

Metropolis Activities Report April 2013–June 2013

1. STATUTORY MEETINGS

1.1 Metropolis Annual Meeting in Johannesburg, 16-19 July 2013

The countdown to the Metropolis Board of Directors and Annual Meeting, which will take place from 16 to 19 July 2013, has begun. The meeting has already garnered 313 registrations*, representing 53 cities from around the world (* at 20 June 2013).

Since the event's website was launched in early February 2013, the Metropolis Secretariat-General has striven to promote the Meeting among its members and collaborating institutions, drawing mainly on social media (Facebook and Twitter) and the Association's databases (mailing, newsletter and banners).

An agreement has also been reached with the journal *Cities Today* (<http://cities-today.com>) for mutual promotion and the publication will feature the Johannesburg meeting in its June 2013 paper edition, on its website and in the newsletter to its subscribers' network (20,000 contacts). Furthermore, the host city has rolled out a specific communication plan for before, during and after the meeting with local, national and international news outlets.

Following the second preparatory visit to Johannesburg between 8 and 10 April 2013, each programme session was monitored; the communication work plans, protocol and security for delegates was checked; the venues for the social events were visited, and the technical visits scheduled in the program were held.

Two significant changes were made to the program in the light of these meetings:

- It was announced that the Board of Directors meeting of the South African Cities Network (SACN) would be held on 15 July 2013, in which Metropolis agreed to collaborate, inviting its Board members to participate. The main goal of the SACN is to promote knowledge exchanges among professionals within and outside of the country, and it was keen to take advantage of our Board members' presence in South Africa to launch a strategic dialogue between the leaders of the country's local governments and the Association. In particular, in the context of climate change and urban growth, ways of breaking away from

inertia and transforming spatial organization and the functions of South African cities are increasingly bigger challenges. Both mayors and the people responsible for urban management in South Africa are keen to learn from their foreign counterparts and obtain advice on practical steps to take to tackle a challenge of this size.

- Metropolis, together with the City of Johannesburg, decided to give special importance to the *Xtreme-Parks* technical visit, due to its particular format and the vast amount of interest it could generate among delegates. For these reasons, it was decided to change the day and time (19 July, starting at 12 midday) so that all participants can take part in building an *Xtreme Park* in 24 hours. It was also proposed that the Metropolis President could inaugurate the park along with Johannesburg city authorities.

1.2 Call for candidatures for the Metropolis Annual Meeting and Board Meeting 2015

The Metropolis Secretariat General launched a call on 24 May 2013 for all member cities who would like to present their candidatures to host the next Metropolis Annual Meeting and Board of Directors meeting.

To date, the city of Dakar has been the only one to offer to host the event in 2015. The final decision will be taken by the Board of Directors in Johannesburg in July 2013.

1.3 Signing of the contract for the World Congress of Metropolis 2014 in Hyderabad

On June 21, the President of Metropolis, Jean-Paul Huchon, signed the contract for the World Congress of Metropolis to be held in Hyderabad in October 2014.

2. METROPOLIS INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE

The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the new headquarters of the Metropolis International Institute, between the Seoul Metropolitan Government and Metropolis, took place on 24 May 2013. The Mayor of Seoul, Park Won-soon, and the Secretary-General of Metropolis, Alain Le Saux, signed the document in the presence of several officials from the Seoul Metropolitan Government. The event was also attended by a Metropolis delegation comprising three of the four regional centres belonging to the Metropolis International Institute, a representative from the Île-de-France region, the Metropolis Country Director for India and the head of development strategy in Barcelona.

The signing comes after a decision taken at the Board of Directors meeting in Guangzhou to transfer the Metropolis International Institute from Montreal to Seoul. The headquarters of said institute will be located in the Seoul Human Resource Development Centre (SHRDC), which is accountable to the City Council and which, thus far, had run the programmes in the Asia branch. Its mission is to provide Metropolis members with training that capitalises on the expertise of Metropolis, while taking the cultural and regional specificities of its members into account.

The meeting fostered enriching dialogue between the team in charge of managing the Metropolis International Institute in Seoul (SHRDC), the three regional centres present* – the School of Public Administration in Mexico City (EAPDF), the Île-de-France Paris Institute for Urban Planning and Development (IAU), and the ISCO centre in Mashhad – and representatives from Île-de-France, Barcelona and the Metropolis Country Director for India.

The programmes put forward by the Metropolis International Institute can be viewed in the training section on the Metropolis website, which will be updated regularly.

3. METROPOLIS INITIATIVES

3.1 Metropolis Initiative on Metropolitan Governance convenes leaders in São Paulo to discuss public-private partnerships

The Comparative Study on Metropolitan Governance, the Metropolis Initiative led by the Secretariat for Metropolitan Development in the State of São Paulo, with technical support from Empresa Paulista de Planejamento Metropolitano SA (Emplasa), had its last meeting in the city of São Paulo, Brazil, from April 25 to 26.

São Paulo welcomed leaders from various metropolitan regions, such as Belo Horizonte, Brasília, Buenos Aires, Gauteng and Rosario, to present and discuss cases of different arrangements for financing public services and infrastructure projects. Specialists shared their experiences in public projects that count on some type of funding from private enterprises, in the fields of transportation, healthcare, waste management, social housing and urban renewal.

One of the main conclusions of the event is that the reality of public-private partnerships is very complex, and their specificities vary according to the context of each metropolitan region and to the type of service or infrastructure that is being provided. Still, it is possible to find common threads, especially regarding investment

and operation efficiency. This shall be the goals of the upcoming steps of this Metropolis Initiative, whose next meeting is scheduled for the Metropolis Annual meeting in July in Johannesburg.

3.2 Metropolis takes part in the San Francisco Summit and the Living Labs Global Awards 2013 Ceremony

The LLGA | Cities Summit 2013 took place on 14-16 May 2013 and was hosted by the City of San Francisco and Citymart.com, together with the City of Barcelona and the Metropolis Initiative “Agile Cities“. Metropolis was represented by Ms. Gabriella Gómez-Mont, director of Laboratorio para la Ciudad, Mexico City’s new office of civic innovation and urban creativity.

This year’s themes for the LLGA Summit and its matchmaking activities were Civic Engagement, Community Development, Inclusion & Sharing; Experience of the City; Urban Management & Systems and Enabling new Lifestyles.

On May 14, the City Dialogues & Award Ceremony took place. City representatives took the stage to engage in a public dialogue, and announce the 23 winning solutions selected out of 456 entries.

On May 15, 250 delegates came together for the LLGA Matchmaking Summit, a full day event of networking and knowledge exchange activities. Through Parallel Sessions, Elevator Pitches, Networking Breaks, Visioning Workshops and the Exhibition area, we aimed to turn local challenges into global opportunities.

On May 16, the Immersion Program and Study Tours showed attendees the solutions that turned San Francisco into one of the world’s most sustainable, interactive and attractive cities.

The LLGA | Cities Summits are designed to build new partnerships between companies, organisation, public leaders and experts to open the markets for innovative services in cities. The Summits provide insights into new growth-markets, investment opportunities and help foment Citymart.com as a community of trust and shared vision among entrepreneurs, innovators, and public leaders.

3.3 2nd workshop of Metropolis Initiative: “Integrated Strategic Planning and Public Private Partnerships” in Delhi

The second round of workshops related to the Metropolis Initiative “Integrated Strategic Planning and Public Private Partnerships” will be convened during 25-26 July 2013, at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi.

The event will be hosted by the National Institute of Urban Affairs – India (NIUA) and will be conducted over two days. In line with the objectives of this Initiative the workshop is directed primarily to Indian government and municipal staff engaged in planning the provision and maintenance of basic infrastructure. Whilst this Initiative is focused on Indian cities, other interested Metropolis members are welcome. The workshop will be conducted in English only.

The first day will provide decision makers from all levels of government, the private sector and professional peak bodies with an opportunity to explore specific issues and compare experiences. This will be followed by a training workshop on the following day during which the ‘Circles of Sustainability’ methodology will be tested against a number of the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) projects.

The project is led by the Victorian State Government Department of Transport Planning and Local Infrastructure (for Melbourne) in partnership with the UN Global Compact Cities Program, and the National Institute of Urban Affairs – India (NIUA).

3.4 Metropolis Initiatives – New proposal

Metropolis, as an institution which gives impetus to innovation among major metropolises and fosters mutual learning from urban experiences, proposes putting Cibernarium forward as a Metropolis Initiative, as it is a powerful tool for ICT capacity-building that can be disseminated among its member cities.

Cibernarium is a public centre for technology training aimed at professionals across an entire spectrum of sectors, entrepreneurs and/or small businesses that wish to enhance their technological skills.

- The project’s overarching goal is to foster and facilitate the replication of the Cibernarium model at international level, presenting it as an example of a successful project and good practice in developing technological skills, as well as enhancing cities’ competitiveness.
- The Cibernarium Initiative, as an ICT capacity-building space, is a powerful tool for strengthening social cohesion and improving employability, which can foster the economic development of urban areas worldwide.

The proposed Initiative will be submitted for the approval of the Board of Directors at their next meeting in Johannesburg on 19 July 2013.

4. MEMBERS

4.1. Applications to join Metropolis

The cities of Dakar (Senegal) and New Taipei (People’s Republic of China) have lodged applications to join, which should be approved during the BoD meeting in Johannesburg in July 2013.

4.2. Fees

At 10 June 2013, the sum collected from fee contributions came to 235,520 EUR. A reminder regarding payment of the year 2013 fees will be sent to all Metropolis members in July.

5. METROPOLIS WOMEN INTERNATIONAL NETWORK ACTIVITIES

5.1 Symposium “Safe Cities within the sphere of Public space and Gender”

On April 3 2013, more than 200 people gathered together in Barcelona , within the framework of a symposium organised by the Metropolis Women International Network, to discuss and deliberate on policies regarding public space and urban development from a gender perspective.

The symposium began with a round-table discussion in which political representatives from various administrations and organisations took part, including Alain Le Saux, Secretary General of Metropolis, and Joan Clos, Executive Director of UN-Habitat and Under-Secretary General of the United Nations. By way of two round-table debates, the issue of safety and the perception of safety from a broad range of perspectives were addressed and in-depth reflection was conducted on issues such as the influence borne by the current economic crisis on safety policies in cities, particularly with regard to women.

In his opening speech, Joan Clos, who spearheaded the initiative to create the Metropolis Women International Network in 2005 during his term of office as President of Metropolis from 1997 to 2006, stressed the urgent need to reorganise society and to rethink cohabitation in a rational and comprehensive manner.

Drawing on his experience in UN-Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, he asserted that the future of cities “involves restoring life in the community to make the streets safer” and that “a good way of ensuring such safety is to move towards global governance that guarantees the same rights for all citizens across the planet, regardless of their country”.

The event enjoyed the support of Barcelona Metropolitan Area, Barcelona City Council, Barcelona Provincial Council, the Government of Catalonia and UN-Habitat.

5.2 Call for candidatures for the Presidency and Vice-presidency of the Metropolis International Women’s Network

The call for candidatures for the Presidency and Vice-presidency of the Metropolis International Women’s Network was sent on 17 May 2013 to all of the database of the women’s network including the Antennae.

Since then, the Secretariat-General has received three candidatures: one from Barcelona to host the Presidency of the Network and two others from Athens and Abidjan, which presented themselves for the Vice-Presidency.

5.3 3rd Forum in Abidjan on “Dynamic Cities Need Women” – “Women and Armed Conflict”

A landing page (<http://women-abidjan.metropolis.org>) with information on the 3rd forum on “Dynamic Cities Need Women” – “Women and Armed Conflict” was provisionally enabled on 4 March with the following documents:

- The context in which the Forum will be held
- The issues and sub-issues that the meeting framework will establish
- The preliminary registration form for people interested in attending the event

Right now work is being done on a website for the event, where users can get practical information on the Forum, check the program and its speakers, and register.

For its part, the city set to host the Forum, Abidjan, is developing the content of the three technical visits and the logistical organization for attendees.

6. PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

6.1. UN Habitat Board of Directors Meeting

The United Nations Advisory Committee for Local Authorities (UNACLA) met on Sunday 14 April in Nairobi to attend the 24th Session of the Un-Habitat Board of Directors meeting.

Metropolis was represented by the Secretary-General, Alain Le Saux, who had the opportunity to establish various meetings with the organizing team of the upcoming WUF in Medellin, the Secretary for Development in Brasilia, the Mayor of Harare, the ICLEI Secretariat General and Juma Asiago from the UN-Habitat Safer Cities Network, among others.

The meeting participants praised the Istanbul Statement of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments for Post 2015 and Habitat III. They commended this effort and requested that UNACLA's work become a complementary element.

Executive Director of Habitat, Dr. Joan Clos, and Deputy Director, Ms. Kirabo, acknowledged the need for the voice of local authorities to be further heard in the new development agenda.

6.2. 16 th General Conference of the Arab Towns Organization (ATO, Doha)

Metropolis participated in the 16th General Conference of the Arab Towns Organization (ATO) held in Doha, Qatar from 14-16 May 2013. The event was organized by ATO and The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs-Saudi Arabia and developed under the theme "Cities and the Challenges of Sustainable Development". More than 500 officials from 22 countries and around 140 cities and organizations participated in the event. Other international institutions or global city networks, along with Metropolis partner organizations including UNCRD, ESCWA, INTA, UCLG (CEMR, MEWA), Union pour la Méditerranée, UITP, UN-Habitat, Cités Unies France, FMDV, AUDI and AFED, joined in the debate and considered a large variety of pioneering case studies and initiatives led by leading Arab cities such as Beirut, Rabat, Cairo and Nouakchott.

In the context of resource constraints faced by the Arab region, sharp population rises and rapid formal and informal urbanization, the Arab Forum for Environment and

Development (AFED) once again stressed the need for a new paradigm to achieve the transition to a greener economy.

"The Arab Region entered a stable and steady ecosystem deficit in 1979, and the consumption levels of life-supporting goods and services are today more than twice what the local system can provide (...) Overexploitation of resources, the impact of climate change, high population growth rates, uncontrolled economic growth and urbanization amplify the region's environmental challenges and hamper its ability to manage them".

ATO conference officials and keynote speakers called for collective action, regional cooperation, more resource efficiency and balanced consumption as key options for a sustainable future.

The next ATO general assembly meeting will be hosted by the city of Constantine (Algeria) in 2016.

6.3 Metropolis takes part in ICLEI's Forum "Resilient Cities 2013" in the city of Bonn

ICLEI, the global movement of cities and local governments dedicated to sustainable development, organized the forum "Resilient Cities 2013", in Bonn, between May 31st and June 2nd.

Metropolis joined the the meeting and took part in the debates about urban resilience and the adaptation and mitigation to climate change.

The congress was attended by 528 participants, from which 117 were representatives from local governments coming from 60 different countries. They explored responses to the challenges of climate change, and came to the conclusion that in most of the cases it is crucial to consider integrated solutions. However, the big question remains: how should cities move towards adaptation and resilience to climate change?

The presence of decision makers and experts from around the world facilitated the Exchange of innovative ideas, resilient urban planning strategies and current knowledge and practices about these issues.

For the first time, it was held in the framework of the conference, the forum "Resilient Urban Food Systems", in which examples of food innovations worldwide were presented.

Another parallel meeting was the Young Researchers Forum, where young researchers from various universities discussed their knowledge, views and difficulties of how to integrate their proposals with the decisions taken by political leaders. If the youth of today will be the leaders in twenty years, their vision of urban resilience must be taken into account.

7. VISITS TO THE METROPOLIS SECRETARIAT GENERAL IN BARCELONA

7.1 Secretary of Science and Technology of Rio visits Metropolis

Franklin Dias Coelho, Special Secretary for Science and Technology of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, visited today the headquarters of the Metropolis Secretariat General at Barcelona. The secretary and his advisor, Maria Helena Jardim, demonstrated enthusiasm in strengthening Rio's participation in the association, especially at times of preparation of the city for major international events, such as the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympic Games. Coelho spoke of the major changes that the city has been facing lately, and confirmed his participation as a representative of Rio in the next Metropolis Annual Meeting.

He showed particular interest in the Metropolis Initiatives for Agile Cities and City Protocol. He also highlighted specific projects developed by his Secretariat in Rio, namely the "Knowledge Square", which consists in multimedia poles for digital inclusion, where citizens have access to high speed internet, digital libraries, computer training and activities to promote the cultural and economic development of marginalized communities. The project won the Living Labs Global Awards 2012.

7.2 “Circles of Sustainability Methodology” Presented at Metropolis by Paul James

As part of the Metropolis Initiative on Integrated Strategic Planning and Public-Private Partnerships, Paul James, Director of the United Nations Global Compact Cities Programme and Director of the Global Cities Institute at the RMIT, Melbourne, presented the groundbreaking “Circles of Sustainability” methodology to the Metropolis General Secretariat on Friday 26th April.

The event included the exhibition of a number of case studies of the application of this methodology used to draft the city profiles of Melbourne, São Paulo, London and

Milwaukee, among others. Various experts from the Barcelona Metropolitan Area, the Institute for Regional and Metropolitan Studies, Barcelona County Council, Barcelona Regional and Barcelona City Council also took part in the meeting.

"Circles of Sustainability" will be the focus of one of the sessions at the Metropolis Annual Meeting to be held in Johannesburg on 17 July. The session will provide attendees with a chance to assess the sustainability of their cities using the "Circles of Sustainability" method and to study the possibilities of integrated governance and results-targeted integrated governance models.

7.3 The Indian International Certification Programme in Urban Management meets Metropolis

An Indian government delegation comprising 30 city and public administrators from 20 different cities across India visited Barcelona from 27 to 30 April 2013. Metropolis coordinated and took part in the event, where Indian city stakeholders participated in four day-long interactive sessions with stakeholders from the city of Barcelona.

During the course of the visit, the delegation had the opportunity to exchange views on policies and urban activities with representatives from the city of Barcelona, where they learnt about the City Protocol project (part of one of the Metropolis Initiatives).

The group also had the chance to discover Barcelona's 22@ district, while a presentation by the company Urbiotica provided them with an overview on how to bring the most innovative technology to bear in society, through its application on urban spaces. Clabsa (the Barcelona sewerage company) provided an interesting underground visit to the city's sewerage system; Agbar (the Barcelona water company) also drew the participants' interest not only because its headquarters are a reference point in contemporary architecture in the city (designed by Jean Nouvel) but also because of its innovative water-management solutions. A talk by the urban development agency Barcelona Regional, along with Barcelona City Council's presentation at Urban Habitat, helped improve the visitors' understanding of the way Barcelona is planned and organized. The delegation was also invited to a comprehensive visit around the Council premises.

The delegation was led by Prof Chary from the Administrative Staff College, India. Metropolis, together with ASCI and the NIUA (National Institute of Urban Affairs), are promoting capacity-building and partnerships to establish smarter cities and sustainable urban infrastructures in India, working at the international level to engage

Indian cities and public forums in the run-up to the 11th Metropolis World Congress to be held in Hyderabad from 6 to 10 October, 2014.

As India continues on its urban journey and addresses the challenging issues of urbanization, the Metropolis World Association is committed to assisting states and cities across the country in capacity-building, partnerships and international knowledge-sharing.

8. INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR 2013

JULY	2013	
15-16	Johannesburg	Peer Review Training Johannesburg Bus Rapid Transit System organized by Berlin and Johannesburg
16-19	Johannesburg	Metropolis Annual Meeting & Board of Directors
17-18	Johannesburg	5 Metropolis Initiatives Workshops: Kreanta/ Durban & São Paulo/ Living Labs , The Climate Group, Citymart/ Melbourne / Berlin/Estado de São Paulo
AUGUST	2013	
22-24	Buenos Aires	Kreanta Metropolis Initiative Workshop
SEPTEMBER	2013	
1-8	Seoul Human Resource Development Center SHRDC, Seoul	Metropolis International Institute Seminar on Climate Change
9-11	Toronto	Meeting of the Minds
9-12	Istanbul	The 6 th Knowledge Cities World Summit (KCWS-2013)
22-29	Seoul Human Resource Development Center	Metropolis International Institute Regional Seminar on “Risk management: experiences and learning in

	SHRDC, Seoul	the global context”
24-27	Abidjan	International Forum “Dynamic Cities Need Women”
OCTOBER	2013	
1-4	Rabat	UCLG World Congress
10-14	Mashhad	Metropolis International Institute - Training Workshop: “Strategic Planning and Performance measurements”/”Smart Cities”
NOVEMBER	2013	
19-21	Barcelona	Smart City Congress