



MARRAKESH - 2014  
CONFERENCE  
RESOLUTIONS  
AFRICA

REolutions Africa / Marrakesh 2014:  
« Financing African Cities:  
Agenda, Alliances and Solutions »



Marrakesh City Council  
Kingdom of Morocco

**Marrakesh City Council**  
**hosting the Pan-African Conference for local authorities' funding on**  
**December 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 2014**

**Press Release**

Between 2010 and 2050, **the number of urban dwellers in Africa should increase from 400 million to 1.26 billion**. African urbanization should reach 50% in 2035 and nearly 58% by 2050. Medium sized cities and intermediary ones should absorb 75% of this urban growth while the remaining 25 % will be shared by metropolitan areas of more than one million inhabitants.

With these projections in hand, and according to the unprecedented needs, as well as the opportunities thus created, **Marrakesh City Council, FMDV (Global Fund for Cities Development) and UCLG Africa (United Cities and Local Governments of Africa) have chosen to mobilize African local and regional authorities and their partners**, to attend the Conference for the Financing of African cities, on December, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>.

Organized for the first time in Morocco, hosted by Marrakech City Council, this exceptional thematic conference represents **the unmissable gathering of both local and national policy-makers, and public opinion leaders from African economic and financial world**.

Beyond the identification of issues and constraints to finance African cities, the meeting will portray **the diversification of economic and financial mechanisms available to local authorities**. The conference will question **the quality of the partnerships that have been built, or to be developed between political, technical, economic and financial stakeholders**. It will therefore demonstrate decisive financial innovations for the continent.

After two days of discussions and proposals, **the Declaration of the Marrakesh REolutions** will be adopted to be a real manifesto of the African development Stakeholders.

As part of **"REolutions to Fund Cities" worldwide campaign**, the Marrakesh Conference will enrich the plea in favor of inclusive and sustainable urban development funding. It will be raised in the debates on the adoption of a Post 2015 New Development Agenda, and up until the United Nations' Habitat III Summit, in 2016.

Supported by all the majors of development stakeholders, the conference constitutes **a remarkable opportunity to bring together almost 250 participants**, including: African local governments' representatives, Ministers of Finance, heads of central administration, stock exchanges, regional/national financial institutions, economic operators from public, private and social economy sectors.

**Plenary sessions and round tables** will punctuate these two days, by exploring the entire “urban development financing chain” through: planning urban investments, increasing value and mobilizing the endogenous resources (local taxation and land valuation), accessing loans through international and regional donors, specialized financial institutions and private banks present on the continent, accessing the market of capitals, public-private partnerships, and innovative financing mechanisms.

At the same time, **several side-events, parallel meetings** and a “**Bank of Opportunity**” will enable local authorities to first present their development projects to economic and financial stakeholders and then discuss innovative financial, economic or strategic solutions.

**On December 10<sup>th</sup>, upstream of the conference, a training seminar on credit rating** will bring together members of the Chief Financial Officers' Network “AfricaFiNet”, in the framework of the program hosted by UCLG Africa. The aim of “AfricaFiNet” is to improve the recognition of these professionals as a decision support for local elected officials, and to also improve their skills and areas of cooperation.

**Date:** December 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014

**REolutions Africa Conference venue:** Marrakesh (Venue to be announced)

**For more information:** <http://resolutionstofundcities.org/en/events/conference-resolutions-africa-marrakesh-2014>

The conference is held thanks to the support of its **contributing partners:** Kingdom of Morocco's Ministry of Interior, French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, PPIAF, Cities Alliance, GIZ, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Royal Air Maroc, and Municipal Equipment Fund of Morocco (FEC).

Among our **endorsers:** Metropolis, UCLG, UN-Habitat, French Development Agency (FDA), USAID, World Bank, IFC, UNDP, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, UNCDF, MedCities.

### About the co-organizers

The FMDV is an operational network bringing together the local authorities (cities and regions) and their partners around the diversification of economic and financial solutions for a sustainable urban development. The FMDV regional office for Africa is hosted by UCLG Africa.

[www.fmdv.net](http://www.fmdv.net)



UCLG Africa is the regional section for United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG), bringing together 40 national associations of local authorities in all regions of Africa, as well as 2000 cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants.

[www.uclgafrica.org](http://www.uclgafrica.org)



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