METROPOLIS CALL FOR PILOT PROJECTS 2021 – 2023

Metropolis is opening a new call for pilot project, for the period 2021-2023, members are called to submit their proposals.

1. Background

In 2017, Metropolis, the World Association of the Major Metropolises opened a call for proposals, to select, among its members pilot projects that would generate spaces for exchange and learning about different spheres of the metropolitan life. The projects selected needed to be aligned with the vision of the association:

“Metropolises for and by their citizens, where participatory and effective metropolitan governance fosters economic development, sustainability, social cohesion, gender equality and quality of life”

Since 2017

- 2 call for projects have been published
- 26 projects proposals have been submitted
- 11 projects have been selected.
- 19 metropolises from 5 continents participated in the projects

2. Objectives

2.1 Global Objective
The global objective of the pilot projects is to promote capacity development and exchange of knowledge and practices on metropolitan management and development, among its members and partners.

This new call for projects will support Metropolis members in addressing metropolitan management and development, through capacity development, based on peer to peer exchanges.

The projects must contribute to the accomplishment of goals established by the global agendas (2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the New Urban Agenda, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Addis Ababa Action Agenda).

2.2 Specific Objectives

The proposal must address the first specific objective (Metropolitan Governance) and at least one out of the five remaining objectives (economic development, sustainability, social cohesion, gender equality, quality of life).

1. Metropolitan Governance
   A proposal that gives a prime example of an institutional set-up that allows the effective governance of a metropolitan territory, conducted through deliberatively democratic, transparent, and that brings together comprehensive community engagement, expert knowledge and extended public debate and participation in all relevant aspects of governance.

2. Economic Development
   A proposal that seeks the economic development of a metropolitan area as one of the elements of a city’s prosperity, and is linked to human, social and environmental questions.

3. Sustainability
   A proposal that seeks actions and proposes conditions of sustainable and green urban development which entails the enduring future of those conditions. The proposal can tackle various domains of sustainability—economic, political, and cultural sustainability, with a gender approach.

4. Social Cohesion
   A proposal that establishes the metropolis as the intersection for the encounter of diverse age, cultural, ethnic, gender, socioeconomic and religious identities, and includes actions towards processes that “brings people together, through dialogue and productive interchange”.

5. Gender Equality
   A proposal which draws attention to the specific circumstances of women and/or LGTBI collective in the metropolis (economic opportunities and land property, political and social participation, safety in public spaces...), and designs tools to empower them to build an equal gender society.

6. Quality of Life
   A proposal to improve life and promote the self-development of all metropolitan citizens, using approaches that bridge innovation and citizen participation, to bring solutions to daily issues, taking into consideration intergenerational perspectives and the principle of right to the city.
3. Financial allocation provided by Metropolis

Metropolis will select a maximum of 5 pilot projects for this call and will provide funding to support the activities of capacity development and the exchange of knowledge and practices.

Each project selected will receive a maximum amount of twenty-six thousand euros (26,000.00€), which must be spent on related activities between January 1st, 2021, and June 30th 2023.

The resources must be applied exclusively to activities of knowledge and practice exchanges that serve the purpose of learning, developing diagnosis of metropolitan issues and testing common solutions. **This will not be applied to direct implementation of projects in the field.**

4. Rules of the call for proposals

4.1 Eligibility criteria

- The call is open exclusively to Metropolis members, and that are up to date with the payment of the 2019 membership fee.

- The proposal must be presented and led by one member of the association, identified as project leader

- The proposal must include the collaboration of at least two other members of the association, identified as “partners”, which at least one must come from a different geographic region from that of the project leader.

- Project leaders may participate in as many applications as they wish, however they only be awarded one project

- In addition to the partners (explained above), collaboration with local governments non-member of Metropolis, city networks, entities from the academic, business and grassroots communities may be proposed. Those entities will be identified as collaborators.

- Project leaders should have full capacity to receive direct funding from Metropolis and manage the resources according to the project proposal. If required, the leaders may designate an independent organization to receive and manage the funds which name must be indicated in the agreement. The leadership of the project shall remain with the project leader, in charge of the project progress.

- All projects proposals must plan for a final product that will compile the projects main results by mean of a specific media format (e.g. publication, video, interactive online presentation, podcast), that will be delivered at the end of the project.

4.2 Eligibility of costs

- The funds must be applied exclusively to knowledge and practice exchanges, activities that serve the purposes of learning, developing diagnosis of metropolitan issues and testing common solutions, and **not to direct implementation of the projects in the field.**

- Eligible expenses include
  - organization of events, workshops and other learning activities;
  - production of learning and communication products;
  - consultancy of experts in the fields addressed by the project;
5. How to participate and procedures to follow

5.1. To submit a proposal, please follow the steps indicated in the online form available by clicking here.

5.2 Any Project serving as a basis for a proposal must be uploaded in the USE Platform before submission of the application.

5.3 Information may be submitted in any one of Metropolis three official languages – English, Spanish and French. Please make sure, to submit all the information in only one of these languages.

5.4 If you do not wish to submit a project, but want to participate as a “partner”, please contact Mr. Guillaume Berret at the Metropolis Secretariat General (gberret@metropolis.org).

5.5 The Metropolis Secretariat General can be solicited by all members wishing to submit a proposal, to provide guidance in the elaboration of a project proposal (with a deadline on 15th May 2020 to receive guidance), please contact Mr. Guillaume Berret at the Metropolis Secretariat General (gberret@metropolis.org) for more information.

6. Selection process

- All complete applications will be evaluated by a jury composed of international experts in one or several, spheres of the metropolitan life (metropolitan governance, economic development, sustainability, social cohesion, gender equality and quality of life).

- The jury members will submit a ranking of the projects proposals to the Metropolis Board of Administration, that will validate the project selected.

- A minimum threshold of 65 points will be applied, applications falling below this threshold will not be included in the proposal selection.

- An application will be considered complete if it contains the following elements:
  - A complete calendar of the activities, in accordance with the template
  - A detailed budget of the activities, in accordance with the template
  - A completed application form
Letters of support from the project partners indicating their willingness to participate in the project. The letters must be signed by a representative of the department involved in the project, or by a representative of the international relations department or its equivalent.

The projects serving as a basis for an application must be registered on the USE Platform.

- Metropolis intends to ensure a geographical diversity among the various pilot project leaders, where each geographic region of Metropolis (Africa, Asia, Latin America, North America, and Europe) is given the leadership of a project.

- Projects will be evaluated according to the following criteria:
  1. level of coherence with the spheres of the metropolitan life described in the first section of this document – preference will be given to projects with demonstrated multidimensional and intersectional approaches; (max 20 pts)
  2. clarity of the budget and calendar regarding the activities proposed; (max 20 pts)
  3. diversity of partners and collaborators – in terms of geographic location and cross-sector partnerships; (max 15 pts)
  4. addressing Sustainable Development Goals, level of contribution to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Addis Ababa Action Agenda (max 15 pts).
  5. generation of learning, in terms of the number of stakeholders that may benefit from the activities proposed; (max 10 pts)
  6. themes not approached in the previous editions of the pilot projects (check [https://www.metropolis.org/pilot-projects](https://www.metropolis.org/pilot-projects)) (max 10 pts)
  7. transferability to other metropolises; (max 10 pts)

- Additional points will be given to proposals including members of Metropolis regions that were under-represented in previous editions (Africa & Asia) (max 10pts)

- Metropolis will select a maximum of 5 pilot projects for this call

7. Milestones

2020

- February 26th: call for applications
- May 15th: deadline to receive guidance from the Metropolis Secretariat General in the elaboration of a project proposal
- June 15th: deadline for all applications (23h59, Barcelona time)
- October 15th: preselection process results disclosed to the leaders of projects
- October 28th: official approval of selected projects by the Metropolis Board of Directors and disclosure during the Metropolis World Congress in Guangzhou.
- November 2nd – December 31st: signature of the grant agreements between Metropolis and project leaders, which conditions the disbursement of the first installment of the grant (7,000,00€) from January 1st 2021

2021

- January 1st – December 31st: phase 1 of activities
2022
- January 1st – February 28th: period to present financial and narrative reports related to phase 1, which condition the disbursement of the second installment of the grant (maximum of 11,000,00€)
- January 1st – December 31st: phase 2 of activities

2023
- January 1st – February 29th: period to present financial and narrative reports related to phase 2, which condition the disbursement of the third installment of the grant (maximum of 4,000,00€)
- January 1st – June 30th: phase 3 of activities
- July 1st – September 15th: period to present the final financial and narrative reports, which condition the disbursement of the final installment of the grant (maximum of 4,000,00€)

For more information, or to receive help in the search of a partner, please contact Mr. Guillaume Berret at the Metropolis Secretariat General (gberret@metropolis.org).

1 Depending on the applications received