

## Care economy for a fairer social contract

Thursday, 26 October 16:00-17:00 (UTC+2)

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**Care is essential for well-being and social development, but it is often undervalued and underpaid.** Around the world, care needs are increasing due to ageing populations, new family patterns away from community-based care and multiple crises that affect health, economy and environment. Women and girls bear the brunt of care work, spending at least 3 times more unpaid care work than men on unpaid domestic and care tasks. This limits their opportunities for education, economic independence and empowerment, and reinforces gender inequality and poverty. It also deprives communities of women's potential.

The care economy refers to the economic value of the care activities that make everyday life possible. **Despite women's global contribution to care being worth \$11 trillion, care work is not recognised as part of the economic activity** or gross domestic product. Care work is vital for economies and societies. Some metropolises are leading the way in implementing policies that promote decent work, gender equality, social cohesion and sustainable development. For instance, Córdoba is developing the programme EcoFem to promote women's economic autonomy and work-life balance and Taipei has just opened the first nursery centre for government employees.

As part of the International Day of Care and Support, this event aims to highlight the importance of care and the need to place it at the heart of the economy and public policies. Join us in exploring new avenues for action and bringing together diverse voices in a conversation that can make a real difference in the lives of people around the globe.

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## Placing care work at the centre of city policies

**16:00 | Welcome Address**

**16:05 | Keynote** by Silvia Llorente, Policy Officer, **Metropolis**

**16:15 | Peer-to-peer: Bridging are economic gaps**

Moderated by Yara Tarabulsi, Outreach and Advocacy Officer, **Global Alliance for Care**

*During this debate, the participating governments will highlight the employment policies they are implementing in their territories to promote more co-responsible economic models. Additionally, we will explore the public services vital for ensuring access to care for those who require it and safeguarding the rights of those who provide it.*

- Ms. Lara Jedwabny, International affairs analyst at the Secretary for Gender Equality and Institutional Affairs. **Buenos Aires City Government**
- Mr. Darlington Mushongera, Senior Research. **Gauteng City-Region Observatory**
- Mr. Davide Malmusi. Head of Health Services. **Barcelona City Government**

**16:45 | Q&A**

**17:00 | Wrap-up**

## Objectives

- Promoting gender equality and social inclusion in the care economy.
- Strengthening the well-being and professional development of caregivers, recognising women as economic agents and care work as essential to the well-being of society.
- Sharing good practices on the care economy to promote decent work, gender equality, resilient economies and the planet.