



# LOCAL DEMOCRACY ACADEMY 2022

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

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## 1. Preface

The mandate of the Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy (ICLD) is to contribute to poverty reduction by promoting local democracy in low and middle-income countries. To fulfil this mandate, we offer decentralised cooperation through our municipal partnership programme, capacity building programmes through our international training programmes, and exchange of knowledge through our knowledge centre. ICLD documents and publishes key lessons learned from our ongoing activities, initiates and funds relevant research, engages in scholarly networks, and organizes conferences and workshops. This report summarizes the results from the Local Democracy Academy, 6 to 10 of June 2022 in Visby (Sweden).

The Local Democracy Academy is an emblematic event that brings together an international group of leading junior and senior scholars for a week of mutual learning, critical thinking and joint exploration of new ideas to foster a more inclusive local democracy on a global scale.

We would like to express our gratitude to Uppsala University Forum for African Studies for hosting the academy at campus Gotland and particularly to Professor Sten Hagberg for his leadership and commitment. To the ICLD Advisory Group for providing continues guidance for the preparation of the Academy. To the 15 local governments that participated during the local democracy labs. Finally, ICLD acknowledges the financial contribution to its research programme made by the government of Sweden (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency – SIDA).

Visby, Sweden, September 2022



Johan Lilja  
Secretary General, ICLD

## 2. Overview

The ICLD Local Democracy Academy (LDA) is an academic programme that brings together an international group of leading scholars, junior and senior researchers, for an intensive week of mutual learning, critical thinking and joint exploration of new ideas and approaches to address global challenges from a local government perspective. 64 participants from 50 universities in 28 countries took part in the experimental, highly participatory conference to explore how transformative Local Democracy can work to bring people and politics together.

The academy provided a unique setting to:

- Connect leading scholars with committed local politicians to share ideas and provide innovative policy recommendations.
- Strengthen junior scholars by matching them with senior researchers and policy makers, providing space for fruitful collaboration that leads to research that can answer to societal greatest challenges.
- Collaborate across disciplines, write innovative research proposals, cutting edge papers, and concrete policy briefs.
- Provide forums for researchers, policy makers and practitioners to discuss concrete problems experienced by local governments and provide possible solutions.

The Academy offered four core learning experiences for the participants:

- The paper discussion in thematic sessions
- A training session on case-based learning
- A comparative policy workshop with an open panel
- The local democracy labs – a forum which connects practitioners and researchers to discuss solutions for the most pressing problems facing local governments.

Social events filled an important role to improve peer learning and co-creation. Bicycle tour, world café with snacks brought from the four corners of the world, people bingo – all served to build lasting connections while exploring diversity, culture and nature. A special dinner was held in tribute to women in local democracy, inspired by The Historical Dinner Project.

### 3. Faculty



#### 1. Climate Action with or without Local Democracy



**Jesse C. Ribot**

**Professor, School of International Service at American University, Washington, DC, USA**

Before starting at AU August 2018, Jesse spent a decade as a professor of Geography, Anthropology and Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences and Director of the Social Dimensions of Environmental Policy Initiative at the University of Illinois. He has also worked for numerous development agencies, such as World Bank and United Nations. His research focuses on decentralization and democratic local government, natural resource tenure and access, distribution along natural resource commodity chains and household vulnerability in the face of climate and environmental change.



**Tomila Lankina**

**Professor of International Relations, at London School of Economics, UK**

Tomila's research focuses on comparative democracy and authoritarianism, mass protests and historical patterns of human capital and democratic reproduction in Russia and other states. She is currently working on a book on the long-term patterns of reproduction of social structures in Russia and why this matter for democracy, development, and social



inequalities. *Note: Tomila participated in the preparations and development of the thematic stream, but was not present in Visby.*

## 2. Feminist Cities



**Leslie Kern**

**PhD, Associate Professor and Director, Mount Allison University, New Brunswick, Canada**

Leslie is the author of two books on gender and cities, including *Feminist City: Claiming Space in a Man-Made World* (Verso). Except for a PhD, she is an associate professor of geography and environment and director of women's and gender studies at Mount Allison University, in Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada. Kern's research has earned a Fulbright Visiting Scholar Award, a National Housing Studies Achievement Award, and several national multi-year grants. She is also an award-winning teacher. Kern's writing has appeared in *The Guardian*, *Vox*, *Bloomberg CityLab*, *LitHub*, and *Refinery29*. She is also an academic career coach, where she helps academics find meaning and joy in their work. Kern's next book is *Gentrification Is Inevitable and Other Lies*, forthcoming from Between the Lines Books and Verso in September 2022.



**Shireen Hassim**

**Canada 150 Research Chair in Gender and African Politics, Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada**

Shireen is Canada 150 Research Chair in Gender and African Studies at Carleton University, Ottawa and Visiting Professor at WiSER, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg. She has written and edited several books including *Women's Organisations and Democracy: Contesting Authority*; *No Shortcuts to Power: Women and Policymaking in Africa*, and *Go Home or Die Here: Violence, Xenophobia and the Politics of Difference in South Africa*.

## 3. Tactical Urbanism



**Adriana Sansão**

**Architect and Urban Planner, Professor, and Coordinator, Faculdade de Arquitetura e Urbanismo, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

Architect (1995 – FAUFRJ – Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro/Federal University of Rio de Janeiro), MsC (2004) and PhD in Urban Design (2011) (PROURB-FAUFRJ). Visitor Researcher (2008-2009) and Post Doctorate (2020) at ETSAB/UPC – Universidad Politécnica de Cataluña/Catalonia Polytechnic University, in Spain. Associate Professor at FAUFRJ and PROURB. Coordinator of the Temporary Interventions and Tactical Urbanism Lab (LabIT). Author of the books: “Intervenções temporárias, marcas permanentes. Apropriações, arte e festa na cidade contemporânea” (2013), published by Casa da Palavra, “Reflexões sobre o ensino integrado do projeto de arquitetura” (2018), “Urbanismo Tático: um guia para as cidades brasileiras”

(2020), published by Rio Books, and “Urbanismo Tático: X ações para transformar cidades”, published by Editora UFRJ (2021).



**Valeria Guarneros-Meza**

**Reader in Public Policy and Politics, Deputy Director, Centre for Urban Research on Austerity Department of Politics, People and Place De Montfort University, Leicester, UK**

Valeria is a Reader in Public Policy and Politics, at De Montfort University, UK. Her research focus has been on local politics, citizen participation, governance, collaboration, partnership and Latin America. She has been able to study these topics within the English and Welsh contexts and in Mexico and Latin America. She has done studies on the impact that structural economic changes and institutional socio-political reforms have on local governance. Also, democratic principles such as inclusion and accountability have also an area of interest, particularly how these concepts and meanings affect the organisational structures of local government as well as the practices and behaviour of local government bureaucrats.

#### **4. Child Friendly Cities**



**Jua Cilliers**

**Head of the School of Built Environment & Professor, University of Technology, Sydney, Australia**

Jua Cilliers is the Head of the School of Built Environment, and Professor of Urban Planning at the University of Technology Sydney. She has professional registrations from both the South African Council for Planners (SACPLAN) and the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA). She is currently an Adjunct Professor of Planning at the North-West University (South Africa), the Chair of the Women in Planning Network of the Commonwealth Association of Planners, a Board Member of the International Society of City and Regional Planners, and the lead investigator of a project investigating and planning for Child-friendly cities, funded by the National Research Foundation in South Africa. Jua has been the recipient of the National South African Teaching Award for Teaching Excellence in South Africa, a finalist of the National Science and Technology Forum Awards, and prize winner at the Woman in Science Awards and the North-West University Award for Excellence in Community Engagement.

#### **5. Action Research for Equitable Health**



**Moses Tetui**

**PhD, School of Pharmacy, University of Waterloo, Canada**

Moses is a Postdoctoral researcher at the School of Pharmacy, University of Waterloo, Canada. He is also an associate professor at the department of Epidemiology and Global Health, Umeå University and holds an affiliation to the department of Health Policy, Planning and Management, School of Public Health, Makerere University in Uganda. His current research works include building confidence in Covid-19 vaccines in Canada by engaging with

diverse stakeholders such as Public Health authorities, community members and a multidisciplinary research team. He has an experience that spans over 10 years in health systems research and expertise in Participatory Action Research. His other research works include contraceptive use in urban informal settlements, access to maternal and neonatal health services, health managers capacity development and knowledge translation. He is motivated by the desire to make health systems more responsive for the most underserved across the world.

## 6. Participatory Budgeting in Marginalised Areas



**Josh Lerner**

**Executive Director, People Powered, New York, USA**

Josh is Executive Director of People Powered: Global Hub for Participatory Democracy. He has 20 years of experience developing, researching, and working with leading community engagement programs across North America, Latin America, and Europe. He was previously co-founder and Co-Executive Director of the Participatory Budgeting Project (PBP), a nonprofit organization that empowers people to decide together how to spend public money. Josh completed a PhD in Politics at the New School for Social Research and a Masters in Planning from the University of Toronto. He is the author of *Making Democracy Fun: How Game Design Can Empower Citizens and Transform Politics*, *Everyone Counts: Could Participatory Budgeting Change Democracy?*, and over 20 articles.



**Amalinda Savira**

**Professor of Political Science at Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia**

Amalinda is a Professor of Political Science and Head of Department Politics and Government at Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia. Her PhD research focused on the political behaviour of business actors responding to political shifts and neoliberalism in Pekalongan, Central Java, in Sociology and Anthropology. Her research interests include studies of social movements in the urban sector and labour with political economy.

## 7. Digital Services and Innovation



**Quinton Mayne**

**Associate Professor, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, USA**

Mayne is Ford Foundation Associate Professor of Public Policy at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and Faculty Co-Chair for Curriculum and Research at the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative. His research interests include comparative political behavior, democratic representation, subnational and urban politics, and social policy.





**Viktor Mitevski**

**Fulbright Scholar, Texas A&M University, USA**

Viktor Mitevski is a Fulbright Scholar who holds MSc in Economics from Texas A&M University, USA. He served as a Special Adviser to the Minister of Finance of North Macedonia and covered issues related to international financial relations, financial control, EU accession process, EU Pre-Accession Assistance – IPA and public finance (PFM) reforms. Aside from his experience at the public sector, Mitevski has immense experience in civil society and quantitative policy based research. Together with a group of 7 researchers, he co-founded the Association for research and analysis ZMAI. The Association has published over 20 research papers and policy papers and is actively engaged in the dialogue between the Government and the Civil Society.

## **8. Transformative Local Democracy**



**Anders Lidström**

**Professor, Department of Political Science, Umeå University**

His research focuses on local politics and government, comparative politics and education policy. This includes studies of local democracy and self-government, and political participation in city-regions, both within Sweden and in a comparative perspective. He has also carried out research on education policy, with a particular focus on how this is shaped at the local level.

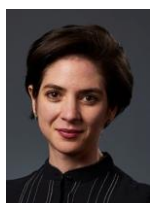


**Sten Hagberg**

**Professor of Cultural Anthropology and director of the Forum for African Studies at Uppsala University, Sweden**

Sten is a Professor of Cultural Anthropology and director of the Forum for African Studies at Uppsala University, Sweden. His PhD research focused on dispute settlement between farmers and herders in Burkina. He has conducted anthropological research in Burkina Faso since 1988 and in Mali since 2008 covering themes including dispute settlement, local politics, environment, development, democracy and social movements. His research nowadays focuses on political culture, municipal democracy, local development, the mass media, security and popular struggle.

## **Training session on case-base writing**



**Lisa Cox**

**Senior Writer and Editor, Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative, Cambridge, USA**

Before working with production and publication at the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative, Lisa was the communications manager for the Sorenson Impact Center. Prior to that role, she was a case writer and researcher at Harvard Business School, where she worked with professors in the fields of social enterprise, finance, technology ventures, entrepreneurship, and leadership. She also spent three years as a consultant, two years as a financial analyst in New York City, and a year at the Fulbright Commission in Madrid, Spain.

Lisa has a Bachelor of Science from Cornell University and a Master of Arts in Journalism from the Harvard University School of Extension Studies.

## 4. Participants



The group comprised 64 participants from 50 universities in 28 countries, of which 37 women and 27 men. See Appendix 2 for full list of participants including represented countries. Attending scholars represented a range of disciplines, including, but not limited to, social studies, political science, urban studies, law, architecture, urban planning, gender studies, anthropology, geography, and economics. They were diverse in age with the youngest participants at 26 years. The researchers came overwhelmingly from the Global South. For many, it was the first significant collaboration with peers from different Global South regions. Mixing participants from different regions helped to challenge assumptions and perspectives. In addition to a geographical and disciplinary diversity, mixing junior and senior scholars was a key objective of the academy. PhD candidates, post-doctoral, and senior researchers comprised the lion part, while some students at master level were selected for the relevance and quality of their academic performance. Mixing junior and senior scholars created a healthy balance of new ideas, deep expertise, and a shared desire to learn. A non-hierarchical and collaborative working style was employed between faculty and participants, to foster an open discussion climate conducive to peer learning.

## 5. Thematic Sessions: Reflections

The emphasis of the thematic streams lay on paper discussions and peer feedback on the participants' conference papers. The following section provides an overview of the thematic stream. Each sections presents:

- 1) an overview of the session topic

- 2) the variety of research presented
- 3) the most important insights from the group
- 4) outcomes/results that have already materialized.

#### **i. Climate action with or without local democracy**

Reflections by the session leaders:

This session explored different mechanisms and tools that can be put in place to ensure citizen accountability for climate action. A particular emphasis was placed on how youth and children can demand accountability from politicians to address climate change. Practical examples of local governments that are creating more participatory climate action were also discussed.

In this session, Andre Matijevic addressed the importance of open databases for local sustainable development, drawing on a case study on the usage of open data in the field of air pollution in the city of Pancevo, Republic of Serbia. Conrad Bosire assessed local climate change funds as a means of harnessing climate action, discussing the emerging effectiveness and lessons from five counties in Kenya. Mauricio Luna addressed the role of local government in climate change by formulation of an exploratory case of climate governance in Cartagena de Indias, while Paulo Mahumane explored Mining, Health and Local Democracy in Moatize Municipality of Mozambique. Sai Ankit Parashar addressed the role of local governments and communities in dealing with climate change, drawing on lesson from the well-designed demand-based programme MGNREGS. Wigke Putri reviewed the building of Islam and climate change action in many faces of Islam in Indonesia. Yogi Setya Permana introduced “drainage politics” in a review of the flood management in Indonesian cities. Yogi’s contribution was awarded the prize to the best conference paper.



The scholar in this group came up with the following abstract about their session:

There is a damaging disconnect between the kind of projects undertaken in the name of climate-action and actual causes of damages that follow climate (or climate change) events. To address the causes of these damages requires projects to be driven by affected communities, who know the multiple local causes of their insecurities. Local people are already active in local climate action (as it affects their lives and livelihoods) and have key practical knowledge to facilitate adaptation to climate change – and the multiple other hazards they face. Drivers of climate action must shift from imposed external programs to local understandings of needs, aspirations

and the conditions of life. This brief provides the means to democratically decentralize, project choice, design and implementation – via local representation, local voice and binding local consent. Local people and their local governments have the capacity to evaluate what they need (and don't need) if provided with access to information and knowledge and the power to decide. The brief is aimed at local/regional and national governments, national and international organisations – such as the UN and World Bank who formulate climate-response programs. The brief will be supported by literature and illustrated by concrete local cases from around the world.

After the discussions of a comparative policy brief, the participants agreed that all of the papers could speak in one way or another to the issues of how local people understand the origins of their local vulnerabilities in the face of climate change. They also agreed that there are a lot of imposed climate-action programs that do not match local needs. Information would enable people to act on their own behalf, organizing via Islamic groups could enable people to reduce their vulnerabilities, the Panchayat system in India and urban local government in Indonesia can better respond to people's local needs.

The group concluded that there is room to do comparative work between imposed climate change programs and local needs as they are reflected in local government actions.

## **ii. Feminist Cities**

Reflections by the session leaders:

This session gathered cases where local governments have achieved concrete changes to implement the Sustainable Development Goal 5 on gender equality. Practical tools such as gender sensitive budgets, gender data, gender commissions, campaigns to break gender norms and overcoming gender-based violence were explored.

In this session, Aila Bandagi addressed local governance and the feminist city by examining the Nirbhaya Fund. Gareth Wall addressed diverse representative local democracy with a research proposal on the barriers to participation for women and other minoritised groups, looking at challenges in data, campaigns and everyday lives. Maria Fernanda Murcia discussed the district care system in Bogotá as a step towards feminist territorial planning, and Meera Karunanathan addressed breeding alternative futures through struggles for water justice in Cape Town. Nasya Razavi addressed caring cities and the everyday struggles for gender justice in Cochabamba, Bolivia while Raksha Janak applied the assemblage lens to discuss girls and sexual violence in a South African primary school. Finally, Sethunya Mosime explored the Setswana concept of *moreno* as a possibility for achieving eco-feminist models of planning of safer cities in Africa, drawing on the case of Francistown.

### **Some of the main themes:**

- Violence against women and girls in different urban settings
- Spaces and services for care work
- Intersectional approaches connecting gender with race, decolonization, sexuality
- Political representation of women and other marginalized groups at the municipal level
- Alternative modes of participation and activism



- Urban responses to gender issues

### **Common findings**

- Local government responses to women's needs are not always transparent
- Local government responses, as well as feminist social movements, need to be intersectional in order to meet diverse needs
- Global north feminist theories and ideas are not always appropriate to apply in other contexts
- Evaluating progress on gender equity is methodologically challenging, especially from a comparative perspective

### **Research gaps**

- The impact of gender-equity oriented government policies around care work and violence on women's day to day lives in the city
- Data on the process of becoming (or not becoming) a political candidate at the local level
- Whether and how local government responses to gender issues impact different groups of women across sexuality, race, age, ability, class
- How government funds are spent and whether this aligns with the demands of local women's movements

### **Generating impact**

- Continue to facilitate opportunities for researcher-policy maker connections (meetings, workshops, policy briefs)
- Train researchers to "translate" their work into materials that are accessible by local governments, NGOs, activist groups, etc.
- Fund data collection projects

## **iii. Tactical Urbanism**

Reflections by the session leaders:

This session presents cases on simple and low-cost interventions in urban areas to improve public space and achieve inclusion and citizens participation. Particular attention will be given to cases on improved public space in marginalised neighbourhoods.

In this session, Valeria Guarneros-Meza reflected on informality as an analytical framework to help unpack the shortfalls and challenges encountered by practices commonly grouped under the term of tactical urbanism. Adriana Sansao reviewed the Hortas Cariocas Program: a tactical urbanism action to empower communities, while Ben Stoman explored tactical urbanism as a way to improving the connectivity of a city's open space network by cutting through the red tape. Gilbert Siame used the concept to study greening informal settlements, learning from Kanyama settlement in Lusaka, Zambia. Merve Kurfali addressed the importance of social network for refugees to access to houses, drawing on a case from Stockholm. Paula Barros used insight from Brazil to address the co-design of temporary interventions in contested sites as an approach to involve marginalized children in the process of generating child-friendly cities. Tasneem



Jhetam brought in a case study on urban experimentation for radical incremental transition. Finally, Javier Vergara Petrescu discussed urban prototyping in Latin America by reviewing tactical urbanism lessons for policy making.

The session discussed the particularities of tactic urbanism as a methodology, comparing it with PAR and Placemaking approaches. In the first case, the team considered that the difference of tactical urbanism is the focus on the space. In the second case, the difference would be the measuring that TU involves, as a test methodology. As a concept, the researchers also discussed the differences between tactical urbanism and temporary interventions, arguing that not all temporary interventions have a long-term vision. The team also argued about the novelty of the approach. Is Tactical Urbanism new when there have been other ways of surviving in the city?

The session focused on the tactical urbanism approach as **a way of pursuing justice and equality**. The themes of the cases presented were: open streets for people, creation of public spaces in idle areas, green connections, co-design experiences and refugees/immigrants integration.

Encouraged by the session leaders, the researchers pointed out, in their cases, **the obstacles faced** in the implementation process of the interventions presented, as well as their **capacity of multiplication and long-term change**.

#### **Common findings of the cases presented:**

- Tactical urbanism is a quick start, but it is important to articulate bottom-up and top-down forces to consolidate and replicate.
- The difficulty of making the actions have a long-term effect, and the importance of an articulation with the local government.
- The importance of a partnership with a local agent, so that the intervention is in agreement with the local community, reducing conflicts.

#### **Research gaps**

Some of the participants' main concerns about Tactical Urbanism interventions were:

- How to move away from the capitalist co-optation of the interventions?
- How to engage communities to generate dialogue and real participation?
- How to collect data to monitor results?

### **iv. Child Friendly Cities**

This session reflected on children's rights and how that should be positioned at the core of local government action. The session considered cases on how to ensure that all children have the right to grow in a safe environment, with the possibility to access basic services, where they can learn, play in green spaces, have independent mobility and be an integral part of future spatial planning approaches.

In this session, Caroline Brown addressed play-sufficiency strategies drawing on insights from Wales and Scotland. Diloshini Govender addressed race, masculinity and violence in a South African primary school, discussing important considerations when addressing violence and planning for child-friendly spaces. Lynne Cairns focused on children in the city and participation as protection through listening to unheard voices. Predrag Milic introduced the concept of social infrastructure of hope, by re-imagining common future through balanced co-production with marginalised suburban communities in Belgrade. Finally, Rongedzayi Fambasayi discussed inclusive cities for children in South African Metropolis from an urban governance perspective.

The session jointly identified that ‘friendly is not enough’ and that the global discourse should progress from Child-friendly cities to Child-focused cities. Key findings from the session includes that there is an inadequate understanding of the indispensability of environmental support system which enables quality of life, and that there are limited policies and legislations (globally) to support child-friendly spaces. The case studies of successful child-friendly spaces are primarily driven by participatory planning or community processes. The session identified an opportunity to reflect on the Sustainable Development Goals from the perspective of *child-focused cities*, and to address the current gaps (within all 17 goals) to ensure that children’s rights and needs are reflected in these global goals.

In response to this global call, a visual analytic framework was created and the ICLD working group on “Child-focused Cities” was established, committed to a transformational approach from child-*friendly*, towards child-*focused*. It aligns to the quests towards the enhanced quality of life of all communities, by linking spatial planning approaches, innovative play-based pedagogy, and nature-based solutions through participatory planning approaches.

To realize this goal, the group envisage to pilot the analytical framework and contextualizing the SDG tool with municipalities to refine the tool for wider application. The working group also created social media profiles to further disseminate the research and findings, and to further generate impact.

The group identified the main benefit of this session as the opportunity to work on a collective output, to put the ideas of all the individual papers together to frame an approach towards child-focused SDGs.



Figure 1. Analytical Framework designed by the group Child focused cities

## v. Action Research for equitable health

Reflections from the session leader:

The Covid-19 pandemic showed us how social, economic, and environmental factors impact our ability to access health care and live a healthy life. Working with vulnerable groups to address disease prevention, health promotion, and quality of life is essential to shift social norms and habits that affect our health. This session will bring cases of action research that have worked to improve health equity among vulnerable groups.

In this session, Allen Kabagenyi addressed Achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals in resource limited settings, by synthesizing Local Government efforts and gaps in Uganda to address Universal Health Coverage. Danny Gotto examined the role of Development Assistance for Health (DAH) in perpetuating Health inequities in Uganda, and Kabaso Kabwe assessed the provision of mental health services to sexual minorities in Lusaka, Zambia using participatory action research. Mathabo Khau explored Using Participatory Visual Methodologies as a bridge between young girls and policymakers using Participatory Visual Methodologies as a bridge between young girls and policymakers, while Peter Ngure addressed the cost of Reproductive Health for Women in Africa, reviewing the UHC to bring equitable health for all.



### **Main themes**

The main themes for Action Research for Equitable Health included: Adolescent sexual health, cost of health services for the most underserved, increasing mental health service access to underserved populations, measuring progress towards achieving SDGs and the use of local resources to overcome dependency on development Aid.

### **Common findings of the cases presented**

The cases were very different and at different stages of development of implementation, however, the common thread was the focus on reducing inequitable health at various levels. All of the cases aspired to use action research as means of harnessing local resources and the participants held a better

appreciation of how to do this by the end of the academy.

### **Research gaps**

The actual use of action research was limited in all of the cases except one. The main research gap was therefore how to work with different stakeholders using the action research approach to respond to the challenges identified in the cases.

## **vi. Participatory budgeting in marginalised areas**

Letting people participate and decide on how public funds should be spent can contribute to more democratic engagement. It can create a stronger link between citizens and local politicians leading to more accountability and transparency. Participatory budgets originally coined in the city of Porto Alegre in Brazil at the end of 1990s have been used for a long time in different parts of the world and many experiments have been conducted. This session explores the use of participatory budgeting in marginalised areas to increase trust in local government.

Carla Bezerra begged the question why participatory budgeting has declined in Brazil, while Greta Lucero Ríos reviewed the implementation of participatory budgeting with original and indigenous peoples in Mexico City as a pro persona idea that resulted in exclusion. Kenny Manara brought a scooping study on the practicality of participatory budgeting in rural Tanzania. Lilian Mtsaingwa drew on experience from three district councils in Tanzania to address the gendered impact of participatory planning and budgeting in the agricultural sector.

Stephanie McNulty reviewed the potential of mandated participatory budgeting to improve government services and social inclusion, drawing on a case study of Peru. Zwelinzima Ndevu studied the case of the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa to assess the impact of participatory budgeting in local government.

The policy presentation from this group was awarded the prize to best policy pitch and the group will publish a policy brief on participatory budgeting. Moreover, the group agreed that there is a need to support a network of participatory budgeting scholars and practitioners in Sub-Saharan Africa, that could exchange experiences with their peers in Latin America.

### **vii. Digital Services**

Digitalisation is without doubt a key feature for local governments. This session explores the use of digital tools to provide better service delivery that increase trust in local governments.

In this session, Channel Zhou addressed responsible data in digital citizen engagement for adolescent sexual reproductive health services delivery in Southern Africa. Ekaterine Surguladze discussed digitalization for civic participation. Luiza Jardim addressed participation in tackling the pandemic, reviewing the digital initiatives of city halls and their pursuit of legitimacy. Melissa Zisengwe addressed civic tech as an intervention for local governments challenges. Snezana Djordjevic discussed the "Smart City", looking at implementation of IT tools for development of democracy and improvement of public services. Wawan Mas'udi critically examined digitalizing local Indonesia, inquiring whether it is enhancing community empowerment or facilitating capital penetration at village level.

### **viii. Transformative Local Governments**

This session included innovative cases of local governments that have taken bold steps to improve citizen participation, equity and accountability. The cases contribute to a broader understanding of the local democracy by sharing policies that have a transformative role. These cases provide inspiration for other municipalities around the world. This session tied the conference together in the overarching theme. It engaged primarily in deconstructing/defining the concept and disentangling its feats and principles. Transformative local governance. Anders Lidström, session leader, explained transformative local democracy as being about legitimacy and achieving change in people's conditions to participate in local level decision-making. It identifies innovative ways to give people a voice in the establishment of their local communities.



Book Sambo took a view from below in reviewing local democracy in Beira, Mozambique. David Mandiyanike addressed the illusion of gender parity in political engagement, reflecting on best practices for political parties in Southern Africa. Fundiswa Khaile explored how social cohesion, trust, and sense of belonging are articulated in the integrated development plans, drawing on insights from the cities of Cape Town and Ekurhuleni. Gregory Davids reviewed



lessons learned on the complexity of transformative local democracy. Gabriella Kiss shared insights on the co-designing process for a permanent citizens' board in Budapest, Hungary, while Rael Mumo Muthoka reviewed citizen led governance for socio-economic wellbeing in Makueni County, Kenya. Primi Suharmadhi Putri addressed the potentials and challenges for transparency and citizen engagement in decentralized resource revenue management. Finally, Tymofii Brik could not participate in person but contributed a paper on local governments and resilience: how decentralization made Ukraine stronger.

This session ended up in a joint understanding of the relevance of trust and the importance of building trust for people to be involved in local decision-making.

## 6. Transversal sessions

### a. Training Session: Writing Teaching Cases

This session covered the teaching case method, specifically as it relates to writing case studies. With the teaching case method, case studies are assigned before a class discussion to tell a story relevant to the participants' experiences or future responsibilities. The case is used to anchor concepts that the educator would like to teach, to provide a common setting and situation in which to base the class discussion, to provide the situation in a story form that keeps the attention of the class and helps participants retain learning, to stimulate engaging class discussions, and to tie learnings to future decisions and actions.

### b. Local Democracy Labs

A total of 15 Local Democracy Labs were planned over three back-to-back time slots on June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Labs are a reoccurring ICLD format where local governments from ICLD partner countries are invited to send in one question on a specific policy issue, and discuss it with relevant researcher during a one-hour meeting.

The **15** Labs were attended by **38** local government representatives from 10 Municipalities in the partnerships program (MPP) and 5 municipalities from the international trainings (ITP). Each session was filled with an average of **7** researchers participating in the Academy who chose the questions most suited to their expertise. See Appendix IV for the list of questions conferred in the sessions.

Cau Giay, Vietnam (MP)	Chobe, Botswana (MP)	Umeå, Sweden (MP)
Vushtrri, Kosovo (MP)	Kaijado, Kenya (MP)	Jinja, Uganda (ITP)
Vänersborg, Sweden (MP)	Håbo, Sweden (MP)	Ngara, Tanzania (ITP)
Muranga, Kenya (MP)	Strängnäs, Sweden (MP)	Bubi RDC, Zimbabwe (ITP)
Kinondoni, Tanzania (ITP)	Pemba, Zambia (ITP)	Växjö, Sweden (MP)

The Local Democracy Labs concept was generally perceived as a positive experience for both the local government representatives and the researchers. Below is some of the feedback that ICLD received via email from representatives attending the Labs:

*“You and the research team have excelled! The viewing was richly educational and innovative. Congratulations on successfully challenging the status quo”*

- Jinja City, Uganda

*“Thank you for the facilitation in our session which was quite educational and insightful. We are happy and look forward to taking this forward, as a start, could you please let us know if there is any information or documentation that you would like to have from our side as we wait for upcoming elections.”*

- Kaijado County Government, Kenya

*“Det var intressant att delta i labbet och höra andras inspel. Vi kommer lyfta flera av frågeställningarna i underlaget i vår projektansökan. Vi har även kommit fram till att vi vill involvera lokala forskare, om projektet blir beviljat.”*

- Växjö Kommun, Sweden

*“It was so gratifying to have met, we learnt much on how best to continue to exploit this resource called waste. (...) An amazing experience indeed we will for sure revert whenever we get stag. Thank you so much ICLD for the opportunity and to our partners as well, cc. Vänersborg Municipality as we continue to push each for betterment of our spaces.”*

- Chobe District, Botswana

*“What an engagement over issues surrounding borehole and the environment. (...) The discussion broadened the scope of my change project. I view it differently now as I interact more and more with the citizens. Thank you very much for the insight shared by the researchers.”*

- Bubi Rural District Council, Zimbabwe

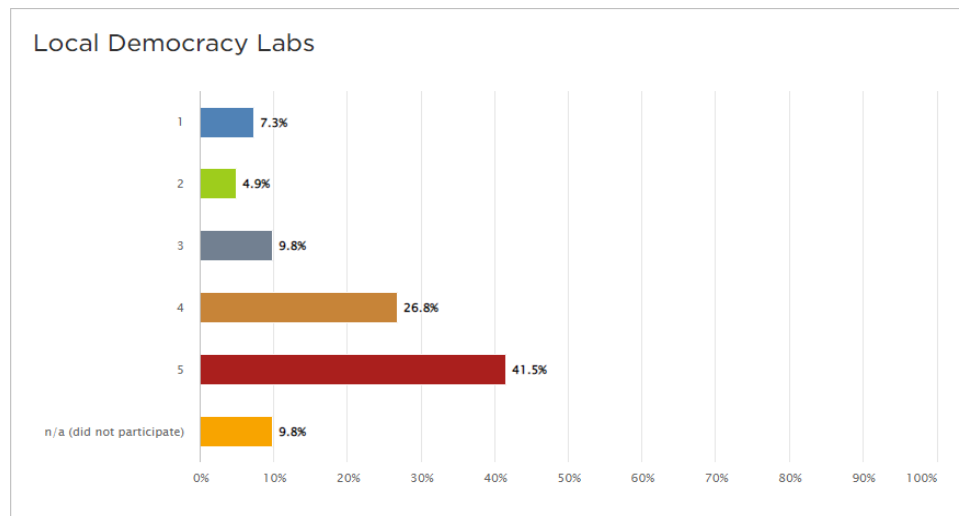
*“The labs were very informative in relation to our project. It helped us have an understanding of what we should focus on as we embark on the project. The interactions with the researchers on the problem statement and our subsequent meeting were very beneficial and insightful. ICLD should continue with the labs as they have proved to help local authorities with refining they project.”*

- Pemba Town Council, Zambia

During a follow-up session on June 10<sup>th</sup>, the LDA participants got time to sit down in groups and discuss potential ways to design future interventions, or impact research. After having discussed the issues for about 45 minutes, the groups shared their notes with ICLD and presented their conclusions in the plenary. It is worth noting that some of these group discussions laid the foundation for subsequent proposals for ICLD's Impact Research Grant, which was instituted following the Labs with the purpose to more concretely connect research and practice and achieve positive change.

For the researchers, the evaluation showed that the Labs was an appreciated segment of the Academy (see figure below). As one participant wrote:

*“The Local Democracy Labs were exceptionally good and impactful on me. Local governments are in need of information. Sometimes, research can help local governments appreciate their challenges and how to turn the challenges into a resource. I was struck by the energy from representatives of Local authorities.”*



### c. “If Researchers Ruled our Cities” & Comparative Policy Writing

How can local governments create policies that are based on evidence and can help to accelerate the implementation of the sustainable development goals? How can they work together with citizens in a democratic way to improve our lives? This year’s Academy included a policy pitching session from the Almedalen park in Visby, Sweden, an iconic arena for democratic dialogue between politicians and citizens. Researchers entered the stage and assumed the role of politicians to propose eight research-based policies for inclusive, feminist, climate centered, healthy and digitalised cities.

One or two selected researchers from each thematic stream presented a policy jointly developed in the group. The event was preceded by classroom sessions on comparative policy writing, led by the session leaders. These aimed at defining a problem within the thematic stream and formulating a solution. Additionally, it served to practice public speaking and communicating research insights to politicians and the public verbally in an engaging fashion.

**If researchers ruled our cities**

What happens if 70 researchers from all over the world gather for a week of mutual learning, critical thinking and exchange of new ideas to foster a more inclusive local democracy on a global scale?

Join our session, live or online, from Almedalen parc in Visby, Sweden, one of the largest democratic meeting places in the world. Researchers will enter the scene of Almedalen in the role of politicians to propose eight policies based on research for inclusive, feminist, climate centered, healthy and digitalised cities! This event is part of the ICLD Local Democracy Academy 2022.

**When:** 9 June 17.00-18.00 CET  
**Where:** In Almedalen or Online

[Read more at icld.se/LDA](https://icld.se/LDA)

IICLD Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy  
 UPPSALA UNIVERSITY  
 LOCAL DEMOCRACY ACADEMY  
 ICLD

The Almedalen take-over was an important bridge between policy and research and a space for politicians to hear the academic perspective in their own arena. The event was open to the public and livestreamed on ICLD's Youtube channel. One month after the event, [the video](#) has approx. 2100 views. The following statement provides a reflection about the policy session:

*The policy session was probably one of the highlights of the LDA. I linked the enthusiasm and effort that was put by all participants in making the policies relevant, fun and rewarding. Maybe one thing to consider is increasing the relevance of the policies and cases that are being addressed. One way to do that is to link the Democracy Labs with each thematic session and allow researchers to talk about real problems and offer real and implementable policies.*

*Viktor Mitevski, Session leader*

## 7. Evaluation and lessons learnt

The Local Democracy Academy was organized to see what happens when 70 researchers from all over the world gather for a week of mutual learning, critical thinking and exchange of new ideas to foster a more inclusive local democracy on a global scale.

### State and importance of local democracy

The state of local democracy in the various countries was assessed in informal group setting to establish a common understanding of the participants' starting points and perspectives. This pointed to varying democracy- and autonomy levels and diverse needs, but also common challenges and features: trust is crucial for local democracy, both between people and in governments. There was a general perception of discrepancy between policy and practice – where progress is made it remains slow to incorporate all voices. In some groups, a decline was noted in all represented countries. A prevalence of top-down approach was noted globally, although positive steps were described for example by social movements in Latin America or increased attention to peoples' demands in Indonesia. Other country-specific reflections emphasized patriarchal structures obstructing democratic progress in Tanzania, whereas a testimony from Scotland reported how politics shape decision-making. It was noted how local democracy is contextualized depending on relevant issues: exposure to effects of climate change, corruption, poverty etc. give different conceptualizations.

In the final session participants analysed the importance of local democracy – **why are we studying and working for the advancement of decentralization of power and equity, inclusion, transparency, accountability in local governments?** The answers were unanimously centred around a bottom-up approach and the proximity between citizens and decisions. Local democracy being the mechanism through which resources are translated into policies and power constitute both practical, ethical, and moral reasons to work for its advancement. It is the arena to understand the real needs of a given population – for mutual learning – and where the connection between services and politics, wellbeing and voting, engagement and change, are made visible. Despite having a smaller capacity than a national-level government, the local level provides opportunity for researchers to advise and build capacity from the right angle.

### Local Democracy Awards

The best conference paper in each thematic stream was acknowledged and awarded a special diploma. The single best conference paper and the best policy proposal (made during the livestreamed session “If Researchers Ruled our Cities”) were each rewarded with a research grant of 20.000 SEK to produce a policy brief or Learning Case on their respective topic. Yogi Setya Permana, participant in the Climate Action stream, was awarded for his paper *Drainage Politics: Flood Management in Indonesian Cities*. Using the methodology presented in the session on case-based learning, the paper is turned into a pedagogic Learning Case with the aid of the research grant. For best policy presentation, Carla Bezerra and Zwelinzima Ndevu were awarded for their delivery of the Participatory Budgeting group’s proposal *Our Money, Our Voice*. The grant is used to produce a policy brief. The winning works were selected by ICLD’s Advisory Group based on four main criteria: innovativeness; relevance to local governments; quality of the methodology; and the level of impact to which the research contributes.

An award ceremony is a common feature in academic conferences and serves two important purposes: acknowledging the most cross-cutting research, and supporting researchers to reach a larger audience. It was an opportunity to highlight relevant research in various communication channels and a significant way to encourage the academic community to engage in policy-relevant research, and policymakers to engage with solid, well-founded knowledge. Hence, the Local Democracy Awards contributed to the larger objective of **the** Local Democracy Academy 2022: to increase the knowledge of how local governments can better understand and respond to the needs of vulnerable groups.





### **Networking and social events**

The networking aspect of the Academy and in particular the transdisciplinary knowledge exchange was highly valued by the participants, against the background of the complexity of issues under study. Various social events surrounding the sessions enriched the conference through facilitating social bonds and informal conversation which led to more ease and confidence during sessions. Additionally, the social events served to learn about the Swedish context and the island of Gotland, which inspired conversations on cultural differences and local practices. An initial “World Café” where participants brought and introduced snacks from their respective countries served to get to know each other and the diversity of cultures represented in an informal and light way. Several activities and meals took place outdoors, including a guided bike- or walking tour around the historical town of Visby and its nature.

The social aspect proved one of the most appreciated features of the LDA, for forging lasting collaborations and transdisciplinary understanding. In the aftermath of a global pandemic with constraints on physical meetings, the networking made possible in Visby showed the importance of in-person conferences for the advancement of the research and policy community.

## **8. After the Academy**

An objective of the academy was to foster collaborations. This section provides a short summary of how the academy is followed up and how to maintain the network.

### **Call for Impact Research Proposals**

Participants were invited to submit their proposals for impact research to be financed by the ICLD. The proposals follow up on specific issues brought up in the Local Democracy Labs, and include desk research as well as interventions in the relevant local governments. The projects financed by the ICLD will deliver a research brief of the insights, intervention(s) and lessons learned, as well as a comprehensive research report. The projects are to be finalized by December, 2022.

This means the Academy will result in at least three concrete research projects including research briefs and 3-5 municipality interventions.

### **Policy briefs and learning tools**

The Best Paper and Best Policy awards result in publication of one policy brief and one learning case, to be published and utilized in ICLD’s training programmes and capacity building initiatives, as well as disseminated in relevant networks and through newsletters.

### **Special journal edition**

As a result from the Academy, the academic journal *Urban Planning* will publish a special issue entitled "Transformative Local Governments: Addressing Social Urban Challenges by Bringing People and Politics Together", with editors comprised of a group of LDA participants. The journal is a platform for wide dissemination of papers building on the work before and during the LDA 2022.

<https://www.cogitatiopress.com/urbanplanning/pages/view/nextissues#TransformativeLocalGovernments>

### Research Networks

The participants are added to the ICLD network of researchers and were invited to join the ICLD Alumni group. The ICLD maintains these networks to connect researchers to practitioners and local governments, invite them to further trainings, Labs, and calls for applications, and encourage/facilitate further research collaborations.

A What'sApp group created to facilitate communication during the conference became a valuable channel to facilitate continued communication and share articles, information and events of interest.

Two narrower research networks were formed through the thematic streams. The ICLD Working Group on Child-Focused Cities established social media channels to facilitate networking and interaction with relevant actors. The working group is now exploring how to take this project on SDGs further and contribute to the objectives of UNICEF, UN-Habitat, UN, ISOCARP and CAP. The Participatory Budgeting group has also taken steps toward joint contributions to the global PB community and advance the insights from the Academy as a group.

### Next academy

To be arranged in 2024. Future academies might consider aiming for one singular output per thematic stream at the end of the academy, which could either be published or used to inform policy initiatives. All future academies will strive to provide the same transdisciplinary networking opportunities. The Local Democracy Academy remains a unique approach to link policy and practice, and to make real change.



# Appendix I: Agenda

**Sunday 5th of June** - Arrival of participants in Stockholm

18:00-19:00 Registration

19:00 Informal dinner, Hotel Good Morning Arlanda

**Monday 6th of June**

8:00 Departure by bus to the ferry terminal

11:30 – 14:40 Ferry from Nynäshamn to Visby

16:30 – 17:30 **World Café (Uppsala University Campus Gotland, main entrance)** all participants will share a sweet or savoury snack from their countries.

17:30 – 18:30 **Welcome to the Academy, E31 (Auditorium)**

Johan Lilja, Secretary General, ICLD

Jesper Skalberg Karlsson, 1st deputy chair of the Regional Executive Committee of Region Gotland

Sten Hagberg, Professor Uppsala University

Introductions by session leaders

19:00 Dinner, Best Western Strand Hotel

**Tuesday 7th of June**

8:30 – 9:00 **Plenary, E31**

9:00 - 12:00 **Engaging Presentations**

Time / Room	B11	B13	B15
9:00 – 9:45	Climate Action with or without Local Democracy	Digital Services	Tactical Urbanism
9:45 – 10:15	Coffee Break		
10:15 – 11:00	Feminist Cities	Action Research for equitable health	Participatory Budget in marginalised areas
11:10 -12:00	Transformative Local Governments	Child Friendly Cities	

11:45 – 13:00 Lunch

12:45 – 17:30 **Local Democracy Labs (digital)**

19:00 Historical Dinner: Women in local democracy, Best Western Strand Hotel

## Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> of June

8:30 – 9:00     **Swedish Development Cooperation: challenges and opportunities to build democracy from below, E31.**  
Remarks by Staffan Smedby, Head of Sida's Unit for Democracy and Human Rights.

9:00 – 12:00   **Thematic Sessions: Paper discussion (Part 1)**  
**(Coffee break 10:00-10:15)**

Climate Action with or without Local Democracy	B11
Feminist Cities	B13
Tactical Urbanism	B14
Child Friendly Cities	B15
Action Research for equitable health	C13
Participatory budgeting in marginalised areas	B26
Digital Services	D23
Transformative Local Governments	C10

12:00 – 13:00   Lunch

13:00-16:00   **Parallel Training Session on case- base writing (Group A), B11**

Climate action  
Transformative local governments  
Digital services  
Tactical urbanism

**Parallel Writing Session for Thematic Policy Briefs (Group B)**

Feminist cities	B13
Child friendly cities	B15
Equitable health	C10
Participatory budget	B26

16:30 – 19:00   Feminist Tour of Visby by bike (optional)

19:00             Dinner at Best Western Strand Hotel

## Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> of June

8:30 – 9:00     **Plenary, E31**

9:00 – 12:00   **Thematic Session Paper discussion (Part 2)**  
**(Coffee break 10:00-10:15)**

	Climate Action with or without Local Democracy	B11
	Feminist Cities	B13
	Tactical Urbanism	B14
	Child Friendly Cities	B15
	Action Research for equitable health	C12
	Participatory budgeting in marginalised areas	B26
	Digital Services	D23
	Transformative Local Governments	C10
12:00- 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 16:00	<b>Parallel Training Session on case- base writing (Group B), B13</b>	
	Feminist cities	
	Child friendly cities	
	Equitable health	
	Participatory budget	
	<b>Parallel Writing Session for Thematic Policy Briefs (Group A)</b>	
	Climate Action	B11
	Transformative local governments	C10
	Digital services	D23
	Tactical urbanism	B14
16:30 – 18:00	<b>Researchers take-over Almedalen</b>	
18:30	Picnic, games, and evening swim	

### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> of June

8:30 – 9:00	<b>Plenary, E31</b>
9:00 – 12:00	<b>After the Labs: brainstorming joint research proposals (locations TBA)</b>
12:00 – 13:00	<b>Final plenary, evaluation, and conclusions, E31</b> <b>Local Democracy Awards</b>
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
16:00	<b>Ferry to Stockholm</b>

### Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> of June

Departure





## Appendix II: List of Participants

1. Climate Action with or Without Local Democracy		
Jesse Ribot	School of International Service American University, Washington, DC	USA
Tomila Lankina	London School of Economics	Russia
Andrea Matijevic	Institute for Political Studies, Belgrade	Serbia
Conrad Bosire	Strathmore University School of Law	Kenya
Mauricio Javier Luna Galván	Universidad La Gran Colombia and Universidad Complutense of Madrid	Spain
Sai Ankit Parashar	Tata Institute of Social Sciences	India
Wigke Putri	Universitas Gadjah Mada	Indonesia
Yogi Setya Permana	The Royal Netherlands Institute of Southeast Asian and Caribbean Studies (KITLV)	Indonesia
Paulo Mahumane	Uppsala University	Mozambique
2. Feminist Cities		
Leslie Kern	Associate professor	Canada
Shireen Hassim	Chair in Gender and African Politics	Canada
Aila Bandagi Kandlakunta	University of Nevada, Reno	India
Gareth Wall	University of Birmingham/ Stevenage Borough Council	UK
Maria Fernanda Murcia Pinilla	Universidad Nacional de Colombia	Colombia
Meera Karunanathan	Carleton University	South Africa
Nasya Razavi	York University	Canada
Raksha Janak	University of KwaZulu-Natal	South Africa
Sethunya Mosime	University of Botswana	Botswana
3. Tactical Urbanism		
Valeria Guarneros	De Montfort University	Mexico
Adriana Sansao	Federal University of Rio de Janeiro	Brazil
Ben Stoman	North-West University (NWU)	Namibia
Gilbert Siame	The University of Zambia, Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Centre for Urban Research and Planning	Zambia
Javier Vergara Petrescu	Ciudad Emergente	Chile
Merve Akdemir Kurfalı	Bilkent University	Turkey
Paula Barros	UFMG	Brazil
Tasneem Jhetam	Stellenbosch University, Centre for Sustainability Transitions	South Africa
4. Child-friendly Cities		

Jua Cilliers	The University of Technology Sydney	South Africa
Caroline Brown	Heriot-Watt University	UK
Diloshini Govender	University of Kwa-Zulu Natal	South Africa
Lynne Cairns	University of Durham	Scotland
Predrag Milic	Skograd Research Centre Belgrade, Serbia; Interdisciplinary Centre for Urban Culture and Public Space   TU Wien   Faculty of Architecture and Planning   future.lab   Austria	Serbia
Rongedzayi Fambasayi	South African Research Chair in Cities, Law and Environmental Sustainability, Faculty of Law, North-West University	South Africa
<b>5. Action Research for Equitable Health</b>		
Moses Tetui	The School of Pharmacy, University of Waterloo, Canada and School of Public Health, Makerere University in Uganda	Uganda
Allen Kabagenyi	Makerere University	Uganda
Danny Gotto	Innovations for Development	Uganda
Kabaso Kabwe	University of Johannesburg	South Africa
Mathabo Khau	Nelson Mandela University	Lesotho
Peter Ngure	Pathways Policy Institute (PPI)	Kenya
<b>6. Participatory Budgeting in Marginalised Areas</b>		
Josh Lerner	The New School for Social Research from the University of Toronto.	Canada
Amalinda Savirani	University Gadjah Mada.	Indonesia
Carla Bezerra	Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro - UFRJ	Brazil
Greta Lucero Ríos Téllez Sill	Ollin, A.C.	Mexico
Kenny Manara	Institute of Development Studies, University of Dar es Salaam	Tanzania
Lilian Mtsaingwa	University of Dar es Salaam	Tanzania
Stephanie McNulty	Franklin and Marshall College	USA
Zwelinzima Ndevu	Stellenbosch University	South Africa
<b>7. Digital Services</b>		
Quinton Mayne	Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and Faculty Co-Chair for Curriculum and Research at the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative.	Northern Ireland
Viktor Mitevski	Texas A&M University	North Macedonia
Channel Zhou	Rhodes University	Zimbabwe
Ekaterine Surguladze	Tbilisi City hall	Georgia
Luiza Jardim	Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais	Brazil
Melissa Zisengwe	University of the Witwatersrand (Wits University)	Zimbabwe

Snezana Djordjevic	Faculty for Political Sciences, Belgrade University	Serbia
Wawan Mas'udi	Faculty of Social and Political Science, Universitas Gadjah Mada	Indonesia
<b>8. Transformative Local Democracy</b>		
Anders Lidstrom	Umeå University.	Sweden
Sten Hagberg	Uppsala University	Sweden
Book Sambo	Uppsala University, Department of Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology	Mozambique
David Mandiyanike	University of Botswana	Botswana
Fundiswa Khaile	University of the Western Cape	South Africa
Gabriella Kiss	Corvinus University of Budapest, Department of Decision Sciences	Hungary
Gregory Davids	University Western Cape	South Africa
Primi Suharmadhi Putri	Geography Research Unit - University of Oulu	Indonesia
Rael Mumo Muthoka	Tangaza University College	Kenya
Tymofii Brik	Kyiv School of Economics	Ukraine

## Appendix III: Book of Abstracts

[Book of Abstracts.docx](#)



# Appendix IV: Local Democracy Labs – list of questions and timetable overview

## **1.1. Cau Giay, Vietnam:**

What do we have to do at schools for climate action/ the environmental protection with or without the government support?

## **1.2. Vushtrri, Kosovo:**

How can we find/use simple and low-cost interventions in urban areas to improve public space and achieve inclusion and citizens participation?

## **1.3. Vänersborg Municipality, Sweden:**

How shall we increase the local capacity building regarding the marginalized groups of impaired children when it comes to equal rights of school, culture, and treatment in general?

## **1.4. Muranga, Kenya:**

What simple projects can youth groups carry out to manage solid waste and at the same time earn a living from it? Are there funding opportunities available to help them start off?

## **1.5. Kinonondoni Municipal Council, Tanzania:**

Why do the initiatives regarding child welfare not provide sustainable solutions?

## **1.6. Växjö, Sweden:**

What tools/factors could make coalition-building efforts viable? What lessons have been learned and what can be done to promote dialogue between different political parties?

## **2.1. Chobe District Council, Botswana:**

How do you best attract investors to extract the opportunities in recycling and reuse of waste?

## **2.2. Kajiado County, Kenya:**

How can we ensure that SDG indicators are integrated in all our projects and activities, in order for us to be able to sustainably review and report on our achievements?

## **2.3. Håbo, Sweden:**

What steps do we need to undertake to assess the barriers and opportunities for wider participation of specific groups of youth in the decision making/democratic process?

## **2.4. Strängnäs, Sweden:**

When there is only one party that rules in the country (Tanzania), it is difficult to know the different levels in the organizations. What experience can you share about how to cooperate with a one party system?

## **2.5. Pemba Town Council, Zambia:**

How has the digitalization of information management system helped in effective service delivery in Local Authorities?

**2.6. Vungu RDC Gweru, Zimbabwe:**

What is the connection between climate and democracy?

**3.1. Umeå Municipality, Sweden:**

How do we work successfully to develop capacity-enhancing work regarding democracy, transparency and/or accountability in an authoritarian context (Vietnam)?

**3.2. Jinja City, Uganda**

How can stakeholder appreciation for the value of participatory planning and budgeting be magnified to maximise the synergy potential between local government leadership and marginalized groups like women, PWDs and Youth in order to deliver tailor made services to them in a timely and sustainable manner?

**3.3. Ngara District Council, Tanzania:**

How can a Municipal/District Council effectively address barriers in women's engagement in political leadership and decision-making positions?

**3.4. Mogale City, South Africa:**

How to stimulate youth entrepreneurship, and allow for a stimulated economy to uplift lives so as to build faith in democratic systems and therefore enhance youth participation, such as voting and engagements with both political and apolitical structures?

**3.5. Matabeleland, Zimbabwe:**

How can we bring environmental issues to this borehole that we have chosen as our change project? Around the borehole I strongly feel we can make villagers appreciate the environment.

**3.6. Falkenberg, Sweden:**

How can we strengthen the trust in society and democracy and specially among the youth population?

Time (CET)	Questions					
13:15-14:30	Session 1.1		Session 1.2		Session 1.3	
	<b>Cau Giay, Vietnam:</b> Tao Nguyen Thi Phuc Nguyen Ngoc Dung Bui Viet  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Robin Alnäs	What do we have to do at schools for climate action/ the environmental protection with or without the government support?	<b>Vushtrri, Kosovo</b> Ferit Idrizi Shpetim Zhegrova Melihate Basholli Medina Bunjaku Alban Bajrami  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Ida Edvinsson	How can we find/use simple and low-cost interventions in urban areas to improve public space and achieve inclusion and citizens participation?	<b>Vänersborg Municipality, Sweden:</b> Anders Fridén David Myrvold  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Josefin Daleskog	How shall we increase the local capacity building regarding the marginalized groups of impaired children when it comes to equal rights of school, culture, and treatment in general?
	Session 1.4		Session 1.5		Session 1.6	
	<b>Muranga, Kenya:</b> Judy Makira Habel Karanja Ngugi Edith King'ori Langat Robert Grace Waiguru  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Ana Maria Vargas	What simple projects can youth groups carry out to manage solid waste and at the same time earn a living from it? Are there funding opportunites available to help them start off?	<b>Kinonondoni Municipal Council, Tanzania</b> Tekla Paul Mtyansi Ezra Phares Ngereza John Deogratius  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Suzana Fatah	Why do the initiatives regarding child welfare not provide sustainable solutions?	<b>Växjö, Sweden:</b> Maja Debeljak Daniel Folkesson  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Felicia Wede	What tools/factors could make coalition-building efforts viable? What lessons have been learned and what can be done to promote dialogue between different political parties?
Time (CET)	Questions					
14:40-16:00	Session 2.1		Session 2.2		Session 2.3	
	<b>Chobe District Council, Botswana:</b> Makarav Abotseng Patrick Mokae Leslie Moabankwe Moses Kelaeng  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Ana Maria Vargas	How do you best attract investors to extract the opportunities in recycling and reuse of waste?	<b>Kajiado County, Kenya:</b> Yvonne Anyango Livingston Melompuki Anne Korir Samuel Koinari Samson Parashina  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Ida Edvinsson	How can we ensure that SDG indicators are integrated in all our projects and activities, in order for us to be able to sustainably review and report on our achievements?	<b>Häbo, Sweden:</b> Lilian Severin Jennifer Martin Igor Buzumliuc  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Josefin Daleskog	What steps do we need to undertake to assess the barriers and opportunities for wider participation of specific groups of youth in the decision making/democratic process?
	Session 2.4		Session 2.5		Session 2.6	
	<b>Strängnäs, Sweden</b> Anders Hårnbro Mia Nerby Helena Edvinsson  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Simon Hårenstam	When there is only one party that rules in the country (Tanzania), it is difficult to know the different levels in the organizations. What experience can you share about how to cooperate with a one party system?	<b>Pemba Town Council, Zambia:</b> Abraham Moobola Elina Nyongo Nyirenda Luyando Mwiinde  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Robin Alnäs	How has the digitalization of information management system helped in effective service delivery in Local Authorities?	<b>Vungu RDC Gweru, Zimbabwe</b> Yeukai Paradza +Others  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Suzana Fatah	What is the connection between climate and democracy?
Time (CET)	Questions					
16:10-17:30	Session 3.1		Session 3.2		Session 3.3	
	<b>Umeå Municipality, Sweden</b> Erika Åberg Gunnar Olofsson Cathrin Alenskär  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Robin Alnäs	How do we work successfully to develop capacity-enhancing work regarding democracy, transparency and/or accountability in an authoritarian context (Vietnam)?	<b>Jinja City, Uganda</b> Mutakisa Moses Kizito Leviticus Babyerabira Sarah Babirekere Maria Kasasa  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Ana Maria Vargas	How can stakeholder appreciation for the value of participatory planning and budgeting be magnified to maximise the synergy potential between local government leadership and marginalized groups like women, PWDS and Youth in order to deliver tailor made services to them in a timely and sustainable manner?	<b>Ngara District Council, Tanzania:</b> Julius Emile Bukobero Simeon Wilson Ndyamukama Debora Manilakiza Kasomwa  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Clara Orstadius	How can a Municipal/District Council effectively address barriers in women's engagement in political leadership and decision-making positions?
	Session 3.4		Session 3.5		Session 3.6	
	<b>Mogale City, South Africa</b> Tyrone Gray +Others  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Simon Hårenstam	How to stimulate youth entrepreneurship, and allow for a stimulated economy to uplift lives so as to build faith in democratic systems and therefore enhance youth participation, such as voting and engagements with both political and apolitical structures?	<b>Matabeleland, Zimbabwe:</b> Sibumthetho Dube Cookie Moyo  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Suzana Fatah	How can we bring environmental issues to this borehole that we have chosen as our change project? Around the borehole I strongly feel we can make villagers appreciate the environment.	<b>Falkenberg, Sweden:</b> Erika Erlingson Hanna Smekal  <b>ICLD Moderator:</b> Josefin Daleskog	How can we strengthen the trust in society and democracy and specially among the youth population?