

Metropolis_WUF10

Concept note: proposal

Organization Details

Partner Type

Inter-Governmental Organization

Organization

Metropolis, world association of the major metropolises

Organization Country

Spain

Event Details

Title of event

Strengthening metropolitan governance: strategies and tools to build a more equitable public space

Description

The side-event will be the opportunity to debate about strategies and tools carried out by metropolitan governments worldwide and urban stakeholders to build a more equitable governance. A metropolitan governance based on social participation which considers people's everyday lives, rethinking streets, squares to ensure a high quality of life to the diverse range of marginalized citizens.

In this sense, the central focus of the side-event is to debate around strategies and to present strategies and tools to build a more equitable

These issues are present in both the NUA and the 2030 Agenda: SDG 5, 11 and 16. The session, focused around two thematic pillars: urban planning and public facilities, will showcase initiatives to emphasize the need of articulating policies, following the peer-to-peer method. A short Q&A will follow for the audience to engage with the discussion.

Summary

Urban territories around the world are complex and fragmented with high levels of gender and social disparities. They are characterized by poverty gaps and differing levels of access to public services and infrastructures, which have a direct impact on quality of life. The way that societies structure public spaces is an expression of inequalities that underscores social relations and the mechanisms through which are reproduced. Consequently, this sexual

division is transferred to the planning of urban spaces and their appropriation by citizens: the private spaces are meant to be the realm of women, whereas the public spaces have been designed and conceived in general by and for the exclusive use of men. In this sense, this sexual division is transferred to the planning of urban spaces and their appropriation by citizens. The fact that women and vulnerable groups, their visions and needs, are excluded from the public space planning.

It necessary to prioritize strategies to build more equitable and diverse public space as whole, with less inequality. According to this idea, we need to know how women use the public space and spend their time and mainstream gender vision on how the public space is organised.

Key Objectives

1. Reflect on the importance of having policies and interventions (projects, capacity-building, empowerment....) Led by urban, metropolitan governments and municipal associations in the public space to be inclusive, equitable and diverse.
2. Show the need to act comprehensively on public space, beyond the classic planning vision, articulating policies between local and metropolitan governments (mobility, housing, provision of services, social cohesion, economic activity, quality of air, etc.)
3. Sensitize the different actors in the need for articulate instruments to promote public space planning with a focus on gender and diversity, which contemplates daily life and the multiplicity of absent voices. Share good practices that allow us to visualize how the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda can be located.

Dialogue Themes

- Urbanization, Culture and Innovation
- Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation/Regeneration

How relevant to WUF10

The inhabitants of our metropolises are diverse; women and girls represent more than half of the population, with a wide variety of needs and viewpoints that must be incorporated into the planning of our urban public space. Freedom of movement and access to political, economic, social, cultural and educational rights for all depends on this integration. Thus, it is essential for urban policies to incorporate elements that promote equal use and appropriation of public space by women and vulnerable citizens allowing them to enjoy their right to full citizenship. At the current time, the appropriation and participation of public space is still limited for women vulnerable citizens. The NUA and the 2030 agenda recognize the need to incorporate absent voices in urban planning processes. In this way, we believe that it is crucial to debate and make visible absent voices into urban practices and strategies so as not to leave no one behind.

Promote strategy

The outreach strategy of the side event will target our members (139 metropolitan governments) global partners, including NGOs, UN agencies and urban stakeholders. In this strategy we will use our own social media as well as other traditional instruments (e.g. newsletters and websites).

On the other hand, we plan to record brief video clips' presentation to promote the event as well as to design communication tools to disseminate, before and during the conference, the side-event. We will also partner with likeminded organisations and include details about our event in their distribution materials. The partner organisations will make use of their extensive social media networks to promote the event and encourage interaction in the lead up to the event.

Monitor strategy

The best strategies and tools presented will be incorporated into the [USE \(urban sustainability exchange\) platform](https://use.metropolis.org/), is a global peer-to-peer learning and networking portal for urban practitioners, experts, researchers and city makers. <https://use.metropolis.org/>. In this sense, we plan to launch a publication with the main initiatives launched that will be presented by the end of 2020.

On the other hand, we are working with 139 metropolitan governments in the compilation of metropolitan data connected to SDG 5, 11 and 16. Data helps us to detect gender and social disparities and so, to have a clearer vision of the direction to build to achieve more inclusive governance models. The results will be presented in 2020 and will be available on the metropolis observatory website. <https://indicators.metropolis.org/>

Other Organization involved

Yes

Other Organization name

Metropolitan Government: Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB), Brussels-Capital Region

Main Language

English

Requires Interpretation

Yes

Previous events

- WUF 6
- WUF 7
- WUF 9
- Habitat III

Prospective moderator, speaker(s) or panelist(s)

	First Name	Last Name	Role	Organization
1	Mr. Pascal	Smet	Secretary of State	Brussels- Capital Region
2	Representative	Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (AMB)	COUNCILOR	Metropolitan Government
3	Representative	Latino America and the Caribbean	COUNCILOR	Metropolitan Government
4	Representative	Asia	COUNCILOR	Metropolitan Government
5	Representative	North America	COUNCILOR	Metropolitan Government