METROPOLIS
PROGRESS REPORT

July – September
2019
NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

These past three months have seen the organisation make significant progress, especially in terms of our relationship with the United Nations. Moreover, during this period we have launched three new initiatives, which are providing us with better practical knowledge on metropolitan governance through the lens of innovation, urbanism and gender.

On the one hand, last September we signed a new Memorandum of Understanding with UN-Habitat, which provides a framework of cooperation between Metropolis and the UN.

On the other hand, as a result of our organisation’s continuous hard work, two new pilot projects were launched for the first time: “Tactical urbanism”, about making small-scale, low-cost and temporary interventions while fostering active citizen participation; and “Public innovation labs”, about innovative solutions to create public value. Both projects encompass a range of issues related to improving metropolises, through an approach involving discussion, dialogue and an exchange of ideas, while helping us address some of our goals in terms of strengthening urban capacities, as specified in our Action Plan.

In addition, in September, the first issue of Gender Keys was published. With a short format that is quick to read, the publication promotes the incorporation of gender perspectives as we build and develop our metropolises.

We have not yet reached the summit of all our goals, but we are working non-stop to transform our metropolises into a better place to live. Every Metropolis member is an essential piece of the puzzle. I hope this progress report will show how dedicated, committed and conscientious the Metropolis membership has been in working to achieve our goals over the past three months.

Octavi de la Varga
Metropolis Secretary General
ACTIVITIES

**Action Line 1 (L1)**
Conducting urban diplomacy and advocacy on metropolitan issues

**Action Line 2 (L2)**
Strengthening capacities for metropolitan governance

**Action Line 3 (L3)**
Developing a strong, consultative and sustainable internal governance culture
10e édition des Rencontres de l’action internationale des collectivités territoriales

Paris, 2-3 July

Organization of the side-event: “Sécurité et espace public: un exemple de cartographie des politiques publiques incluant une approche de genre” in the context of the « 10e édition des Rencontres de l’action internationale des collectivités territoriales ». The project officer for Metropolis Women presented the publication "Safety and public space: mapping metropolitan gender policies" highlighting the best experiences implemented by Metropolis’ members to combat sexual harassment in public space.

High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

New York, 15-17 July

The United Nations (UN) convened the seventh edition of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in July, to review progress towards the accomplishment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. For the delegation of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments that attended conferences, this HLPF was the occasion to reaffirm that local governance and territorial cohesion must be embraced to leave no one and no place behind.

Activated members
Buenos Aires, Guadalajara, Montevideo, Montréal, São Paulo
Release of the first issue of Gender Keys

Online, 4 September

Gender Keys is a series of short publications that promotes the incorporation of the gender perspective in metropolitan planning, and gives continuity to the implementation of our gender mainstreaming strategy. The first publication, titled “Do metropolises have a gender?”, introduces the gender urban planning applied to a metropolitan scale. The upcoming editions, expected to be released bimonthly, will take the concepts introduced in this first issue to the metropolitan grounds, bringing examples from our members which are, in different parts of the world, using gender approaches to deliver better public policies and services.

Conversations between Spain and China

Madrid, 8 September

The city of Guangzhou invited the Metropolis Secretary General to an event under the title “Conversations between Spain and China”. It was organised by the province of Guangdong and the city of Guangzhou and was open to Spanish representatives from the cultural and economic fields. Our Secretary General was invited to give the opening remarks in order to introduce Metropolis and share his views on the role of city networks.

Related outcomes

L1M2D1  
L1M3D1

Activated members

Barcelona (city)

Related outcomes

L1M1D3

Activated members

Guangzhou, Madrid
First Forum of Asian Pacific Metropolises

Makati, 5-6 September

The First Forum of Asian Pacific metropolises was co-organized by Metropolis and UCLG ASPAC within the framework of its Council and the new cooperation MoU signed between Metropolis and UCLG ASPAC last April in Montevideo. It brought into limelight some of the three challenges of large metropolitan spaces in Asia Pacific region whether on mobility, housing, social services or climate change. The debate was moderated by the Secretaries General of Metropolis and UCLG ASPAC and addressed the main priorities foreseen: to materialize the agreement we have signed with UCLG ASPAC through some content oriented debates, to gather the political decision-makers of cities across the ASPAC region, and to enrich the debates on the role of Asian Pacific metropolises cities in the world organizations.

Related outcomes
L1M1D3
L1M3D4
L1M4D1
L1M7D2
L2M10D2
L2M10D3

Activated members: Beijing, Changchun, Changsha, Chengdu, Chongqing, CPAFFC, Daejeon, Fuzhou, Goyang, Guangzhou, Haikou, Jinan, Seoul, Surabaya, Taichung, Taipei, Xi’an, Yiwu, Zhengzhou

Second edition of the Local and Regional Governments’ Forum

New York, 24 September

The second edition of the Local and Regional Governments’ Forum (LRGF) took place within the framework of the first UN SDG Summit. Under the auspices of the UN General Assembly, the two-day Summit was convened to follow up and comprehensively review progress in the implementation of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Related outcomes
L1M1D3
L1M7D1
L1M7D2

Activated members: Barcelona (city), Kazan, La Paz, Montevideo, Nouakchott, Surabaya, Tunis
### Metropolis in the media

#### JULY
- London School of Economics
  - Metropolitan indicators
- Urban Gateway
  - Metropolitan indicators
- Urban Gateway
  - Affordable Housing
- EU Commission
  - Urban Governance
- UCLG
  - use – urban sustainability exchange
- PEMB
  - Metropolitan indicators
- AMB Abroad
  - Metropolitan indicators
- Meeting of the Minds
  - use – urban sustainability exchange
- El País - Seres Urbanos
  - International Strategies in Metropolitan Areas

#### AUGUST
- Cities Today
  - Metropolitan indicators
- UCLG
  - Metropolitan indicators
- World Urban Campaign
  - Metropolitan indicators

#### SEPTEMBER
- UCLG
  - World Metropolitan Day
- Urban Gateway
  - World Metropolitan Day
- Urban Gateway
  - 2nd Phase: Mapping metropolitan gender policies
- AMB Abroad
  - International Strategies in Metropolitan Areas
- Il Mercoledì
  - World Metropolitan Day
Seminar on International Strategies in Metropolitan Areas

**Barcelona, 4-5 July**

A seminar was organised by the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona and CIDOB to present and discuss on the main findings of the study “The International Action of Metropolises”, which analysed four Metropolis members and Vienna. Said event was attended by representatives of a variety of institutions, including five of our members. The study concludes that institutional fragmentation slows down the construction of international strategies on a metropolitan scale. Without the appropriate governance tools, it is difficult if not impossible to properly measure and compare international public policy.

**Related outcomes**

- L2M8D1

**Activated members**

Barcelona (metropolitan area), Durban, Greater Manchester, Medellín, Mexico City, Montevideo, Montréal, Seoul

Affordable Housing: Profiles of Five Metropolitan Cities

**Medellín, 10 July**

The report “Affordable Housing: Profiles of Five Metropolitan Cities,” commissioned by Metropolis, Singapore’s Centre for Liveable Cities and the City of Montréal, portrays five different metropolitan governments’ approaches to deal with the issue, and was presented during the World Cities Summit’s Mayors Forum.

**Related outcomes**

- L2M2D5
- L2M7D1
- L2M8D1

**Activated members**

Berlin, Buenos Aires, Kuala Lumpur, Medellín, Montréal, Singapore
Pilot projects: First workshop of Public Innovation Labs

São Paulo, 7-9 August

The first workshop of the pilot project Public Innovation Labs was the occasion to discuss, and work on the milestones for the next two years of the project. Until 2021, the cities of São Paulo, Montevideo and Montréal will promote the cooperation between their public innovation labs in order to exchange successes and lessons learned and contribute to the institutionalization of public innovation practices in the region.

Activated members
Montevideo, Montréal, São Paulo

2020 Guangzhou Award: internal meeting

Guangzhou, 10 September

An expert meeting took place with the director of Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation, Mr. Nicholas You, and the Secretariat General team to discuss about the new stage of the 2020 Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation. The session was part of a consultative process for the alignment of the Award with the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda, which resulted in a revised application form for the award’s 2020 edition.
Pilot projects:  
First workshop of Tactical Urbanism

**Mexico City, 19-20 September**

The new pilot project, “Dialogue between cities: Tactical Urbanism and Citizens Participation” kicked off in the Barcelona city. The Barcelona Agency for Urban Ecology hosted the first workshop of the project that is led by the City of Mexico with the cooperation of Medellin and Barcelona with Paris as a partner. The project promotes the exchange of ideas, practices and actions to reclaim public spaces and dialogue with citizens by generating local capacities in designing strategies of tactical urbanism and citizen participation.

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Training:  
Sustainable Urban management

**Seoul, 22-29 September**

The Seoul Human Resource Development Center (SHRDC) has successfully conducted “Sustainable Urban Management Training Program”. With 11 participants (4 of them representatives of our membership), the program not only shared urban management policies of Seoul but also about each city challenges and urban management strategies.
UCLG-MEWA Congress

Amman, 9 July

A roundtable on Smart cities and big data was held at the UCLG-MEWA Congress entitled “The Challenges and Opportunities for Big Data and Open Data for Local Governments”. The Project officer for the Metropolis Observatory moderated the session which was attended by representatives of two members. Participants concluded by highlighting the great benefits of big data, but that it must be used judiciously and can also carry many dangers.

Related outcomes
L3M2D1

Activated members
Amman, Ramallah

Clearing House: Launch of the project

Bonn, 4–6 September

The Metropolis Secretariat General participated to the launch of the project “Clearing House” in Bonn. “Clearing House” was submitted to the European Commission in 2018 through its H2020 funding program, and was one of the two winners’ projects selected from a pool of 48 others projects. “Clearing House” will foster Sino-European decentralized cooperation in expanding the knowledge of trees and forests in urban areas, which will end in 2023. The partners of the project convened to review the project’s objectives and work plan.

Related outcomes
L3M5D1

Activated members
Barcelona, Beijing, Brussels, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Shenzhen, Xiamen
Charter on ecological and sustainable urbanism

Barcelona, 13 September

The teams of the Metropolis Secretariat General and the UCLG World Secretariat learned about the charter on ecological and sustainable urbanism. This charter, created by Salvador Rueda, is born to tackle the challenges that urban agglomerations pose at present, such as exponential demographic growth, migration towards urban areas and segregation, and inequalities brought by the rapid expansion of cities. All of them come up in a context of climate emergency that obliges us to reconsider our use of resources and implement sustainable dynamics. Four major points were discussed: the uncertainties the future holds and cities as solution bearers, ways to face these challenges, the changing paradigm from an industrial society to an information-based one, and finally, how to plan and evaluate our cities using ecological guidelines. In essence, the charter, which contains 44 evaluation indicators, is an open guide for the design of new urban developments and the regeneration of existing ones to achieve a sustainable ecosystem.

Visit of Red de Innovación Local (RIL), Argentina

Barcelona, 17 September

RIL is a civil association that accompanies local governments in Argentina to become leaders in the development of their communities. It has been working for five years with more than 200 municipalities, many of which constitute metropolitan spaces. Ms. Delfina Irazusta, RIL’s Executive Director, and Ms. Rosario Guiraud from her team visited the Metropolis Secretariat General in order to establish initial contact, share common areas of work and identify synergies and potential collaboration. They were welcomed by our Content curator and focal point for Latin America.

Memorandum of Understanding with UN-Habitat

24-25 September

Metropolis announced the renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding with UN-Habitat, whose purpose is to provide a framework of cooperation within which both organizations shall collaborate in areas of common interest related to the global agendas in order to promote sustainable urban development. Metropolis Observatory, Metropolis Training, Pilot Projects, USE platform, and Gender Mainstreaming are some of our programs in which UN-Habitat is committed to contribute. In addition, Metropolis agrees to support the promotion and application of the global frameworks and metropolitan development initiatives of UN-Habitat, such as MetroHUB.
MEMBERSHIP ACTIVATION

Bilateral meetings

**JULY**

**Barcelona**
Members: Mexico city

**SEPTEMBER**

**Barcelona**
Members: Barcelona (metropolitan area), Guangzhou

**Makati**
Members: Chengdu, Fuzhou, Guangzhou
Activated members

Amman
Barcelona (city)
Barcelona (metropolitan area)
Beijing
Berlin
Brussels
Buenos Aires
Changchun
Changsha
Chengdu
Chongqing
CPAFFC
Daejeon
Durban
Fuzhou
Goyang
Greater Manchester
Guadalajara
Guangzhou
Haikou
Hangzhou
Jinan
Kazan
Kuala Lumpur
La Paz
Madrid
Mashhad
Medellin
Mexico City
Montevideo
Montréal
Nouakchott
Quito
Ramallah
São Paulo
Seoul
Shanghai
Shenzhen
Surabaya
Taichung
Taipei
Tunis
Xi’an
Xiamen
Yiwu
Zhengzhou

Membership payment status

Until 30 September 2019

418,797 €
collected in membership fees

70
out of our 138 members

Main results

Until 30 September 2019

1,250+
people engaged in Metropolis events

215
experts with whom we have collaborated
### Execution of the Action Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>L1</strong> Measures</th>
<th><strong>Outcomes and deliverables</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M1</strong> That global political events, themes, and issues have been closely followed, and responses have been assessed and prioritized for taking up through focused urban diplomacy.</td>
<td><strong>L1M1D3</strong> Political or technical presence at relevant international events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M2</strong> That a common political discourse on key metropolitan topics and a common set of principles have been regularly debated, agreed upon, and communicated widely.</td>
<td><strong>L1M2D1</strong> Metropolis position papers on key issues related to metropolitan governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>L1M2D2</strong> Political debates within Metropolis annual events regarding major themes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M3</strong> That Metropolis both influences the global agenda championing metropolitan governance with a gender perspective and incorporates the main ideas of the gender global agenda in its political agenda.</td>
<td><strong>L1M3D1</strong> All Metropolis position papers and outcomes on key issues related to metropolitan governance include a gender approach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>L1M3D4</strong> Liaison with other partners to force debates about the inclusion of gender vision into local policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M4</strong> That a youth-sensitive perspective is taken in entering into Metropolis debates and outcomes on metropolitan governance and governance from a metropolitan approach.</td>
<td><strong>L1M4D1</strong> Liaison with partners and potential partners aiming to advocate for the inclusion of youth perspective in urban policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M7</strong> That Metropolis contributes actively to UCLG and the Global Taskforce, whilst being treated as key partners.</td>
<td><strong>L1M7D1</strong> Contributions to the Global Taskforce: events, papers, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>L1M7D2</strong> Political / Technical presence at UCLG and GTF events</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To check the complete Metropolis Action Plan for the 2018-2020 period, with all measures, outcomes and deliverables, please visit our [website](#).
## Execution of the Action Plan

### L2 Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M1</strong></td>
<td>That an agreed number of pilot projects are collaboratively implemented by member cities, in accordance with Metropolis vision.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M2</strong></td>
<td>That the outcomes of all Metropolis projects and initiatives are actively considered as a whole through a process choreographed by the Metropolis Secretariat General to ensure the transferability and dissemination of those outcomes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M5</strong></td>
<td>That a full gender-sensitive and effective plan on learning and capacity building (including Metropolis International Training Institute) is created, framed by the Metropolis vision and using Metropolis tools.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M7</strong></td>
<td>That partnerships are set up with thematic networks, key research centres and academics, and that these relationships are active and engaged, contributing to systematizing existing Metropolis knowledge, and creating new knowledge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M8</strong></td>
<td>That collaborative forums are developed and supported as the way of bringing together mayors, urban practitioners, research centres and academics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M10</strong></td>
<td>That a youth perspective on the metropolitan governance is actively encouraged and integrated into Metropolis thinking and practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M11</strong></td>
<td>That an engagement with the Metropolis Urban Innovation Community, building on the Guangzhou Urban Innovation Award and Institute initiatives, is maintained.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outcomes and deliverables

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deliverable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M1D2</strong></td>
<td>Execution of 6 pilot projects, one per main strategic theme, led by a member and transferred to other metropolises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M2D5</strong></td>
<td>Establishment of reference frameworks which are helpful for members in governing and managing metropolises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M5D2</strong></td>
<td>Calendar of events and training program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M7D1</strong></td>
<td>Annual strategic partnership plans (2018-2019-2020)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M8D1</strong></td>
<td>Political and technical gatherings addressing key issues for our members, particularly annual meetings and triennial congresses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M10D1</strong></td>
<td>Dissemination of knowledge and experiences of member cities through Metropolis media channels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M10D3</strong></td>
<td>Actions to share knowledge and experiences among members and partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M11D1</strong></td>
<td>Strategic plan between Guangzhou and the SG relations regarding the Urban Innovation Community project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Execution of the Action Plan

### L3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Outcomes and deliverables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>L3M2</strong> That five regional agendas are agreed in line with the global strategy of Metropolis.</td>
<td><strong>L3M2D1</strong> 5 regional agendas on an annual basis designed and implemented by the Regional Secretaries and the Secretariat General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L3M3</strong> That a strategy is developed to improve relationships among Metropolis key actors.</td>
<td><strong>L3M3D2</strong> Mapping of partners and potential partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L3M5</strong> That a fundraising strategy is laid out and effectively implemented.</td>
<td><strong>L3M5D1</strong> Fundraising strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L3M7</strong> That the re-organization of the Secretariat General in Barcelona is effected aligned with the strategic objectives of the Association.</td>
<td><strong>L3M7D3</strong> Internal organisation based on a project management approach</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHO
WE ARE
AFRICA

Focal Points

REGIONAL SECRETARIAT
Rahmatouca Sow Dieye, Dakar

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
Hélène Jourdan

Members of the Board of Directors

CO-PRESIDENCIES
David Makhura, Premier of Gauteng Province

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENCIES
Robert Beugre Mambe, Governor of Abidjan

MEMBERS
Mostafa Madbouly, Representative of the Ministry of Housing of Egypt (Cairo)
Abdelaziz El Omari, Mayor of Casablanca
El Wardini Soham, Mayor of Dakar
Fatimetou Abdel Malick, President of Nouakchott Region
Mohamed Sadiki, Mayor of Rabat
Focal Points

REGIONAL SECRETARY
Liu Baochun
Guangzhou

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
Agnès Bickart

Members of the Board of Directors

CO-PRESIDENCIES
Wen Guohui, Mayor of Guangzhou

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENCIES
Mohammad Reza Kalaei, Mayor of Mashhad
Park Won-soon, Mayor of Seoul

MEMBERS
Luo Qiang, Mayor of Chengdu
Xu Lyi, Mayor of Hangzhou
Dr. Bonthu Rammohan, Mayor of Greater Hyderabad
Pirouz Hanachi, Mayor of Tehran
Xianwang Zhou, Mayor of Wuhan

HONORARY MEMBER: CPAFFC
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Ciudades que participan:
BELO HORIZONTE
BOGOTÁ
BRASILIA
BUENOS AIRES
CÓRDOBA
GUARULHOS
GUAYAQUIL
LA HABANA
LA PAZ
MEDELLÍN
MINAS GERAIS
MONTEVIDEO
PORTO ALEGRE
QUITO
RIO DE JANEIRO
ROSARIO
SAN SALVADOR
SANTIAGO DE CHILE
SÃO PAULO
VALLE DE ABURRÁ

Focal Points

Members of the Board of Directors

REGIONAL SECRETARY
Nelson Fernández
Montevideo

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
Lia Brum

CO-PRESIDENCIES
Christian Di Candia, Mayor of Montevideo

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENCY
Miguel Ángel Garrido Agüero, President of the Regional Metropolitan Council of Santiago de Chile

MEMBERS
Horacio Rodríguez Larreta, Head of the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires
Gustavo Paim, Vice Mayor of Porto Alegre
Ciudades que participan

ATLANTA
GUADALAJARA
MEXICO CITY
MONTERREY
MONTRÉAL
PUEBLA
TORONTO
TIJUANA

Focal Points

REGIONAL SECRETARY
Mariana Flores
Mexico City

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
Teresa Oliver

Members of the Board of Directors

CO-PRESIDENCIES
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#metrogovernance