Do metropolises have a gender?
Picturing metropolises
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The most tangible aspects of urban spaces

Have they always been there?

Who built them?
How and why?
Let’s talk about patriarchy

- Sexual division of labor places women and men in separate spaces with different roles.
- Roles attributed to men and women have determined the rights of both.
- Man visions are privileged, excluding all those visions different from his own.
- Hierarchies for the access to rights and opportunities.
- Gender inequalities naturalized.

**Private/feminine** | **Public/masculine**
---|---
Reproductive role | Productive role
Invisibilised | Recognised
Unpaid | Paid
Let’s talk about the Right to the City

**Patriarchal system:**
Social conventions, models and practices

**Unequal representation** in decision-making processes

**Public policies designed** for and by only one part of society: **men**

**Restricted access to resources and essential services**

**Violence and oppressions: gender disparities**

**Limited rights as citizens**
Gender blind governance
Governance models remain gender blind when...

... they don’t recognize women as legitimate political actors due to cultural gender norms and stereotyped sex roles.

... procedures and processes of governing do not provide the space to bring on board women’s specific interests.

... even if gender concerns are considered by institutions of urban governance, these still fail to implement the changes required.
Facts & figures

Women in the workforce: Women make up 41% of the metropolitan labour market.

But there is a gender pay gap: Women earn 46% less than men.

Who can fix gender discrimination? Only 28% of elected city councillors are women.

Educating the next generation of women leaders: Primary and secondary school educational enrolment includes 86% of girls, but in some places, it is as low as 28%.

However, 44% of metropolises have at least one type of tool or measure to promote equal opportunities for women.

Drawn from our metropolitan indicators.
How can we build metropolises without inequalities, exclusions and segregations?
That’s what gender mainstreaming is about!

Incorporating **the gender perspective** in urban planning is about considering the **needs, opinions and experiences of the entire population in the same degree of importance**

to put at the centre the daily life

- Safe
- Sustainable
- Community participation
- Efficient
- Inclusive
- Caring
• **Planning focused on the sustainability of daily life:** giving priority to all those tasks and needs that make life possible in our metropolises

• **Voice, visibility and decision from everyone.** It means to consider the needs, life styles and knowledge of daily life and the plurality of uses that are crucial for sustaining livelihoods in urban areas
Participatory frameworks and tools to strengthen citizenship involvement

Inclusive mechanisms that allow women to have decision-making powers and enter public and political arenas

Accountability of governance institutions to women in order to enhance responsiveness

Develop inclusive processes for community based consultations of women, especially poor women, youth and minority groups

Take steps that encourage and ensure that women and girls become active participants

Multi-level and context-sensitive decentralized governance...
Sounds good, but how does this work in practice?
A public space safety audit was conducted using a map-based mobile and desktop app, through which neighborhoods are scored by the parameters that make women feel more or less safe, such as lighting, openness, visibility, crowdness, etc.
Mashhad, Iran

The Girls’ Leadership Programme reaches girls from ages 8 to 11 for educational training on urban sustainability, promoting long-term civic engagement.
Gender Equality

Sustainable Development Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Click on the case studies below to find out what programs, projects and policies are being implemented in cities around the globe to accomplish Goal 5.

Learn more about the targets and indicators of SDG 5 at UN Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform

use.metropolis.org/sdg/5---gender-equality
Thanks!

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