CONCEPT NOTE

Not a Border Tale: Our collective narrative towards the Lampedusa Charter
Thursday 24 February 2022, 10:00-11:30 (CET)

Where we come from: beyond implementing partners

Following the increasing interest and responsibilities of our territories in the governance of migration and displacement, the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments adopted human mobility as part of its priorities in February 2020 at its Annual Meeting in Tangiers during UCLG Retreat. Since then, the recognition of local governments as innovative, pragmatic and grounded actors has not ceased to grow stronger in the implementation of the Global Compacts on Migration and Refugees.

Nonetheless, local governments have also been claiming for years that we are not merely implementing partners. Besides a place at the negotiating table, our membership asserts its own voice, its own principles and its own vision about human mobility. The municipalist movement defends that our territories are not defined by borders, but by the people who inhabit them.

In 2021, Totò Martello, Mayor of Lampedusa and Policy Councillor on the Right to the City and Inclusive Territories, proposed to co-create the Lampedusa Charter process, carrying forward the legacy and the commitment of the municipalist movement towards a collective shift in the narrative on human mobility, highlighting the responsibilities assumed by the territories to ensure the dignity and coexistence of all peoples.

Where we go: breaking through as one towards the Lampedusa Charter

As we approach the first International Migration Review Forum (IMRF), the time has come to consolidate our municipalist narrative on human mobility. The year 2022 will carry forward the participatory process towards the launch of the Lampedusa Charter calling to recognize, defend and promote solidarity, dignity and human rights as the grounding basis for a renewed, fair and effective governance of human mobility at all levels.

The Lampedusa Charter Process is currently open for a period of consultations through virtual events and written format, to amendments and
feedback from UCLG members, partners and all interested governing bodies, as well as their networking initiatives and other stakeholders in the global migration movement.

The consultative process gives to our members and partners the opportunity to share their vision about the principles, the commitments and the calls that should guide our strategic agenda on human mobility, as an essential pillar of our Pact for the Future.

Goals of the Session

Our global constituency of Local and Regional Governments firmly asserts that human mobility and its local governance is Not a border tale, but a tale about people, about neighbours and communities.

Against the background of the Global Task Force (GTF) Day, this workshop aims to advance the process of co-creation of the Lampedusa Charter Process by expanding the conversation with the full constituency. Following the commitment of the GTF to include migration within its thematic priorities, this workshop will invite members to join the shift towards a municipalist call for a renewed governance of human mobility that protects dignity, provides opportunities and fosters a new understanding of citizenship.

Agenda

10.00 - 10.10  Welcome and introduction by UCLG
10.10 - 10.20  Film Screening - Not A Border Tale
10.20 – 10.45  Film Discussion
Round of discussion amongst network representatives and stakeholders
10.45 – 10.55  Visual Snapshot of the Charter Process
Overview of Process, updates and way forward by UCLG World Secretariat
10.55 – 11.20  Interactive Workshop
Reflecting on Charter Principles facilitated by UCLG World Secretariat
11.20 – 11.30  Wrap up and closing
Summary of Workshop and conclusions