

Building Bridges: from Vision to Collective Action.

UCLG Retreat & Campus 2023 What do you need to know?

Information note for participants

We look forward to welcoming you to our 2023 Annual Retreat and Campus!

This year, under the theme **Building Bridges: From Vision to Collective Action**, efforts will be concentrated on defining collaborations and initiatives that will bring to life the commitments and mandate embraced in the Pact for the Future. The transversal relation between work areas and enhancing the whole-network approach will be at the core of the discussions.

While the meeting will be hybrid, this edition is conceived for participation in person. Online participation will be reserved for special guest and specific plenary segments.

The UCLG Retreat is meant as an interactive exercise that aims at maximizing exchange opportunities and fostering forward-looking conversations. In order to enjoy the full experience, we recommend to bring your tablet, laptop or phone with you! Interaction in social media is encouraged!

Networking is a key aspect of our gathering. Make sure you are ready to mingle and use the chill out spaces set up for organizing side meetings. While the program will be non-stop (except for the lunch break), you are very much invited to help yourself to a hot drink right outside the main room, hold side meetings or connect with other delegates in adjacent spaces within the venue.

Please **register** by **15 February** at the latest.

A quick look throughout the week

As in previous occasions, every day will be devoted to a different aspect of our work and aims at different parts of the network:

- Monday 20 afternoon and Tuesday 21: The Power of We and Unfolding the Pact for the Future. The participation of Sections' Secretariats and Consultation Mechanisms is expected here.
- Wednesday 22: **Global Taskforce Day**, with the participation of the global municipal movement ecosystem.
- Thursday 23: **2023 Forecast** and relation with media on the urban agenda.
- Friday 24: **Presidency Day** and Metropolis Board of Directors.

All delegates are welcome to attend the meetings regardless of its specific focus.



How to prepare before the meetings

The Pact for the Future, adopted in our World Congress in Daejeon, will play an essential role in the discussions and debates all along the week. In case that you have not done so already, we invite you to read it and get a grasp of its main principles.

The <u>UCLGMeets platform</u> is the virtual go-to space where our community can gather. The full programme of the Retreat is available on the platform.

You will be able to check the interactive programme and find all resources, links and materials that may be useful during the week.

The event will be mostly **paperless**. Use your phones and tablets to consult the documents beforehand and print as little as possible. There will be NO printing facilities in the venue.

Logistics for the UCLG Annual Retreat and Campus 2023

Venue

In order to maintain the innovative and creative spirit of the UCLG Retreat and guarantee enough space for our growing community, we will be meeting in:

Palo Alto Barcelona, Carrer dels Pellaires 30-38, 08019 Barcelona

Palo Alto is an old factory of Barcelona's former industrial district of Poblenou, today the city's flagship neighborhood for creative industries and new technologies. For the last three decades, Palo Alto has been a space for photography, design, architecture, painting, and plastic arts. We are convinced this atmosphere will be a perfect conduit for co-creation and will allow you to experience Barcelona from a different perspective.

Accommodation

Please note that the World Secretariat has blocked a limited number of rooms at the following hotel:

Hotel Front Marítim Barcelona

Passeig de Garcia Fària, 69 Tel. 933034440 08019 Barcelona

Please use this link to book your room(s) and use the code 'RETREAT' to have the negotiated rates applied to your booking. Please note that there will be no shuttle service from the airport to the hotel.

Additionally, we would like to warn you that the week after our Retreat, a major telecommunications Congress will take place in Barcelona, which may cause lack of vacancies and a remarkable increase in hotel rates in the whole city of Barcelona and its metropolitan area. Please bear this information in mind should you be interested in extending your stay.

Lunch

Lunch will be served at the premises of Palo Alto Barcelona from Monday to Friday, available to all participants.

Interpretation

Interpretation will be available in English, French and Spanish¹ throughout the whole week. As in previous occasions, it will be managed remotely, which means that the interpreters will not be in the space where the meetings are being held. **We cannot have additional booths or include languages remotely during sessions**. If you have any doubts about this, please contact the World Secretariat.

Weather

Palo Alto facilities include several rooms, where the sessions will take place, and a vast open-air area and garden for informal gatherings and breaks. We will count with heating systems in every room to ensure that everyone feels at ease and warm. However, February in Barcelona can sometimes get chilly and we hence recommend you to bring your coat.

Entry requirements

Please confirm that you comply with all entry requirements (passport, visa...) before boarding your transport to Barcelona. Please visit **this website** for further information.

In terms of health regulations, please note, as from January 2nd, all passengers arriving in Spain by air from the People's Republic of China must undergo a health control at the first point of entry that will include, at least, a temperature control, a documentary check and a visual check on their condition. Additional information on this matter can be found in **this website**.

We hope to see you soon. Building on the experience of our previous hybrid meetings, we hope you will enjoy this edition's experience and we will make sure this 2023 Retreat is a resounding success for all!

Do not hesitate to contact the World Secretariat should you have any questions or suggestions.

See you very soon in Barcelona!

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Additional languages are considered for some of the sessions and will be indicated directly under the corresponding sessions on UCLGMeets.

Map of the area

