



METROPOLISES AND CITIES IN **TRANSFORMATION**

Rethinking our future together

8 / 13 NOV 2021 · GUANGZHOU CHINA

THE METROPOLITAN VISION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW URBAN AGENDA: TOWARDS NEW MODELS OF TERRITORIAL PLANNING

Tuesday 9th November, 13:00 – 14:00

The places where communities live, work, socialise and take care of each other do not end at a city's borders. With **1.8 billion people living in metropolitan spaces**, these urban spaces are uniquely positioned to bring about change and ensure wellbeing. What is more, cities are rapidly expanding and becoming more interdependent with other municipalities, their rural peripheries and regions.

Metropolisation is a reality in most of our territories, whether it is institutionalised or not. Cities are rapidly expanding and becoming more interdependent with other municipalities, their rural peripheries and regions. Traditional city boundaries are becoming less meaningful and **coordination between diverse areas and levels of government at the metropolitan level is essential** to ensure sustainability, services and infrastructure.

The New Urban Agenda was adopted by UN Member-States in Quito in 2016 and provides with a strong framework for wellbeing and planning in territories. Over five years after its adoption, **some critical challenges remain in order to achieve the goals of the New Urban Agenda**.

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The **UCLG Policy Councils** are a policy development mechanism of UCLG, led by locally elected leaders that allow for **strengthening the political debate of our World Organization and develop policy recommendations** in relation to strategic topics.

The UCLG Policy Council on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda, launched at the UCLG World Council in November 2020, aims to **look at the challenges and opportunities associated around the implementation of the New Urban Agenda**, a critical corner stone for the development agenda and for the achievement of empowered, inclusive and resilient cities and territories.

As we gear up towards the UN High-Level Meeting on the Review of the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in April 2022, **the UCLG Policy Council will meet jointly with Metropolis leaders and discuss the challenges around the metropolitan vision of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda**, including territorial planning, governance and generation equality.

The session will also lay the ground towards the formal meeting of the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments, the formal mechanism of our constituency in the follow-up of the New Urban Agenda. **Key questions for discussion:**

- **Territorial planning:** What new models of territorial planning can help ensure the provision of adequate services and infrastructure thus ensuring wellbeing for all?
- **Governance:** How can local, metropolitan and regional governments navigate this complex ecosystem?
- **Gender mainstreaming:** What policies and strategies are needed to ensure a feminist vision of metropolitan governance?
- Traditional city boundaries are becoming less meaningful and coordination between diverse areas and levels of government at the metropolitan level is essential to ensure sustainability, services and infrastructure. **How can countries move towards new models of territorial planning?**
- Metropolitan governments are seen as disruptive actors. Yet metropolisation is a reality in most of our territories, whether it is institutionalised or not. **What is the key to the success of competitive, inclusive and sustainable territories?**
- Metropolitan spaces appear when the functional systems of a particular territory exceed the administrative political limits and citizens need to travel between different administrative

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boundaries to access goods, services and infrastructure. **How can local, metropolitan and regional governments navigate this complex ecosystem?**

Key ideas

- Focus on diverse governance models to face contemporary urban challenges to achieve the New Urban Agenda

References

- <https://www.metropolis.org/news/bringing-metropolitan-governance-perspective-uclg-retreat-campus-debates>
- <https://www.metropolis.org/news/metropolises-and-their-peripheries-are-discussed-5th-uclg-world-congress>
- <https://www.metropolis.org/call-rethink-our-metropolitan-spaces>
- <https://www.uclg.org/en/agenda/metropolitan-and-peripheral-cities>
- <https://www.uclg.org/en/agenda/intermediary-cities>
- <https://www.uclg.org/en/agenda/regions-and-small-towns>
- <https://www.metropolis.org/agenda/world-forum-peripheral-cities>
- <https://www.metropolis.org/agenda/community-forum-metropolitan-and-peripheral-cities>
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▶ [The New Urban Agenda Platform](#) (*External link*)

▶ [The World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments's role in the follow-up of the New Urban Agenda](#) (*External link*)

Related UCLG departments to seek potential speakers

- <https://www.uclg.org/en/organisation/structure/committees-working-groups/peripheral-cities>
- <https://www.uclg.org/en/forum-regions>

Confirmed speakers

Moderation by: Emilia Saiz, Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments

- Carlos Martínez, Mayor of Soria (Spain), Envoy of the UCLG Presidency on the New Urban Agenda
- Ilсур Metshin, Mayor of Kazan (Russian Federation), President of UCLG-Eurasia, President of the United Nations Advisory Committee for Local Authorities (UNACLA)
- Thembisile Nkadimeng, Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs of South-Africa, Co-President of UCLG
- Zhang Wentao, Deputy Secretary General of Guangzhou Municipal Government
- Gabriel Cruz, Mayor of Huelva (Spain)
- Octavi de la Varga Mas, Secretary General, Metropolis

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