

## **Object: International call for solidarity with Indonesia**

*A shared project from local authorities to local authorities to re-build a resilient city affected by a crisis*

Less than two months after a deadly earthquake struck Indonesia's Lombok island, another one hit the island of Sulawesi on Friday 28 September 2018, triggering off a tsunami. At least 1400 deaths are to regret and the death toll is expected to rise in the next few days.

According to Indonesian Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) dozens and possibly even hundreds of victims are still trapped under the rubble. The authorities and NGOs are particularly worried by the situation of the Donggala region, further to the north of the city Palu, the most affected city by the disaster.

The United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) Asia-Pacific Regional section (ASPAC) made an initial assessment of needs for the population: petrol, gasoline, drinking water, medical personnel, medicines, field hospitals, tents, tarpaulins, blankets, water tanks, food ingredients, lightning equipment, generators, public kitchens, dead body bags, and baby and child meals. We know that the international humanitarian agencies are moving fast and hopefully they will deliver this aid to the population.

The UCLG ASPAC and the UCLG Task Force for Territorial Prevention and Management of Crisis, chaired by the City of Geneva, have decided to launch an international call to local authorities through UCLG.

The UCLG Task Force main ambitions are to provide a platform for local government disaster management to capitalize on lessons learned and to provide increasingly articulated technical support in crisis situations. We aim to improve and to increase the availability of local government expertise to disaster affected municipalities. We also aim to stress and to foster the crucial role of local governments on the international disaster management agenda.

The challenge of the affected local governments is and will be, in terms of immediate and longer-term response, to (re) gain control in the (post) disaster situation, to resume the provision of essential services, and to become a leading actor in response and recovery.

**We would like to propose you to join this international call for solidarity with Indonesia Local authorities.** All activities will be decided collectively and according to the needs that will be assessed thanks to UCLG partners on the spot. We would like to capitalize on our common resources to make a global coordinated effort to help the cities affected by the tsunami to rebuild better and more resiliently. For this reason we cannot wait for international donors to join us. We need to act first and call for extra support later.

Our action will be our international response to a crisis- the first UCLG peer-to-peer project of aid. We need to make it an example to show that local authorities can be supported by local authorities in rebuilding resilient institutions.

For now, the French association of local authorities launched a call for solidarity among its members. **The funds raised will be collected in a single UCLG fund.** A steering committee composed by donors will be created in order to decide activities to put in place.

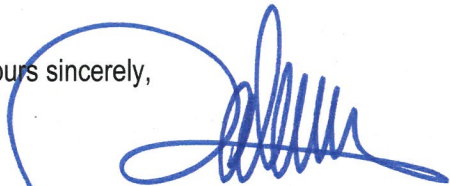
All promoted activities will be delivered to help the cities to rehabilitate. We will put all our efforts and convince other donors to join us. We want to rebuild a territory in order for it to be resilient. We want to give local authorities the capacities to mitigate risk and protect its population by alerting people in time and evacuating them more rapidly to a safe place.

The UCLG Task Force and ASPAC opened a specific account to facilitate the fundraising. We can decide to open a specific account for you. The most important thing is to join this effort and to provide a coordinate response.

For more information and to take part in this initiative, you can contact Mr. Simoné Giovetti, Manager of International and European Mission at Cités Unies France (+33 1 53 41 81 87 / [s.giovetti@cites-unies-france.org](mailto:s.giovetti@cites-unies-france.org)) or Mr. Helmi Abidin, Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)/Resilience Coordinator of UCLG ASPAC (+62 21 389 01 801 / [drr.coordinator@uclg-aspac.org](mailto:drr.coordinator@uclg-aspac.org)).

We really hope you will be able to join this UCLG international call for solidarity to support Indonesia local authorities affected by the recent tsunami.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Sandrine Salerno', written over a large blue circular scribble.

Ms. Sandrine Salerno  
Vice-Mayor, City of Geneva  
Chair, UCLG Task Force for territorial prevention and management of crisis