



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA



Second International « Université des Pluies »

International colloquium

Call for papers on the theme: ***"Decentralization, City Diplomacy and Sustainable Development Goals"***.

Institute of International Relations of Cameroon (IRIC)/Yaoundé

September 3 and 4, 2020

In collaboration with the University of Padova (Italy), the University of Douala (University Institute of Technology of Douala, Nkongsamba Institute of Fine Arts), the National Higher School of Public Works (ENSTP, Yaoundé, Cameroon), the Institute of International Relations of Cameroon (IRIC) of the University of Yaoundé II is organizing from 3 to 4 September 2020, an international multidisciplinary Colloquium on the theme **"Decentralization, City Diplomacy and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"**.

The colloquium will be held face-to-face in accordance with the norms of distance and online via webinar for speakers and participants who cannot be physically present in Yaoundé.

The works resulting from the first International Université des Pluies and published by Harmattan Editions will be presented at the opening of the colloquium.

Positioning of the colloquium

The colloquium is part of the tenth anniversary celebrations of the CA2D Master's program - International & Decentralized Cooperation, Humanitarian Action and Sustainable Development of the Institute of International Relations of Cameroon (IRIC) in cooperation with the University of Padova/Italy. The master's degree, which mobilizes Cameroonian and Italian teachers, has trained hundreds of young Africans in Humanitarian Action, Decentralized Cooperation and Environmental Management.

The colloquium is also an opportunity to bring together alumni of the master's program, scattered throughout the world where they positively stand out for their professionalism and expertise.

General context and problematic

International action with a diplomatic vocation is undergoing profound changes, particularly with the emergence of local governments and cities. There is increasing discussion of city diplomacy (Viltard.,2008, Viltard.,2010, Khadija.,2016, Duhaime.,2018), which is gradually finding its place in the theoretical field of international relations. City diplomacy is in a way a multifaceted phenomenon that is constantly being reinvented. It continues to enjoy a large margin of inventiveness (Gallet.,2005). Although it is still modest in practice, city diplomacy has great symbolic importance. It is a new manifestation and a good indicator of the evolution of international relations in a global context increasingly marked by strong decentralization. City diplomacy today represents an intellectual challenge for the theorists of international relations and, in a way, for all those interested in urban and educational issues.

City diplomacy also embodies the visibility of decentralization where it is implemented. The latter, when it affects all public action, sets up a reform that leads to changes in practices through a soft revolution. It is supposed to strengthen local power in order to design a new model of public action, the materialization of which involves city diplomacy. It is from this perspective that the impact of SDGs in African countries must now be analyzed. Decentralization through city diplomacy can better appropriate SDGs. This is why it is important for African cities to link up with SDGs.

The decentralization process under way in several African countries is forcing local governments to become more involved in city diplomacy. However, this should be done in coherence with Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals. Thus, the symposium, based on the cross-cutting theme of "*decentralization, city diplomacy and SDGs*", explores all the issues that concern sustainable development at the local level. The colloquium constitutes a context for postcolonial reflection on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in African countries from the cities. The field experience and research work of former CA2D master students are welcome.

Thematic axes

The colloquium is open to contributions from the academic, institutional, professional and NGO sectors. Eight main thematic areas have been selected:

1. *Axis 1: Experiences of sustainable cities in Africa.*
2. *Axis 2: Decentralization and city diplomacy.*
3. *Axis 3: Decentralization, humanitarian action and city diplomacy.*
4. *Axis 4: Decentralization, environmental management (waste management, wastewater management, sustainable mobility, debidonviliization, urban disorder, green spaces, access to drinking water, management of urban waterways, standardization, etc.) and city diplomacy.*
5. *Axis 5: Local public policies, SDGs and city diplomacy.*
6. *Axis 6: Decentralization, city diplomacy and education for sustainable development.*
7. *Axis 7: Decentralization, city diplomacy and intercultural education (for living together).*
8. *Axis 8 : Global health, decentralization and city diplomacy.*

Institutional coordinators of the Colloquium

Salomon EHETH, Director of the Cameroon Institute of International Relations (IRIC)
Carmelo MAIORANA, DICEA/University of Padova.

Scientific Coordinator of the Colloquium

ESOH ELAME, University of Padova. Visiting Professor at the Institute of International Relations of Cameroon.

Steering Committee

The Association of students of the master CA2D, Salomon EHETH, ESOH ELAME, DARJO Valérie, Beatrice POMARO, Carmelo MAIORANA, Stéphane NGWANZA, Marthe EYANGO Epse ASSIRA, Olga MBANG Epse WERIWOH, Mireille MANGA EDIMO Epse EWANGUE

Scientific Committee

1. Salomon EHETH (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II), Cameroon
2. ESOH ELAME, University of Padova/Italy
3. Carmelo MAIORANA, University of Padova/Italy
4. Vittorio COLIZZI, University of Rome Tor Vergata
5. Laurent Charles BOYOMO ASSALA/ESSTIC/University of Yaoundé II
6. Angela BARTHES, Aix-Marseille University - IUT – France.
7. Georges NIKOLAOU, University of Patras, Greece.

8. Georges SAWADOGO, University of Koudougou – Burkina Faso
9. Alain Didier OLINGA (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II) – Cameroon
10. Fatima FALL, Gaston Berger University, Saint Louis, Senegal
11. Jacques ETAME, IUT/University of Douala
12. ANGOUA NGUEA, Nkongsamba Institute of Fine Arts /University of Douala
13. Pascal Charlemagne MESSANGA NYAMNDING (IRIC/University of Yaoundé II)
14. Annie BEKA BEKA, Ecole Normale Supérieure de Libreville/Gabon
15. Jean-Emmanuel PONDI (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)/Cameroon
16. Véronique-Solange OKOME BEKA, Ecole normale Supérieure de Libreville, Gabon
17. W. MVOMO ELA (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)/Cameroon
18. Stéphane NGWANZA (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)/Cameroon.
19. Solange Kiki MVOUAKA (Ecole normale Supérieure de Libreville),
20. Yves Paul MANDJEM (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)/Cameroon
21. Jean Marc LANGE, University of Montpellier
22. Paul Elvic BATCHOM (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)/Cameroon
23. Donatien NGANGA KOUYA, Ecole Normale Supérieure de l'Enseignement Technique de Libreville/Cameroon
24. Auguste EYENE ESSONO (Ecole normale Supérieure de Libreville),
25. Anne Marilyse KOUADIO, Ecole Normale Supérieure d'Abidjan
26. Didier MULNET, RéUnifEDD, FECODD
27. Emmanuel WONJU (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)
28. Gabriel EBA EBE (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)
29. Maria Cristina LAVAGNOLO, University of Padova/Italy
30. Rémy MBIDA MBIDA (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)
31. BOUNOUNG FOU DA (IRIC/University of Yaoundé II)
32. Félicité OWONA MFEGUE (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)
33. Marthe EYANGO Epse ASSIRA, (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)
34. Olga MBANG Epse WERIWOH, (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)
35. Mireille MANGA EDIMO Epse EWANGUE (IRIC /University of Yaoundé II)

Instructions to communicators

The various contributions will be in French or English.

Each oral contribution will be made in a thematic session and will last 15 minutes + 5 minutes of discussion.

Abstracts should be sent no later than 15 July 2020 to the following addresses michelelams86@gmail.com and wambolecourant@yahoo.fr

The abstract (of 300 words) will include: title, the focus of the chosen conference, the name of the author, a short biography and contact details (institution, function, postal address, tel, email), 5 keywords.

The summary highlights the study background, objectives, methodology and results. The text of the abstract should be in Office Word format, in Times New Roman font size 12.

The proceedings of the conference will be promoted in the following way:

- Publication of a collective work at Harmattan Editions, collection "*Postcolonial studies of sustainable development*" coordinated by ESOH ELAME, University of Padova.
- Publication of a collective work at Editions ISTE, collection "*développement des terri-toires*" coordinated by Angela BARTHES, Aix-Marseille University - France.
- Publication of a special issue on "*Cities and Education for Sustainable Development*" in the magazine *Formazione & Insegnamento* of the University of Venice.

- Publication of a special issue on "*city diplomacy*" in the Cameroonian Journal of International Studies (ISSN 2618-1487) of the Institute of International Relations of Cameroon.

Final articles must be received by October 15, 2020 at the latest.

Registration fees for face-to-face activities

Students: 5000 FCFA - Doctoral students 10000 FCFA, Teacher-researcher 20 000 FCFA, Representatives of Institutions, companies and other professionals 30 000 FCFA.

Registration fees include: breakfast, coffee break, snacks and a congress kit.

Key dates to remember

- July 15, 2020: Deadline for receipt of abstracts
- July 25, 2020: Date of the decision of the Scientific Committee
- July 30, 2020: Deadline for registration to the conference
- 3 - 4 September 2020: International Colloquium
- October 15, 2020: Deadline for submission of accepted papers.

Secretariat of the Colloquium

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3. Melchior Pierre Batoukini : mbatoukini@gmail.com