WRAP UP SESSION—Franck Bousquet
Urbanization Knowledge Exchange to Support MENA Stakeholders: Focus on Municipal Finance
General satisfaction about the initiative and content

Interest in deepening and broadening urban exchanges (themes, venues)

Appeal for both technical workshops and training/communities of practice

Interest in sustaining knowledge exchange process and using web-based tools
How to learn?

Frequency with which you would be willing to interact with a community of practice:
- Daily: 3 (12%)
- Weekly: 8 (31%)
- Monthly: 8 (31%)
- Bi-weekly: 4 (15%)
- Quarterly: 2 (8%)
- Other: 1 (4%)

Technological tools you would use to connect with experts and peers for learning:
- Web-based e-communities: 16 (52%)
- Virtual classes and conversations: 15 (48%)
- Linkedin: 0 (0%)
- Other: 0 (0%)
How to learn?

Approach to learning and capacity building most useful to you and your colleagues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approach</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Formal training</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Learning by doing</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences and workshops</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities of practice</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hiring outside experts</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Are you part of any communities of practice?

- Yes [10] - Yes 48%
- No [11] - No 52%

Communities of Practice you are a part of

- MEDCITIES
- Through donors
- Reseau coMun
- UN ESCWA
- Network of city finance directors
- Political party
- Urban planning and community dev’t
Developing an integrated action plan

- Learning Program with municipalities: training, TA
- Global platform to share knowledge: Urbanization Knowledge Platform including the CMI e-community
- Establish a community of practice that is nourished by peer-to-peer exchanges
- Implement pilots to spell out concrete outputs and recommendations
The **Learning Program (WBI)** on Municipal Finance includes a financial self-assessment of cities and to our capacity to share knowledge and provide technical assistance to a pool of cities;

E-learning on municipal finance (launched in May 2013) and a handbook for local governments (September 2013) and provision of technical assistance to provide to a group of municipalities

Specific issues to address: municipal finance; housing; land management; municipal funds; etc.

How do we create a learning process that is mutually beneficial to MENA cities, even going beyond the national specificities.
The Urbanization Knowledge Platform: a global platform for **knowledge exchange and solutions** on the challenges and opportunities faced by cities (municipal finance; housing; etc.) globally and in MENA (MENA page)

...including the **CMI e-Community** with additional tools: blogs (aggregating content and expertise); handbook; and live chats to create a network, a **community of practice**
Following this conference, we will summarize our debates and key takeaways, thanks to your feedback in surveys.

But we are also thinking about a publication that could focus on several highlights: international experience and relevant country stories.

Proposal of a series of follow-up workshops where we can strengthen our and community and delve into several urban issues (housing; land management; etc.).

Developing concrete tools to aggregate and visualize data (MENA cities dashboard).

Linking knowledge to operations: developing pilots in “experimental municipalities” (ex: cities for a new generation / creating an accountable environment including ICT, participatory decision-making).