



**WEBINARS SERIE  
ON “METROPOLITAN GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA”  
IN PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN UCLG AFRICA AND METROPOLIS**

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Webinar on “Practices and Policies of Metropolitan  
Development: a critical view”**

**Thursday 9 December 2021, from 10:00am to 12:30pm  
(Local Time in Marrakech)**

Link Zoom to register to FAMI5\_2021

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinme/register/tZUlceitrz0qGNFyFz4vSLfFz2-sv4-w6ZJe>

Registration for FAMI5 Workshops, Field Visits and Cultural Excursion

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZqHJoXIOGkSQYMWehBGzrYN-t4vyPp5GovSUvq\\_kZQVUOFpJSVUwN09FU0QxNVdONDZEQ0NETjg4Ty4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZqHJoXIOGkSQYMWehBGzrYN-t4vyPp5GovSUvq_kZQVUOFpJSVUwN09FU0QxNVdONDZEQ0NETjg4Ty4u)

**I. Context:**

Nowadays, the metropolitan phenomenon is a reality of urban dynamics in large cities and metropolises. Metropolisation as a process of growth of urban areas into a larger functional urban unit is underway in several urban areas in Africa (Metropolis, 2019). This makes these areas not only places where economic issues are at stake (production of national growth) but also places where social and environmental issues are crucial (accessibility to urban services, housing, social cohesion, flooding). It is therefore on the scale of metropolitan areas that are “more diluted and more compact, more integral and discontinuous” (Ascher, 1995) that the urban phenomenon must be understood.

Some argue that the health crisis has exposed the weaknesses of urban systems. With a profound systemic impact at local, national and international levels, the Covid-19 pandemic has placed health, social, economic, climate and digital issues at the heart of national and local government concern. To overcome these constraints, the need for sustainable, inclusive and resilient metropolitan systems has never been felt as it is in this time of health crisis.

Thus, the cities and metropolises are called upon to provide responses at the right functional scale to address the challenges of socio-spatial inequalities, sustainability, resilience and urban innovation. These challenges are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda to “Build resilient infrastructure and foster innovation” (SDG9), “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable” (SDG11) and “Adopt innovative digital solutions” (SDG 17).

In their efforts to improve the living environments of citizens and governance at the scale of cities and metropolises, governments in African countries have put “ecological cities”, “sustainable cities”, “green cities” or “smart cities” projects on their urban agenda. However, it should be noted that successful experiences from around the world indicate that resilient and smart cities are built in institutional contexts of sustainable and smart urban planning focused on attractive urbanity, value-creating economy, sustainable mobility and governance at the right scale.

Many city smart projects have been given way to small-scale, bottom-up initiatives due to their costs and the use of centralised monitoring networks. To say that technology alone does not promise a better living environment or territorial equality, but it is the metropolitan strategies that emerge from collective intelligence that position cities and metropolises for territorial sustainability, social inclusion and the emergence of smart, sustainable and resilient urban ecosystems.

To move in this direction, African cities and metropolises have chosen to implement sustainable urban planning approaches and digital solutions to tax collection, cadastral digitalisation, urban planning and management, urban transport, waste management and public lighting.

It is important to capitalise on these experiences and to provide the necessary support in terms of guidance, expertise, training and sharing to communities of practice in urban resilience and urban intelligence.

Therefore, the celebration of the World Metropolitan Day was an opportunity for United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG Africa), the ALGA Academy and Metropolis to launch a cycle of three webinars on “Metropolitan governance in Africa”.

In this regard, UCLG Africa and its academy ALGA organise the 3<sup>rd</sup> webinar, part of this cycle of seminars on Thursday 09 December 2021 in Marrakech under the theme “**Practices and policies of metropolitan development: a critical view**”.

## **II. General objective:**

The webinar will be an opportunity, first, to understand the issues of sustainability, resilience and urban intelligence, second, to elucidate how they are embodied at the metropolitan scale, and third, to focus on the challenges and obstacles that African cities and metropolises face in deploying resilience strategies and innovative digital solutions.

## **III. Specific objectives:**

- Identify urban systems and challenges requiring a metropolitan approach and encourage changes in governance models on issues of inter-municipal concern.
- Embody a metropolitan approach on the process of deploying resilience strategies and implementing digital solutions.
- Build a partnership and share experiences with other cities facing similar metropolitan challenges.
- Identify good practices in the deployment of digital solutions for urban planning and management.
- Focus on experiences of social innovation in Africa.
- Promote participatory digital platforms (e-democracy, e-urban services, e-gender, e-urban mobility).
- Share feedback from pilot urban innovation initiatives in Africa and develop networks for sharing and exchange.

## **IV. Target audience:**

- Government Representatives.
- Representatives of Local and Regional Governments.
- International Organisations.
- Civil servants, especially those of African Local Governments.
- Civil Society Organisations.
- Universities, schools and research centres.
- Network of African Experts and Researchers.

## **V. Partners:**

- Metropolis

## **VI. Organizers:**

- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG Africa)
- African Local Governments Academy (ALGA).  
Websites: [www.uclga.org](http://www.uclga.org) and [www.uclgafrica-alga.org](http://www.uclgafrica-alga.org)

## **VII. Date and location:**

- Thursday 09 December 2021 from 10:00 Am to 12:30pm (Local time in Marrakech), In hybrid mode.
- Kingdom of Morocco, Marrakech, Administrative and Cultural Complex MOHAMMED VI des Habous, Bab Ighly, Meeting Room (TBC).
- Link to register to FAMI: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZqH-JoXIOGkSQYMWehBGzrYN-t4vyPp5GovSUvq\\_kZQVUOFpJSVUwN09FU0QxNVdON-DZEq0NETjg4Ty4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=ZqH-JoXIOGkSQYMWehBGzrYN-t4vyPp5GovSUvq_kZQVUOFpJSVUwN09FU0QxNVdON-DZEq0NETjg4Ty4u)
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## **VIII. Working languages:**

To consider the cultural diversity of Africa, interpretation services will be available in English, Arabic, French and Portuguese.

## IX. Case study in Africa (To be mobilized).

	Smart city	Sustainable city	Green city	Federated Networks of Resilience and Digital Solutions
African cities and metropolises	<b>Kawanda</b> (Uganda)	<b>Ecocity-Zenata</b> (Morocco)	<b>Benguerir</b> (Morocco)	ASToN ( <i>African Smart Towns Network</i> ) brings together 11 African cities to develop digital practices for sustainable and inclusive cities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Citizen participation (<b>Kigali, Benguerir and Bizerte</b>)</li> <li>• Tax collection (<b>Dakar, Kumasi, Matola and Bamako</b>)</li> <li>• Urban mobility (<b>Lagos, Niamey and Kampala</b>)</li> <li>• Territory management (<b>Sèmè-Kpodji and Nouakchott</b>)</li> <li>• Electronic positioning at <b>Nairobi and Irembo-Kigali</b></li> </ul> <a href="https://aston-network.org/fr/">https://aston-network.org/fr/</a>
	<b>Konza City</b> Nairobi (Kenya)	<b>Cape Town</b> Mapping the water network to save water		
	<b>Tanger tech</b> (Morocco)	<b>Addis Ababa</b> (Ethiopia) Reforestation of surrounding mountains	<b>Kigali</b> (Rwanda)	
	<b>Cape Town</b> (South Africa)			SmartAfrica: Smart and sustainable cities: a plan for Africa <a href="https://smartafrica.org/">https://smartafrica.org/</a>
	<b>Waterval City</b> Johannesburg (South Africa)	<b>Casablanca</b> (Morocco) Urban agriculture project		DO4Africa / Digital Observer 4 Africa is an initiative of Tactis and SmartAfrica to contribute to digital innovation in Africa. It aims to give more visibility to digital projects and to promote a community of innovation. <a href="https://www.do4africa.org/">https://www.do4africa.org/</a>
	<b>Akon</b> (Senegal)	<b>Dar es Salaam</b> (Tanzania) Traditional Swahili buildings		Resilient Cities Network The Resilient Cities network consists of cities that are committed to build and invest in urban resilience across five geographic regions: Africa, Asia- Pacific, Europe and the Middle East and North America. <a href="https://resilientcitiesnetwork.org/">https://resilientcitiesnetwork.org/</a>
	<b>Centenary city</b> (Nigeria)	<b>Tunis</b> (Tunisia) Improvement of its public transport network		Making Cities Resilient (MCR) MCR 2030 is a unique cross-cutting initiative that aims to improve local resilience, through awareness-raising activities, sharing of knowledge and experience, building synergistic city-to-city learning networks. <a href="https://mcr2030.undrr.org/">https://mcr2030.undrr.org/</a>
	<b>New capital</b> (Egypt)	<b>Cape Town</b> (South Africa) Reduction of waste production		
	<b>HOPE city, Accra</b> (Ghana)			

Source: information gathered and formatted by ourselves from existing data, MK, 2021