



OIDP Afrique
IOPD Africa



Call for Applications to Organize the 2023 International Forum on Participatory Democracy in Africa (FIDEPA) and to assume the Presidency of the ODP Africa

1. PRESENTATION

The International Observatory of Participatory Democracy (IOPD) is an open space at the service of national governments, local authorities, civil society organizations, universities and research centers wishing 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 authorities, government representatives, research centers and civil society organizations. The Africa Office of 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 every two years, the **International Forum for Participatory Democracy in Africa (FIDEPA)** 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, with exchange sessions and networking.

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

- Reflect on the state of participatory democracy in Africa and in the world,
- Share experiences of participatory democracy, issues, advances and limits,
- Promote benchmarking, the exchange of good practices and good policies and the connection between local authorities and the various players in participatory democracy.

This call for applications is launched **to cities interested in hosting the next FIDEPA, scheduled for 2023** . The city or local authority that will host the Forum will hold the rotating presidency of IOPD Africa for two years. It will thus be able to define the main theme of the event according to its priorities in this area.

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Any city or local authority 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 Forum. However, it will have to finalize its membership in IOPD Africa (<http://inscription.oidp-afrique.org/>) to be able to host the Regional Forum and assume the rotating presidency of the Pan-African network.

3. PRESENTATION OF APPLICATIONS

Cities and local authorities wishing to host the Forum must submit their application by sending by email to the IOPD Africa Secretariat (secretariat@oidp-afrique.org), the following documents:

- A letter from the political authority of the city or local authority presenting its candidacy.
- A description, in outline, of the proposed content of the Forum (2 pages maximum)
- A description, in outline, of the technical and financial resources of the city or local authority, which is proposing its candidacy to host the Forum. (2 pages max)

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

4. PRESIDENCY ELECTION 2023

The election of the host city of FIDEPA 2023 will take place during the meeting of the Board of Directors, which will be held on **August 10, 2022** . At this meeting, candidate cities will be invited to present their candidature. 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. Voters will be members of IOPD Africa. Each member may cast only one vote per candidate.

5. ACCEPTANCE

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