

## CIB Gender Hub Champions Group Pilot Outline

12-9-2024

### Introduction

In 2023, the Capacity and Institution Building (CIB) working group of UCLG launched the [CIB Knowledge Hub on Gender Equality & Inclusive Governance](#). A platform where UCLG & CIB members meet and can exchange knowledge and information with peers on the themes of inclusive local governance and gender equality at the local level. The hub hosts over more than 200 resources and news items on the work of CIB members and partners. After the launch of the hub website, curation of the online repository was made a key priority. The ultimate goal is improved access for CIB members – LGAs, regions, cities and local leaders – to existing evidence and research about the impact of gender mainstreaming in LRG's affairs, as part of this online space.

Therefore, in 2024, CIB developed and launched the "[Toolkit to Mainstream Gender Equality in Local Government Associations \(LGAs\)](#)", designed to accompany LGAs in their journeys to mainstream gender equality as an integral part of the services and operations of their organization. Complementing other resources available in the CIB's Gender Knowledge Hub, this Toolkit offers various tools to help LGAs kick-start a gender-equality process within their organization, integrate gender equality into governance and leadership, develop robust gender mainstreaming internal policies and plans, and effectively implement them in their services and daily operations.

In alignment with the objectives outlined in the multi-annual work plan of the CIB Gender Knowledge Hub, further promotion of the hub, knowledge and capacity development, learning and advocacy, will remain key priorities.

CIB plans to establish and pilot a **CIB Gender Hub Champions Group**. This group will include municipal elected representatives, LGA officials, and technical specialists—peers from LGAs with experience in integrating gender into their associations. These champions will advocate for gender equality and inclusive local governance, using the knowledge curated in the hub. They will also receive a limited training program to enhance their skills and increase their opportunities to contribute to the global feminist municipal movement.

### Expected role of the Champions

1. Active participation to webinars
  - Champions will take an active role in CIB Gender Hub webinars, sharing their experiences and insights on integrating gender equality in local governance. Their examples will guide peers and stakeholders in adopting similar practices. Training and support from the CIB secretariat will ensure they are well-prepared and equipped for this role.
2. Ambassadors of the CIB Gender Hub
  - Champions are expected to inspire and motivate their organizations to commit to gender equality mainstreaming, using the tools and resources available through the

CIB Gender Hub, through CIB webinars and other relevant opportunities which are offered by the help of the CIB secretariat.

### Who?

The CIB Gender Hub Champions Group will consist of approximately 12 (both male and female) members, including municipal elected representatives, LGA officials, and technical specialists. These individuals will be selected based on their expertise and experience in integrating gender equality into their respective associations and governance structures.

To ensure a diverse and contextually relevant approach, the group will include two champions from each global region<sup>1</sup>. This structure is designed to leverage the unique perspectives and experiences of each region, allowing the group to address the specific challenges and opportunities that arise in different local contexts. As a result of consultation meetings with our reference group we learned that there is a wish for such a regional focus that is sensitive to the cultural, social, and political nuances of the area, in comparison to a more generic thematic focus. Including two champions from each global region would allow for their engagement in both region-specific and global activities.

### What do we offer?

1. Learning
  - 1-2 online training sessions on the CIB Toolkit to Mainstream Gender Equality in Local Government Associations (LGAs). These sessions will equip champions with practical knowledge on how to implement gender mainstreaming in their respective organizations.
2. Platform
  - Provide speaking opportunities for the champions to share their insights and experiences during the planned CIB webinars.
3. Visibility
  - Highlight the champions' work, achievements and profiles on the CIB Gender Knowledge Hub website and newsletters, increasing their visibility within the global network.
4. Collaboration
  - Involve champions in the development of new tools, resources, case studies, activities, allowing them to contribute their expertise.
5. Networking
  - Offer a platform/channel where champions can engage in discussions, share resources, and seek advice from one another.

### Global regions

- Latin America
- West and Central Africa
- East and Southern Africa
- North Africa and Middle East
- Asia Pacific
- North America & Europe

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<sup>1</sup> A global region refers to a broad geographical area that is characterized by shared physical, cultural, economic, or political traits. Examples include regions like Latin America, Sub-Saharan Africa, East Asia, and the Middle East, each of which encompasses countries that are geographically proximate and often share common historical, social or cultural attributes.