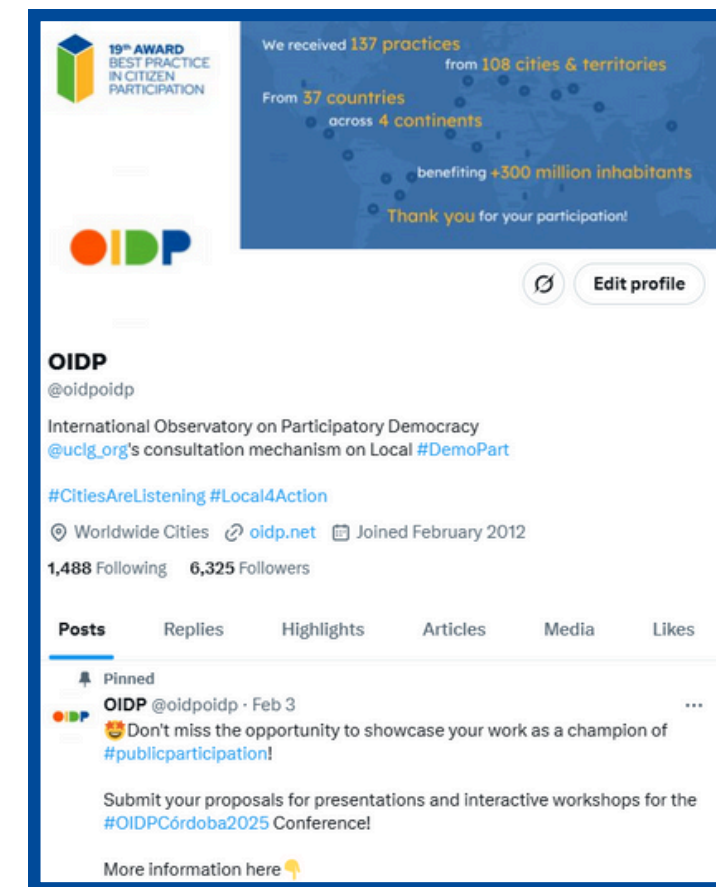
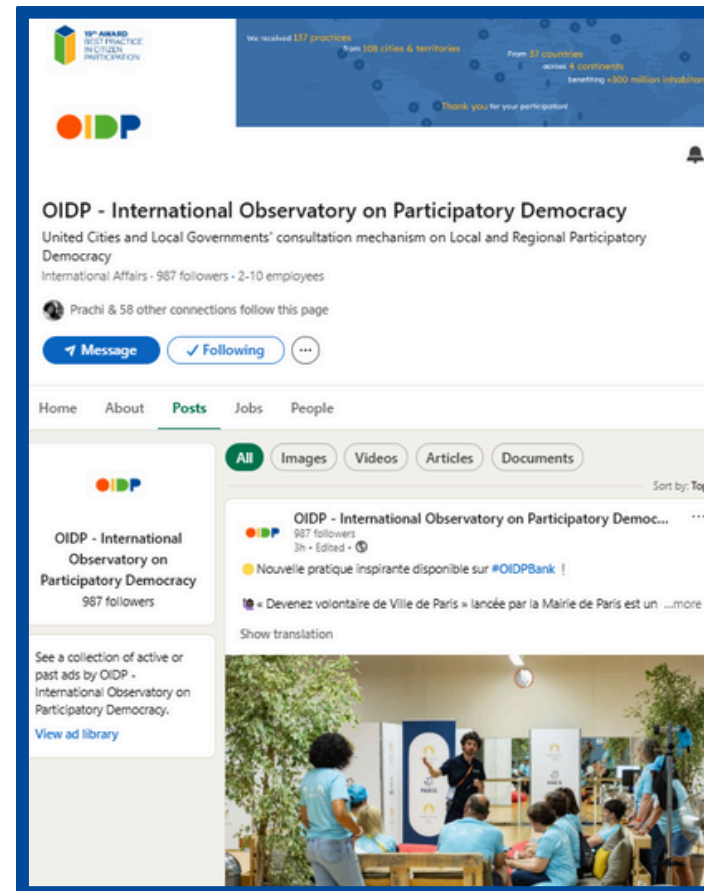


Website and social media

The website www.oidp.net is the hub for all information and content related to the network. The Secretariat manages the site and updates the information: the OIDP Bank of Best Practices in Local Democracy, news, event calendar, and publications.

All this content is disseminated through various communication channels, such as the monthly newsletter, which is sent to a database of more than 2,000 subscribers, and the OIDP's social media platforms: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/oidp), [X](https://twitter.com/oidpoidp), and [LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/oidp).

In 2024, the OIDP Technical Secretariat decided to launch a LinkedIn page to increase and diversify the reach of our communication.



Newsletter

Each month, the OIDP Technical Secretariat prepares and sends a newsletter in four languages (Spanish, French, English, and Portuguese) to over 2,200 registered individuals, including members and partners.

These newsletters include the latest news, upcoming events calendar, and new practices available in the OIDP Bank of Good Practices in Participatory Democracy.

In addition, the newsletters have become a key tool for strengthening collaboration and generating synergies with the OIDP's partners.



☀️ ¡Lo mejor de 2024 y hacia un 2025 colaborativo y esperanzador! ☀️

● Nuestra 23a Conferencia OIDP Valongo 2024



Más de 350 participantes de gobiernos locales y regionales se reunieron en Valongo del 17 al 19 de octubre en nuestra 23ª Conferencia "Amenazas Populistas: Construir Resiliencia Democrática con Comunidades Participativas" para explorar cómo la democracia participativa local puede enfrentar los desafíos del creciente populismo y salvaguardar el futuro de la gobernanza democrática.

El encuentro contó con 39 sesiones diferentes, incluyendo paneles, talleres y otras actividades co-organizadas por OIDP, Ciudades y Gobiernos Locales Unidos y otros socios y colaboradores.

[Lea la noticia y acceda a los videos y fotos de la Conferencia](#)

🏆 La alcaldía de Iztapalapa Gana la 18a Distinción OIDP



La iniciativa UTOPIAS, una infraestructura urbana desarrollada y mantenida a través de la participación comunitaria, acerca los servicios públicos a 2 millones de personas y ha sido reconocida como la "Buena Práctica en Participación Ciudadana".

El viernes 18 de octubre de 2024, en la Ceremonia de Premiación durante nuestra 23ª Conferencia en Valongo, el reconocimiento fue entregado por Ana María Martins Rodrigues, Vicealcaldesa de Valongo, a María Antonieta Pérez Orozco, Directora Ejecutiva de Cultura de la alcaldía de Iztapalapa, en representación de la exalcaldesa de

The work of the Technical Secretariat of the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy has been made possible thanks to the generous contributions of the following local authorities and institutions:



With the support of:



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