

Metropolis Activities Report

3rd Quarter (July–September 2012)

1) ACTION PLAN

METROPOLIS AND UCLG GATHER MEMBERS, PARTNERS AND EXPERTS TO SET A RENEWED CITY-TO-CITY LEARNING AGENDA

Metropolis and UCLG hosted leaders from selected cities, development partners and networks to debate on management and learning practices in diverse urban frameworks in order to set their new agenda on City-to-City Learning and discuss possible synergies between both organizations' approaches. This meeting builds on the Metropolis' Action Plan that commits to increase and improve activities on Learning from and for members.

The strategic planning session on learning was held in Barcelona from 12 to 14 September and gathered around 60 members, partners and experts that shared and compared Metropolis and UCLG methodologies for knowledge exchange with local and metropolitan governments and partner networks. It also set the guidelines for building a learning agenda for the upcoming years, with the identification of key services and activities to develop and reinforce.

During the second day Metropolis and UCLG worked separately in order to elaborate proposals taking into account the needs of their respective members. The Metropolis team identified three ways to explore Learning linked to Metropolis Initiatives and oriented by the key concept of "Love, Learn, Trust (2LT)":

- 1) Accreditation on selected products of training, courses and experts in order to offer reliable learning resources to the cities.
- 2) Create a General Framework for the learning process to assess, monitor and evaluate the services offered.
- 3) Create an umbrella for all of activities of "Exchanges", complementing Metropolis Initiatives as a value-proposal for cities and its partners.

In the third day Metropolis and UCLG shared the conclusions and outlined the possible synergies between both organizations' approaches specially related to the accreditation and knowledge, knowledge and networking platform, connection between Metropolis Initiatives and UCLG Commissions, and joint Peer Learning Exchange.

The outcomes of the meeting have been posted online and the final Strategic Plan will be presented in the next Board of Directors meeting and Innovation Award to be held in Guangzhou (14-17 November 2012).

See Appendix 1: Outcomes of this strategic meeting and a first version of the Recommendations on accreditation, Framework and Exchanges.

2) METROPOLIS INITIATIVES

2.1 Call for 2013 Metropolis Initiatives

The following four proposals were received in the call for 2013 Metropolis Initiatives published in July:

- “Permanent Workshop on Comprehensive Risk Management in Latin American Cities,” submitted by the government of the Federal District of Mexico in partnership with the Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV) Regional Office for Latin America;
- “Developing Sustainable Urban Tourism: A New Framework for Institutional Collaboration,” submitted by Consorci de Turisme de Barcelona [Barcelona Tourism Consortium] in partnership with the city council of Barcelona and the Spanish state tourism innovation and technology company SEGITTUR;
- “Green Economy Center,” submitted by the government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires; and
- “Comprehensive Recovery of Metropolitan River Areas: The Experience of the Llobregat River,” submitted by the Greater Barcelona authority Área Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB) in partnership with Barcelona Regional, the Consortium for the Recovery and Conservation of the Llobregat River, the Center for Ecological Research and Forestry Applications (CREAF), and the Forest Sciences Center of Catalonia (CTFC).

The jury for the Initiatives will meet on November 14 in Guangzhou to select the proposals to be submitted to the Board of Directors for final approval at its meeting on November 17, 2012.

2.2. Metropolis Initiative Workshop “Integrated Strategic Planning and Public Private Partnerships”, New Delhi, 26-27 July 2012

The inaugural workshop of the Melbourne led Metropolis Initiative “Integrated Strategic Planning and Public Private Partnerships” was held in New Delhi during 26-27 July 2012. Titled 'Planning Partnerships for Sustainability' the event brought together over 40 practitioners from across government agencies, educational and research institutes, the private sector, and non government organisations. The workshop provided participants with the opportunity to learn more about the Initiative, exposure to the basis and use of the ‘Circles of Sustainability method’, share their views on the critical issues facing cities, and to identify future engagements. Good integrated strategic planning requires both general protocols and local knowledge. This project enables both sides of that equation to be developed. The project involves a partnership between Metropolis, the Cities Programme, Indian municipal authorities and global experts on urban sustainability both in India and elsewhere. The project will develop a model that incorporates considerations of public-private partnership into a working process designed to assist Indian cities in tackling urgent infrastructure needs. It is intended that the model will be useful—with careful adaptation—to local circumstances of other cities around India and the world.

Representatives came from Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Faridabad and Bangalore, together with delegations from Sao Paulo and Tehran. The workshop was jointly hosted by Prof. Chetan Vaidya from the National Institute of Urban Affairs and Prof Paul James of UN Global Compact Cities Programme at the RMIT University. They were supported by Sunil Dubey, the Metropolis - Country Director, and Christine Oakley from Victorian State Government, under the guidance the Project Director, Mary Lewin, also from the Victorian State Government.

For detailed information about the workshop, please refer to the full report (available on our website: www.metropolis.org)

2.3. Metropolis Initiative: “Metropolises at Work: Governance, Finance, and the Execution of Public Policies” Networking event

Metropolis and the State Government of São Paulo organized the networking event “Metropolises at Work: Governance, Finance, and the Execution of Public Policies” in the framework of the World Urban Forum (WUF6), held in Naples in September 2012. This event compared the strategies of establishing a structure of metropolitan governability and engaging private stakeholders in the financing of metropolitan projects of cities as different as Barcelona, Johannesburg, Tlajomulco (Guadalajara metropolitan region) and Sao Paulo.

2.4 Metropolis Initiative: Mentoring on on Slum upgrading in the WUF6

In the framework of the World Urban Forum (WUF6), the Durban - São Paulo's Metropolis Initiative on Slum upgrading was showcased at the networking event organized by UCLG's Committee on Strategic Urban Planning.

3) STATUTORY MEETINGS

3.1. Board of Directors Meeting in Guangzhou, 14-17 November 2012

The countdown has begun to the Metropolis Board of Director's meetings, which will take place in Guangzhou between 14 and 17 November 2012 when the winners of the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation will be unveiled. We encourage all members and partners to register online at the event's webpage which also provides the latest updates on the program, useful information and visa procedures: <http://guangzhou2012.metropolis.org>.

Urban Innovation will be the cross-cutting theme and Metropolis Mayors' Forum will offer a political discussion on innovative urban development trends. The Mayor of Guangzhou, Mr. Chen Jinhua; the President of Metropolis and of the Ile-de-France Region, Mr. Jean-Paul Huchon; the Mayor of Istanbul and President of UCLG, Mr. Kadir Topbas; the Governor of Abidjan, Mr. Breugé Robert Mambe, and the President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, Ms. Li Xiaolin, have been invited to participate at this Political Forum.

As board members have received quarterly activity reports over the year, we propose that the Board of Directors meeting have a more compact format in order to leave more time for discussion.

3.2. Board of Directors Meeting in Johannesburg, July 2013

The first preparatory visit to Johannesburg for the 2013 Metropolis Board of Directors meetings took place from 16 to 19 July 2012 when a delegation from Metropolis travelled to Johannesburg in order to discuss in depth the following issues related to the organization of the Metropolis Board of Directors to be held in 2013:

- Program
- General logistics (organizing manual)
- Venues and accommodation options
- Budget
- Agreement Metropolis – Johannesburg
- Communication, Marketing and Protocol

The meetings, visits, as well as the conversations shared with the City Manager, enabled to accomplish the main objectives of the visit, establishing solid bases in view of the forthcoming collaboration and set agreements on relevant details of the organization of the event.

4) MEMBERS

4.1 New Members in 2012

The new Metropolis members include:

- 1) The City of Buenos Aires
- 2) Kaohsiung
- 3) Lahore
- 4) Gujranwala
- 5) Fuzhou
- 6) Kunming
- 7) Xian
- 8) Shenzhen (member since 2011, but pending ratification by the Board of Directors, which will meet in Guangzhou on November 17, 2012)

Metropolis is still awaiting receipt of the membership applications of Faisalabad (Pakistan) and Changchun (China), who have conveyed their wish to join Metropolis through UCLG-ASPAC.

4.2. Status of 2012 Fee Payments

As of October 1, 51 members had paid their membership fees, amounting to a total of €424,958.

5) GUANGZHOU INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR URBAN INNOVATION

Since the launch of the Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation in March 2012, the Award has received great attention from cities and local governments around the world. By the application deadline of September 30th, the Secretariat in Guangzhou has received in total 255 registrations from 153 cities, among which there are altogether 210 valid submissions from 134 cities.

An assessment meeting by the Technical Committee will take place on October 15th—17th in Guangzhou, during which experts in urban issues will review all submissions and produce a short-list of 15 initiatives, to be submitted to the Jury for their decision on the 5 final winners on November 14th.

Given the warm response from global cities, and to encourage innovations in promoting urban development, Co-President Wan Qingliang has proposed to increase the number of cities/initiatives awarded. Apart from the 15 short-listed initiatives, the Technical Committee will also select 30 more initiatives that they think worthy of wide attention and publicity, which do not enter for final assessment by the Jury, but will be presented the title of TC's Special Recognition Award.

6) METROPOLIS WOMEN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ACTIVITIES

Over the third quarter of 2012, the Metropolis Women International Network has attended meetings of female entrepreneurs from the Barcelona-based NUST (New Social Uses of Time) network and holding meetings with representatives from the health, volunteer and business sectors, as well as with members of the disabled community. All of the meetings were held with a view to having a core driver for the Barcelona section in place by year-end, with representatives from multiple sectors.

6.1. INTERNATIONAL AGENDA

The Metropolis Women International Network's international agenda over the third quarter was as follows:

Participation in the Capacity-building Seminar for the International Network of Local Elected Female Representatives in Africa "WOMEN IN CONTEMPORARY AFRICAN SOCIETY," organized by the Women in Africa section and coordinated by Barcelona. Abidjan, July 24–27, 2012.

The seminar was attended by 500 women representatives from local governments in 21 African countries, who shared their experiences in order to tackle new challenges in the spheres of the environment, governance, sustainability and innovation. On Thursday, July 26, the Metropolis Women International Network delegation, accompanied by Governor Beugré Mambe, was received by the Ivorian prime minister, Jeannot Ahoussou Kouadio. The purpose of the meeting, in addition to thanking the prime minister for his country's hospitality, was to present the conclusions of the seminar. See Appendix 2: General Report on the Seminar (available in French only).

Separately, the governor of Abidjan took advantage of the seminar to notify Metropolis of his intention to establish a secretariat for the Women of Africa Network in the city, as well to host, in the fall of 2013, the third edition of the INTERNATIONAL FORUM “DYNAMIC CITIES NEED WOMEN.”

Participation in the workshops in advance of the WORLD URBAN FORUM hosted by the Huairou Commission in collaboration with UN-Habitat. Naples, August 29–31, 2012. Grassroots Women’s International Academy.

As part of the preparatory activities for the World Urban Forum (WUF), the Metropolis Women International Network attended the meeting of more than 60 women from 12 different countries held from August 29 to 31 at the L.U.P.T. Interdepartmental Research Centre at the University of Naples Federico II.

Joan Clos, under-secretary general of the UN and executive director of UN-Habitat, expressed his gratitude to Metropolis for its involvement in the workshops and thanked the Huairou Commission for hosting the Grassroots Women International Academy. He underscored the importance of “bringing together women from different grassroots organizations in order to designate common priorities and a common goal to bring into the WUF so as to shape both deliberations and policy orientations during the event.” According to Clos, one of the Habitat Program’s key recommendations is to recognize the crucial role that women play in “achieving sustainable human settlements.”

Participation in the WORLD URBAN FORUM Naples, September 1–7, 2012

For just over a week, the Metropolis Women International Network actively participated in the debates, sessions and roundtables on urban planning issues from a gender perspective held within the framework of the World Urban Forum, which culminated in the drafting of a statement in the form of recommendations that underscored the important role that women play in planning, developing and managing space. See Appendix 3: Recommendations (available in English only).

Additionally, the Metropolis Women International Network took advantage of the WUF to contact and meet with Metropolis partners, such as the Huairou Commission, in order to strengthen the ties between the two associations. Meetings were also held with representatives from the Abidjan, Mashhad and Seoul sections and with UN-Habitat to coordinate a conference on urban planning and gender to be held in the first quarter of 2013. The conference will be hosted by the Barcelona section in collaboration with the Greater Barcelona authority Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB), and Joan Clos will be the keynote speaker.

Participation in the FLEXIBLE WORKPLACE CATALONIA award

In June, the Metropolis secretariat general submitted its candidacy to participate in the **7th edition of the Cataluña Empresa Flexible [Flexible Workplace Catalonia] award**, which celebrates those companies that show an unwavering commitment to facilitating work-life balance for their employees. The winning company in each category – large companies, medium-sized companies and small companies – is entered in the running for the **National Flexible Workplace Award** along with the finalists from Spain's other autonomous regions. The award is given jointly by CValora and ManpowerGroup and is sponsored by the Spanish Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality. So far, Metropolis has been chosen as a finalist in the "Small companies" category from among nearly 300 candidates.

6.2. AGENDA FOR THE COMING MONTHS

The Metropolis Women International Network's agenda for the coming months, which is currently put together by the Barcelona section, is as follows:

- Coordination of and attendance at a meeting of the Metropolis Women International Network sections in Guangzhou, China, on November 14, 2012, within the framework of the Metropolis Board of Directors Meeting.
- Meeting of the African section within the framework of the Africities Summit scheduled to take place in Dakar, from December 1 to 6, 2012.
- Collaboration with UCLG and the city council of Paris to hold the Global Conference on Women in Local Decision Making, Paris, January 30, 2013.
- Organization of the conference "Urban Planning from a Gender Perspective: Making Cities Safe" in collaboration with the Greater Barcelona authority Àrea Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB). First quarter 2013.
- Participation in the 57th edition of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), organized by UN Women, the priority theme for which will be the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls. New York, March 2013.
- Co-organization with the Abidjan section of the third INTERNATIONAL FORUM "DYNAMIC CITIES NEED WOMEN." Abidjan, fall 2013.

7) PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

7.1. City Protocol Seminar, Barcelona, July 16 and 17, 2012

The City Protocol Seminar was held in Barcelona on July 16 and 17, 2012. The seminar seeks to promote a certification system for assessing city's efficiency and quality. The event was attended by approximately 200 representatives, including two representatives from Metropolis, who actively participated in the debates to establish a new framework for improving and transforming cities.

The city council of Barcelona is the driving force behind the project, which also receives support from CISCO and GDF Suez and is held in collaboration with more than 90 cities, organizations, universities and companies.

7.2. World Urban Forum (WUF6), Naples, 1-7 September 2012

The Sixth session of the World Urban Forum held in Naples was officially brought to a close on the 6 September hosting over 8.000 international participants and a large number of events. The Forum was the first milestone in the preparatory process towards the Third Conference of Sustainable Human Settlements (Habitat III 2016) when all Habitat partners will come together and commit to a renewed global urban agenda. Metropolis and UCLG hosted a booth at the Exhibition hall that showcased the Metropolis Initiatives and became the meeting point for local authorities and partners and organized two networking events on "Metropolitan Governance" and "Peer Learning".

The Metropolis secretary general took advantage of the WUF to meet with the mayor of Johannesburg, the governor of Abidjan, the director general for international relations of Guangzhou, and a representative of the governor of the city of Kinshasa.

Metropolis participated in the United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA) meeting, as well as the mayors' roundtable at the WUF6.

8) INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

8.1. 2012–2014 Agreement between the City Council of Barcelona and Metropolis

An agreement between Metropolis and the city council of Barcelona was signed in September for the 2012–2014 period with a view to establishing a framework for international collaboration between the city council's Office of International Relations and Cooperation and the Metropolis secretariat general.

8.2. Request from the governor of Abidjan, Robert Beugré Mambe, to enter into collaboration agreements with the Greater Barcelona authority Área Metropolitana de Barcelona (AMB) and the city council of Barcelona. August 17, 2012.

Within the framework of the Capacity-building Seminar for the International Network of Local Elected Female Representatives in Africa held in the city of Abidjan, Governor Robert Beugré Mambe conveyed to Metropolis his city's interest in establishing a framework for cooperation with both AMB and the city council of Barcelona.

**9) METROPOLIS ACTIVITIES FOR THE
OCTOBER-DECEMBER QUARTER 2012**

9.1. Kreanta Metropolis Initiative 5th International Conference on Creative Cities, October 2–5, Medellin.

The Kreanta Foundation held the 5th International Conference on Creative Cities in the city of Medellin within the framework of the Medellin-Barcelona Chair project. The Medellin edition is a meeting of Latin American professionals to discuss and reflect on creativity, innovation and culture in cities over the course of four days.

The conference provided a forum for reflection on today's world and what makes it move, based on work on two proposed lines:

- Public space and culture in action.
- Creating innovation in the cultural sector.

This edition also included the European Prize for Urban Public Space (<http://www.publicspace.org/es/>), promoted by the Contemporary Culture Center of Barcelona (CCCB), held for the first time in Latin America.

More than 17 speakers from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Spain, the United States and Mexico participated.

[More information](#)

9.2. Towards 2nd Generation of City Development Plan (CDP)

12-13 October, 2012, New Delhi, India

Metropolis's partner associate in India, National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) along with Government of India and Cities Alliance conducted a two day International Capacity Building Workshop in New Delhi during 12 -13 October 2012. Metropolis supported NIUA for the workshop to boost the importance of city to city learning and presenting the compelling case studies on value proposition for Indian cities in mutual

learning from global cities. Metropolis was represented during the New Delhi workshop.

The main objective of this international workshop was to understand and build consensus on the key areas for improvements encountered with the first generation of CDPs. The practitioners in the cities and states shared their experiences and learnt from lessons from abroad on effective city level development. It was desired that such an event provided practical guidance for specific recommendations for a more effective CDP preparation approach to be included in guidelines for JNNURM-2 (Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission).

9.3. Metropolis Initiative "Integrated Urban Governance - Successful Policy Transfer": Peer-Review-Training, 15-16 October, Paris

The Metropolis Initiative "Integrated Urban Governance - Successful Policy Transfer" held a Peer-Review-Training from the 15th to the 16th of October in Paris. The meeting took place at the "Institute for Urban and Regional Planning (IAU-IdF). Peers from Vienna, Johannesburg, Hyderabad and Sydney reviewed the priorities of the host's Agenda 21 and its Regional Climate Plan. This activity builds on the Metropolis Action Plan committed to increasing and improving learning activities by and for members.

The Initiative invited four peers who worked on similar projects to present their feedback on the problems, challenges, and questions linked to the implementation of the Regional Climate Plan. IAU-IdF also organized a technical tour to the Semach geothermal power plant and Chevilly-Larue high school, two specific projects in the master plan to help peers produce pioneering outcomes both for the further implementation of the Île-de-France Regional Climate Plan and for the practice of Metropolis member cities.

The full report on the workshop is available on the Metropolis website.

9.4. Participation in Asian Mayors Forum 28-30 November 2012, Bangkok

The Asian Mayors Forum is an international non-governmental and not-for-profit organization which has been established for an indefinite period of time to foster interaction and cooperation among Asian cities and citizens in various areas including cultural, social, economic, political, environmental, and scientific fields in order to achieve further prosperity and improvement of quality of life for citizens since November 2008. Asian Mayors Forum Third General Assembly:

1. Principle theme : Local Governance: Urban Initiatives for Progress & Justice
2. Major themes of commissions : local governance, urban challenges including traffic & transportation (suggesting a traffic & transportation committee under the supervision of Common Challenges Commission), success stories

[More information](#)

9.5. AFRICITIES 4- 8 December 2012, Dakar

9.5.1 UCLG World Council, 4-6 December 2012, Dakar

At the kind invitation of UCLGA and the Mayor of Dakar, UCLG will celebrate its World Council, the highest policy-making body of the World Organization. The meetings gather around 500 local and regional government representatives and will among other issues, define the programme of the Summit of Local and Regional Leaders 1-4 October 2013 in Rabat. It will also include two policy debates concerning local and regional governments position in the new international development agenda currently being defined by the UN. The meetings in Dakar will also comprise the celebration of the Forum of Regions, a new instrument aiming at increasing the visibility and participation of regional authorities in UCLG which is jointly organised with ORU-FOGAR.

The 2012 World Council will be held on occasion of the 6th Africities Summit and members are encouraged to actively participate in Africities which will include sessions organised by Sections and Committees.

Africities is the most important gathering for the local government agenda in Africa; this Summit’s edition will have as theme: “Building Africa starting from its territories”.

For further information, please visit: www.asianmayors.org

9.5.2 Metropolis Initiative: Joint Workshop with UCLG - "Peer learning and local leadership: a way for changing our cities?"

"Peer learning and local leadership: a way for changing our cities?": UCLG with members and sections as well as partnering networks previews a special session to review experiences on peer exchanges and learning of members and partners in the past 2 years. The Metropolis Initiative on slum upgrading between Durban and Sao Paulo will be showcased in this occasion.

**10. INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR
 OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2012**

OCTOBER	2012	
2-5	Jakarta	4 th UCLG – ASPAC Congress
2-5	Medellin	Metropolis Initiative: Kreanta Foundation: Public Space, Culture and Action
8-10	Barcelona	6th Urban Research and Knowledge Symposium (URKS6) on Rethinking Cities: Framing the Future
9-11	Buenos Aires	XI International Congress for Local Governments

8-18	Hyderabad	The XI Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity and the City Biodiversity Summit
9-11	San Francisco	World Urban Initiatives at Meeting of the Minds 2012
12-13	New Delhi	Towards 2 nd Generation of City Development Plan (CDP)
15-16	Paris	Metropolis Initiative: Peer Review Learning. Agenda 21 and Climate Plan for Ile-de-France Paris Region
15-20	Roma	Committee on World Food Security (CFS) 39 th Session FAO
15-17	Boston	The CEO's for Cities 2012 Fall National Meeting
17-19	Madrid	VII Iberoamerican Forum of Local Governments
18-19	Berlin	2nd Asia Europe Meeting (ASEM) for Governors and Mayors
30 Oct. 02Nov	Hanoi	Cities Alliance 2012 Annual Meeting
NOVEMBER 2012		
12-14	Melbourne	International Thriving Neighbourhoods Conference (ICLEI Oceania)
13-15	Barcelona	Smart City Expo World Congress
14-17	Guangzhou	Board of Directors Metropolis Meetings and Guangzhou Urban Innovation Awards http://guangzhou2012.metropolis.org
28-30	Bangkok	Third General Assembly of Asian Mayors Forum (AMF)
DECEMBER 2012		
4-8	Dakar	6th edition of Africities Summit
4-6	Dakar	UCLG World Council
4-8	Dakar	Metropolis Initiative: "Durban - Sao Paulo - UCLG mentoring on Slum Upgrading"
5-8	New Delhi	5 th urban Mobility India Conference CUM Exhibition (UMI2012) Smart Mobility