METROPOLIS
PROGRESS REPORT

January – March
2020

metropolis • world association of the major metropolises
Note from the Secretary General

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Activated members
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Who we are
Africa
Asia-Pacific
Europe
Latin America and the Caribbean
North America
Secretariat General
This year started with forcing all of us to face one of the most challenging crises our Association has ever experienced. The pandemic has drastically and suddenly changed our lives. This has led to severe consequences at all levels, but it also has made us appreciate what is really important in our lives.

During these months, metropolises around the globe have been pushed to give immediate answers to an unprecedented emergency. The situation has shown what needs to be adapted and improved in our metropolises.

Since we will be celebrating our 35th anniversary next month, it is time to assess the work done and continue to listen to our members so we can meet their demands. In this matter, the collaborative platform "Cities for Global Health" was launched to foster collective responses and facilitate access to first-hand experiences on the ways that urban areas across the globe are stepping up to the COVID-19 outbreak and other health emergencies. Also, a new section on the USE platform, called the "COVID-19 Service Point", was created as a one-stop-shop for initiatives led by our partners that offer learning and knowledge exchange opportunities in the fight against the pandemic.

Metropolis has also had to re-think and reorganise its activity, searching for new ways to implement activities in a virtual format. The Secretariat General team has had to quickly adapt to the situation by working remotely from our homes so as not to leave our goals or our members behind.

This crisis unites us more than ever. Let us continue to join forces and build prosperous, resilient, egalitarian and safe metropolitan communities.

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
Twelfth Global Forum on Migration and Development Summit and the 6th Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development

Quito, 19-24 January

The Summit welcomed over 1000 participants, and was the first Global Forum on Migration and Development Summit (GFMD Summit) to host civil society, private sector, local authority, youth and academia representatives as integrated participants in the Summit. Organized as an integral part of the program, the 6th Mayoral Forum on Human Mobility, Migration and Development brought the perspective and expertise of local authorities into GFMD discussions, and called for concrete steps towards the multilevel governance promoted by the Global Compact on Migration.

Gender Keys 03: “Metropolitan governance and gender equality: a challenging relationship?”

06 February

In the framework of Metropolis’ commitment to gender equality, the Gender Keys collection offers tools and case studies implemented by members, to stop gender inequalities and improve the right to the city for all inhabitants.

In this matter, Metropolis launched the Gender Keys 03 “Metropolitan governance and gender equality” which focuses on the challenges of metropolitan governance facing gender issues. In just two pages and with a comprehensive language, we analyze the urban consequences of an obsolete governance model that excludes the plurality of existing views and voices. The struggle of women and vulnerable groups to penetrate governance structures is strictly related to a gender-blind public space. When we talk about governance, we refer to the exercise of leadership and the power to take decisions. This vision, prevalent in different contexts around the world, is a result of the limited access of women and vulnerable groups in governance structures.
Metropolis actively participated at both political and technical levels in the 10th World Urban Forum (WUF10) held in Abu Dhabi.

Our association marked its political presence with the representation of our members in the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments. This assembly focused on how urbanization shapes and is shaped by culture and heritage. The discussions started looking at global partnerships and initiatives for sustainable urbanization and then revolved around how urbanization affects and is affected by culture and innovation. Speakers debated on the role that urban and territorial policies can play in preserving cultural heritage and how local governments can maximize the relationship between tradition, culture and sustainable urbanization.

During these days, Metropolis and its members organized or participated in the following events:

8 February
- World Assembly of Local & Regional Governments
- Global State of Metropolis - experts group meeting #2

9 February
- Strengthening metropolitan governance: strategies & tools to build a more equitable public space
- Beyond the metropolis: inspiring and innovative initiatives to strengthen territorial management in worldwide metropolises and regions

10 February
- Innovation and culture in bridging social, economic and spatial divides
- The role of culture in liveability
- The United Nations Advisory Committee of Local Authorities (UNACLA) Meeting
- Sustainable transformation of global cities
- Culture and innovation in Tehran urban management
- Voluntary Local Reviews
- Art, culture and design in creating city vibrancy and strong communities

11 February
- Nature-based solutions at city level
- Institutional innovations for linking heritage and culture
- Cities and data
- Achieving resilient urban planning and comprehensive disaster risk management in Mexico
The 6th UCLG Annual Retreat & Campus took place for the first time in Tangier and brought together political leaders and technical staff from the UCLG membership, as well as representatives from its partners. The week-long meeting provided an opportunity to define synergies and develop actions in line with the work plan outlined during the last UCLG World Congress.

The event offered the opportunity to boost ties with all sections, committees, working groups and political councils of the organisation, identifying common goals and challenges and building a shared narrative. As UCLG’s metropolitan section, Metropolis has played a prominent role in several panels, meetings, and discussions again this year. The event was an ideal occasion for Metropolis Secretary General to present the work undertaken during 2019 and to share the priorities for 2020.

6th UCLG Annual Retreat
Tangier, 24-29 February

5th South Asian Cities Summit
Goa, 4-6 March

The 5th South Asian Cities Summit was held in Goa, India. The Summit was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MUHA), of the Indian Government. The Senior Manager for institutional relations presented Metropolis’ strategy for the implementation of SDG5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls) within the association. UCLG ASPAC co-organized the event and Metropolis participated as a knowledge partner.

Activated members
Amman,
Barcelona (city),
Bogota, Dakar,
Johannesburg,
Kazan, Madrid,
Mexico city,
Montevideo,
Montréal,
Moscow, Xi’an

Related outcomes
L1M1D3

Related outcomes
L1M1D1
L1M1D3
L1M3D2
L2M2D5
L2M6D1

Activated members
Hyderabad, New Delhi – NIUA
On 9 March our Secretary general and Senior Manager for institutional relations met with Consul General of the Republic of Korea, Mr Tae-wan Huh and his Deputy Mr Junho Choi.

The Consulate protects its citizens in Catalonia, promotes Barcelona in Korea and assumes tasks related to public diplomacy.

In order to raise awareness of some members regarding their link with our association and to activate our membership in South Korea, it was agreed that the Consulate will propose a visit of Metropolis headquarters every time a delegation from South Korean cities requests a field visit of Barcelona.

Related outcomes
L1M6D1

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The outbreak of the COVID-19 brought local and regional governments to the forefront of the emergency. For this reason, UCLG, Metropolis, and UN-Habitat co-organized the "Live Learning Experience", an online initiative to foster local politicians and technicians' discussion, gaining insights into governance tools to manage the crisis. Launched on 25th March with a first ice-breaking online meeting, the Live Learning Experience initiative will be articulated in weekly thematic session, each in collaboration with experts in the field.

25 March
Live Learning Experience: Beyond the Immediate Response to the Outbreak - Building the Community

Related outcomes
L1M1D3
L1M7D2
L2M7D1
urban diplomacy and metropolitan advocacy

Metropolis in the media

JANUARY

AMB Abroad
- Issue Paper 09

World Urban Campaign:
- MGET

FEBRUARY

AMB Abroad
- GOLD V

AMB Abroad
- WUF 10

Urban Gateway
- Issue Paper 09

Urban Gateway
- African Metropolitan Report

MARCH

ESPON
- Cities for Global Health + Live Learning Experience

AL-LAs
- Cities for Global Health

UCLG
- Cities for Global Health

UN-HABITAT Spain
- Cities for Global Health

UN-HABITAT Spain
- Cities for Global Health

Andalucía Solidaria
- Cities for Global Health

El País – Seres urbanos
- Support for the people and communities affected by COVID-19
Metropolis Secretary General met Mrs. Rosa Arlene María, Executive Director of CIDEU. CIDEU is the Iberoamerican Centre for Strategic Urban Development, a network of Iberoamerican cities which fosters a culture of strategic urban thinking and gathers 152 members from 21 countries. The meeting offered the opportunity to explore areas for joint work, in particular in the fields of learning and capacity building around urban planning.

Metropolis Secretary General and Agustí Fernández de Losada, Director of the CIDOB Global Cities Program, presented the main outcomes of the metropolitan chapter of the last GOLD Report to Senior Managers and staff of the Metropolitan Area of Barcelona. The session concluded with an open debate with the 10 participants on the current and future challenges of the metropolitan spaces.

Metropolis Secretary General met Mrs. Rosa Arlene Maria, Executive Director of CIDEU. CIDEU is the Iberoamerican Centre for Strategic Urban Development, a network of Iberoamerican cities which fosters a culture of strategic urban thinking and gathers 152 members from 21 countries. The meeting offered the opportunity to explore areas for joint work, in particular in the fields of learning and capacity building around urban planning.

After Metropolis’ letter supporting all the communities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cities for Global Health platform was launched. This collaborative online platform, co-led by Metropolis and AL-LAs with the support of UCLG, offers access to knowledge, strategies and actionable plans implemented by local and regional governments around the globe. A virtual space to showcase what cities are doing and be inspired by others regarding specific initiatives or plans to the COVID-19 outbreak and other health emergencies.
Metropolitan challenges in the post 2020 European Union

Barcelona, 10 March

Metropolis Secretary General and the Policy and Research Officer attended the seminar “Metropolitan challenges in the post 2020 European Union” organized by CIDOB. The event served to discuss two of the main challenges European metropolises are facing at this moment. Firstly, how metropolitan areas can contribute to, and have a voice in European climate governance in the form of the newly launched European Green Deal. Secondly, how they can tackle growing socioeconomic inequalities concentrated in urban areas. After this seminar, they participated in a workshop that allowed all participants to have a deeper debate about those challenges.

Clearing House

30 March

Clearing House, a European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation funded project, kicked-off last September. This project, aims to use trees as a means to improve urban living in both Europe and China, and brings together 26 partners from across the spectrum, including prestigious universities, national research institutes, international and national non-profits, SMEs, and botanical gardens.

Concretely, Clearing House will analyse and develop the potential of Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) in general, and UF-NBS in particular – across China and Europe – in order to enhance the resilience of cities facing major ecological, socio-economic, and human wellbeing challenges. The project will be organized around 5 pillars: Reviewing existing knowledge on NBS, carrying out Sino-European case studies, facilitating learning, developing tools, and increasing NBS awareness.

Related outcomes
L2M7D1
L2M8D1

Related outcomes
L2M2D5
L3M5D1

Activated members
Barcelona (metropolitan area), Berlin, Brussels

Activated members
Barcelona (metropolitan area), Brussels
**MGET: preparation of the launch**

**Dakar, 13-15 January**

In view of the future launch of the EU funded project "Metropolitan Governance of the Energy Transition (MGET)", a delegation of the Secretariat General of Metropolis met with representatives of the Delegation of the European Union to Senegal and a variety of stakeholders from the City of Dakar administration.

**Meeting of the President and the Secretary General**

**Berlin, 17 February**

Our President and our Secretary General met in Berlin before the next Board of Directors to bring up to date on Metropolis' finances, statutory affairs, human resources, and other issues related to our activities. The developments of the 13th Metropolis World Congress and the Metropolis' electoral process deserved special mention during the meeting. The Secretary General, the Head of Administration and Finance, and the Project Officer for Statutory Affairs seized the opportunity to meet the technical team in Berlin as well as the responsibles for the use platform.
Bilateral meeting: Barcelona metropolitan area

Barcelona, 18 February

Mr. Ernest Maragall, Vicepresident of Barcelona Metropolitan Area (AMB), and Mrs. Elisenda Alemany, Councillor of AMB, visited the office of the Secretariat General of Metropolis. It was an opportunity to get to know the team and exchange with the Secretary General around the future priorities of the association.
MEMBERSHIP ACTIVATION
Bilateral meetings

**JANUARY**
- **Tangier**
  - Members: Amman, Bogota, Johannesburg, Madrid, Mexico City, Montevideo, Moscow, Xi’an
- **Dakar**
  - Members: Dakar
- **Barcelona**
  - Members: Barcelona (city), Barcelona (metropolitan area), Brussels

**FEBRUARY**
- **Abu Dhabi**
  - Potential members: Los Angeles
- **Barcelona**
  - Members: Barcelona (metropolitan area)
- **Berlin**
  - Members: Berlin

**MARCH**
- **Online**
  - Members: Manchester
Activated members

Amman  Cairo  Kuala Lumpur  New Delhi–NIUA
Barcelona (city)  Dakar  La Paz  Quito
Barcelona (metropolitan area)  Durban  Madrid  San Salvador
Berlin  Gauteng  Mashhad  Seoul
Bogota  Guangzhou  Mexico City  Tehran
Brussels  Hyderabad  Montevideo  Tunis
Buenos Aires  Johannesburg  Montréal  Xi’an

Membership payment status

From 1 January to 31 March, Metropolis cashed in the following fees. This data concerns the banking movements within the above-mentioned period, and not the accounting incomes. The accounting income data is made explicit in the annual accounts, according to accrual criteria:

Total amount cashed in
123,856.96€

Cashed in for 2019 fees
2,542.14€
2019 fees
2

Cashed in for 2020 fees
121,314.82€
2020 fees
18

Members who have paid
19
Member has paid 2 fees
1

Main results

From 1 January to 31 March:

135
people engaged in Metropolis events

9
experts with whom we have collaborated
# Execution of the Action Plan

## L1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>Outcomes and deliverables</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M1</strong></td>
<td><strong>L1M1D1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M2</strong></td>
<td><strong>L1M2D1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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>L1M2D2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M3</strong></td>
<td><strong>L1M3D1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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>L1M3D2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L1M6</strong></td>
<td><strong>L1M6D1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That a global partnership strategy vis-à-vis other networks and actors is established that lays down the broad lines of work.</td>
<td></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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<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>L2M2D2</strong></td>
<td>Metropolis Observatory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M2D3</strong></td>
<td>Policy Transfer Platform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M2D4</strong></td>
<td>Metropolis website</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>L2M6</strong></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><strong>L2M6D1</strong></td>
<td>Metropolis Observatory and Policy Transfer Platform as a metropolitan governance toolkit</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>L2M7D1</strong></td>
<td>Annual strategic partnership plans (2018-2019-2020)</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>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>L2M9</strong></td>
<td>That central knowledge spaces are created and fostered concerning gender-sensitive policies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L2M9D1</strong></td>
<td>Gender-sensitive technical and academic events within the framework of annual events</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></td>
<td><strong>L3M2D1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That five regional agendas are agreed in line with the global strategy of Metropolis.</td>
<td>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></td>
<td><strong>L3M3D3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That a strategy is developed to improve relationships among Metropolis key actors.</td>
<td>Communication kit highlighting the benefits of belonging to the association.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L3M4</strong></td>
<td><strong>L3M4D2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That an internal and external communication plans, sensitive to gender relations, are designed and implemented.</td>
<td>Annual communication plan including actions and a calendar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L3M5</strong></td>
<td><strong>L3M5D1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>That a fundraising strategy is laid out and effectively implemented.</td>
<td>Fundraising strategy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>L3M7</strong></td>
<td><strong>L3M7D4</strong></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>Development of follow-up mechanisms to implement the 2018-2020 Metropolis Action Plan.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHO WE ARE
AFRICA

Focal Points

REGIONAL SECRETARIAT
Rahmatouca Sow Dieye, Dakar

SECRETARIAT GÉNÉRAL
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
ASIA-PACIFIC

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
EUROPE

ATHENS
BARCELONA (CITY)
BARCELONA (METROPOLITAN AREA)
BERLIN
BRUSSELS

BUCHAREST
GRAND LYON
GRAND PARIS
GREATER MANCHESTER
KAZAN
LISBON

MADRID
MOSCOW
SARAJEVO
SOFIA
TURIN
ZAGREB

Focal Points

REGIONAL SECRETARIAT
Barbara Berninger
Berlin

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
Lia Brum and Silvia Llorente
(since mid-March)

Members of the Board of Directors

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
José Luis Martinez-Almeida, Mayor of Madrid
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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
SAO PAULO
VALLE DE ABURRÁ

Focal Points

REGIONAL SECRETARY
Nelson Fernández
Montevideo

SECRETARIAT GENERAL
Lia Brum and Oscar Chamat
(since mid-March)

Members of the Board of Directors

CO-PRESIDENCIES
Christian Di Candia, Mayor of Montevideo

REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENCY
Miguel Ángel Garrido Agüero, Regional Councillor of Santiago de Chile Metropolitan Region

MEMBERS
Horacio Rodríguez Larreta, Head of the Government of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires
Nelson Marchezan, Mayor of Porto Alegre
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
Claudia Sheinbaum, Head of Government of Mexico City
Arturo González Cruz, Municipal President of Tijuana