

PSI Local and Regional Government Workers' Network

Steering Group Meeting - 1 June 2021

IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES

(first draft)

- Ensure adequate funding and resources for local public service (PS) infrastructures and staffing. Build and spread an alternative narrative when public finances are constrained and the pro-austerity one is presented as the only option.
- Implement effective devolution/decentralisation processes and strengthen LRGs with appropriate resources and powers.
- (Re)locate PS in local communities and territories to bring them close to users, including in rural areas.
- Defend and promote trade union rights for LRG workers and their unions, starting with the fundamental human rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining, to which many obstacles and constraints continue to exist in many countries.
- Improve working conditions and the public perception of LRG professions, promoting their attractiveness for the young, women and skilled workers.
- Continue to build and spread the narrative showcasing the link between decent working conditions in the LRG sector and quality PS.
- Organize and fight to win quality working conditions and the public recognition of the specific roles and challenges of different LRG professions, also in terms of labour status and occupational safety and health (OSH) issues.
- Ensure access and training to OSH, personal protective equipment (PPE) and Covid vaccines for frontline LRG workers, anticipating the next crisis in due course.
- Win the acknowledgement of the key role LRG infrastructures and workers can play in confronting public health emergencies and in the rollout of vaccination campaigns.
- Connect local and sectoral union priorities to global union priorities and vice versa (e.g. tax justice, vaccine TRIPS waiver, etc).
- Build dialogue and strategic alliances between LRG unions and other movements at local, regional and global level, to be stronger and win together.

