



**ODP Afrique**  
**IOPD Africa**



## **Call for Applications to host the 2023 Conference and ensure the Presidency of IOPD Africa**

### **1. PRESENTATION**

**The International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IOPD)** is an open space at the service of governments, cities and territories, civil society organizations, universities and research centers that wish to deepen knowledge and practices in the field of participatory democracy, governance and local development.

In Africa, the Observatory has more than a thousand members made up of local governments, government representatives, research centers and civil society organizations. In Africa, the Observatory aims to:

- Observe democratic processes, support and strengthen approaches to participatory democracy, citizen participation and engagement in public management,
- Capitalize on the experiences of participatory democracy in Africa and share them with the rest of the world,
- Promote a vast community of knowledge, exchange of experiences and pooling of good practices of participatory democracy.

The Observatory organizes its Conference every two years in a city, alternatively in a sub-region of Africa. The event brings together local elected officials, representatives of central governments, civil society, academics and research centres. It will be organized in the format of conferences, round tables, exchange sessions, networking and parallel events.

These meetings allow the community of actors and practitioners of decentralization, governance and local development to:

- Discuss the state of participatory democracy in Africa and the world,
- Share experiences of participatory democracy, challenges, progress and limits on the continent,
- Promote benchmarking , exchange on good practices and good policies and the connection between local authorities and different actors of participatory democracy.

In this context, IOPD Africa **is calling on cities interested in hosting the next IOPD Africa conference, scheduled for 2023** . The city or territory that will host the

conference will hold the presidency of IOPD Africa for two years. It will thus define the main theme of the event according to its priorities in this area.

## **2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

Any city or territory that is a member of IOPD Africa can submit an application. A local authority that is not a member of the network can apply to host the conference. However, it is required to formalize its membership in IOPD Africa (<http://inscription.oidp-afrique.org/>) in order to host the regional conference and to assume the rotating presidency of the pan-African network.

## **3. PRESENTATION OF APPLICATIONS**

The cities and territories that wish to host the conference must submit their application by sending by email to the IOPD Africa Secretariat ([secretariat@oidp-afrique.org](mailto:secretariat@oidp-afrique.org)), the following documents:

- A letter from the political leader (local authority) of the city or territory submitting their application.
- A description, in outline, of the proposed content of the Conference (2 pages maximum)
- A description, in outline, of the technical and financial resources of the city or territory, which is proposing its application to host the conference. (2 pages max)

Applications must be submitted no later than **July 7, 2022**.

## **4. ELECTION OF 2023 CHAIR**

The election of the host city of the 2023 conference will take place during the meeting of the Board of Directors, which will be held at the end of July 2022. At this meeting, the candidate cities will be invited to present their applications. A consensus will be sought first for the designation of the host city. If consensus is not reached, a vote will be opened on the various applications received. The electors will be the members of IOPD Africa who will only be able to cast one vote per applicant.

## **5. ACCEPTANCE**

The city that hosts the organization of the Conference will also be designated President of IOPD Africa for the two years. Likewise, it must undertake to cover the financial cost, the preparation of the content, the logistics of the event in collaboration with the Executive Coordination. As such, the city holding the presidency will represent the African organization at all IOPD bodies and participate in the activities of IOPD Africa that require the presence of the presidency of the network.