

## Metropolis Activities Report

### November 2013 – January 2014

#### 1. STRATEGIC REFLECTION – 2014-2016 ACTION PLAN

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Metropolis will hold a strategic reflection in Barcelona from 3 to 5 February to help determine the Association's areas of action for the next three years.

#### 2. RE-ELECTION OF THE METROPOLIS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS, PRESIDENT AND TREASURER

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In view of the upcoming Metropolis World Congress, we call on all of the Association's members to take part in the next General Assembly, which will take place in Hyderabad on 10 October 2014.

We remind members that the General Assembly will choose the new Metropolis Board of Directors.

We invite you to propose candidates so they may be assessed and voted on at the Board of Directors meeting to be held in Hyderabad.

We also remind you that this new Board will choose the Metropolis President. All candidates who stand for the Board of Directors may run for the position of President.

Through 10 October this year, the city of Brussels, via Jean-Luc Vanraes, has agreed to be the *ad interim* Metropolis Treasurer. To that end, we must put out a new call to find an Association member to hold the position of Treasurer for the 2014-2016 period.

Please send candidatures to: [toliver@metropolis.org](mailto:toliver@metropolis.org)

#### 3. 11TH METROPOLIS WORLD CONGRESS – HYDERABAD 7-10 October 2014

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In the framework of the Smart City Expo Congress, a delegation from the city of Hyderabad (Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation) traveled to Barcelona to promote the 11th Metropolis World Congress.

The Secretary-General and the Metropolis team had the opportunity to meet at Metropolis central offices with the group, led by the newly elected Commissioner Sri Somesh Kumar; the commissioner for the Western Zone, Sri Aleem Basha; and the special secretary of the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department at the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Sri Pargaien IFS.

The meeting included an in-depth discussion of the program content and considered the action plan for the communications process, as well as logistics arrangements and budgetary matters for the coming months. The collaboration of all of the attendees, who brought their ideas to the table and took part in the discussions, was very productive with regard to the next trip to Hyderabad, in February 2014.

### **3.1 Second preparatory visit**

A Metropolis delegation will travel to Hyderabad (India) from 9 to 11 February 2014 to meet again with senior representatives of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and the state of Andhra Pradesh to continue with the program preparation, the graphics to be developed and the logistics arrangements for the 11th Metropolis World Congress (7 to 10 October 2014).

Additionally, the delegation will meet in New Delhi with the director of India's National Institute for Urban Affairs, Jagan Shah, and a delegation from the city of Bhopal comprising Sanjay Shukla, Commissioner for Urban Administration and Development at the Government of Madhya Pradesh, and Professor H.M. Mishra, director of the National Institute for Governance and Urban Management at the Bhopal Municipal Corporation.

**See the Metropolis 11th World Congress website [here](#) and book the date to ensure sure you get your visa in time!**

#### 4. 2014 METROPOLIS AWARDS

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The call for the [5th Metropolis Award](#) is now open. The award ceremony will take place at the 11th Metropolis World Congress to be held in Hyderabad between 7 and 10 October 2014.

##### ***Who can enter?***

Any Metropolis member city that is up to date with its annual membership fee and has implemented a project or experience worthy of global recognition for its contribution to improving the quality of life in its city may submit an application.

##### ***What type of projects can be entered?***

The project or experience must be related to improving citizens' quality of life, especially that of women, young people and people with disabilities. The scope of action will preferably lie in the realm of urban planning, the environment, housing, public transport, safety, economic, social or cultural development. However, consideration will also be given to other projects of public interest undertaken in other fields.

##### ***What categories do the Metropolis Awards include?***

Three of the projects submitted will receive a Metropolis Award. A further three will receive an honorable mention.

##### ***What are the advantages of winning a Metropolis Award?***

The city that wins the first prize will be exempt from paying the annual membership fee in 2015. The winning project will be published in full on the Metropolis website, along with a summary of the other projects. Plus, all of the projects will be announced in the Association's regular publications.

##### ***When can I enter a project?***

The period for entering projects and experiences opens on **1 January and closes on 30 April 2014.**

**For further information on the 5th Metropolis Awards, please contact Ms. Montserrat Pallarès,**  
[mpallares@metropolis.org](mailto:mpallares@metropolis.org) or  
see:  
<http://awards.metropolis.org/>

## 5. METROPOLIS MEMBERS

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### 5.1 Metropolis Members

Metropolis currently has 136 members.

#### *2013 fees situation*

At 31 December 2013, 79 members had paid their fees, amounting to a total of €619,120.

### 5.2 Upcoming Metropolis Annual Meetings

#### **Preparation for the 2015 Metropolis Annual Meeting in Buenos Aires**

On 10 December 2013, Ms. Marina Klemensiewicz, Secretary for Housing and Social Inclusion at the Government of the City of Buenos Aires, visited the Metropolis Secretariat-General offices in Barcelona with the aim of discussing basic aspects regarding the 2015 Metropolis Annual Meeting to be held in the City of Buenos Aires. The following matters were discussed and approved as a result of the meeting:

- The Annual Meeting will be held in July 2015; the exact dates are still to be determined.
- The Metropolis contact people with the Government of the City of Buenos Aires were approved, and collaboration with the Kreanta Foundation for drafting the program content was agreed on.
- It was decided that the general theme of the meeting should be based on the idea that citizens are the main focus of urban planning. In this regard, public participation in city management, active citizenship, self-management initiatives and new social dynamics will be among the principles to be taken into consideration. The meeting slogan must cover these concepts. A number of proposals were presented, which will be approved in early 2014.
- A much more hands-on program format was proposed for the sessions. The idea is for half of the program to be presented in a traditional format (ceremonies, talks, round tables) and the other half to be carried out on the ground, as rather than just talking about a city it is important to experience it.

- Finally, different matters relating to the event’s organization were discussed and agreed on, such as including the celebration of Metropolis’s 30th anniversary.

## **6. METROPOLIS TREASURER**

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Metropolis President Jean-Paul Huchon, Secretary-General Alain Le Saux, and Head of Finance Montserrat Pallarès, met in Brussels on 22 January 2014 with the Association’s new *ad interim* treasurer and chairman of the Assembly of the Flemish Community Commission, Jean-Luc Vanraes, to discuss new areas of action in the period prior to the next Metropolis Congress to be held in Hyderabad.

## **7. METROPOLIS INITIATIVES**

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### **7.1 Activities carried out by the Metropolis Initiatives**

#### **7.1.1 Medellín Barcelona Chair – “City and Gastronomy” Seminar, Barcelona Center for Contemporary Culture (CCCB)**

The “City and Gastronomy” Seminar took place in Barcelona on 15 November 2013, held in the Barcelona Center for Contemporary Culture (CCCB) and organized by the Kreanta Foundation, the Menéndez Pelayo International University Consortium-Ernest Lluch Center and Metropolis.

The seminar is the forerunner to the project session that will be raised at the next [World Urban Forum](#) to take place in Medellín from 5 to 11 April 2014.

Metropolis supported the event through the participation of Alain Le Saux, who spoke about “City and Gastronomy on the Local and International Agenda” and explained the coexistence of the challenges and opportunities of the city/gastronomy mix. Mr Le Saux said that gastronomy leads us to reflect on such important urban issues as strategic planning and peri-urban agriculture. The concept also covers reflections in the social sphere (the role of city markets) as well as the economy and employment, and in the field of health. Gastronomy offers us a new way of viewing the city.

Also present at the event were the First Lady of Medellín, Claudia Márquez Cadavid, who presented the “Medellín sí sabe” initiative, which focuses on preserving local cuisine, and the “Mercados campesinos” (“Rural Markets”) project, and Raimond Blasi,

the Councilor for Trade, Consumer Affairs and Markets at Barcelona City Council, who spoke on public policies to foster a gastronomic culture in the city of Barcelona.

Finally, two round tables were held. The first was entitled “Future Trends and Challenges in Gastronomy” and the second was held under the name of “Gastronomic Strategies in Cities”.

### **7.1.2 Comparative Study of Metropolitan Governance – visit to Rosario by representatives of the Government of São Paulo**

The Metropolitan Unit of the Municipality of Rosario welcomed a delegation from the Government of São Paulo to exchange projects on urban organization issues. The Brazilian delegation presented the next steps in the Metropolis Initiative and the São Paulo Master Plan for Macrocities (PAM).

The event also included two meetings by representatives of the Government of the State of São Paulo and technical officers from other cities in the Rosario Metropolitan area, as well as the Mayoress of Rosario, Mónica Fein, who stressed her interest in the metropolitan government activities coordinated by the Metropolis Initiative.

## **8. METROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL TRAINING INSTITUTE - MITI**

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### **8.1 Seminar on “Observatories and Geographic Information Systems: Monitoring, Evaluation and Decision Support Tools”**

The first training workshop run by the MITI Regional Center for the Euro-Mediterranean area, based in Paris (EMRC-MITI), on “Observatories and Geographic Information Systems: Monitoring, Evaluation and Decision Support Tools” was held at the Institute for Urban Planning and Development at Île-de-France (IAU îdF) from 9 to 13 December 2013.

The workshop comprehensively addressed the topic of Geographic Information Systems (GISs). The training program, developed by a panel of international experts, revolved around the basics of observation and observatories; geographic information systems – concept, operation and use; observation and urban management at the municipal level; territory observation and GISs at a national and regional level; and, finally, thematic case studies on decision support tools. The first session mainly

targeted decision-makers and community leaders (elected officials and executives) of the Metropolis network.

This first training workshop of the Paris Regional Center focused on the work of the IAU îdF, particularly at the regional level (SIGR). The work carried out regarding the Île-de-France region's master plan (SDRIF) with a view to 2030 and the [IAU](#) Visiau interactive web mapping applications, were also presented.

*See photos from the training course [here](#).*

The IAU îdF also presented the key stakeholders and partners of the geographic information systems which participated in the five days of training: the [French National Geographic and Forestry Information Institute \(IGN\)](#), which constitutes the point of reference for geographic information in France and seeks to establish a single point of information on urban planning; the company [ESRI France](#), one of the leading designers and providers of mapping tools, which works in conjunction with the IAU, among others, was able to present its work and projects [ArcGIS](#)); and the Paris Urban Planning Agency ([APUR](#)), which analyzes changes in the urban landscape and society and works on theme-based observatories (climate, the environment, the metropolis of Paris, Greater Paris atlas and the Paris region, etc.).

The workshop was completed by a visit to the extension of La Défense district and the city of Nanterre (Hauts-de-Seine Department), as well as a presentation of the Pavillon de l' Arsenal and the Paris region's urban planning museum.

The training session brought together 12 participants, which included representatives from the cities of Rabat, East Jerusalem (Palestine) and the Dakar region, and facilitated an exchange on the respective practices of these cities but, in particular, their specific needs in order to improve their current GIS equipment and to help them put urban observatories within their communities in place.

The next workshop of the Paris regional centre of MITI will take place in April 2014 and will address climate change. Information on this workshop will be posted soon on our website.

## 9. METROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S NETWORK

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On 20 and 21 January 2014, the [Metropolis International Women's Network](#) was invited by Professor Ana Falú, Coordinator of the UN-Habitat [Gender Hub](#), to take part in a reflection carried out by a group of 40 people from 20 different countries, representing academic bodies and NGOs. Then event was held in Madrid.

The purpose of the reflection was to establish a common strategy that can contribute to and influence the permanent work performed by the UN-Habitat. In short, and in the words of Olga Segovia, Coordinator of the Women and Habitat Network for Latin America, this involves “generating knowledge with a gender perspective” to use sound arguments to bring about a change of mentality among our government leaders.

The next meeting of the Gender Hub will take place in New York in the first week of March, as part of the [58th session of the Commission on the Status of Women](#), where the challenges and achievements with regard to the application of the Millennium Development Goals for women and girls will be among the subjects discussed.

## 10. METROPOLIS JOINS THE CAMPAIGN “WHY THE WORLD NEEDS AN URBAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL”

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In 2015, the governments of our countries will define a list of 10-15 goals that will guide sustainable development policies for the next 15 years.

Metropolis, UCLG, ICLEI, Cities Alliance and UN-Habitat are calling for the inclusion of a specific goal dedicated to “sustainable urban planning” on the UN post-2015 development agenda.

The United Nations is seeking new development goals and we need to ensure that the role of local government is taken into account on the new development agenda.

Metropolis is calling on cities to support the UN's Sustainable Development Solutions Network entitled [Why the World Needs an Urban Sustainable Development Goal](#).

This goal would not only allow cities to shore up their capabilities, but provide them with the means needed to tackle the challenge of sustainable urban development. The challenge refers to the pressing need for economic growth in cities that contribute to improving the quality of the environment and social cohesion. A specifically urban sustainable development goal independent of other ones would aim to:

- Educate and focus attention on urgent urban challenges and future opportunities.



- Mobilize and empower all urban actors around practical problem solving.
- Address the specific challenges of urban poverty and access to infrastructure.
- Promote integrated and innovative infrastructure design and service delivery.
- Promote land use planning and efficient spatial concentration.
- Ensure resilience to climate change and disaster risk reduction.

The full document can be read here: [Why the World Needs an Urban Sustainable Development Goal](#).

### How to take part

All cities are invited to take part in the campaign. To support the initiative and spread the message of local authorities among the international community, you just have to sign the following [form](#) and send it to [post-2015@metropolis.org](mailto:post-2015@metropolis.org)

## 11. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

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### 11.1 Smart City Expo World Congress

From 19 to 21 November 2013 and for the third year in a row, Barcelona hosted the Smart City Expo Congress.

As a regular collaborator with the congress, Metropolis was actively involved via its stand and in the meeting presentations: Secretary General Alain Le Saux acted as a round table moderator for the session “*Governance for Smart Economic Development*”, while Country Director for India, Sunil Dubey, moderated the session “*Rethinking Cities: Sustainable Cities*”.

Association members were present and took advantage of the occasion to meet with the Metropolis Secretariat-General in Barcelona:

The Municipality of Rosario, represented by its mayor, Mónica Fein, and the city’s director of international relations, Sergio Barrios, met with the Metropolis Secretary-General to present a new Metropolis Initiative on mobility, entitled “Rosario: Toward

**Download the photo album on the Metropolis meetings and stand at the Smart City Expo [here](#).**

Sustainable Mobility”, which aims to promote teamwork on projects to lead the city toward sustainable mobility via the exchange of technical knowledge and experiences, the promotion of financial assistance, the fostering of innovative activities and the strengthening of the public culture of sustainable mobility.

Anita Gea, General Coordinator for the city council of São Paulo, which recently joined the Association (in Johannesburg in July 2013), held a meeting with Metropolis representatives to boost relations and reiterate São Paulo’s interest in playing an active role in the large city network that Metropolis makes possible. São Paulo is currently involved in the Metropolis Initiative: “Mentoring on Upgrading Informal Settlements”.

Alain Le Saux also met with representatives from Mashhad, one of the Association’s most active members. Mohammad Mahdi Baradaran Khalkhali (Deputy Mayor), Mahdi Jalili Mehrabani (Attached to District 11) and Ali Absala (Director of the Mashhad Organization for Information and Communication) had the chance to discuss Mashhad’s participation in [MITI](#), the Metropolis International Training Institute, activities, Mashhad being the site of one of the regional centers, and the new Metropolis network dedicated to young people, which will be led by Mashhad and will be officially launched in 2014.

Finally, Elisabeth Ryan, executive director of Global Compact Cities, visited the Secretariat-General offices and met with Alain Le Saux and other members of the Metropolis team. Global Compact Cities is actively involved in the Metropolis Initiative “Integrated Strategic Planning and Public-Private Partnerships”.

The city of Rio de Janeiro, a Metropolis member since 2009, was the winner of the 2013 World Smart City Awards. The Rio government’s commitment to a change of model and radical urban overhaul saw it pick up the top prize at these awards where the panel of judges valued the implementation of a long-term project to make the Brazilian city a smart benchmark in the southern hemisphere.

## **11.2 Cities Alliance – Annual Meeting of the Consultative Group, Board of Directors and Executive Committee- Ouagadougou**

The Metropolis Secretary-General participated in the Annual Meeting of the Cities Alliance’s Consultative Group Meeting which took place in Ouagadougou from 3 to 6 November. The new Cities Alliance organization and its implementation in Brussels have now ended, enabling the start of the new structure, and the World Bank ratified

its commitment with the organization. The meeting also made it possible to examine the development of the activities in Africa that are the most important focus for the Board of Directors.

On this occasion, the Secretary-General had the opportunity to meet with the man who was the Mayor of Ouagadougou for 18 years, Simon Compaoré, who agreed to take part in the Metropolis project “Word from the Mayors”.

### **11.3 WHO Experts Consultancy on Urban Health Equity: Assessment and Response Tool (Urban HEART)**

Metropolis participated in the three-day experts’ consultation with Urban HEART (the assessment and response tool for health equity in urban environments), held in Kobe (Japan) from 6 to 8 November.

Urban HEART works on three main pillars of implementation: sound evidence, cross-sectoral action and community participation.

Among the experts present in Kobe, Metropolis identified some of its stakeholders, such as UN-Habitat, but also many of its member cities which have implemented Urban HEART (Kampala, Manila, Rabat, Toronto, Teheran) and which could bring their insight and practical case studies to bear.

The objectives of the consultation were to collectively provide inputs to develop a new version of the tool (Urban HEART 2.0) and to explore opportunities to scale up and expand the network of cities using Urban HEART.

Metropolis and the WHO Kobe Center agreed on exploring possible synergies for them to work together in disseminating the Urban HEART Tool among Metropolis city members and raise awareness among their respective stakeholders. Recent global public-health developments, such as the movement to achieve universal health coverage and consideration of Post-2015 Development Goals, reinforce the need for an expanded Urban HEART.

**For more information on Urban HEART:**

[http://www.who.int/kobe\\_centre/publications/urban\\_heart/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/kobe_centre/publications/urban_heart/en/index.html)

#### **11.4 Global taskforce of local and regional leaders in New York**

The Metropolis Secretary-General participated in the global taskforce of local and regional leaders which took place on 13 December 2013. The meeting was organized by the UN-Habitat, the Group of Friends of Sustainable Cities and UCLG.

The meeting had two objectives: to contribute to the work of the open working group on sustainable cities and human settlements, and to engage in the ongoing intergovernmental process on financing and preparing for Habitat III, supporting the definition and implementation of a new development agenda.

In the framework of the meeting, Secretary-General Alain Le Saux repeated Metropolis's commitment and its adhesion to roll out one of the Millennium Goals dedicated to urban development, and used the occasion to invite all of the collaborators to Hyderabad for the 11th Metropolis World Congress.

#### **11.5 Metropolis President meets with the Mayor of Barcelona**

Metropolis President Jean-Paul Huchon visited the Mayor of Barcelona and Senior Executive Vice President of Metropolis, Xavier Trias, in November with the goal of sharing impressions about the future of Metropolis, particularly in view of the upcoming Metropolis World Congress in Hyderabad.

## 12. 2014 INTERNATIONAL SCHEDULE

### FEBRUARY 2014

3-4	Barcelona, Spain	Metropolis Strategic Meeting
4-6	Johannesburg , South Africa	<a href="#">C40 Mayors' Summit</a>
10-14	Brussels, Belgium	<a href="#">Metropolis Initiative "Integrated Urban Governance – Successful Policy Transfer"</a> , <a href="#">Dialogue 'No Regrets' – Pre-Acting and Adapting to Climate Change in Cities</a>

### MARCH 2014

3	Barcelona, Spain	<a href="#">Metropolis Initiative: "Transferring knowledge and cooperating in Culture, Education and City"</a> Pre-WUF Meeting on "City, Gastronomy and Equity"
7-9	São Paulo, Brazil	<a href="#">Metropolis Initiative "Mentoring on Upgrading Informal Settlements"</a> Pair review by Durban and São Paulo
10-21	New York, USA	<a href="#">CSW58 - Commission on the Status of Women</a>
12-13	Seoul, South Korea	Metropolis Initiative <a href="#">"Integrated Urban Governance – Successful Policy Transfer"</a> and Metropolis MITI: "Peer Review Process: Metropolis International Training Institute"
13	Seoul, South Korea	METROPOLIS MITI - <a href="#">Opening Ceremony of the Metropolis International Training Institute</a>
31	Rosario, Argentina	Metropolis Initiative <a href="#">"Comparative Study on Metropolitan Governance"</a>

### APRIL 2014

1	Buenos Aires, Argentina	Metropolis Initiative <a href="#">"Comparative Study on Metropolitan Governance"</a>
5-11	Medellin, Colombia	<a href="#">World Forum VII "Urban Equity in Development – Cities for Life"</a>

<b>7-11</b>	Hanover, Germany	<a href="#">ICLEI's Global Town Hall @ Metropolitan Solutions</a>
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**MAY 2014**

<b>7-14</b> <b>To be determined</b>	Barcelona, Spain	<a href="#">Metropolis International Women's Network</a>
<b>27 May -3 June</b>	Seoul, South Korea	<a href="#">Metropolis MITI</a> – Course on hydraulic systems

**JUNE 2014**

<b>1-4</b>	Singapore	<a href="#">World Cities Summit</a>
<b>14-17</b>	Liverpool, UK	<a href="#">UCLG</a> Executive Council meeting
<b>17-19</b>	Dallas, USA	<a href="#">New Cities Summit New Cities Foundation</a>
<b>24-2 Julio</b>	Seoul, South Korea	<a href="#">Metropolis MITI</a> – Course on e-governance