METROPOLIS
PROGRESS REPORT

April – June

2018

metropolis world association of the major metropolises
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NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL

The past three months served for us start making more visible the results of the past internal exercises that have defined our mission, vision and action lines. Most noticeably, we began to broaden the use of the hashtag #MetroGovernance. Applied to every communication material of Metropolis, this is a symbol of the intent to position our association as the focal point of expertise on metropolitan governance.

By this, we do not mean to coin an academic definition of metropolitan governance, but to encourage frank discussions about the variety of coordination models among different actors responsible for the government of metropolitan spaces, where jurisdictions do not necessarily correspond to urbanization processes.

This variety is observed in the institutional diversity of our membership: among our 137 members, we count on metropolitan governments, municipalities of major cities, sectoral metropolitan agencies, as well as regional and provincial governments. The sentence “Metropolis does not exist without its members”, which opens our new promotional video, makes it clear that our members have a leading role in our narrative.

My commitment as Secretary General is to foster a coherent communication among our members, which strengthens the shared sense of belonging to a group of major cities that act beyond their borders, and to facilitate the dialogue with all stakeholders that are dealing with metropolitan issues. I trust that we are shaping the contemporary identity of our association, and the roles we can play in the context of global networks of local and regional governments. I hope you stay tuned for the novelties ahead.

Octavi de la Varga
Metropolis Secretary General
ACTIVITIES

Action Line 1 (L1)
Conducting effective 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
**Workshop of the World Observatory on Subnational Government Finances and Investment**

**Barcelona, 4-5 April**

The World Observatory on Subnational Government Finances and Investment is a multi-stakeholder initiative led by the OECD and UCLG dedicated to collecting comparable data and information on territorial organisation and subnational finance from over 100 countries and to support decision-making of national and subnational governments around the world.

Metropolis participated in the Methodological Workshop organised in Barcelona because our association is member of the Steering Committee of the World Observatory. The workshop focused on the database and the methodology to collect the data on subnational government structure and finance in order to update country fact sheets while number of countries and indicators will be enlarged.

**High-level Policy Dialogue on Municipal Finance**

**Málaga, 9 April**

UCLG, together with the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the City Council of Malaga, convened a High-level Policy Dialogue on Municipal Finance. The Metropolis Secretary General attended the event and joined mayors and representatives of local government networks, national ministries, development banks, and commercial banks in discussions about the importance of financial mechanisms for local governments to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The dialogue led to the conclusion that a paradigm shift is required to make municipal finance become a central aspect in the implementation of the SDGs. For this shift to happen, thus, not only policy reforms are required, but also innovative methods and actions to expand financial tools and provide direct access to capital by local governments.
Open government and transparency: trends for local governments worldwide

Madrid, 12 April

Lia Brum, Content Curator and Focal Point for Europe and Latin America, took part in the first meeting of the UCLG Community of Practice on Transparency and Open Government. The main objective of this group, which is led by the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), is to be an awareness-raising and support platform for exchanging local experiences that can generate knowledge transfer in different contexts around the world, foster capacity building on open governance and public integrity at the local level and generate collaborative partnerships. Lia seized the trip to visit the Citizen Participation, Transparency and Open Government department of the Madrid City Council, which is collaborating with the Municipality of Córdoba in the proposal of a new Metropolis pilot project about this theme.

Metropolis becomes a ‘knowledge partner’ for Casa Asia

Barcelona, 16 April

Metropolis and Casa Asia signed a collaboration agreement that sets out the details of our association’s involvement in the programmes and activities carried out by Casa Asia with Asian metropolises. As a knowledge partner, Metropolis will now be a key player in the Asia Innova technological cooperation programme, which this year will focus on innovative urban management in Asia and Europe.

Metropolis Annual Meeting 2018: Preparatory visit to Gauteng

Johannesburg, Gauteng, 7-11 May

The Metropolis Secretariat General staff held meetings at the Gauteng Provincial Government to finalize the arrangements of our 2018 Annual Meeting, which is taking place next August 26 to 29 in the city of Johannesburg. The Head of Administration and Finance, and the Senior Manager for Institutional relations & Asia portfolio travelled to Gauteng to discuss the final program and operations of the major event of the year for our association, which will have the theme “Inclusive Metropolitan Cities and City-Regions”.

Related outcomes
L1M7D2

Activated members
Madrid

Related outcomes
L1M6D2, L3M6D1, L3M6D2

Activated members
Gauteng
2018 Innovation Forum for Mayors of International sister cities of Chengdu

Chengdu, 18-19 May

Under the framework of Chengdu Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fair (GIEF), this Mayor’s Forum was an important platform for dialogues and cooperation discussions between Chengdu, its sister cities and friend cities. As key city to city cooperation’s organization, Metropolis was invited to participate. Themed as “New Economy, New Driving Force and New Development”, this year’s forum intended to analyze opportunities and challenges brought by New Economy from three dimensions: Economy and Industry, Community & Daily Life and City Governance, via a round table meeting, keynote speeches and site investigation. Metropolis has marked its presence with the representation of four member cities namely: Chengdu, Colombo, Busan and Toronto. The Senior Manager for Institutional Relations presented Metropolis and seized this unique opportunity to meet with the new mayor of Chengdu and the technical team. Member of Metropolis Board of Directors, Chengdu has committed itself to become more active in our association by way of knowledge exchanges and joint activities.

Activated members
Busan, Chengdu, Colombo, Toronto

Post-Habitat III international congress

Barcelona, 22-24 May

The Post-Habitat III international congress, organized by the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB), was held in Barcelona and aimed to share the proposal of Barcelona for the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the experiences of experts and other metropolitan governments. Our membership was represented in the congress through the participation of six of our members in different round tables, giving varied examples of metropolitan governance around the world. The Secretary General of Metropolis was also present as a speaker at one of the sessions.

Activated members
Barcelona (metropolitan area), Bamako, Jakarta, Mexico City, Nouakchott, Santiago de Chile, Seoul
4th Smart Cities India Expo
New Delhi, 23-25 May

This year, Metropolis collaborated once more with Smart Cities India Expo, one of the largest urban events in the country, as one of its global institutional partners. A delegation from the Secretariat General travelled to New Delhi to organize three side-events of the 4th Smart Cities India 2018, where we also counted on the active participation of five of our members. A wide range of sessions was related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the participation of Metropolis was mostly linked to SDGs 9, 11 and 17.

Activated members
Bangalore, Bhopal, Kolkata, New Delhi – NIUA, Tijuana

Related outcomes
L1M1D3, L1M5D1, L2M8D1, L3M2D1, L3M4D2, L3M6D4

4th Smart Cities India Expo: Metropolitan strategies to achieve safe cities for women and girls
New Delhi, 23 May

Metropolis organized the side-event “Metropolitan strategies to achieve Safe Cities for Women and Girls: the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals as a real opportunity” in the framework of the 4th Smart Cities India 2018 Expo, in New Delhi. The objective was to raise awareness about the importance of incorporating gender safety policies into the metropolitan agenda, and to build new partnerships in the promotion of safe, inclusive and resilient cities for all.

Activated members
Bangalore, Bhopal, Kolkata, New Delhi – NIUA, Tijuana

Related outcomes
L1M1D3, L1M3D2
Under the theme “Inclusive and Safe Cities: Key for Sustainable Development” United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) convened its Executive Bureau meeting in Strasbourg from May 23rd - 26th at the invitation of Mayor of Strasbourg, Roland Ries, Co-President of UCLG.

Metropolis, as Metropolitan section of UCLG, attended the meetings, along with 300 representatives from local governments as well as national governments’ representatives from all over the world. For the first time, the meetings were co-organized with UN-Habitat within the framework of the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA) and the Global Taskforce.

Activated members
Barcelona (city), Barcelona (metropolitan area), Mashhad, Mexico City, Montevideo, Quito, Rosario

Chicago Forum on Global Cities
Chicago, 6-8 June

Metropolis collaborated for the first time with the Chicago Forum on Global Cities, as one of its knowledge partners. A Metropolis delegation – composed of the representatives of two of our Mexican members (Mexico City and Tijuana), our Secretary General and our Focal Point for North America – travelled to the third most populous city in the United States to contribute to the event’s discussions on metropolitan governance, urban diplomacy, security challenges and inclusive growth.

In addition, the Mayor of Tijuana and the Metropolis Secretary General actively participated as speakers of two different workshops.
Cities and metropolitan regions offer collaboration and leadership to the G7 leaders

8-9 June

On the eve of the G7 Summit, which took place on 8 and 9 June in Charlevoix, Canada, mayors and representatives of local governments, spokespersons for thousands of cities around the world, address the heads of national governments to raise their awareness about the impacts of their decisions and actions on cities and metropolitan territories.

Under the leadership of the city of Montréal, a joint letter was signed by the presidents of 11 networks of local and regional governments. Representing Metropolis, Michael Müller, Mayor of Berlin and Acting President of Metropolis, and Valérie Plante, Co-President of Metropolis, signed it. The letter was sent to present the perspective of local and regional governments on the issues facing our increasingly urbanized world and to offer them the partnership of local governments in tackling these challenges together.

Addressing the Metropolitan Challenge in Barcelona Metropolitan Area

Barcelona, 15 June

The Secretary General and the Focal Point for Europe attended the conference “Addressing the Metropolitan Challenge in Barcelona Metropolitan Area”, organized by the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB, for its acronym in Catalan). The conference served to present the results of a study benchmarking different lessons of cooperation and organisation of the metropolitan areas of Amsterdam, Copenhagen, Greater Manchester, Stuttgart and Zurich.

GMCA presented a submission to join the Metropolis membership (to be approved by the Board of Directors in August in Gauteng). Upon the conclusion of the conference, Ms Brum took the opportunity to hold a first bilateral informal meeting with the representative of this upcoming new member of our association.

The event counted on the participation, among other speakers, of Mr Alfred Bosch, AMB’s Vice-president for International Relations and Cooperation, and Alan Harding, Chief Economic Adviser to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA). By the end of April,
urban diplomacy and metropolitan advocacy

Metropolis in the media

APRIL

Urban Gateway
- Guangzhou Award
- Global Expert Meeting-NUA
- Call for the Jury of the Pilot Projects
- Sustainable Airport Areas Guidelines

Barcelona Metropolitan Area
- Metropolis website link

Municipal eLibrary
- World Water Forum
- Post Habitat III

World Urban Campaign
- Sustainable Airport Areas Guidelines
- Webinar on Gender Equality

MAY

El País - Spanish Newspaper
- Mention to Metropolis

Urban Gateway
- Presentation session of the Issue Paper 4
- Guangzhou Award

World Urban Campaign
- Sustainable Airport Areas workshop

Cities Today
- 2018 Metropolis Annual Meeting

UCLG
- Sustainable Airport Areas workshop

Barcelona Metropolitan Area
- Sustainable Airport Areas workshop

JUNE

UCLG CIB working group
- Presentation session of the Issue Paper 4

Project Syndicate
- Mention to Metropolis

Urban Gateway
- 2018 Metropolis Annual Meeting

Smart Cities Dive
- Chicago Forum

UCLG
- Presentation session of the Issue Paper 4
- 2018 Metropolis Annual Meeting

Municipal e-Library
- Presentation session of the Issue Paper 4
Cities Alliance Management Board

Barcelona, 5-6 April

During the Management Board meeting of Cities Alliance that took place in Barcelona, Metropolis was invited together with other networks of local governments to present its strategy and priorities for the coming years.

Cities Alliance, is the global partnership supporting cities to deliver sustainable development. It comprises six types of constituencies: national governments; multilateral institutions; associations of local governments; international non-governmental organisations; private sector and foundations; and universities and knowledge networks.

Pilot Projects: International Jury

10 April

On 10 April was the deadline of the call for the international jury responsible for evaluating and selecting the pilot projects of the edition 2018-2020. After the revision of all 27 applications, four experts, whose profiles are diverse and complementary, were selected by Metropolis: Marouschka Bujten (Europe), Edith Gingras (North America), Fernando Murillo (Latin America) and Lookman Oshodi (Africa). Metropolis ensured the gender parity in the selection process by electing two women and two men.

Training: webinar on gender equality and metropolitan policies for public spaces

Online, 12 April

UCLG’s Capacity and Institutional Building Working Group (CIB) organized the webinar “Advancing Gender Equality – New roles and new tools for local governments”, in collaboration with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), and invited Metropolis to present the first conclusions of the project “Safety and public spaces: mapping metropolitan gender policies”, which highlights our members’ experiences in combating sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces.

Activated members

Barcelona, Quito, San Salvador, Seoul
Strengthening ties with Africa
11-13 April

A Metropolis delegation consisting of the Secretary General, the Regional Secretary for Africa, and the focal point for Africa and project officer for learning travelled to Morocco to strengthen ties with a long-time partner, UCLG Africa (UCLGA), and with two of our three members in Morocco: Rabat and Casablanca.

The meeting held in Rabat with the Secretary General of UCLG Africa laid the foundations for collaboration on two levels: 1) the creation of a Metropolitan Cities Forum in Africa, and 2) a collaboration agreement will be signed in the near future with the UCLGA’s training academy to work together on a training program.

During the meeting with the mayor of Rabat, he stressed that a city’s development today relies fundamentally on human development.

The Deputy Mayor of Casablanca, Hakima Fasly, welcomed the association with a talk about the great changes taking place in her city, and the communication channel recently opened to bring citizens closer to their city. The Deputy Mayor stated her interest in issues related to gender and smart cities.

Pilot projects: 2nd meeting of METROAirports

Atlanta, 12-13 April

Atlanta hosted the second meeting of the METROAirports pilot project, during which the participants, from the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB) and the Île-de-France region, analyzed and debated the socio-economic impact that airport areas have in the metropolitan territory. During these two days the participants both visited areas near the airport and participated in technical exchange workshops.
Metropolis training: Sustainable mobility

**Seoul, 22-29 April**

The Seoul Human Resource Development Center (SHRDC) conducted a training program on Sustainable Mobility from April 22 to 29th 2018, with participants from four of our member metropolises.

The training program was designed specifically on the participants' needs and the sessions were mainly focused on pedestrian friendly policies and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) programs. The program consisted on lectures and field visits linked to those issues in Seoul, and also gave participants the opportunity to share the practices and challenges from their own local contexts.

**Related outcomes**
L2M5D2, L2M7D2

**Activated members**
Amman, Jakarta, Rio de Janeiro, Shanghai, Seoul

Metropolis Training: strategies to promote citizens’ safety

**Online, 25 April**

The team of Bogotá’s Veeduría Distrital led the first of a series of technical webinars. These online meetings facilitated by Metropolis serve to hold conversations on specific topics of metropolitan management and to exchange information on public policies among our membership. The first edition dealt with the theme "safety strategies", and counted on the participation of an expert from Mexico City, who shared his experiences in violence prevention, incident communication, emergency management and victim care.

**Related outcomes**
L2M5D1

**Activated members**
Bogota, Mexico City
L2 capacities for metropolitan governance

Pilot Projects: 2nd meeting on Intersectionality, an open and collective construction

Barcelona, 2-4 May

The second meeting of the pilot project “Intersectionality in Metropolitan LGBTI policies”, held in Barcelona brought together 6 of our members with the aim of producing common knowledge on local social and gender policies with an intersectional approach for the full inclusion of LGBTI people.

As in the first meeting of the pilot project, different spaces alternated: working meetings with our members; meetings with LGBTI social organisations that carry out intersectional experiences; a seminar open to a broader audience of academics, public officials, and social entities.

Related outcomes L2M1D2

Activated members Barcelona, Berlin, Buenos Aires, Medellin, Mexico City, Montevideo

Policy Transfer Platform: meeting on its future

Barcelona, 4 May

A meeting took place at Metropolis Secretariat General headquarters in Barcelona with the aim of discussing future scenarios for the Policy Transfer Platform (PTP).

The past, present and future of the PTP were analysed during the meeting. In the first part of the meeting, Einsateam, a communications company specialised in urban themes and architecture, presented an extensive analysis on the PTP development so far and its current situation regarding user level, technical limitations, communication and impact of the projects. This excellent analysis set the basis for the project presented to us in the second part of the meeting: new image strategy, positioning, name, target audience and technical improvements in order to relaunch the platform and position it as a global reference space for exchange of experts, experiences and urban projects.

During the meeting, it was agreed to jointly monitor the development of the new project for the PTP, in order that it can be presented at the Metropolis Annual Meeting, which will take place at the end of August 2018 in Gauteng.

Related outcomes L2M6D1

Activated members Berlin
E-commerce training workshop

Hangzhou, 7-9 May

The BRLC E-Commerce Training Workshop, jointly hosted by the UCLG-ASPAC Committee on the Belt and Road Local Cooperation (BRLC) and UCLG-ASPAC Secretariat, took place in Hangzhou from May 7 to 9. The workshop was implemented by Alibaba Business School and featured in-depth study tours, with real cases which could be valuable references for the trainees to understand fully Hangzhou’s experience in developing E-Commerce. The activity enrolled almost 40 trainees from 15 different countries, who are either policy makers for e-commerce or engaging in the e-commerce business. Mr. Li Qiangyu, Deputy Secretary General of Hangzhou Municipal Government and Mr. Huang Lei, Senior Director of Alibaba group, delivered inaugural speeches during the workshop’s opening ceremony. In the conclusion of the workshop, Mr. Dong Zude, Director of Foreign & Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of Hangzhou Municipal Government, Secretary General of UCLG-ASPAC Committee on the BRLC, and Mr. Huang Lei, Senior Director of Alibaba Group, issuing certificates to every trainee.

Pilot projects: 2nd MEGA Workshop

Montevideo, 14-18 May

Montevideo hosted the second workshop of the MEGA pilot project (Metropolitan Energy Governance), which has for objective to fortify and innovate in the governance towards a new energy model for metropolises. Led by the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB, for its acronym in Catalan), it also counts on the participation of the metropolises of Montevideo and Lyon.

Related outcomes L2M8D1

Activated members Hangzhou

Related outcomes L2M1D2

Activated members Barcelona (metropolitan area), Grand Lyon, Montevideo
Forum on African metropolises: preparatory workshop

Rabat, 15 May

Metropolis and UCLG-Africa brought together political decision-makers from African metropolises to take part in the official launch ceremony for preparations for the 8th Africities Summit, held in Rabat, and this was seized as an opportunity to hold the first-ever forum on African metropolises.

Chairled by the President of UCLG, a representative for Mr. Makhura, Premier of Gauteng Province and Co-president of Metropolis, and the Deputy Mayor of Abidjan and Vice-president of Metropolis, the meeting brought together twenty-five mayors and political leaders from African cities, including seven members of Metropolis. The event was also attended by the Metropolis Secretary General and the Project Officer for Learning, Strategic Partnerships and Focal Point for Africa.

Related outcomes L2M8D1, L3M2D1

Activated members Abidjan, Accra, Dakar, Gauteng, Libreville, Rabat, Victoria

Metropolis Training: Sustainable urban planning

Seoul, 20 May

Seoul Human Resource Development Center (SHRDC), which hosts the headquarters of Metropolis International Training Institute (MITI), hosted a training course on sustainable urban planning.

The purpose of this training program is to construct sustainable and cooperative relations in the field of urban planning and housing policy by sharing related information, knowledge and technologies among participant cities.

Related outcomes L2M5D2, L2M7D2
Metropolis Training: Alignment of training programs and workshops with the SDGs

Brussels, 28-29 May

Metropolis and UCLG Learning organized training sessions in Brussels with the support of Brussels-Capital. The training sessions focused on how to align the MITI courses with the SDGs and received the presence of some of the institutions welcoming MITI courses and workshops, such as the Seoul Human Resource Development Center (SHRDC), the International Cooperation Office of the Mashhad Municipality and the Cairo - Ministry of Housing, Utilities and Urban Development.

Related outcomes L2M5D2, L2M7D2

Activated members Brussels, Cairo, Mashhad, Seoul

URAIA: Big data for cities

Brussels, 30-31 May

Uraía organized the workshop “Using data to strengthen cities and their citizens” at the Brussels-Capital Region Informatics Centre (CIRB).

The event brought together 67 representatives from local governments, national governments, international organizations, research institutes and the private sector.

This time, the Uraía Citizenship Series focused on how cities around the world are using the power of SMART technologies to provide better public services with a positive impact on citizens’ lives.

The main objective of the workshop was to identify how local governments are using big data and open data in city management.

Related outcomes L2M7D1

Activated members Abidjan, Brussels

Pilot projects: 2nd edition

Online, 31 May

On May 31st, Metropolis Secretariat General closed the call for projects for the 2nd edition of the pilot projects. In total, ten members presented eleven applications: Barcelona (city), Bogotá, Brasilia, Córdoba, La Paz, Mashhad, Medellín, San Salvador, Sao Paulo, Tijuana. Other nine members partnered with the applicant members to present the projects’ proposal.

Related outcomes L2M1D3

Activated members Atlanta, Barcelona (city), Barcelona (metropolitan area), Bogotá, Brasilia, Córdoba, La Paz, Madrid, Mashhad, Medellín, Mexico City, Montevideo, Montréal, New Delhi, Quito, Rosario, San Salvador, Sao Paulo, Tijuana
Policy Transfer Platform: Signing of the Agreement for 2018-2020

May

At the end of May, the City of Berlin and Metropolis signed the agreement for the Policy Transfer Platform (PTP) project for the next three years, 2018-2020.

This agreement represents a crucial leap for the PTP, since it is considered from now on a strategic project for the Metropolis association. This means both partners commit to securing contributions in terms of financial, technical, communicative and human resources, in order to guarantee the development of the PTP during the next three years.

Furthermore, the signing of the agreement provides temporary stability since it secures the existence of the PTP until 2020, allowing for time to build a new strategy for the platform to strengthen and position it as an online reference space for exchange of experts, experiences and urban projects.

Pilot projects: Innovations of revitalization strategies by the urban project

Brussels and Lyon, 5-8 June

Brussels and Lyon hosted the first activities of the pilot project “Innovations of revitalization strategies by the urban project”, whose leader is the Brussels-Capital Region and partners are Greater Lyon and Montréal. The project also benefits from scientific contributions from the Université Catholique de Louvain (Metrolab/LOCI-UCL), the University of Lyon (École Nationale des Travaux Publics de l’État), the University of Québec in Montréal (UQAM), and the Paris Region Urban and Environmental Agency (IAU Île-de-France).

The project aims at exchanging experiences on innovations of urban revitalization strategies between metropolises sharing the same territorial characteristics, governance and quality of life issues.
Metropolis at the ICLEI World Congress

Montréal, 19-22 June

Montréal hosted the ICLEI World Congress, with the theme “ICLEI in the Urban Era”. The Metropolis Secretary General actively participated in this event, which was an opportunity for our association to start defining a joint strategy with one of the most relevant and long-standing worldwide networks of local governments for sustainability.

“The ICLEI World Congress took place exactly one year after and at the same venue of the XII Metropolis World Congress. This coincidence is just a symbolic sign of many other intersections Metropolis and ICLEI could take more advantage of”, noted Octavi upon his return from Montréal. Currently, almost one third of Metropolis members are also members of ICLEI, while sustainability is a core subject in the current Metropolis vision.

Our Secretary General participated as a speaker in a session about local government networks driving coordinated local action for climate friendly cities.

Related outcomes L2M7D1, L2M7D2

Metropolis Training: Sustainable Water Management

Seoul, 17-24 June

The Metropolis International Training Institute (MITI) headquartered at the Seoul Human Resource Development Center (SHRDC) conducted a training program on “Sustainable Water Management” with participants from seven of our members.

The training program consisted on lectures and field visits linked to the main topic and also gave participants the opportunity to share the practices and challenges from their own local contexts. One of the main conclusions made by the participants of this training program was that access to clean water is essential and cities should be managing quality for water sources by applying scientific pollution control and measurement methods with focus on development of resilient and sustainable urban water infrastructure.

Related outcomes L2M5D2, L2M7D2

Activated members Amman, Bangkok, Mexico City, Quito, Shanghai, Shiraz, Taipei
Metropolises standing #WithRefugees

20 June

Metropolis joined the campaign Cities #WithRefugees, to welcome refugees in cities. Seven Metropolis members signed the respective solidarity statement, and some others are already taking direct action and leadership in support of refugees.

The Cities #WithRefugees statement of solidarity highlights the increasingly important role cities have taken on in hosting refugees. Nearly two out of three refugees settle in urban areas whose residents are often the first to help them upon arrival.

Activated members:

Athens, Barcelona, Berlin, Brussels, Mexico City, Montevideo, São Paulo

Metropolis Observatory: Presentation of the Issue Paper 4

Brussels, 25 June

A conference was held in Brussels to launch the Metropolis Observatory’s fourth issue paper: “Egalitarian metropolitan spaces”. The paper was written by Ana Falú, the coordinator of UN Habitat’s Gender Hub, and sparks a debate on how public policies need to incorporate a gender perspective on a metropolitan scale. Four members actively participated in the session.

The event was co-organized by the Brussels-Capital Region at the headquarters of the European Committee of the Regions.

Activated members:

Amman, Barcelona (city), Brussels, Montevideo

Pilot projects: 1st webinar of Sustainable Cities Collaboratory

27 June

Berlin has organized a first webinar that introduced the pilot project Sustainable Cities Collaboratory.

Activated members:

Berlin
2017 Audit of Metropolis Accounts

Barcelona, 20 April

In April this year, Metropolis underwent its annual audit of the 2017 accounts. The auditors, Deloitte from Paris, spent two days at the Secretariat General to review the accounts and ensure they comply with the relevant regulation for associations registered in France. At the end of the second day, a meeting was held between the Treasurer, Mr Vanraes, the Secretary General, Mr Octavi de la Varga, the Head of Administration and Finance, Federica Biondi and the auditor, Mr Philippe Michel.

The concluding remarks from the auditor were all positive and confirmed that all evidence showed a sound and transparent management of the association. The accounts shall be presented to the Board of Directors in Gauteng, August 2018.

Related outcomes L3M6D1, L3M6D5

Activated members Brussels

UCCI General Assembly

San Jose, 19–20 April

The 18th General Assembly of the Union of Ibero-American Capital Cities (UCCI) brought together 23 cities from the Ibero-American region to define a strategy for the 2018-2020 biennium within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Manuela Carmena, Mayor of Madrid and member of the Board of Directors of Metropolis, and Daniel Martínez, Mayor of Montevideo and Co-Chairman of Metropolis, were among the present political representatives.

The Metropolis Regional Secretary for Latin America and the Caribbean, Nelson Fernandez, also participated in the meeting, where he emphasized the proposal of strengthening spaces for collaboration between the two networks and highlighted the importance of the presence of the Ibero-American Capitals at our next Annual Meeting in Gauteng.

Related outcomes L3M2D1

Activated members Madrid, Montevideo
An eye on the transitional belts of European metropolises

**Barcelona, 27 April**

The Metropolitan area of Barcelona organised the International Conference “Are you working on your fringe?” on 26 and 27 April 2018 as part of the final conference of the URBACT suburban project co-financed by the European Commission. Lia Brum, focal point for Europe at the Secretariat General, attended the closing roundtables of the conference on April 27. The event showcased examples of how different European metropolises are working on the sustainable development of the zones of urban growth around the city centres, which have diverse urban functions and often a relatively low density, often generating a “car-based collage landscape made up of modernist urban areas, old village nuclei, industrial zones and recreational areas, intersected by heavy infrastructure”. The occasion served to have initial contacts with potential new Metropolis members in Europe.

Bilateral meeting with Amman

**Barcelona, 7-9 May**

Last May a delegation of the Greater Amman Municipality, led by its mayor Mr. Yousef Al Shawarbeh, had a series of exchanges with Metropolis, the city of Barcelona and other networks too.

On the 7th, the mayor of Amman met the secretaries general of UCLG, Mrs. Emilia Saiz, Educating Cities, Mrs. Marina Canals, and Metropolis, Mr. Octavi de la Varga. It was an occasion to share the strategies and priorities of Amman and the three networks.

On the 9th, Metropolis Secretary General met Mrs. Njoud Abdel Jawad, Head of Foreign Relations Division, in order to identify projects and areas of common interest in order to increase the participation of the city of Amman within the association.
Visits from delegation of Santiago de Chile

**Barcelona, 23-25 May**

Seizing their trip to Barcelona to attend the Post Habitat-III Congress, a delegation from Santiago de Chile visited offices of the Barcelona City Council the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB). Macarena Escala, Manuel Monckeberg, Nelly Santander and René Díaz, four elected representatives of the Metropolitan Regional Council of Santiago de Chile, met on Wednesday, May 23, with Lucia Morale, Advisor to the Security Commissioner of the Barcelona City Council.

Friday, May 25, was the occasion to visit the headquarters of the AMB, where the counselors met with Xavier Segura, Director of Public Space, and Héctor Santcovsky, Director of Social and Economic Development. The three meetings counted on the guidance of Lia Brum, focal point of the General Secretariat for Latin America and Europe.

Related outcomes

**L3M3D1**

Activated members

**Barcelona (city), Barcelona (metropolitan area), Santiago de Chile**

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Training to SG staff: gender and communication tools

**Barcelona, 16 May**

Metropolis’ gender strategy aims to make visible a more plural and just view of the realities of our members. Thus, a joint work with the team of the Secretary and specifically with the communication department is promoted, to generate an inclusive communication policy of the association.

Last May, a training course on communication with a gender perspective was held for the Secretary General’s team, with a dual purpose:

1) Improve the use of different communication tools

2) Raise the awareness of the Secretariat team on the need to work from a more inclusive perspective.

Related outcomes

**L3M7D3**
Meeting of the Financial Sustainability Committee and the Regional Secretariats

Brussels, 28-29 May

The Brussels Capital Region hosted the Financial Sustainability Committee and the Regional Secretariats meetings where the Acting Presidency, the Treasury, the Regional Secretariats and members of the Secretariat General participated to prepare the next Metropolis Annual Meeting in Johannesburg (Gauteng Province).

On May 28th the Financial Sustainability Committee was organized, to follow up on the work undertaken for the last 6 months, and to agree on common proposals and final conclusions that will be presented during the Board of Directors next 28th of August in Johannesburg (Gauteng Province). The aim of this group is to bring in proposals to diversify the current financial resources of the association. In this respect, the Committee is finalizing a proposal for a new membership fee system as well as exploring new ways of fundraising and participating in different fora to advocate and position the association.

This group is composed by the Presidency, the Secretary General, the Treasurer and the Regional secretariats; it was created ad hoc during the last meeting of the Board of Directors that took place in Montreal (June 2017) upon request of the then President, Denis Coderre.

On May 29th, the meeting of the Regional Secretariats brought up major challenges on internal governance to be presented at the Board of Directors meeting such as the election of a new Presidency as well as the revision of the statutes, especially the Rules of Procedure. In this regard, a special committee will be nominated so as to work on a proposal to be presented at the General Assembly of members in 2020.

Similarly, the draft agenda for the Board of Directors meeting was presented and discussed along with the candidatures to host the Metropolis Annual Meeting 2019. Moreover, the representatives from the MITI Regional Centres (Metropolis International Training Institute · Regional Centres); Seoul, Cairo and Mashhad; joined the meeting to discuss thoroughly about a new Charter that will frame the work and its coordination within the network and potential collaborations with external agents.

Last but not least, Paolo Ciccarelli, Head of Unit C5 – Cities, Local Authorities, Digitalisation, Infrastructures, was invited to the meeting in order to present his work at the European Commission and explore potential partnerships between the European Commission and Metropolis.

This encounter was an opportunity to show to Mr. Ciccarelli Metropolis scope of work.

The next meeting of the Regional Secretariats will take place in Johannesburg on August 26th, 2018 in the framework of the Metropolis Annual meeting that will be hosted by the Gauteng Province.
Training to SG staff: European Union Global Strategy

Barcelona, 12 June

Thanks to the collaborative relationship between Metropolis and IBEI, an international studies institute located in Barcelona, Associate Professor Dr. Kissack gave a training session to the Secretariat General staff entitled “The European Union Global Strategy (EUGS) – Urban Agenda for the EU Policy Nexus”. The session included a reflection on networks of local and regional governments: how we work and what our dynamics are.

Publication of new institutional video

Online, 30 June

With the aim of strengthening the identity of the association, the Secretary General of Metropolis has updated the institutional video so that viewers can more easily identify the distinguishing features of the organisation. In this way, the video allows everybody to understand what Metropolis is and their reason for being in just two minutes. The video has been produced in English, French and Spanish and has already been published on the association’s main communication channels.
MEMBERSHIP ACTIVATION

Bilateral meetings

APRIL

Barcelona
Members:
Berlin

Casablanca
Members:
Casablanca

Rabat
Members:
Rabat

MAY

Gauteng
Members:
Gauteng

Barcelona
Members:
Amman, Santiago de Chile

Rabat
Members:
Abidjan, Dakar, Gauteng, Libreville, Rabat, Victoria

Strasbourg
Members:
Córdoba, Madrid, Mashhad, Quito, Rosario

JUNE

Chicago
Potential Members:
Bristol, Los Angeles, Varsovia, Zurich

Montréal
Members:
Montréal
Potential Members:
Warsaw, Tokyo
Activated members

Abidjan  Cairo  Mexico City
Accra  Casablanca  Montevideo
Amman  Chengdu  Montréal
Athens  Colombo  New Delhi – NIUA
Atlanta  Cordoba  Nouakchott
Bamako  Dakar  Quito
Bangalore  Gauteng  Rabat
Barcelona (city)  Grand Lyon  Rio de Janeiro
Barcelona (metropolitan area)  Guangzhou  Rosario
Berlin  Île-de-France  San Salvador
Bhopal  Jakarta  Santiago de Chile
Bogotá  Kolkata  Sao Paulo
Brasilia  La Paz  Seoul
Brussels  Libreville  Shanghai
Buenos Aires  Madrid  Tijuana
Busan  Mashhad  Toronto

Membership payment status

As of 30 June 2018

324,532 € paid by
collected in membership fees
41 out of our 137 members
## Execution of the Action Plan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>L1</strong></th>
<th><strong>Measures</strong></th>
<th><strong>Outcomes and deliverables</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **L1M1** | 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. | **L1M1D1** Calendar of international events  
**L1M1D3** Political or technical presence at relevant international events |
| **L1M2** | That a common political discourse on key metropolitan topics and a common set of principles have been regularly debated, agreed upon, and communicated widely. | **L1M2D1** Metropolis position papers on key issues related to metropolitan governance  
**L1M2D2** Political debates within Metropolis annual events regarding major themes |
| **L1M3** | 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. | **L1M3D1** All Metropolis position papers and outcomes on key issues related to metropolitan governance include a gender approach  
**L1M3D2** Gender parity at Metropolis events and debates, especially in terms of speakers  
**L1M3D3** At least one specific event on gender included in the program of Metropolis annual meetings |
| **L1M5** | That a lobbying strategy has been designed that champions Metropolis position on different metropolitan concerns. | **L1M5D1** Lobbying strategy agreed by the Board of Directors |
| **L1M6** | That a global partnership strategy vis-à-vis other networks and actors is established that lays down the broad lines of work. | **L1M6D2** Annual strategic partnership reports (2018-2019-2020) |
| **L1M7** | That Metropolis contributes actively to UCLG and the Global Taskforce, whilst being treated as key partners. | **L1M7D2** Political / Technical presence at UCLG and GTF events |
| **L1M8** | That relations are systematically forged with specialized media to disseminate Metropolis knowledge and positioning. | **L1M8D2** Presence in specialized Media |

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>L2M1</th>
<th>That an agreed number of pilot projects are collaboratively implemented by member cities, in accordance with Metropolis vision.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L2M3</td>
<td>That the Metropolis Observatory and the Policy Transfer Platform are placed at the centre of the association as key means to learn and share models and specific experiences, as well as tools about engaged metropolitan governance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L2M5</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>L2M6</td>
<td>That an agreed set of metropolitan governance tools are made available to city members, and support is actively given for their use in monitoring and assessing quality of life in those cities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L2M7</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>L2M8</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>L2M9</td>
<td>That central knowledge spaces are created and fostered concerning gender-sensitive policies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L2M10</td>
<td>That a youth perspective on the metropolitan governance is actively encouraged and integrated into Metropolis thinking and practice.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Outcomes and deliverables

| L2M1D2 | Execution of 6 pilot projects, one per main strategic theme, led by a member and transferred to other metropolises |
| L2M1D3 | Annual call for pilot projects |
| L2M3D1 | At least one issue paper on key themes related to metropolitan and/or urban governance |
| L2M3D3 | One annual event of the Metropolis Observatory |
| L2M5D1 | Annual gender-sensitive and effective plan on learning and capacity building |
| L2M5D2 | Calendar of events and training program |
| L2M6D1 | Metropolis Observatory and Policy Transfer Platform as a metropolitan governance toolkit |
| L2M7D1 | Annual strategic partnership plans (2018-2019-2020) |
| L2M7D2 | Calendar of events and training program |
| L2M8D1 | Political and technical gatherings addressing key issues for our members, particularly annual meetings and triennial congresses |
| L2M9D1 | Gender-sensitive technical and academic events within the framework of annual events |
| L2M10D2 | Dissemination of knowledge and experiences of member cities through Metropolis media channels |
## Execution of the Action Plan

### L3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Outcomes and deliverables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>L3M1</td>
<td>L3M1D1 Document of Regional Secretaries and Co-presidencies roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That the responsibilities of each statutory body of the Association are defined, particularly the role of Regional Secretaries.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3M2</td>
<td>L3M2D1 5 regional agendas on an annual basis designed and implemented by the Regional Secretaries and the Secretariat General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That five regional agendas are agreed in line with the global strategy of Metropolis.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3M3</td>
<td>L3M3D1 Mapping of members according to their involvement, fee payment, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That a strategy is developed to improve relationships among Metropolis key actors.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3M4</td>
<td>L3M4D2 Annual communication plan including actions and a calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That an internal and external communication plans, sensitive to gender relations, are designed and implemented.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3M6</td>
<td>L3M6D1 Financial, management and accountability systems fully implemented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3M6D2 Compliance strategy and system</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That the financial and operational activities of the Association are transparent and fair.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3M6D4 Clear and effective administrative procedures manual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3M6D5 Biannual and Annual financial reports and strategic budgets manual</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L3M7</td>
<td>L3M7D3 Internal organisation based on a project management approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That the re-organization of the Secretariat General in Barcelona is effected aligned with the strategic objectives of the Association.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHO WE ARE
**AFRICA**

**Focal Points**

- **REGIONAL SECRETARY**
  Rahmatouca Sow Dieye, Dakar

- **SECRETARIAT GENERAL**
  Hélène Jourdan

**Members of the Board of Directors**

**CO-PRESIDENCIES**
- David Makhura, Premier of Gauteng

**REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENCIES**
- Robert Beugre Mambe, Governor of Abidjan District

**MEMBERS**
- Mostafa Madbouly, Minister of Housing of Egypt (Cairo)
- Abdelaziz El Omari, Mayor of Casablanca
- Khalifa Sall, Mayor of Dakar
- Maty Hamady, Mayor of Nouakchott
- 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
Ghasem Taghizadeh Khamesi, Mayor of Mashhad
Park Won-soon, Mayor of Seoul

MEMBERS
Luo Qiang, Mayor of Chengdu
Xu Liyi, Mayor of Hangzhou
Dr. Bonthu Rammohan, Mayor of Hyderabad
Seyyed-Mohammad-Ali Afshani, Mayor of Tehran
Xianwang Zhou, Mayor of Wuhan
EUROPE

Focal Points

REGIONAL SECRETARY
Barbara Berninger
Berlin

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
Lia Brum

Members of the Board of Directors

ACTING PRESIDENCY
Michael Müller, Mayor of Berlin

CO-PRESIDENCIES
Ada Colau, Mayor of Barcelona & President of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona

TREASURY
Jean-Luc Vanraes, Vice-president of the Steering Committee of the Brussels Regional Investment Society

MEMBERS
Laura Pérez Castaño, City councilor responsible for Feminisms and LGTBI of Barcelona/ President of Metropolis Women
Manuela Carmena, Mayor of Madrid
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Focal Points

REGIONAL SECRETARY
Nelson Fernández
Montevideo

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
Lia Brum

Members of the Board of Directors

CO-PRESIDENCIES
Daniel Martínez, Mayor of Montevideo

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENCY
To be appointed, Representative of the Regional Metropolitan Government 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
BELO HORIZONTE
BOGOTÁ
BRASILIA
BUENOS AIRES
CARACAS
CÓRDOBA
GUARULHOS
GUAYAQUIL
LA HABANA
LA PAZ
MARACAIBO
MEDELLÍN
MINAS GERAIS
MONTEVIDEO
PORTO ALEGRE
QUITO
RIO DE JANEIRO
ROSARIO
SAN SALVADOR
SANTIAGO DE CHILE
SÃO PAULO
VALLE DE ABURRÁ
ZULIA
NORTH AMERICA

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
Valérie Plante, Mayor of Montréal

MEMBERS
José Ramón Amieva Gálvez, Head of Government of Mexico City
Juan Manuel Gastelum Buenrostro, Mayor of Tijuana
Secretariat General

Xavier Bermejo  
Project Officer for Communication & Compliance

Guillaume Berret  
Project Officer for Pilot Projects & International Calls for Projects

Agnès Bickart  
Senior Manager for Institutional relations & Asia portfolio

Federica Biondi  
Head of Administration and Finance

Xavier Borrell  
Administration Officer

Lia Brum  
Content Curator & Focal Point for Latin America and Europe

Mara Fernández  
Administration Assistant

Hélène Jourdan  
Project Officer for Learning, Strategic Partnerships & Focal Point for Africa

Silvia Llorente  
Project Officer for Metropolis Women

Teresa Oliver  
Project Officer for Statutory Affairs & Focal Point for North America

Eugeni Villalbí  
Project Officer for Metropolis Observatory

Mireia Zapata  
Administration Assistant to the Secretary General & Support to Action Plan Implementation

Irene Belanche  
Intern

Octavi de la Varga  
Secretary General