

Information

Blended Learning Course for Local Governments:

Localising Human Rights in the SDGs Process

Collaboration between RWI, UCLG ASPAC and The City of Gwangju Government

- ❖ **Online Course:** 18 - 31 May 2020
- ❖ **Face to face:** Gwangju South Korea, 5 - 10 October 2020
- ❖ **Online Consultation:** June-Dec 2020

I. Background

- Local governments play a key role in realising both sustainable development goals and human rights. Specifically, the linkages between human rights, local government, and SDGs was described well in the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Resolution of A/HRC/39/L.8¹, which adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, committed to work tirelessly for full implementation of the Agenda by 2030 at all levels, and underscored the significant contribution that local government can make to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets. The UN Human Rights Council Advisory Committee on Local Government and Human Rights (A/HRC/30/49) also identified that a human rights city idea is one of the globally developed initiatives among plenty of globally initiatives in localising human rights. Davis F.M et.al (2018)² reported that Human right city is the most effective and ready to use tools to achieve the SDGs, which among other as noted by the Gwangju Declaration³ is the right of all citizens to fully participate in decision-making and policy-implementation processes. Participation is a key requirement for ensuring “no one left behind” as committed by the Members States of the UN when adopting the 2030 Agenda, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- This BLC is aimed at introducing the concepts, experiences, and network on localising human rights in the SDGs process to the local governments across Asia Pacific, members of UCLG ASPAC. This course will combine online and face to face approach and will be enriched by the participation at selected sessions in the annual event of the world human rights cities forum.
- This BLC is organized jointly by RWI Regional Asia Programmes with UCLG ASPAC and the City of Gwangju as a follow up of the letter of intents that was signed by RWI and UCLG ASPAC in 2018 and the memorandum of understanding that was signed by RWI, UCLG ASPAC, and the City of Gwangju in 2019.

¹ United Nation General Assembly, A/HRC/39/L.8. UN Human Rights Council Thirty-ninth session 10–28 September 2018, Agenda item 3, Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development at <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/LTD/G18/282/57/PDF/G1828257.pdf?OpenElement>

² Davis F Martha, Fredriksson G, Kjaerum M, and Reis Sartori I, 2018. Human Rights and the SDGs. Raoul Wallenberg Institute. Lund-Sweden.

³ The Gwangju Declaration, para. 4-5

II. Objectives

Specific objectives of the course are:

- To increase knowledge and networks of local government across Asia Pacific on localising human rights in the SDGs' process.
- To increase the accessibility of resources for local government to localize human rights in the SDGs process in their respective jurisdiction.
- To provide inputs for the programme development of RWI, UCLG ASPAC, and the City of Gwangju.

III. Topics of the Course

1. Introduction to Human Rights
2. Human Rights Mechanism: Monitoring and enforcement
3. Human Rights and local government: Human Rights City
4. Human Rights and Development: Gender Equality & SDGs
5. Human Rights in the SDGs process
6. Project of Changes

IV. Lead Facilitator: Helena Olsson



Helena has a Master Degree in Political Science with focus on Human Rights, Peace and Democracy from Lund University. She has worked with development, human rights and in the humanitarian field since 2001, for Swedish Embassies/Sida and UNHCR in Central and South America; at Sida Headquarters Humanitarian Team in Stockholm; and subsequently with academic institutions and NHRIs in Sub-Saharan Africa; Middle East and North Africa; and South/Southeast Asia since she joined the Institute in 2010.

V. Methodology

The course applies three approaches, namely, online, face to face, and online consultation

VI. Application Process:

- Send your application letter to the training secretariat@uclg-aspac.org by **17 April 2020**.
The application form can be found in the attachment
- The selection committee will select 20 participants which are as much as possible can represent equally gender, region, etc, and have high commitment & contribution to the successfulness of the training aims. The selection result will be announced by 27 April 2020.
- The organiser will be responsible for providing airfare, accommodation, meals, and local transportation during the training.

VII. Activities and Timeline

Application	Until 17 April 2020
Selection announcement	By 27 April 2020
Online course	18 – 31 May 2020
Logistic arrangement	Early August
Face to face course in Gwangju	5 – 10 October 2020
Online Consultation	1 June – 18 December 2020

VIII. Organisers

1. *The Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) is an independent academic institution established in 1984, carried out a wide range of research, academic education, and institutional capacity development programmes internationally in the human rights field, mainly with the support of Swedish Development Cooperation. The work of the Institute focuses on four thematic areas: Fair and Efficient Justice; Inclusive Societies; People on the Move; and Economic Globalisation and Human Rights (see further <http://rwi.lu.se/>).*
2. *UCLG ASPAC (United Cities and Local Government Asia Pacific) was established in Taipei on 14 April 2004, as the new entity of IULA ASPAC (the International Union of Local Authorities Asia Pacific). UCLG ASPAC is the key knowledge management hub on local government issues in the Asia Pacific region. The Asia and Pacific region is the biggest of the Regional Sections in UCLG with linkages to more than 7,000 local governments (see <https://uclg-aspac.org/en/about-us/who-we-are/>).*
3. *The City of Gwangju The history of this virtuous city can be followed from the righteous army's movement at the end of the Joseon Dynasty to the Gwangju Student Independence Movement and the May 18 Democratization Uprising in 1980, solidifying its position as a city of democracy, human rights and peace. The May 18 Democratization Uprising, in resistance against the military regime's oppression, had a substantial influence on the democratization movement of many Asian countries that are aspiring to justice and freedom from autocratic rule. On May 25, 2011 the May 18 Archives were listed in the UNESCO Memory of the World Register, and their value in world history was recognized (see further <http://www2018.gwangju.go.kr/eng/>).*