



Local & Regional
Europe

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ASOCIACION DE MUNICIPIOS VASCOS



Bilbao

BILBAO 2018

Workshop 3

Using management processes to drive social justice

Date & Time

Wednesday, 13 June, 9:30-11:30

Room

A4

Description

Achieving social justice, i.e. improved distribution of wealth, opportunities and privileges within a society, is a key objective for local governments, in considering how to best manage the territories for which they are responsible. At the same time, local governments are confronted with numerous other challenges in the 21st century. To name a few, these include the rising demand for more and better quality local services, effective staff management, engaging citizens on their needs, and the adaptation of service provision to rapidly evolving technologies. All this whilst being faced with important budget restrictions that limit the extent of local governments to be pro-active.

Nevertheless, local governments are key actors driving public policy goals and have their part to play in promoting non-discrimination. They are expected to provide services that foster inclusive communities, in response to the needs of an increasingly diverse local population. Sub-national authorities do not simply need to consider employing a diverse workforce, they must also assess the impact of policy decisions they take on their territories. Change management, the transformation of the way municipalities function and how they provide services are therefore, the order of the day.

So how can local government actors adopt administrative and management processes to attain social justice goals at the local level, whilst taking account of the many other demands placed upon them? What approaches yield the most efficient results at the local level when looking to promote non-discrimination, whilst faced with squeezed local budgets? These are some of the issues that will be under the spotlight during this workshop.

Format

Interactive Workshop

Many local governments pride themselves on pursuing policies that not only promote equality between women and men, but also address the issue of providing services for diverse groups within local communities. Essentially they operate through a complex web of interrelated and interdependent departments and organisations. Achieving social justice outcomes requires a wide range of different tools and methods, depending on the results desired.

- What are the hurdles that municipalities face in their desire to bring about greater social justice outcomes through the policies that they implement and how can these be overcome?
- In order to fine-tune local services based on diverse needs, what are the research tools that can be used by local governments to determine the prioritisation of services to address unmet or under-met needs?
- How can budgets be restructured in order to address inequalities and to promote more inclusive policies at the local level?
- What techniques can be employed to monitor policy outcomes and ensure appropriate follow-up action?
- How can sub-national authorities retain long-term commitment to policies that promote non-discrimination and inclusion, when faced with intensifying squeeze on public sector budgets?

These are just a few of the questions that will be the focus of discussions during this workshop. Three contrasting presentations will highlight different methodologies for using management processes and structures to achieve equality, diversity and inclusion objectives. Participants will be encouraged to share their experiences and to provide their testimonials, of putting in place and implementing local strategies that capture and address the needs on an increasingly diverse constituency.

Speakers

- **Marie Trollvik**, SALAR Project Manager, “Benchmarking for gender equality”
- **Martin Haidvogl**, Head of the urban administration of Graz, “Balanced Score Card: Strategic Management Tool and handling Gender Equality”
- **Natasa Okilj**, Gender equality and human rights advisor at Standing Conference of Towns and Municipalities, “Organisational change towards gender equality”

Language foreseen

English

Contact

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