World Metropolitan Day 7 October 2021

RESILIENCE FOR ALL: CREATING CARING METROPOLISES BEYOND COVID-19





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The World Metropolitan Day is the leading global campaign promoting collective action to build more equitable, resilient and prosperous metropolises

Join **Metropolis** and **UN-Habitat** for a series of virtual debates and activities during the first week of October to promote the ideation and exchange of solutions to create more caring and resilient metropolitan spaces.

In this edition, the World Metropolitan Day theme will be **Resilience for all: creating caring metropolises beyond COVID-19**. A year after the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, metropolitan challenges and inequalities are on the rise. The health and social crisis has highlighted the importance of creating a caring society that places people's needs at the heart of decision-making and reflects the diversity of our metropolitan spaces. Building resilience is key to creating thriving communities.

The <u>World Metropolitan Day</u> is a call to action. Urban communities, particularly vulnerable groups, lack access to adequate housing, public and green spaces, services and infrastructure. Better access to urban spaces and services is key for creating equitable and healthier urban communities that provide opportunities for all whilst ensuring physical and mental wellbeing. Metropolitan spaces are uniquely positioned to bring about change and ensure prosperity and sustainability. Yet metropolises face unprecedented challenges, such as responding to the urgent needs of the population whilst planning for medium and long-term measures to mitigate the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis, the climate emergency, the weakening of democracy, gender disparities and spatial segregation, among others.

At a time when capacity within local and metropolitan governments is under stress and there are reduced means for service delivery, governance and innovation hold the key to unlocking the full potential of our metropolitan spaces. To move towards a more equitable society, local and metropolitan governments need to ensure that spaces and services place a greater emphasis on the people who use them. Changing the ways we deliver public services can ensure good living conditions for all and support the implementation of the SDGs, thus creating resilience to future shocks.

Metropolis and UN-Habitat invite local, regional and metropolitan governments, private companies, academic institutions, civil society, international organisations, city networks, urban leaders and experts worldwide to join the movement by organising events and promoting ideas that create resilience and advance social justice in all our metropolitan spaces.

JOINT METROPOLIS & UN-HABITAT EVENT

CARING METROPOLISES: FRAMING RECOVERY FOR ALL 7 OCT 2021 | 15:00-16:30 CET

The <u>World Metropolitan Day 2021</u> leading event co-organised by Metropolis and UN-Habitat will take place on 7 October.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold and social concerns are on the rise, cities and metropolitan governments are taking the first steps towards recovery. Today, the world has an opportunity to recover from the pandemic in a way that boosts Sustainable Development Goals, promotes gender equality and increases human and planetary health at the metropolitan level.

As metropolisation expands, cities are becoming increasingly interdependent with their surrounding regions and rural peripheries. The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that health, social and climate emergencies transcend municipal boundaries. Actions to build adaptability and prosperity can only arise when cities reframe their challenges and opportunities to reflect the dynamics of their entire territorial ecosystems. This broader vision that connects different communities and territories and is based on cooperation, solidarity and collective action is key to ensure resilience and create more just, green and healthy metropolises.

This interactive exchange, organised around two panel discussions, invites metropolitan leaders to discuss:

Panel 1: Creating caring metropolises

- What are the key lessons learned from the pandemic to implement in global agendas?
- How can metropolises overcome sustainability challenges by creating more caring spaces and policies?
- What is the role of care and equity in improving metropolitan governance and achieving sustainability?

Panel 2: Framing recovery for all

• What are the key lessons learned from the pandemic to implement in global agendas?

- What are the social, economic and environmental transformations in which metropolises should focus to become more resilient territories?
- How are recovery strategies building resilience to future shocks?

Register here: <u>https://metropolis-org.zoom.us/webinar/</u> register/WN_TG7X-dycRuOObP11RPHuqA

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