



## STRENGTHENING THE VOICE OF REGIONS

Regions in the Global Agendas and Declaration

17 November 2021

11:00 – 13:00 CET

*Please register before 12 November via [this link](#)*

### Dialogue briefing note

Regions are coordinators of territorial ecosystems and play a fundamental role as key agents of sustainable development for the achievement of global agendas in the territories, in addition to being committed to global transformation.

As territorial catalysts, regions must rethink how to work together and coordinate international efforts to build a dignified, resilient and sustainable future for people and the planet. In this endeavour, international networks are a crucial platform to help raise our voices and achieve multilateralism, in line with their transformative role in the territories.

Moreover, as the new common agenda suggests, we must change the way we act if we are to chart a more positive course. In this sense, as local and regional governments, from a systemic and strategic vision of the territory, we must seek and facilitate the inclusion and coordination of all actors and their respective synergies, as well as innovate new forms of territorial development.

Only by working together can we achieve global agendas and solidarity is the way to leave no one and nowhere behind. Now, more than ever, we need to build cohesive, connected and competitive territories.

### Objectives

To generate a dialogue that provides the opportunity to rethink and contribute innovative ideas to design a dignified future for people and the planet.

To seek mechanisms, from a systemic, strategic and comprehensive vision of local and regional governments, in order to coordinate all actors in the territory and align ourselves and work together to achieve global agendas.

To create innovative spaces for dialogue capable of identifying key points that are part of a joint declaration and that, in the future, can be developed into a manifesto, with a view to a new proposal for a social contract towards Quito+5.





## Agenda

**Master of Ceremonies:** **Ms. Antonia Sabartes**, Coordinator of Forum of Regions UCLG

### Opening of the Dialogues (10 minutes)

- **Mr. Pablo Jurado**, President of CONGOPE, Prefect Province of Imbabura, Vice-President of UCLG and President Forum of Regions UCLG
- Vice-President of Forum of Regions UCLG

### Dialogue I - The Regions in Global Agendas (50 minutes)

Moderation: **Mr. Marc Darder Solé**, Jefe del gabinete técnico, Generalitat de Catalunya.

- **National Government of Ecuador**, Representative of Urban Agenda toward Quito+5
- **Ms. Firdaous Oussidhoum**, Special Adviser of the UCLG Secretary General
- **Mr. Manuel González**, Mayor of Outes, Galicia and Researcher University Saint Jacques Compostela, Economic development and innovation
- **Mr. Rafael Hueso**, Director of External Relations, Government of the Basque Country

### Dialogue II - World Declaration of Regions – Towards Quito+5 (50 minutes)

Moderation: **Ms. Antonia Sabartes**, Coordinator of Forum of Regions UCLG

- **Ms. Emilia Saiz**, Secretary General CGLU
- **Mr. Christian Spahr**, Secretary General Assembly of European Regions
- **Mr. Carles Llorens**, Secretary General Oru-Fogar
- **Ms. Kobie Brand**, Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI
- **Ms. Natalia Uribe**, Secretary General Regions4

### Closing session - Statement of the World Declaration of Regions, Towards Quito+5 (5 minutes)

**Ms. Antonia Sabartes**, Coordinator of Forum of Regions UCLG

## Format





This session will have an online format and will be part of the UCLG World Council programme at the Smart City Expo.

- The moderator will invite each speaker to take turns to speak for a maximum of 3 minutes, taking into account the guiding questions below. There will be two rounds of questions.
- After all panellists have spoken, the moderator will ask for a closing statement on the points raised during the panel, of no more than 2 minutes.
- The moderator will close the panel with a summary of the most salient points, which will be adopted into the statement towards Quito +5.

A timer will be displayed on the screen and you will be kindly asked to keep statements within the allotted time.

Simultaneous interpretation will be available in Spanish, English and French.

## Guiding Questions

### **General**

1. How can local and regional governments contribute to better governance, innovation, territorial development and the achievement of global agendas?
2. What are the main challenges facing networks of regional governments regarding the integration of regional governments into multilateralism and international agendas?
3. What do you consider to be the best strategies and mechanisms to work together and join efforts in the international positioning of regions and territories?

### **Dialogue I - Regions in Global Agendas**

1. Cooperation works as an engine for territorial development. What initiatives and proposals from international networks should support regional governments?
2. What mechanisms are key to achieving sustainable development in our territories? How can we reduce the negative impact on biodiversity and tackle climate change?
3. What is the impact of the territorialisation of quality public services, and what has been revealed after the pandemic? What are the lessons learnt during the







pandemic that have changed the way regional governments work and should be maintained in the long term?

4. Are businesses, civil society organisations, local, indigenous and traditional communities key actors in the territory to generate opportunities for all, such as developing joint agendas?

### **Dialogue II - World Declaration of Regions – Towards Quito+5**

1. In view of the pandemic and global crises, from the perspective of regional governments, what should be the main transformations in the territories that should be included in a new social pact?
2. How should we link multilevel governance in theory in contrast to practice? How can we improve collaboration and support between spheres of government? For example, how can regions support municipalities in localising global agendas?
3. Women as drivers of economic reactivation, territorial development and the promotion of equality, as well as the integration of all vulnerable groups.
4. What is the role of the territory in the New Urban Agenda? How can we achieve a real territorial balance and break the urban/rural dichotomy, understanding the territory as a continuum, generating opportunities in all localities?
5. At the international level and in the multilateral agendas, what can be done to ensure adequate funding mechanisms for territorial agendas led by regions?

