MetroTalks

ENSURING THE COMMONS IN FRAGILE CONTEXTS

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1 Protecting the commons

- Governments need to create a **shared vision** with populations and implement equity concerns in local investment choices and development plans to enhance access to services, infrastructure and opportunities for all.

2 Ensuring public legitimacy

- Political legitimacy and reliable public institutions are crucial to crisis management. To protect public goods and respond to inhabitants’ needs, local governments need to improve **transparency** and **accountability** and include the voices of vulnerable groups.

- The COVID-19 pandemic has compounded existing dimensions of fragility and diminished the capacity of urban areas to react to multiple crises. Recognising the different **layers of vulnerability** and investing in **capacity-building** is vital to manage complex crisis.

3 Providing better international support

- International organisations can add value by supporting **peer-learning** amongst subnational governments to share good practices and work together with experts to co-design targeted solutions.

- In fragile contexts, urban spaces face complex economic, social and political structural constraints. International support should promote a discourse that reinforces **good governance** practices and helps make city planning a priority for metropolitan spaces.

Governments need to create a **shared vision** with populations and implement equity concerns in local investment choices and development plans to enhance access to services, infrastructure and opportunities for all. To enable smart decision-making, local governments need to create and strengthen **urban planning units** and **data collection** tools. A laissez-faire approach to urban development undermines inclusive access to urban spaces. Political legitimacy and reliable public institutions are crucial to crisis management. To protect public goods and respond to inhabitants’ needs, local governments need to improve **transparency** and **accountability** and include the voices of vulnerable groups. The COVID-19 pandemic has compounded existing dimensions of fragility and diminished the capacity of urban areas to react to multiple crises. Recognising the different **layers of vulnerability** and investing in **capacity-building** is vital to manage complex crisis. International organisations can add value by supporting **peer-learning** amongst subnational governments to share good practices and work together with experts to co-design targeted solutions. In fragile contexts, urban spaces face complex economic, social and political structural constraints. International support should promote a discourse that reinforces **good governance** practices and helps make city planning a priority for metropolitan spaces.