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• **WHAT IS THE
IBERO-AMERICAN
FORUM?**

The Ibero-American Forum was created in 2006, as a permanent space for the Ibero-American Local Governments to meet, discuss and cooperate on the development of Latin American municipalism, local autonomy, and decentralization of administrative policy.

The IX Ibero-American Forum of Local Governments takes place in Mexico City

On November 12th and 13th of 2014, the IX Ibero-American Forum of Local Governments was held in several venues of the Historic City Center of Mexico City. The theme of the event was “Education and Culture for Inclusion in the Local Area.”

As the most important meeting of local governments in Ibero-America, its main objective was to reach a

joint position on the significance that education and culture have in promoting development and inclusion in cities region-wide, towards the XXIV Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government, which took place on December 8th and 9th in Veracruz, Mexico.

The local governments represented in the forum expressed their willingness

to further endorse the adherence of Latin American cities to the “Agenda 21 for Culture”, in order to encourage greater south-south cooperation between local governments which would enhance equal access to culture and education, as well as promote the establishment of an urban objective among the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals.

• **MEXICO CITY ASSUMES THE PRESIDENCY OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN FORUM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

In order to follow up on the agreements reached in the IX Ibero-American Forum of Local Governments, the participants designated Mexico City as Head of the Monitoring Committee of the Latin American Forum, until the tenth edition of this event, to take place in 2016, in Bogotá, Colombia.

The International CGLU-Mexico City-Culture 21 Award

As part of the program of the IX Ibero-American Forum of Local Governments, the CGLU-Mexico City-Culture 21 Award was handed out, which recognizes cities and personalities who have excelled in their leadership to promote culture as a pillar of sustainable development. The winners were:

City Award:

• Belo Horizonte and its project entitled “Arena da Cultura - Artistic and Cultural Training Program”, for its cultural policy that relates the values of culture with democratic governance, citizen participation and sustainable development.

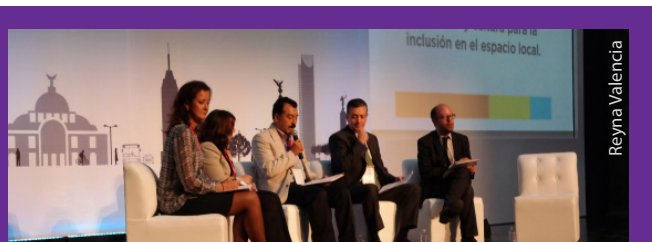
Personality Award:

• Ms. Farida Shaheed, UN Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, for her work on behalf of the cultural rights of marginalized sectors.

• Mr. Manuel Castells, renowned Sociologist and Academic, for promoting culture in human transformations, from the academic realm.

• **ATTENDANCE TO THE IX IBERO- AMERICAN FORUM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

The ninth edition of the Ibero-American Forum was attended by over one hundred Latin American Mayors, Intendants, Prefects, Aldermen, and Councillors, as well as by representatives of the most important city networks from our region and around the world, such as the Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB), the Ibero-American Capital Cities Union (UCCI), Mercociudades, the Network of South American Cities (RED-CISUR), and the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).



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