



POLICY COUNCIL ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

9 November 2021, 13:00-15:00 CET

Co-organized in the framework of the Metropolis Congress

To register for this session, you are invited to register via the website of Metropolis Congress: <https://guangzhou2021.metropolis.org/>
The link to connect will be shared with participants.

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Interpretation will be available in English, French and Spanish.

The Policy Councils are a policy development mechanism of UCLG, led by locally elected leaders that allow for strengthening the political debate of our World Organization and develop policy recommendations in relation to strategic topics.

The Policy Council on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda, launched at the UCLG World Council in November 2020, aims to look at the challenges and opportunities associated around the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, a critical corner stone for the development agenda and for the achievement of empowered, inclusive and resilient cities and territories.

Issues covered until now by the Policy Council

The meetings held in 2021 allowed the Sherpas and Policy Councilors to discuss concrete proposals for its agenda based on the mandate inherited from the Quito Outcome Document at Habitat III, **acknowledging the role of local and regional governments** in the review and follow up of the New Urban Agenda.

The Councilors have particularly emphasized the following issues:

- Deepening the debate on the recognition of local and regional governments as political actors in the review and follow-up of the New Urban Agenda.
- Allowing direct linkage with the **World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments** as formal mechanism for review and follow-up in the run-up to Quito+5.
- Ensuring articulation between the Policy Council and **UNACLA** when ensuring input to the monitoring and review of the New Urban Agenda.
- Stressing the link between the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the **localization** of the Sustainable Development Goals, especially within the context of SDG 11 on sustainable cities, and the development and implementation of **subnational urban policies**.
- Ensuring that the relevant **data provided for and by local and regional governments** is taken into account in the **monitoring** and progress of implementation of the agenda.
- Guaranteeing the **territorial perspective**, and advocating for multilevel governance and the inclusion of local and regional governments in all processes related to the agenda.
- Clear relationship with the 5-year review and follow up of the New Urban Agenda, Quito+5: taking place in 2021-2022. The objectives of the New Urban Agenda have

been, and will continue to be, at the core of the global agendas such as the **2030 Agenda**, and the **Addis Ababa Action Agenda**, among others, and this review moment will be crucial in cementing the political role of local and regional governments in this regard.

- Clear connection between the **localization of the SDGs** and the achievement of the New Urban Agenda and its power to be an **accelerator for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda**.
- Direct connection between the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the development and implementation of **subnational urban policies** spearheaded by local and regional governments from around the world and promoted by UN-Habitat.

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

- **Urban-rural linkages:** looking into small towns, very small towns, and intermediary cities agenda role in making the New Urban Agenda a reality.
 - Connection with the G20 Development Working Group Outcome Document on Territorial Perspectives.
- **National and Sub-national urban policies** and how they contribute to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda
 - Connection with UN Habitat and UCLG's Subnational Urban Policy Guide and national urban policies advocacy.
 - Connection with INCASOL and CONGOPE's (through the UCLG Forum of Regions) manifesto on regional development strategies.
- **Trust** and mistrust between levels of government
- **Innovation, digitalization and data:** supporting local and regional governments in delivering the New Urban Agenda and in the reporting process