



Summary WUF10 Outcomes

Wednesday 26 February 2020

The tenth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF10) took place in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, from 8-13 February 2020. WUF10 was a resounding success with over 13,000 participants from 169 countries and more than 30,000 cumulative attendees across the week. In the span of five days, we saw more than 500 high quality knowledge exchanges through assemblies, dialogues, roundtables, urban talks, especial sessions and events organized by a variety of stakeholders. Key outcomes of WUF10 include:

- WUF10 began with a call to action and carried this call through to the Forum's concluding the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions. The Abu Dhabi Declared Actions bring together voluntary actions and diverse commitments made at WUF10 by different partners and stakeholder groups in support of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also presents a range of perspectives on the relationship between culture, innovation and cities.
- Closer integration within the UN family in support of the implementation of the NUA and SDG #11 with attendance of 4 USDGs, 5 ASGs, 10 regional representatives and specialised UN agencies particularly UNESCO, UNDP and UNEP that have direct relation with the theme: "Cities of Opportunity: Connecting Culture & Innovation".
- In support for Beijing@25 and UN-Habitat's gender resolution, and as a demonstration of the Secretariat's commitment to achieve gender parity, WUF10 is the first world urban forum of its kind and magnitude to achieve panel parity. To date, we have on record 51%:49% of all thought leadership slots represented by women and men respectively.
- WUF is also an opportunity to bring together the SDG#11 community and WUF10 had the biggest exhibition with 130 exhibitors from all regions; representing different thematic areas and provided inclusive spaces for networking and interactions.
- High-level participation at WUF10 included two heads of state and government respectively from Afghanistan and Fiji; some 70 ministerial / deputy ministerial representation. The ministerial roundtable and representation at panel discussions by member states have been very encouraging.
- In the road to WUF10, 20 countries organized their National Urban Forums, celebrating achievements and setting commitments to national urban development agendas. Next steps to create an international network of National Urban Forums connected to the global equivalent in the run-up to WUF11 in Katowice, Poland.
- Four initiatives were inaugurated as part of the WUF10 legacy and will contribute to sustainable urban development in UAE and beyond:



- *WUF Alumni network* – connecting previous and next WUF hosts to exchange lessons, knowledge and promote the positive impact of the World Urban Forum.
 - *Cities Investment Platform* - provide local and regional governments a platform to connect with financial institutions, investors and project preparation experts. It will also feature a digital marketplace that will allow cities and investors to interact long after the forum and lay the groundwork for a pipeline of projects that will form part of UN-Habitat's new stream of work on sustainable finance.
 - *WUF living legacy*: Tree planting initiative in partnership with Ministry of Climate Change and Environment and demonstrating our commitment to offset the impact of big conferences and contribute to sustainable urban development of WUF host cities.
 - *Public Art for Abu Dhabi* – initiative from DMT to launching cycling circuit in Abu Dhabi (+400Km)
- WUF10 has created greater awareness that plan urbanisation can result in better living conditions; and that these challenges can be resolved by innovation and active participation by communities and individuals. We reached a total cumulative audience of 1.9 billion. Through Twitter, we gained 100,000 followers, 5,903 tweets and total tweet impressions of 1 million for the month. On FB, we had 350,000 'post-reach' for the month. On Instagram, we had over 4,000 profile visits in one week. We made a very strong impression in Arabic news media with some 33,000 profile visits on FB and over 75,800 on Twitter.

WUF10 has been an excellent platform to increase the awareness on sustainable urban development and to upscale actions from a variety of stakeholders. We welcome and recognize the diverse commitments made by participants during WUF10 and invite all partners to join this call for action as we launch the Secretary General's Decade of Action. WUF10 is providing a launching ground for all parties to declare actions and contribute to the common goal of accelerating the achievement of sustainable urban development for all. Voluntary declared actions can be registered at <https://wuf.unhabitat.org/page/wuf10-declared-actions-voluntary-contributions>