

METROPOLIS

ACTIVITIES REPORT
AUGUST-DECEMBER 2014

30
YEARS
metropolis ●

1. 2015-2017 ACTION PLAN

The METROPOLIS members who met at the General Assembly also approved the new 2015-17 Action Plan, which will be the Association's framework of action for the three-year term.

2. NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS - Statutory Meetings | 8 October 2014

The Board of Directors met again, its mandate ending at the end of the meeting.

When the Board meeting ended, the Extraordinary General Assembly was held and the statutes that were modified in July 2014 were approved.

A new Board of Directors was voted in by the Ordinary General Assembly of Members. Features of the new Board include its new structuring into Joint Chairs and Regional Vice Chairs and the ex officio incorporation of the President of the METROPOLIS Women International Network as a Board member.

See new composition of the 2015-17 Board of Directors [here](#).

3. 11TH METROPOLIS WORLD CONGRESS – HYDERABAD, 7-10 October 2014

The 11th METROPOLIS World Congress, held in Hyderabad, ended in great success on 10 October 2014 after having drawn close to 1,800 participants from different cities around the world. See Congress in Numbers [here](#).

For five days, the theme [Cities for All](#) inundated the subjects of the 60 sessions held. Experts and political representatives acted as spokespeople for their respective cities to make the meetings a debate for the exchange of knowledge and to explain their experiences to the delegates present. The delegates could also choose from among [9 on-the-ground visits](#) in one of India's most vibrant cities, Hyderabad.

See Congress photos [here](#).



Taking advantage of the 11th Metropolis World Congress and the recently established State of Telangana, the city of Hyderabad was the first to run a [hackathon](#) in India. The outcome was a resounding success: 390 registered teams and 80 projects delivered on 15 thematic areas.

In this regard, on the occasion of the Association's world meeting and making the most of the attendance of international delegates, 90 artists from different artistic disciplines came together for 15 days to produce a unique art collection presented by the most prestigious artists from the State of Telangana. They all joined forces to form [Art@Telangana](#). The result can be seen at the website: <http://www.artattelangana.org/>.

7 October was the key day of the Congress and featured the Opening Ceremony and the political Plenary Session on the event's general theme, *Cities for All*.

The Opening Ceremony featured the presence of India's Urban Development Minister, Mr. Venkaiah Naidu; the Honorable First Chief Minister of the State of Telangana, Mr. Sri K Chandrasekhar Rao; the Governor of the State of Telangana, Mr. ESL Narasimhan; the First Chief Secretary, Dr. Rajiv Sharma IAS; METROPOLIS President, Jean-Paul Huchon; and Hyderabad City Commissioner, Somesh Kumar.

For its part, METROPOLIS drew a great many of its members and shared with them the different internal sessions concerning the Association's activities, where its members took center stage.

More information on the Congress and its outcomes at: <http://hyderabad2014.metropolis.org/>

4. PROGRESS IN THE PREPARATION OF “LIVE THE CITY”, THE METROPOLIS ANNUAL MEETING IN BUENOS AIRES 2015

The organization of *Live the City*, the 2015 Metropolis Annual Meeting in Buenos Aires, has made significant progress in various themes following the visit of the METROPOLIS Secretariat General delegation to Buenos Aires at the end of May.

The matters agreed on are listed below:

- Definitive dates: **18 to 21 May 2015**
- A specific communication element has been drafted: ***Recuerde la fecha / Save the Date / Réservez la date***, which will be used in mass mailings and which has also been printed in English and Spanish to distribute in different events in which METROPLIS has participated (Smart City World Expo & Congress, UCLG World Council meeting in Haikou) and those in which it will participate.



- A **Concept Note** for the event has been agreed on. This is the core document describing the spirit and content of the Annual Meeting and which will be published on the website and emailed to members.

- The event webpage has been defined: buenosaires2015.metropolis.org. It will be enabled on the METROPOLIS site in December.
- The initial program structure has been adapted and there is now a **Program Proposal** agreed on by all parties and which will be used as a reference for the next METROPOLIS Secretariat General preparatory visit to Buenos Aires, from 7 to 9 January 2015.

5. 5th METROPOLIS Awards “Seeking Better Quality of Life for the World’s Metropolises” | METROPOLIS 30th Anniversary | 8 October 2014

Following on from the 2011 Awards (Porto Alegre), the 5th METROPOLIS Awards were a great success, with 33 cities taking part and 44 projects sent to the Secretariat-General.

The panel of judges, which this year especially considered projects that integrated questions of gender and young people, the elderly and the handicapped, was comprised of representatives from the following cities:

- Eugène Zapata – Mexico City; Councilor for International Affairs, Mexico City Council
- Azza Sirry – Cairo; Professor of Urban Planning and Architecture, Director of the Urban Training Institute at Egypt’s Housing and Building National Research Institute, and Director of the MITI Regional Center for Africa and the Middle East
- Marina Klemensiewicz – Buenos Aires; Secretary of Habitat and Inclusion, Ministry of Economic Development, Buenos Areas City Government
- Samake Hawa Diakit  – Bamako; Councilor for the Bamako District and Regional President of the METROPOLIS Women International Network
- Somesh Kumar – Hyderabad; City Commissioner

Following their deliberation on 10 September, the panel gave the METROPOLIS 2014 Awards to:

See winning projects in detail [here](#).

1st Prize – Busan: “Sanbokdoro Renaissance Project”

2nd Prize – Rio de Janeiro: “Porto Maravilha Urban Operation”

3rd Prize – Abidjan: “Modern Plant for Cassava Processing in the Abidjan Municipal District”

Special Mention – Seoul: “Sharing City”

Special Mention – Madrid: “Madrid River”

The awards were presented by the Mayor of Hyderabad, Mohamed Majid Hussain; Hyderabad City Commissioner, Somesh Kumar; METROPOLIS President, Jean-Paul Huchon; the Mayor of Barcelona, Xavier Trias; and the Mayor of Johannesburg, Parks Mpho Tau.

The award given is a sculpture made by renowned Catalan sculptor Ricard Vaccaro, and it has been inspired by the initial letter "M" of METROPOLIS.



All of the cities that entered the 5th METROPOLIS Awards were presented with a participation diploma, awarded by Francina Vila, president of the METROPOLIS Women International Network, Antonio Balmón, Vice President of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area, and Michael Abraham, representing the Mayor of Berlin, Michael Müller. The projects are all available on the METROPOLIS website.

6. METROPOLIS MEMBERS

Four new members formally joined METROPOLIS in Hyderabad: Bhopal, Faisalabad, Changchun and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC); while four more formally left: Melbourne, Omsk and Tel Aviv.

METROPOLIS Members

METROPOLIS currently has 139 members.

2014 fees situation

At 1st December 2014, 73 members had paid their fees, for a total amount of €576.660.

All members who wish to take part in the METROPOLIS General Assembly must be up to date with the payment of their 2013-2014 fees

7. New METROPOLIS Initiatives | 2015-17 Period

After their launch in 2011, the second METROPOLIS Initiatives were addressed when the panel of jurors met in Hyderabad. The panel, at the request of the coordinators who met in Johannesburg in July 2013, was expanded to include independent experts and academics in city management

The Panel of Jurors

Chair: Prof. Om Prakash Mathur, HDFC Chair of Housing and Urban Economics, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA), New Delhi
The METROPOLIS Regional Secretaries (Emile Danho, Abidjan); Barbara Berninger (Berlin); Rovena Negreiros (representing Mr. Edson Aparecido (State of Sao Paulo); Eugène Zapata (Mexico City) and Secretary-General (Alain Le Saux).

Experts and academics:

- Mary Lewin, former International Affairs Director at the Melbourne Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure (DTPLI)
- Prof. Azza Sirry Sadek, Professor of Urban Planning and Architecture at Egypt's Housing and Building National Research Center and director of the MITI Regional Center for Africa and the Middle East
- León Aceves, Director-General of the School of Public Administration of the Federal District of Mexico (EAPDF)
- Xavier Tiana, Head of International Relations for the Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB) and former Head of the European Cooperation Office of the Provincial Government of Barcelona
- Prof. Yao Yi, Associate Professor of the Guangzhou Academy of Social Sciences

The 13 new approved Initiatives were:

See the new METROPOLIS Initiatives in detail [here](#).

- 1 Barcelona Metropolitan Area: Climate-Metropole
- 2 IAU-Ile-de-France: Sustainable Airport Areas
- 3 Buenos Aires: Social Habitat Management
- 4 Kreanta Foundation: Creative Cities
- 5 Berlin: Integrated Urban Governance – Web-based Knowledge Exchange and Transfer
- 6 Barcelona: Using Sports to Promote the Social Cohesion and Inclusion of Young People
- 7 Agra: Piloting Digital Technologies
- 8 Buenos Aires: Green Economy Center
- 9 Bogota: Water and Cities Alliance
- 10 State of São Paulo: Capacity Building and Structuring of Financial Alternatives for Urban and Metropolitan Development Projects in Latin America and the Caribbean
- 11 Johannesburg: Caring Cities
- 12 Mexico City: Playful City
- 13 Cibernàrium – Barcelona Activa: Technology Training Center

Official Launch of the Integrated Urban Governance Database | City of Berlin and METROPOLIS Initiatives

As part of its “Integrated Urban Governance” Initiative, Berlin took the opportunity at the 11th METROPOLIS World Congress to launch a new platform which is accessible online and devoted to knowledge exchange and the creation of networks. The platform can be consulted here:

<http://policytransfer.metropolis.org/>

The purpose of the platform is to build a world community of knowledge concerning the challenges that major cities and metropolises face. As such, Berlin aims to develop an innovative tool that will become a recognized global source of inspiration and exchange and to foster METROPOLIS’s role as a key provider of urban knowledge.

8. METROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (MITI)

8.1. Mexico City Invites METROPOLIS Members to a Seminar on Public Policies to Tackle Childhood Obesity and Overweight

The Federal District’s School of Public Administration ([EAPDF](#)), the Regional Centre for the Americas of the METROPOLIS International Training Institute (MITI), invited METROPOLIS members to take part in its seminar, held from 26 to 28 November, which focused on the issue of Public Policies Against Childhood Obesity and Overweight.

Seminar activities included keynote speeches, workshop sessions and technical visits.

[Click here for the complete seminar program.](#)



8.2. The City of Cairo Invites METROPOLIS Members to an International Experience Exchange Workshop on Integrating Different Scales of Planning in Sustainable Development Projects.

Egypt's [Housing and Building Research Centre \(HBRC\)](#), the regional centre for Africa of the [METROPOLIS International Training Institute \(MITI\)](#), invited METROPOLIS members and stakeholders to take part in the workshop it ran in Cairo between 15 and 18 December 2014, which focused on different scales of planning in sustainable development projects.

Cities are increasingly complex, presenting multi-scale nodes, complicated road networks and communities with a great variety of needs. It is necessary to question cities' abilities to adapt and respond adequately to the speed of this growth. Challenges, needs and potentials differ according to the way the situation is focused from the perspective of the metropolis, region, city or from the local scale. Through the workshop modules, professors of international renown presented case studies of various cities with the goal of showing the way the challenges are being tackled at each level. Special attention was given to the structural transformation of cities which bring the different urban fabrics into line with different levels of development, and showed ways to combine road networks with service nodes, on the one hand, and the way to balance environmental considerations with the demands of development and connectivity, on the other. [Click here for the detailed workshop program](#)

Website: <http://www.metropolis.org/training-institute>



9. METROPOLIS Women International Network

In these past few months, the METROPOLIS Women International Network has taken part in the following activities:

- 1) **The METROPOLIS World Congress held in Hyderabad from 6 to 10 October**, carrying out two activities, one open and one closed. The open one was a presentation of the METROPOLIS Women International Network, and the closed one was a meeting convened by the Network's President Francina Vila, to which the Network's antennae were invited.

Internal Network Meeting

The internal meeting of the Women's Network, which drew eight of its 15 antennae, chose to address the Network's future and its role within METROPOLIS, focusing on reviewing the internal organizational structure and defining the thematic areas on which it should focus.

A proposal was made to draft a work plan for the coming years together with all the antennae which, apart from defining issues in accordance with the global gender and cities agenda, makes it possible to see a single discourse agreed on by the Network with regard to the issues that METROPOLIS addresses.

The session featured representatives from the antennae of Abidjan, Antananarivo, Barcelona, Brussels, Dakar, Mashhad, Santiago de Chile and Seoul.

Open meeting for delegates

International delegates and local Congress attendees from Hyderabad and India attended the open session presenting the METROPOLIS Women International Network. The session was structured into two blocks: an introduction to the Network which President Francina Vila used to explain its main functions and latest activities, and another block during which Dr. Debjani Ghosh, from India's National Institute of Urban Affairs, gave a conference entitled "Challenges for Future Networking: A Common Agenda for the Achievement of Women's Rights". The speech focused on four main areas: women in local government, women in politics and urban planning, empowerment and its challenges, and the main concerns for the future.

The next meeting of the METROPOLIS Women International Network will take place in 2015 when Santiago de Chile hosts the Network's 4th World Forum. Dates are still to be confirmed.

- 2) On **7 November** last, two people responsible for coordinating the METROPOLIS Women International Network attended the presentation of the publication ***ESPACIOS PARA LA VIDA COTIDIANA. Auditoria de calidad urbana con perspectiva de género*** (SPACES FOR EVERYDAY LIFE. An Audit of Urban Quality with a Gender Perspective)

The publication forms part of the development cooperation project **Gender Audit in the Field of Urban Planning** (2013-2014).

3) Award ceremony of the 9th Prize on 25 November, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

On **25 November**, the coordinator of the METROPOLIS Women International Network attended the award ceremony organised by Barcelona City Council. During the ceremony, the **Citizens' Agreement for a Barcelona Free of Violence against Women** was ratified.

Furthermore, the coordinator of the METROPOLIS Women International Network, with the support of its President, has begun to make a series of contacts via Skype with each and every one of the antennae to get their impressions of the Women's Network activities at the METROPOLIS World Congress in Hyderabad, and to start working on the content of the METROPOLIS Action Plan in a participatory manner. At the same time, we are encouraging the antennae to design projects for two or three cities to carry out jointly. We are also preparing the next meeting of antennae, which is being held in New York in March 2015 in the context of CSW59, as well as the METROPOLIS Women International Network's participation in the **"The Americas are Female"** conference organised by Casa América, Barcelona Provincial Council and Barcelona Metropolitan Area, which is being held from **27 to 29 January 2015**.

It should also be noted that, in this past quarter, the President and the coordinator of the METROPOLIS Women International Network have held meetings with representatives visiting us on behalf of their cities, which are interested in joining the Network (Chengdu), and with representatives of organisations like Baix Llobregat County Council to seek synergies with local governments and associations for the future in order to strengthen the Barcelona antenna.

10. Official launch of the VOICE of MAYORS | 8 October 2014

The 11th METROPOLIS World Congress was the stage for publicly launching the Voice of Mayors and to invite more members to join the project – a historic collection of first-hand written testimony from mayors or their equivalents from the world's major cities. With initial contributions from 20 political representatives of 16 cities, a first printed edition of the publications was produced in Hyderabad.

The following parties were present at the General Assembly to receive the first edition of their testimonies: President of the Barcelona Metropolitan Area, Antonio Balmón; President of the

Ile-de-France Regional Council (Paris) and METROPOLIS President, Jean Paul Huchon; Johannesburg Mayor, Mpho Parks Tau; Barcelona Mayor, Xavier Trias; Mashhad Mayor, Solat Mortazavi; and MP for the Brussels-Capital Region, Jean Luc Vanraes. Berlin, Buenos Aires, Chengdu, Guangzhou, Guarulhos, Istanbul, Mexico City, Rosario and Seoul, whose mayors or their equivalents also contributed to the initial project phase, sent representatives to the Congress as well.

Another activity of the Voice of Mayors project, held in the afternoon of 8 October before the General Assembly, was the informal meeting during which the political representatives of METROPOLIS member cities present at the Congress were invited to express their views on the Association's role in the current global urban context and the renewal of its political momentum.

11. Official launch of METROPOLIS Youth | 6 October 2014

The session "Empowering Youth to Build Tomorrow's Major Cities", which took place on 6 October, was used for the public launch of METROPOLIS Youth. The session was an intergenerational meeting of people from different parts of the world. It involved the presentation of the youth cooperation model drafted by Mashhad, the Iranian city which leads METROPOLIS Youth and which works in close collaboration with a group of young consultants who provide new ideas on city administration. It was also a vibrant session, with the active participation of the public, and brought together citizens and experts of all ages. With postcards illustrated by young Mashhad artists showing questions on various aspects of city life, the participants took to the stage to share their ideas on how to promote better cities for future generations. The occasion was also a great opportunity for the onsite collection of information for the questionnaire on youth participation among METROPOLIS member cities (also available online at <http://goo.gl/a1zXYS>).

More information on METROPOLIS Youth at <http://www.metropolis.org/en/jovenes>

12. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

12.1 WHO Meeting, Geneva, 14-15 August

This meeting was organised by the WHO Kobe Centre, Japan, which is responsible for urban health issues. The aim of it was to define the guidelines of a joint report project by the OMS and UN-Habitat entitled *Hidden Cities*.

The Secretary General of METROPOLIS is a member of the Committee. He insisted on the need to agree on paying particular attention to decentralising health policies and to transferring human and financial resources so that such policies could be implemented for the benefit of the population.

12.2 Global Task Force, 15-18 September

The Secretary General took part in the Preparatory Committee 1 meeting for the Habitat III conference. The meeting was held in New York from 15 to 18 September.

The Mayor of Berlin, Michel Müller, represented METROPOLIS at the special meeting on local and regional governments and was the spokesperson for our network. He was accompanied by the Regional Secretary Europe, Barbara Berninger.

At the Preparatory Committee's plenary session, the Secretary General intervened on behalf of the Global Task Force to present the recommendations made by local authorities.

12.3 Addis Ababa hosts the Cities Alliance Annual Meeting

Between last November 5th and 7th, the [Cities Alliance](#) convened its Annual Meeting, hosted by the city of [Addis Ababa](#). METROPOLIS, as a founding member of the Cities Alliance, joined the event, during which members discussed the governance and work plan of the organization for the year to come, and also had opportunities to learn on the ground about the boosting development of the Ethiopian capital. In addition, for METROPOLIS, the meeting was a special occasion to confirm the support given from Cities Alliance to the project [Voice of the Mayors](#).

12.4 13th International Congress of Educating Cities. Barcelona 13-16/11

The Autonomous City of **Buenos Aires**, which has an antenna of the **METROPOLIS** Women International Network, is an active member of that network. The City Government's Secretariat of Habitat and Inclusion promotes all kinds of policies that contemplate the incorporation of gender mainstreaming into projects to foster sustainable urban development through universal and social design and, therefore, to build inclusive cities. It presented this knowledge and experience in the form of a project at the **13th International Congress of Educating Cities 2014**, which was held in Barcelona from 13 to 16 November. From 600 projects, "**Women in Everyday Urban Planning**" was selected as one of the best and was presented at the round table held on Friday 14 November, which had the name of the project as its title. The initiative, which is currently being implemented in seven neighbourhoods in the City of Buenos Aires, is part of the Women and Habitat programme, the aim of which is to empower women as agents who facilitate the physical and social transformation of the habitat of their respective communities. The idea of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires is to carry on disseminating these best practices and to take advantage of contexts like the METROPOLIS Annual Meeting, which is being held in that city in May 2015, to extend them to as many METROPOLIS member cities as possible. Moreover, Buenos Aires has already begun working with Brussels, Seoul and Barcelona on a document about cities and women to increase gender

mainstreaming in the METROPOLIS Work Plan. Members of the Secretariat General attended the opening and closing events as well as several sessions of the congress.

12.5 New Challenges in Mobility of People and the Role of Cities: Process Management

As a founding member of [CIPC](#) (International Centre for the Prevention of Crime), METROPOLIS was in Palermo from 17 to 19 November, where the [11th International Colloquium](#) was held. A number of member cities, including [Barcelona](#), [Brussels](#), [Madrid](#) and [Montreal](#) attended this international event, which focused on crime prevention in a world on the move.

People's increasing mobility is a phenomenon that is growing around the world. Although migration has always existed, **cities, the main destination, find they need to tackle new challenges** in the management and governance of urban spaces, rethinking them from a comprehensive perspective.

To combat the myths that surround the arrival of immigrants to our cities, [Barcelona](#) outlined, by way of example, the Anti-Rumor strategy (<http://www.bcnantirumors.cat/>) it implemented four years ago in conjunction with other organizations and associations.

[Brussels](#) presented its prevention and safety policies, emphasizing the need for cities to harmonize sanctions for crimes committed, particularly within the same country.

Another member city present at the colloquium was [Montreal](#). The city councilor responsible for safety, who is also the councilor from the most conflictive neighborhood, Villeray-Saint-Michel-Parc-Extension, presented the actions undertaken in recent years to make the district less stigmatized.

The city of [Madrid](#) was also present at the colloquium, with a representative from the municipal police.

12.6 Smart City Expo World Congress 2014

For the fourth consecutive year, the Smart City Expo World Congress was held in Barcelona from 18 to 20 November 2014.

Metropolis once again had an active presence through a stand at the Expo and in the Congress's programme of sessions. Francis Pisani moderated the "Fostering Social Development" session and Sunil Dubey moderated the "Liveable Equitable Cities" session. Both moderators participated on behalf of Metropolis.

Furthermore, several contacts were made and activities carried out, mainly through the stand:

- Meeting with Gabriella Gómez-Mont, Director of Mexico City's Laboratorio para la Ciudad (City Lab), for the launch a new Initiative called "Playful City".
- Meeting with Paul Todd, the Green Flag Award Scheme Manager, for the presentation of a project and potential collaboration channels.
- Meeting with the architect and urban planner Alain Renk, who presented a citizen participation methodology, to explore potential ways of applying it at the Buenos Aires Meeting 2015.

- Meeting with Borja Iglesias, CEO at Network for Strengthening the Informal City, to explore potential collaboration channels.
- Promotion of the Metropolis Annual Meeting 2015, which is being held in Buenos Aires.
- Promotion of the Integrated Urban Governance platform launched by Berlin.
- Contact with Kampala, Panama and Mumbai cities, who expressed an interest in becoming members of the association.

12.7 Major cities contribute with the UCLG in implementing the Urban Agenda of 2016.

METROPOLIS represented the major cities and regions of the world on the World Council and the Executive Board of [United Cities and Local Governments \(UCLG\)](#) held in Haikou, China, from 23rd to 26th of November 2014.

Following the decisions approved by the World Council, the UCLG Secretary General Josep Roig will continue his duties until 2017 and has designed a new plan of action for the next three years. The signing of a strategic partnership with the European Union will strengthen the position of the UCLG as the representative of local authorities. It will also develop, jointly with its sections, the exchange of experiences and decentralised cooperation, especially in the field of training, thanks to the [Metropolis International Training Institute \(MITI\)](#) that will extend its activity with the creation of a sixth regional training centre in New Delhi. As part of a strategy to strengthen the voice of local authorities in the preparation of the General Assembly of the United Nations on habitat and sustainable urban development, Habitat III 2016, the Secretary-General Alain Le Saux has called the mayors of large cities in this forum to take part in the project “[Voice of the Mayors](#)” started by METROPOLIS a few months ago, which compiles unique testimonials of mayors of cities with over one million inhabitants and representatives of metropolitan areas. Twenty mayors have already contributed to the project, honouring us with their testimonials about urban projects which are particularly important to them. All major metropolises are invited to join this ambitious project, and make the voice of cities and regions heard in the international community.

METROPOLIS joins the Task Force initiated by [Cités Unies France \(CUF\)](#) on disaster management and, as such, will participate in the meeting in Geneva in December. Co-President of Metropolis and Mayor of Canton, Chen Jianhua, along with other representatives of member cities (Barcelona, Île-de-France, Istanbul, Montreal, Chengdu, Mashhad, Tehran, Victoria, Durban and Nouakchott) were also present.

The General Secretary of METROPOLIS, along with the other sections, has committed to participate in a strategic retreat organised by the UCLG in February in Barcelona in order to implement the new action plan of the UCLG and prepare the Urban Agenda of 2016. METROPOLIS and the UCLG community will both sit together at the next Executive Board in July 2015 in Porto Alegre during the COP21 and the UCLG World Council, held in Paris in December 2015.

Haikou, Capital of Hainan Province, with a population of 2.171.100 inhabitants, is one of the most active Chinese members of METROPOLIS. As an economic, cultural, educational and

scientific hub, Haikou is also distinguished by its favourable ecological and geological environment, making it a national benchmark for tourism. It is also one of the Chinese centres of emerging industries such as renewable energy and biotechnology. HAIKOU is an active member of METROPOLIS, UCLG and Asian Mayors Forum.

12.8 METROPOLIS successfully accompanied the 2nd edition of the Guangzhou Award 2014 "My City my Dream"

"This is about changing people's life, this is far better than an Oscar"
George Ferguson, Mayor of Bristol

The second edition of the Guangzhou Award was held in Guangzhou Baiyun International Convention Center on November 28th and received the applications of 250 urban projects from 177 cities and 59 countries. Over 100 mayors and deputy mayors attended the ceremony with over 600 participants.

The final winners of the 2014 Guangzhou Award are the following:

DAKAR, Senegal: Dakar Municipal Finance Program

HANGZHOU, China: Public Bike Sharing System

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand: Transitional City Program for our ever evolving city

ANTIOQUIA, Colombia: Educational Parks for All

BRISTOL, UK: Smart City Bristol

Among the 15 short listed Initiatives of this second edition of the Guangzhou Awards, 5 are active member cities of METROPOLIS.

- . BUENOS AIRES, Argentina
- . DAKAR, Senegal
- . GWANGJU, Korea
- . HANGZHOU, China
- . RIO DE JANEIRO, Brasil

The concept of the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation is derived from the city's long term cooperation international organizations of local governments. Co-hosted by Guangzhou Municipal Government, METROPOLIS and UCLG, the Guangzhou Award aims at rewarding innovations to improve the socio-economic environments in cities and regions, promote sustainability, and hence advance the livelihood of their citizens.

Under the slogan " My City my Dream" and the principles of transparency, fairness, independence and non-profitness, the Guangzhou Award contributes to the progress of city performances by promoting innovations in the public sector and presenting platform for cities and regions around the world to share and disseminate their achievements.

For comprehensive information on the Guangzhou Award please visit:
www.guangzhouaward.org

For more information on the Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation please visit :
www.urban-innovations.org

Guangzhou is the capital of Gungdong Province and one of the five national-level central cities in China as well as a communication transportation hub and traffic port of South China. In

October 2014 Guangzhou was elected as the first Co-President of METROPOLIS as well as the host city of METROPOLIS Asia Pacific Regional Office

In this framework, Secretary General Alain Le Saux also met with the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC). CPAFFC is a nongovernment organization in general consultative status at UN Ecosoc, which aims at actively participating in international cooperation on behalf of Chinese local governments. During the "Top Talk on Global Cities, Friendship Cities and Urban Innovation" plenary session, held on November 28, Mayor of Guangzhou M.Chen Jianhua stressed the importance of the sister cities agreements lead by CPAFFC in fostering the tradition of friendship between Chinese and foreign cities.

In this regards both organizations confirmed their willingness to strengthen their relationship and contribute to more exchanges between METROPOLIS Chinese cities members, Chinese cities non members of METROPOLIS and the metropolises worldwide.

12.9 Local/urban indicators to address disaster resilience under the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

In preparation for the implementation of the Post-2015 Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) organised a technical workshop with partners and various stakeholders in Geneva on 2 and 3 December, which kicked off the process for developing local indicators to support implementation of the Framework.

The workshop also served as an opportunity to support three recently launched initiatives, namely, the Medellin Collaboration, the Resilient Cities Acceleration Initiative and the Compact of Mayors, which set out the intention to establish a common data standard for reporting on local climate hazards and risks, and may result in the creation of new standards or the revision and refinement of existing protocols, i.e., the Ten Essentials, the Local Government Self-Assessment Tool and the UNISDR City Disaster Resilience Scorecard, among others.

During the event, to which METROPOLIS was invited, there was insistence on the need to make sure that the evaluation tools were well suited to the level of knowledge of those using them because they were sometimes too complicated, thus preventing them from being used properly, especially in the context of local governments. The possibility of unifying the various partners' existing tools was also discussed, but the conclusion reached was that if there were so many tools, it was because there were many different reasons for using them.

The next step is to submit an indicator project drawn up by the expert group, of which METROPOLIS forms part, in Sendai in March 2015, at the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction. The full technical note of the workshop can be found [here](#).

13. VISITS TO THE METROPOLIS SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

13.1 Delegation of Guarulhos visit

Seizing a visit to Barcelona because of the [13th International Congress of Educating Cities](#), a delegation from Guarulhos visited the office of the METROPOLIS Secretariat General on the morning of Friday, November 14, with the intention to increase the participation of the city in our association. For now, the mayor of Guarulhos, Sebastião Almeida, has already contributed to the project Voice of the Mayors, but the city also demonstrated interest to get involved, for example, in the work carried out by METROPOLIS Women and the new METROPOLIS Initiative on sustainable airport areas. The visit counted on the presence of Maria Helena Gonçalves, Coordinator of Women's Policies, Professor Moacir de Souza, Secretary of Education, and Fernando Santomauro, Coordinator of International Relations.

13.2 The Global Learning Team from Seoul visit

A delegation from [MITI](#) in [Seoul](#), led by Mr. Young-gyu Kang, Head of the Global Learning Team, visited the METROPOLIS Secretariat General on 24 November. The purpose of the meeting was to find synergies between MITI's training proposals for 2015 and the activities to be developed both by the new [METROPOLIS Initiatives](#) and the [METROPOLIS Women International Network](#).

MITI will organize a workshop at the [ICLEI Congress](#) next year, to be held in Seoul from 8 to 12 April. The Secretariat General will work with MITI to coordinate this presence with experts from the initiatives related to the issue of "Sustainable Solutions for an Urban Future". At the same time, the METROPOLIS Women International Network has offered to work closely with a gender perspective on the different programs and seminars of urban management and social wellbeing policies which MITI anticipates running in 2015.

The meeting was reminded that Seoul is not just the site of the MITI central office but is also a very active antenna in the Women's Network. There was a commitment to foster collaboration between the two sections and to work more closely in 2015.

14. 2015 INTERNATIONAL SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY 2015

26-28	New Delhi, India	3 rd Inclusive, Integrated Solid Waste Management (IISWM) Exhibition 2015
Dates TBA	Mexico City, Mexico	Policy Monitoring and Evaluation . MITI

MARCH 2015

8		International Women's Day
9-20	New York, United States	Commission on the Status of Women, CSW59/Beijing+20 (2015)
14-18	Sendai, Japan	3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) 2015
18-20	Bilbao, Spain	UCLG Culture Summit 2015
22		World Water Day
24-28	Tunis, Tunisia	World Social Forum 2015
26-28	Barcelona, Spain	9th International Public Markets Conference

APRIL 2015

8-12	Seoul, Republic of Korea	ICLEI World Congress "Sustainable Solutions For An Urban Future"
12-17	Daegu & Gyeongbuk, Republic of Korea	7th World Water Forum
14-16	Nairobi, Kenya	Preparatory Committee 2 for Habitat III
27-5	Seoul, Republic of Korea	Urban Management Program I . MITI

MAY 2015

18-21	Buenos Aires, Argentina	METROPOLIS Annual Meeting 2015 "Live the City"
20-22	Kyoto, Japan	Kyoto Smart City Expo 2015

JUNE 2015

Dates TBA	Porto Alegre, Brazil	UCLG Executive Bureau
2-4	Nantes, France	Velo-City 2015, Cycling: Future Maker
8-10	Bonn, Germany	6th Global Forum on Urban Resilience and Adaptation
9-11	Jakarta, Indonesia	4 th New Cities Summit 2015
9-17	Seoul, Republic of Korea	Waterworks Program . MITI
30-8	Seoul, Republic of Korea	Urban Management Program II . MITI
Dates TBA	Mexico City, Mexico	Open Government: Challenges for Performance-oriented Governance . MITI
Dates TBA	Paris Île-de-France, France	Adaptability and Resilience of the Metropolis to Climate Change and Natural Disaster . MITI

JULY 2015

13-16	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Third International Conference on Financing for Development
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AUGUST 2015

18-26	Seoul, Republic of Korea	e-Government . MITI
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SEPTEMBER 2015

15-28	New York, United States	70th Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 70)
21-23	New York, United States	UN Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda

DECEMBER 2015

30-11	Le Bourget, Paris, France	Paris Climat Conference 2015 (COP 21)
Dates TBA	Paris, France	UCLG World Council
1-5	Johannesburg, South Africa	Africités Summit 2015