



## Local and Regional Governments' Day of the UNFCCC COP26

### Policy Council on safer, resilient and sustainable cities, capable of facing crises

11 November 2021, 15:30-17:30 CET

Register here:

Policy council -

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZwodOihqzMsHtUvOKa4MsDdtLpzO\\_N9-v6N](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZwodOihqzMsHtUvOKa4MsDdtLpzO_N9-v6N)

**The Local and Regional Governments' (LRG) Day is an event organized by LGMA constituency with the support of the Global Taskforce on November 11, during the Cities, Regions and Built Environment Day of the COP 26 Presidency programme.**

The LRG Day will consist of both an in-person in Glasgow and a virtual activity, to enable representatives of the constituency and partners to present their priorities and messages on multi-level action, climate justice, culture and pathways to an ecological transformation for current and future generations.

#### **Activities will include:**

- **In-person activity:** Local Government and Municipal Authorities COP26 Multilevel Partnership event at the Blue Zone Multilevel Action Pavilion, from 12h30 - 14h00 CET (11h30 - 13h00 GMT). Organized by COSLA together with UCLG, CEMR, LGA, NILGA, WLGA, AICCIRE with the support of ICLEI. **Registration for virtual participation is possible via HOPIN.**

- **Online activity:** this second part of the LRG Day will be coupled with the UCLG Policy Council on Safer, Sustainable and Resilient Cities, Capable of Facing Crisis, virtually from 15.30 to 17.30 CET (14.30 to 16.30 CET). Organized by UCLG. Registration and connection:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZwodOihqzMsHtUvOKa4MsDdtLpzO\\_N9-v6N](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZwodOihqzMsHtUvOKa4MsDdtLpzO_N9-v6N)

The Policy Council will be held in collaboration with the Global Taskforce and LGMA, to allow the participation and contribution of a broader range of LRGs and partners, including those that are unable to travel for the COP26.

The pandemic has highlighted the vulnerability of our planet: our ecosystems have shown the limits and vulnerabilities faced, originated in humankind's way of living. COP26 is pivotal to enhance ambition and pass to the next step of the Paris Agreement, ensuring that emergency actions are taken by stakeholders at all levels, advocating for parties to accelerate cooperation, including through NDCs and in close coordination with all spheres of government.

As the Policy Council defines the political priorities on crisis responses, ecological transition, conservation and sustainable use of the global commons, it will develop relevant inputs on resilience to the process of elaboration of the **Pact for the Future**, as the new social pact our constituency was mandated to prepare in responses to the pandemic and other crisis, as the climate emergency, pollution and biodiversity loss.

## **Agenda**

### **Opening remarks**

- **Emilia Sáiz**, Secretary General of UCLG
- **Fatima El Mansouri**, Minister of Housing, Territorial Planning, Urban Planning and City Policy of Morocco, Mayor of Marrakech, Morocco
- **Sami Kanaan**, Member of the Executive Council of the City of Geneva, Switzerland, Chair of the UCLG Permanent Working Group on Territorial Prevention and Management of Crises, Co-Chair of the Policy Council

### **Multi-level action for inclusive recovery**

**Facilitation by Sally Loudon**, Chief Executive, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA)

- **Fernando Gray**, Mayor of Esteban Echeverria, Argentina, Vice-President of Mercociudades
- **Aysen Nikolaev**, Head of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), Russia
- **Arnaud Ngatcha**, Deputy Mayor of Paris, France
- **Rob Metz**, Mayor of Soest, Netherlands

### **Open discussion with members and partners**

#### ***Moderation by ICLEI***

- **Yaroslav Shaposhnikov**, Head of Vorkuta, Russia
- **Ali Manasra**, Mayor of Bani Naim Al-Khalil, Palestine
- **Martina Otto**, Head of Cities Unit, UNEP
- **Chingyu Yao**, Director-General of Secretariat, New Taipei City Government
- **Greg Munro**, Director of Cities Alliance

#### ***Moderation by UCLG***

- **Corinne Lepage**, President of the Association of Friends of the Universal Declaration of Humankind Rights
- **Véronique Lamontagne**, Director of the International Relations Office, General Direction, Montréal, Canada
- **Francisco Mugaburu**, Deputy Director of International Relations and Cooperation, Union of Ibero-American Capital Cities (UCCI)
- **Andrew Potts**, Coordinator of the Climate Heritage Network

### **Closing remarks and follow-up**

### ***Issues covered until now by the Policy Council***

During the meetings of this Policy Council in 2021, Sherpas and Policy Councilors emphasized how the world is facing combined emergencies, as on **climate and health**, which confirms the fragility of existing systems and the perils of continuing to ignore accumulated and persistent inequalities and gaps. The current context adds a sense of urgency to act and compensate for the lack of structural resilience today, while building on the lessons and sacrifices of current generations to secure lasting endurance and the right of future generations to enjoy a safe, fair and resilient world.

The Councilors have particularly emphasized the following issues:

- **Local service provision**, as the access to water, energy, internet, mobility, and others, is crucial for building resilience through a holistic lens, for example considering its direct linkage to the health system, as exposed by the pandemic.
- **Food systems and security**, as well as **sustainable tourism**, as motors of local development and economic recovery.
- **Global climate emergency**: floods, droughts, storms, hurricanes, ocean acidification, forest fires, etc., are expected to increase in intensity and frequency. Efforts at all levels will need to combine short- and long-term actions, targeting both mitigation and adaptation, observing the risks and differentiated impacts across continental regions and to those further behind.
- Fostering the **collaboration with international organizations and humanitarian agencies** is welcomed to be stimulated by members of the Council, since it can help cities and territories to prepare and respond to crises, and also contributes to galvanizing the acknowledgement of cities and regions' role in crises prevention, management and recovery.
- **Transportation and mobility** should be further considered on its unique function in response to crises, for example concerning logistics, access to food and services, leisure or the connectivity among cities and territories.
- Building resilience in the aftermath of COVID-19 and other emergencies will require investments on **green infrastructure** and **nature-based solutions**, a unique opportunity to generate **decent jobs**, providing alternatives to young generations and transforming the humankind relation with nature.

### ***Preparing the Pact for the Future: issues that could be covered in the year to come***

- Ensuring a **fair and equal distribution of the benefits of climate action and resilience building**, paying attention to the special needs of women, children and youngers, older, LGBTIQ+, persons with disabilities, low-income and other groups that are disproportionately impacted by crises, developing tailored cut action and addressing inequalities in the **uses of time**.
  - Links with Generation Equality, climate justice, Declaration on the Uses of Time.
- **Strengthening local and district care systems**: improving public service provision and support through a "care" approach, securing access and quality in times of crises, taking into consideration neighborhood needs and local community dynamics.
  - Links with Generation Equality and the Global Alliance for Care.

- **Decentralized and local energy and water:** how to address energy and water security as important **global commons**, contribute to guarantee access for all, especially the most vulnerable, including through nature-based solutions.
  - Links with SDG 7 (access to energy services), Energy compacts and Race to Zero.
  - Links with UN Secretary “Our Common Agenda” report.
- **Urban, territorial and human mobility:** social resilience, addressing migration flows generated by crises, support to job maintenance, access to services and food, tourism and green areas.
  - Links with Lampedusa charter, care economy.
- **Financing, incentives and investments to enable an ecological transition,** which could link to carbon market, circular economy, support to proximity models and local sustainable economic development.

