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المنتدى الحضري العالمي
World Urban Forum

Abu Dhabi, UAE 8-13 February 2020

The Tenth Session of the
World Urban Forum

Cities of Opportunities: Connecting **Culture** and **Innovation**

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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

IMPLEMENTING
THE NEW
URBAN AGENDA

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES
AND COMMUNITIES

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Acronyms

ADGM	Abu Dhabi Global Market
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CIF	Cities Investment Facility
CIP	Cities Investment Platform
CPI	City Prosperity Initiative
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DMT	Abu Dhabi Department of Municipalities and Transport
FAO	The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
G20	Group of Twenty
ICLEI	Local Governments for Sustainability
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
LOC	Local Organising Committee
LRG	Local and Regional Governments
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NUA	New Urban Agenda
NUF	National Urban Forum
NUP	National Urban Policy
PPP	Public-Private-Partnerships
RC	United Nations Resident Coordinator
SAGE	Stakeholder Advisory Group Enterprise
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UCLG	United Cities and Local Governments
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDRR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UN HLPF	United Nations High-level Political Forum
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNSWSSU	UN System-wide Strategy on Sustainable Urbanisation
USD	United States Dollar
VLRs	Voluntary Local Reviews
WUF	World Urban Forum

World Urban Forum Alumni Cities

FROM WUF1 TO WUF11

WUF 3 2006
- **Vancouver,** Canada

Our Future: Sustainable Cities – Turning Ideas into Action

– **Attendance: Over 10,400** –

WUF3 FUM3
World Urban Forum   Forum urbain mondial

Vancouver, Canada

WUF 11 2022
- **Katowice,** Poland

Katowice, Poland

Barcelona, Spain

Naples, Italy

WUF 7 2014
- **Medellin,** Colombia

Urban equity in development - cities for life

– **Attendance: Over 22,000** –

WUF7 Medellin

Medellin, Colombia

WUF 2 2004
- **Barcelona,** Spain

Cities: Crossroads of cultures, inclusiveness and integration?

– **Attendance: Over 4,300** –

WORLD URBAN FORUM

WUF 1 2002
- **Nairobi,** Kenya

Sustainable Urbanization

– **Attendance: Almost 1,200** –

WORLD URBAN FORUM

WUF 5 2010
- **Rio de Janeiro,** Brazil

The Right to the City: Bridging the Urban Divide

– **Attendance: Almost 13,800** –

WORLD URBAN FORUM 5
Rio de Janeiro - Brazil
22-26 March 2010

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Note:

In 2016, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) was held in lieu of the Eighth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF8).

WUF **6** 2012

• **Naples,** Italy

The Urban Future

– Attendance: **Over 8,200** –

WORLD URBAN FORUM **6**

NAPLES, ITALY 1-7 SEPTEMBER 2012

WUF **4** 2008

• **Nanjing,** China

Harmonious Urbanization:
The Challenge of Balanced
Territorial Development

– Attendance: **Almost 8,000** –

World Urban Forum 4
第四届世界城市论坛
03-06 November 2008 Nanjing, China

Nanjing,
China

Abu Dhabi,
UAE

WUF **9** 2018

• **Kuala Lumpur,** Malaysia

Cities 2030, Cities for All

– Attendance: **Over 23,000** –

WORLD URBAN FORUM
WUF9

KUALA LUMPUR • 7-13 FEB 2018

Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia

Nairobi,
Kenya

WUF **10** 2020

• **Abu Dhabi,** UAE

Cities of Opportunities -
Connecting Culture and Innovation

– Attendance: **Over 13,000** –

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المنتدى الحضري العالمي
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IMPLEMENTING
THE NEW
URBAN AGENDA

1

Foreword

Dena Assaf, UN Resident Coordinator, UAE; Victor Kisob, Assistant-Secretary-General, Deputy Executive Director, UN-Habitat; Mohamed Al Khadar Al Ahmed, Executive Director of Strategic Affairs, Abu Dhabi Department of Municipalities and Transport; Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, UN-Habitat; Małgorzata Jarosińska-Jedynak, Minister of Development Funds and Regional Policy (Poland); Martha Delgado, President of UN-Habitat Assembly at a flag lowering ceremony of WUF10 (from left)
© UN-Habitat

WUF10: ushering in the Decade of Action with a focus on cities.

2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the United Nations. The commemoration kicked off with UN-Habitat convening the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF10) in Abu Dhabi, the first Arab city to host a WUF.

The Forum ushered in the Decade of Action, ensuring that sustainable urbanisation is embedded in the United Nations Secretary-General's call for ambitious action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. It was also the last major United Nations conference of the pre-COVID-19 era. Looking back, the discussions, the urgent call to action to ensure that our cities grow in harmony with nature, the need to address inequalities and build upon the peace and development nexus: these laid the foundations for building back better and greener in the wake of the pandemic.

WUF10 enjoyed the full support of the United Arab Emirates and host city Abu Dhabi. I take this opportunity to thank His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, for his patronage of WUF10. Let me also acknowledge His Excellency Falah Al Ahbabi, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Department of Municipalities and Transport, for his leadership of the local organising committee. UN-Habitat is grateful for UAE's hospitality, cooperation and expertise in hosting a successful World Urban Forum.

The forum attracted more than 13,000 participants from 169 countries and more than 30,000 cumulative attendees throughout the week. WUF10 was a call to action, an opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and make commitments we need to implement to accomplish the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Innovative ideas were shared through some 500 thought-provoking sessions. The forum showed how urbanisation is an entry point for the

17 SDGs. The density, economies of scale and proximity of cities are akin to an invisible string that brings all the development goals together. In this Decade of Action, we as UN-Habitat declare our commitments to supporting implementation of the SDGs and reviewing the progress of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda with our Strategic Plan 2020-2023 and our flagship programmes.

This report summarises WUF10's remarkable achievements in terms of numbers, quality of presentations, gender balance among speakers, an exceptional Urban Expo, the integrated spaces and the opportunities for chance encounters between participants. It also highlights Arab urbanism that is inspiring the world with examples of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable human settlements for all, with a strong cultural component.

The strong partnerships and networks we forged through the Forum are, perhaps, more important than all these achievements. They created ties that bind, giving us strength to face the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the resultant economic fallout. Now, more than ever, let us commit to doubling our efforts to fulfil the pledges and commitments made in the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions, and to do all that we can to ensure we leave no one and no place behind.

UN-Habitat is working towards reporting on collective accomplishments post-WUF10 at the Eleventh Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF11). We look forward to seeing everyone in Katowice, Poland, in 2022 and express our thanks to the Government of Poland and the city of Katowice, our hosts for WUF11.

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Cities have always been key enablers of the world's sustainable future.

With the rise of urbanisation, cities are driving sustainable development while supporting a new era of health, liveability and economic growth.

Under the theme "Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation", the World Urban Forum (WUF10), has been a powerful platform for presenting promising solutions to some of the world's most pressing issues.

It has given global participants the opportunity to respond directly to each city's needs and deliver new and insightful outcomes.

By sharing new plans, policies and legislation, as well as public and private investment opportunities, cities have strengthened international partnerships.

Most importantly, cities with diverse cultures have learned from one another, enabling more innovative ways to plan for a better future.

The New Urban Agenda reflects many of the core principles of

sustainability and serves as the basis for how we action the Sustainable Development Goals.

We are incredibly proud to have been part of this global journey and for being chosen as the first Arab country to host WUF10.

WUF10 has given cities the chance to make a difference, especially by generating further momentum on taking collective action. By continuing to work together, we can overcome the biggest global issues of our time.

This shared commitment for a better world is what continues to unite us.

While the cultural diversity of cities continues to grow in different directions, the goal for a more sustainable world remains the same, firmly rooted in the foundations of global solidarity, collaboration and shared ambitions.

H.E. Falah Al Ahbabi
Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Department of Municipalities and Transport

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Executive summary

From 8 to 13 February 2020, more than 13,000 attendees gathered in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, for the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF10) under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces. Convened by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Forum is the world's premier UN-mandated conference on sustainable urban development. This was the first time it was held in the Arab region, allowing for a demonstration of Arab urbanism to inspire participants with examples of inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable human settlements for all, with a strong cultural component.

Established by the United Nations in 2001, WUF brings together leading urban actors to address the pressing issue of rapid urbanisation and its impact on cities, communities, economies and the environment. WUF10 was a significant event to kick-start the United Nations Decade of Action, which calls for accelerating sustainable solutions to the world's biggest challenges to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

The WUF, promoting the strong participation of stakeholders, has the following objectives: (a) raise awareness of sustainable urbanisation among stakeholders and constituencies, including the general public; (b) improve the collective knowledge of sustainable urbanisation through inclusive open debates, sharing of lessons learned and the exchange of best practices and good policies; (c) increase coordination and cooperation within the UN System and with different stakeholders and constituencies for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) and the urban dimension of the SDGs; and (d) provide substantive and strategic inputs from multilateral organisations, national and subnational governments and stakeholders into the reporting of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Participants in the Forum include national, local and regional governments, parliamentarians, civil society, older persons, women, youth, children, persons with disabilities, grassroots groups, indigenous peoples and local communities, the private sector, foundations and philanthropies, international and regional organisations, academia, professionals, and other relevant stakeholders.

Creativity and cultural diversity have always been key drivers of urban success. At WUF10, for the first time culture, creativity and innovation were at the centre of the global conversation about the liveability, vitality and sustainability of cities. The Forum's theme, "Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation," recognised that culture is an integral part of the solution to the challenges of urbanisation and achieving the New Urban Agenda.

His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces © UAE

As WUF10 affirmed, culture is a vital component of local identity, including heritage, creativity and diversity. Urbanisation needs to be planned, designed and managed to enhance this. Indeed, culture can be considered as the fourth pillar of sustainable development.[1]

This report details the scope and nature of participation by diverse stakeholders at the Forum. It shares insights and recommendations generated from over 500 Forum events, including dialogues, roundtables and special sessions, about creative ways of driving people-centred development that is inclusive, leaves no one behind, and mainstreams culture into strategic urban planning.

Key WUF10 numbers

→ **13,333** attendees from **169** countries.

→ **642** thought leaders, speakers and moderators from **99** countries.

→ **49** speakers from **25** Least Developed Countries.

→ **52** per cent of speakers in the main programme sessions were women.

→ High-level delegates: one head of state, one head of government, **49** ministers, **64** deputy ministers, close to **100** mayors and numerous vice-mayors.

→ More than **500** high-quality events for knowledge exchange, collaboration and debate.

Capturing knowledge and innovation to support the implementation of the global urban agendas

WUF10 was an innovative platform dedicated to highlighting and advocating for innovative solutions to urban challenges. All the discussions, newest ideas and debates during WUF10 were captured through submitted session reports. These detail state-of-the-art knowledge, innovation, implementation strategies and best practices in sustainable urban development while providing a quantitative mechanism to produce a database for analysis of information.

The innovation-oriented solutions featured at WUF10 serve to guide cities and countries on the path of sustainable urban development. By engaging with the ideas, practices and knowledge shared at the Forum, urban actors had the opportunity to learn about ways of implementing the global urban agenda. The Forum also underscored the importance of sustainable urbanisation. Unmanaged urbanisation can exacerbate violence, lead to negative climate change impacts, environmental degradation and social and economic polarisation.

Abu Dhabi Declared Actions

Real progress is being made in creating cities that are more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, yet more remains to be done to realize the ambitions of Agenda 2030. Challenges of extreme poverty, socioeconomic inequality, slums, social exclusion and marginalisation, gender-based discrimination, humanitarian crises, conflict, air pollution, climate change and high unemployment persist.[2] To deal with these challenges requires innovation, serious commitments and massive action from a wide range of actors.

H.H. Sheikh Theyab bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Member of the Executive Council, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's Court, UAE, attended the Opening Ceremony of WUF10 © UAE

Read more about the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions (See 8.1**):** https://wuf.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020-02/WUF10_final_declared_actions.pdf

WUF10 began with a call to action: a call for commitments to accelerating the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Participants answered with the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions. These are voluntary actions and diverse commitments by different partners and stakeholder groups to support the implementation of the New Urban Agenda as an accelerator to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in the Decade of Action.[3] The Abu Dhabi Declared Actions also present a range of perspectives on the relationship

Reading the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions at the Closing Ceremony © UN-Habitat

between culture, innovation and cities, as well as solutions and best practices for implementation of the urban elements of the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.

Stakeholders that committed to taking action include: international organisations, national, local and regional governments, civil society organisations, grassroots communities, youth associations and the private sector.

In the following two years, UN-Habitat will continue to call for actions and mobilisation and track progress on the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions in the run up to the Eleventh Session of the World Urban Forum, happening in Katowice, Poland, in 2022. This will ensure that commitments made will be implemented to accelerate achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Box 1: **World Urban Forum and the New Urban Agenda**

The United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 69/226 recognizes the WUF as the foremost global arena for interaction among policymakers, local government leaders, non-governmental organisations and expert practitioners of sustainable urban development and human settlements.

In paragraph 167 of the New Urban Agenda, participating states called for the United Nations Secretary-General's report on the Agenda's implementation to incorporate the inputs of multilateral organisations and processes, where appropriate, and those of civil society, the private sector and academia. The report should also build on existing platforms and processes such as the WUF convened by UN-Habitat.

The New Urban Agenda was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito, Ecuador, on 20 October 2016. It was endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly at its sixty-eighth plenary meeting of the seventy-first session on 23 December 2016. The New Urban Agenda represents a shared vision for a better and more sustainable future. If well-planned and well-managed, urbanisation can be a powerful tool for sustainable development for both developing and developed countries.

❝ **What I've learned from all the speakers, organizers and participants at WUF10 is that we all want cities that are inclusive, creative, sustainable and full of cultural richness. We know that urbanisation is unstoppable and should not only benefit the few. We cannot leave behind more than a billion people.**

Maimunah Mohd Sharif
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director
UN-Habitat

1. #WUF10 hashtag curving with Abu Dhabi city scape © UN-Habitat
2. SDG Blocks in SDGs in Action zone © UN-Habitat
3. Flags raising ceremony © UN-Habitat

1. **Opening speech by H.E. President Ashraf Ghani of Afghanistan**
   © UN-Habitat
2. **Elliott Harris, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist, UN DESA**
   © UN-Habitat

1. Opening speech by Fiji's prime minister, H.E. Josaia V. Bainimarama
   © UN-Habitat

2. H.E. Noura Al Kaabi, Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development, UAE
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

1. **H.E. Falah Al Ahbabi, Chairman of the Department of Municipalities and Transport**
   © UN-Habitat
2. **Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary, UN ESCAP**
   © UN-Habitat

Martha Delgado, President of UN-Habitat Assembly and Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat © UN-Habitat

3

WUF10 theme and host city

WUF10 Expo area, Abu Dhabi 2020
© UN-Habitat/Babu Lal

3.1 The role of culture in sustainable urbanisation

In many respects, culture can be regarded as the fourth pillar of sustainable development.[4] The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda have placed culture at the forefront of current debates on urbanisation. Culture and cultural diversity are sources of enrichment, grounded in human rights principles (See Box 15) and therefore provide an important contribution to the sustainable development of urban areas.

Today, the notion of culture – understood in its broad sense as knowledge, art, beliefs, capabilities, habits, morals and behaviours – plays a key role in city growth.[5] The cultural diversity of cities, which fosters inclusivity, tolerance and participation, is widely viewed as a social asset, which can be harnessed in a variety of ways. Urban areas contain the cultural diversity, creative capital, vitality, social infrastructure and career choices to help attract the skills and talent required to generate and maximize sustainable urban solutions.

With 55 per cent of the global population residing in urban areas, and with cities becoming more heterogeneous, cultural diversity has important implications for how urban areas are planned and managed to ensure that everyone living in the city can access its benefits and no one will be left behind. Similarly, how cities are planned and managed will have a direct impact on the safeguarding of the world's cultural heritage and how the residents of these cities will be able to live their lives in holistic and sustainable ways.

Cities are hubs of innovation often deployed to address a wide range of challenges, for example ensuring that all residents have access to adequate and affordable urban basic services – including water, mobility, security, solid waste management and renewable energy – and to maximize city growth and opportunities. In the context of urban areas, culture and innovation are inextricably linked and engaged in a continuous process of refining each other. The city with its concentration of people, ideas, and resources serves as a catalyst to initiate and sustain innovation, which in turn contributes to enhancement of cultural identity and achievements that lead to more innovation and improvements.

The rapidly changing urban context provides opportunities for the intersection of culture and innovation and to address persistent and emerging urban challenges. Against this backdrop, WUF10 had "Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation" as its theme.

Participants at WUF10 © UN-Habitat

3.2 The first WUF in the Arab world

Hosting WUF10 for the first time in the Arab world was an opportunity to showcase the Forum's achievements as a global hub for innovation and cultural exchange, connecting East and West. Home to over 190 nationalities, Abu Dhabi offers a special combination of features in its urban identity as an open, progressive Arab city. The city pursues Sustainable Abu Dhabi, a holistic approach to sustainable development that rests on four pillars – economic, environmental, social and cultural.

At the Forum, efforts were made to raise the profile of urban stakeholders from the region and address their concerns. The 22 member states of the Arab League, stretching from the Atlantic Ocean in the west to the Arabian Sea in the east, and from the Mediterranean Sea in the north to the Indian Ocean in the southeast, have made remarkable progress towards achieving sustainable development but structural and interconnected obstacles hamper their efforts to be on track to achieve the 2030 Agenda.

The Arab region is predominantly semi-arid with relatively high levels of urbanisation. It has wide variations and contrasts across its different sub-regions and within individual countries as a result of spatial development policies, geography, vegetation, agricultural practices, cultural traditions and, more recently, the large-scale population movements and concentrations resulting from conflict and insecurity.

Demographic processes have made the population quadruple in the past 40 years. Rural-urban migration and the flow of refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), caused by protracted armed conflicts and natural disasters, have brought many people to the cities, making the region one of the most urbanised in the world, with 58 per cent of its population living in urban areas.

The movement of millions of IDPs, refugees and migrants into urban areas has placed additional strain on the economies, infrastructure, and public services in host communities. This has a negative impact on the well-being of large numbers of host, displaced and refugee populations. Additionally, the effects of climate change expose many cities to the challenges of coping with damaged infrastructure and the disruption of public services, while the growing scarcity of natural resources threatens their food security.

As 70 per cent of the population is expected to be urban by 2050, policies shaping the urban space should foster peaceful coexistence among residents and people-centered governance. They should integrate policy objectives such as health, transportation and mobility to enhance social equity, particularly for the urban poor and marginalized youth, women, and persons with disabilities, and accelerate the realization of the goals of inclusion, safety, resilience and sustainability.

Adapting to dynamic change in the region and responding to the complex challenges of helping cities recover from the consequences of conflicts, build resilience and achieve sustainable development requires innovative humanitarian, developmental and peacebuilding initiatives. The culture of creativity and innovation, the Forum recommended, must be cultivated across all sectors through effective partnerships and appropriate business models. Identifying innovative funding mechanisms, promoting research, and sharing of knowledge and best practices are key for cities in the region to overcome these challenges, increase their competitiveness and realize their full potential as drivers of equitable and inclusive growth. (See Box 2).

Box 2:   **Innovation, culture and cities**

Our cities require public spaces for innovation and collaboration where people can tinker and experiment. We already know that the skills in demand in the next 10 to 15 years require fluency of ideas, creativity, ability to think systemically, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. How will we plan our cities around that reality? While technology shapes the invisible infrastructure of smart cities, culture and creativity are necessary to protect the quirkiness that gives cities their own character that connects and inspires humans. WUF10 is an affirmation that culture plays a key role as a driver for urban sustainability. Culture is a strategic asset for creating cities that are more inclusive, innovative and sustainable.

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66 **In the WUF10, we discuss implementation of the New Urban Agenda and its relationship with the Agenda 2030. This connection gives us the possibility of integrating a new approach in decision making to design, evaluate and attract investments for sustainable development.**

Martha Delgado
Undersecretary of Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico
President of the UN-Habitat Assembly

3.3 Debating urbanisation, innovation and culture: a creative link

Throughout the Forum, speakers identified and discussed the links between urbanisation, culture and innovation.

Urbanisation is about constructing values, living together, having similarities, and building and reinforcing emotional links, explained Ernesto Ottone Ramirez, UNESCO's Assistant Director-General for Culture at the Dialogue on Urbanization, Culture and Innovation.

Cities are a mix of complexity and incompleteness, where the process of making is always present, noted Saskia Sassen, Professor of Sociology at Columbia University.

Speakers at the Civil Society Organizations Roundtable highlighted how culture, urbanisation and positive traditions are diverse and evolving. They create opportunities for enhanced social cohesion and more liveable and productive environments. Luis Monreal, General Manager of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, largely affirmed these views. "Urbanisation, culture and innovation is an enormous pleonasm," he said in a rather provocative opening statement to the Dialogue on Urbanisation, Culture and Innovation.

To manage diversity and promote cultural interchange and social cohesion requires policy and action that aims to build an inclusive society. Inclusive societies need to be based on

fundamental values of equity, social justice, and human rights and freedoms, as well as principles of tolerance and embracing diversity.[6] To help foster human-centred, inclusive and equitable development outcomes, heritage conservation, knowledge and practices should be integrated with wider goals of urban development, said Jyoti Hosagrahar, Deputy Director for the World Heritage Centre at UNESCO.

Forum participants also noted how urban regeneration can transform socially, economically and environmentally deprived areas and strategic locations within a city into connected, dynamic, diverse and vibrant neighborhoods. This requires community inclusion and direct engagement of youth and different genders to ensure that urban regeneration efforts are sustainable.[7]

Participants emphasized how an inclusive process of heritage conservation can incorporate new ideas and thinking that can usher in co-creation, co-production and co-organisation of urban solutions, improving quality of life and producing new employment opportunities.[8] This can result in urban areas rich with cultural diversity, creative capital, vitality, social infrastructure and career opportunities for all, particularly young people.[9] However, as argued by stakeholders at the Foundations and Philanthropies Roundtable, there is a need for new instruments of collaboration for the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage for city development, similar to public-private-people partnerships.[10] They also identified the need for heritage conservation policies that are not just about restrictive laws and policies but about adopting a pragmatic approach where regulation is the basis for a safe investment environment. [11]

Participants in various meetings identified the need for strategic community plans and action plans that value culture and heritage with the need to engage communities. "Traditions, traditional leadership and values are to be mainstreamed and structurally included in national and local urban policies," said a speaker at the Traditional Authorities Roundtable.

Traditional solutions often have the most impact and are the least costly; they can help people create a city or town they can call home, noted Katepu Laoi, Minister of Local Government and Agriculture from Tuvalu in Polynesia. Culture, in this sense, provides a bridge between rural and urban histories and supports appreciation, heritage and tourism.

Participants recognised culture, creativity and innovation as key elements for building inclusive, prosperous and safe cities with a strong sense of community.[12] To promote sustainable urban development these elements need to be resourcefully combined and supported by creative approaches to planning, economy, social inclusion and entrepreneurial capacity.

Ernesto Ottone Ramírez, UNESCO's Assistant Director-General for Culture
© UN-Habitat/Flickr

> **❝ This is a very unique city hosting a very unique gathering for everyone to exchange views and discuss what's worth doing and what to avoid.**
>
> **H.E. Mohamed Al Khadar Al Ahmed**
> **Executive Director of Strategic Affairs at Abu Dhabi Department of Municipalities and Transport**

WUF10 official opening ceremony
© UN-Habitat

4

The Decade of Action and the role of cities

SDG Blocks at WUF10
© UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

The process of urbanisation is among the most significant global trends of the 21st century. Today, 55 per cent of the world's population lives in cities. By 2030, projections show that 60 per cent of people will be urban dwellers. That proportion is set to increase to 68 per cent by 2050. Urbanisation is not only a demographic or spatial phenomenon but a force, which if steered correctly, can help the world overcome some of its major challenges, including poverty, inequality, environmental degradation, climate change, fragility and conflict. These are all critical elements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.[13]

In September 2019, the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres called on all sectors of society to mobilize for a Decade of Action, beginning in 2020, to accelerate sustainable solutions and advance progress on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.[14] At the official opening of the Forum in Abu Dhabi on 9 February 2020, he stated in a video message that cities and towns are crucial for delivering sustainable development across the globe during this critical decade.

The Decade of Action calls for greater collective action. To help foster urban solutions for sustainable development, WUF10 mobilised a wide range of stakeholders to build stronger partnerships for the Decade of Action. The Forum reaffirmed the potential that cities have to drive achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals for key partners, including all levels of government, communities, and the business and development sector partners. The Forum's theme, "Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation," lays the foundation for UN-Habitat's work with United Nations Member States, governments, civil society, and other stakeholders and programming for the Decade of Action.

With this in mind, WUF10 saw new reporting processes and knowledge capture tools methodically designed to understand which are the newest ideas, the most up-to-date products and implementation strategies, the best practices and policies, the strategic partnerships and funding mechanisms, and the actors driving innovation and creativity. These innovation-oriented solutions are changing the world and creating conditions to put cities and countries on the path of sustainable urban development, using culture as a driver of change.

4.1 Paving the way for accelerating implementation of the NUA and the SDGs

WUF10 was an opportunity to kickstart the Decade of Action, opening a window of opportunity for the sustainable urban development agenda and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. As stressed by Ms. Maimunah Mohd. Sharif, Executive Director of UN-Habitat, in her opening speech:

> **The WUF is not a legislative forum but a unique space where governments meet stakeholders. What I hope to see from the tenth session is a set of Abu Dhabi Declared Actions: commitments that we will make on a voluntary basis as individuals, communities, cities and countries, and even at local, regional and global levels, that help mark this Decade of Action to accomplish the SDGs by 2030.[15]**

With only 10 years remaining to reach the Sustainable Development Goals, the Decade of Action needs to accelerate solutions, mobilize at local and global levels, and fully engage people and communities across all sectors to leverage transformative change. WUF10 assisted with this by bringing together numerous partners on an equal basis and linking stakeholders such as grassroots organisations, women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and the private sector with local, regional and national governments. It provided a platform to increase awareness on sustainable urban development, upscale actions from a variety of stakeholders, and recognize diverse commitments and actions for delivering on the New Urban Agenda and Agenda 2030 in the Decade of Action.

To collate commitments from diverse stakeholders, an advisory group assisted in the preparation of the Forum's outcome document, the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions (See 8.1). The Advisory Group (See Annex I) included representatives from key constituent groups, whose selection was guided by geographical and gender balance as well as types of stakeholders.[16] A chair from the host country and co-chair, the President of the UN-Habitat Assembly, presided over the Advisory Group. Members included representatives from local and regional governments, the Stakeholder Advisory Group Enterprise (SAGE) and the Local Organizing Committee. It also included the Chair of the Executive Board and the Committee of Permanent Representatives from UN-Habitat Governing Bodies, as well as a representative from the next WUF host country and UN agencies.[17] The Advisory Group reviewed Interim Reports and daily proceedings of the Forum prepared by a dedicated report team, which was appointed by UN-Habitat. Following a rigorous template that worked as an agreed framework to ensure uniformity and a similar reporting structure, the Advisory Group received daily information on the discussions and action points from the stakeholders, which enabled them to capture different agendas, priorities, recommendations and commitments.

The commitments made by WUF10 participants highlight the importance of creating an enabling environment for investment in sustainable urbanisation, and using science, culture, technology and innovation to enhance knowledge sharing, capacity

Leaders in a session at WUF10
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development and the mobilisation of financial resources. The Forum also showed the wisdom, experience and commitment participants have with regard to building their cities and communities to enhance resilience and shape societies. In many cities, there is great work being done to localize the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals at the community and local levels. It is critical that all stakeholders are included in all efforts related to the implementation of these global agendas.

4.2 The Abu Dhabi Declared Actions

While there is real progress being made in creating cities that are more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable, there remains much to be done to realize the ambitions of Agenda 2030. The COVID-19 pandemic, which is impacting cities and urban areas particularly hard, is reversing the gains made in the last decade. Inequality is greater than ever. As we kick off the Decade of Action, more than one billion people are living in slums, 1.8 billion are without adequate sanitation and 1.6 billion people live in houses that are not adequate. Even more people are excluded from the opportunities that urban life offers.[18] Challenges of extreme poverty, socioeconomic inequality, slums, social exclusion and marginalisation, gender-based discrimination, humanitarian crises, conflict, air pollution, climate change and high unemployment persist.[19] To deal with these challenges requires innovation, serious commitments and massive action from a wide range of actors.

WUF10 provided key urban actors with the opportunity to commit to specific actions that contribute to alleviating these challenges and advancing sustainable urban development during this crucial Decade of Action. The Forum culminated with the release of the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions, an outcome document based on the voluntary actions and commitments by diverse stakeholders for the next two years and beyond that to support achievement of the global urban agendas.

Essential beliefs about the nature of cities and culture underpin these commitments:

→ Cities are engines of growth and development.

→ Culture is a key driver of sustainable development.

→ Innovation and creativity are key for promoting transformative change.

→ Diversity and inclusion are essential elements of sustainable development.

→ Values are fundamental guides and prompts to action.

The Abu Dhabi Declared Actions[20] recognize that:

→ An increasingly urbanised world constitutes a transformative force which can be harnessed and steered for more sustainable development.

→ Culture is an integral part of the solution to the challenges of urbanisation and achieving the New Urban Agenda.

→ Cities are centres of creativity and innovation as well as places with valuable cultural heritage and identity.

→ Cities are incubators of social, economic, environmental, political and cultural progress.

→ Innovation and advances in science and technology are critical for implementing the New Urban Agenda and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other global development frameworks relevant to sustainable urbanisation.

Read more about the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions (See 8.1)**:** https://wuf.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020-02/WUF10_final_declared_actions.pdf

4.3 Diverse actors committed to action

With the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions, WUF participants also made special commitments to speed up the implementation of actions on different fronts.

International organisations reaffirmed commitments to accelerating the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and supporting sustainable urban development (European Union; UN Resident Coordinators System). They committed to using culture as an enabler of sustainable urban development and to placing it at the heart of their cooperation programmes (Investment plan and Sustainable Cities Investment Fund[21]).

The UNDRR in partnership with UCLG, ICLEI, the World Bank, UN-Habitat, the World Council on City Data and the Global Resilient Cities Network recognised the urgent need to reduce risks in urban areas and committed to making cities resilient.

The World Blind Union together with UN-Habitat agreed to implement an agreement to accelerate UN-Habitat's efforts in mainstreaming disability inclusion and accessibility within its policies and programmes.

National governments reiterated their commitments to support implementation of the New Urban Agenda, "particularly with regard to innovation and culture to help achieve liveable, inclusive, prosperous and resilient cities and communities."[22]

The Government of Fiji committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions by 2050.[23]

Almost all governments committed to addressing inequalities in land, housing, basic services and sustainable livelihoods, and to prioritize the reduction of inequalities in national development plans.[24]

The Government of Malaysia committed to engaging the people at the bottom 40 per cent in their national development policy with the the Ministry of Housing and Local Government providing social housing to low-income indigenous people in Sabah, Borneo state.[25] The Government of Senegal made a firm commitment to deploy the necessary efforts to use Islamic Finance in the application of land-value capture for the public good.[26]

Local and regional governments put forward several recommendations and proposals for action mostly through the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

They committed to developing a sustainable development model that is strongly anchored in culture and human rights, while upholding public service provision to ensure adequate living standards for all.[27] By assuming a more prominent role in pressing development issues, such as ecological transition and climate action, local and regional governments committed to prioritizing nature-based solutions and traditional knowledge, and mainstreaming nature and culture in sustainable urbanisation.[28]

Several cities committed to doing Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs), joining previous signatories to the NYC Voluntary Local Review Declaration (See Box 3). The city of Sipalay, Philippines, for example, committed to doing a VLR for the advancement of innovation and inclusivity, safety and security.[29] Local government in Asker, Norway, meanwhile has used the Sustainable Development Goals to plan a new municipality through an inclusive participatory process, involving all groups of society and especially youth.[30]

Voluntary Local Reviews

Modeled on the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) submitted to the United Nations by member states, New York City created the VLR in 2018 to "serve as a tool for local governments of all sizes to showcase achievements and challenges in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals."[31] In 2019, New York City launched the Voluntary Local Review Declaration during the United Nations General Assembly. Signatories committed to reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals. Following these developments, WUF10 brought together mayors and representatives of cities worldwide to discuss VLRs.

At the Forum, 17 subnational governments, representing almost every continent, signed on to the Declaration. These include: Barcelona (Spain), Rostov-on-don (Russia), Betio Town (Kiribati), Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), San Justo (Argentina), Tandil (Argentina), Bauang (The Philippines), Sipalay City (The Philippines), Brussels-Capital Region (Belgium), Tawau (Malaysia), Esplugues de Llobregat (Spain), Turkistan City (Kazakhstan), Acapulco de Juárez (Mexico), Dhankuta (Nepal), Moscow (Russia), Seberang Perai (Malaysia) and Asker Kommune (Norway).

They agreed to the following:

→ *Commitment 1:* To identify how existing strategies, programmes, data, and targets align with the SDGs.

→ *Commitment 2:* To provide at least one forum where stakeholders can come together to share experiences, lessons learned, and information gathered using the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals.

→ *Commitment 3:* To submit a VLR to the United Nations during the United Nations High-level Political Forum.

Signatories emphasised the importance of the VLR in measuring and reflecting the status and value of existing processes, innovations and programmes. Further, VLRs form a framework to compare, exchange on and evaluate what is already being done and how transformative impacts can be achieved. VLRs foster a common language to exchange and learn.

The private sector made several important commitments at WUF10. Private institutions (Standard Chartered Bank, Rendeavor, Webank) provided expertise on financing urban development and strategic infrastructure for the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals through a variety of mechanisms, highlighting the need to learn from venture capital funding, portfolio de-risking strategies, outcome investments and value capture instruments.[32] Cadasta committed to training local partners to empower communities and ensure tenure security, improving access to better basic services.[33]

World Enabled committed to supporting the development of an Inclusive City Index 2030 in partnership with the public and private sector to measure inclusion and accessibility in cities[34] and the Foundations and Philanthropies Roundtable addressed ways of assisting in unlocking private investments and putting in place mechanisms to look at the social, knowledge and capacity building components of financial capital.[35]

Civil society and professional associations underscored the need to understand cities and communities as central to the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals, not just Goal 11 – the urban goal.

Individually and collectively, stakeholders committed to promoting community engagement and inclusion. For example, Elizabeth Ombati, a Kenyan journalist with disability, committed herself to raising awareness around accessible and inclusive urbanisation in Nairobi by writing blogs and articles in newspapers and public campaigns.[36] The Joint Association of Persons with Disabilities Nigeria committed to advocacy efforts to build the capacity of staff at government agencies in Abuja to embrace inclusive policies and programmes on Universal Design.[37] Others committed to promoting "women at the centre" in participation and meaningful engagement;[38] enhancing and accelerating practical and strategic partnerships with mayors and local authorities to improve living conditions of poor communities;[39] and promoting the use of knowledge, good practices, tools and adequate technologies to ensure inclusivity, accessibility, economic prosperity and to mitigate climate change and adverse environmental effects.

Box 4: **Committed to supporting migrants**

WUF10 was a space to discuss migration from a place of understanding and support for the inclusion of migrants in urban life. Speakers highlighted the benefits migrants bring to cities, such as new cultural influences. Virtually all stakeholders agreed that local authorities, which are often not included in migration policy development, must be heard since they facilitate inclusion of migrants at the city level. Many discussions touched upon the need for policies that enable local governments to take actions that strengthen social cohesion and create inclusive "urban societies."[40] Many participants saw the "Open City" approach as a planning tool that can help to overcome segregation and reduce inequality while creating flexible cities that are ready and willing to receive more people.

Participants from academia committed to undertaking research on the impacts of migration to cities, including social impacts, and collecting and understanding global best practices with the aim of changing the narrative around migration and highlighting its positive contribution to cities.

The Government of Uganda expressed solidarity with refugees and migrants, indicating that this is at the heart of the values of traditional authorities. The Government of Afghanistan also committed to fostering the "right to the city" for all marginalised communities, including Internally Displaced People (IDPs), refugees and returnees by recognising occupancy rights in urban areas.[41] The representative from the Government of Azerbaijan expressed a firm commitment to serve IDPs and refugees and integrate the most vulnerable in policy actions.[42] Commitments from national authorities also touched on the importance of engaging with local communities (Tunisia, Belgium), slum dwellers (Deputy Minister of South Africa)[43] and traditional authorities (Canada).[44]

John Paul Farmer, Chief Technology Officer of the City of New York
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Mounir Tabet, Deputy Executive Secretary, UN ESCWA, speaking at Special Session
Sustainable Urban Development in the Arab MENA Region © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

5

WUF10 overview

Participants streaming in to attend different WUF10 events
© UN-Habitat

5.1 Thematic objectives

To fulfil the vision of inclusive, prosperous and environmentally sustainable cities and human settlements encapsulated by the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, requires a collective effort from a variety of stakeholders, the general public and governments at all levels. Implementation of actions to meet this vision must be closely monitored, based on a strong follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda.[45]

Since its inception, the WUF has been consolidating its global relevance as a key coordinating advocacy, partnership and knowledge platform on sustainable urbanisation. The Forum can help to address specific gaps by increasing public awareness of sustainable urbanisation and positioning it in the global political and media agenda. The Forum serves to promote legitimate United Nations platforms for exchange of experience and knowledge on sustainable urbanisation and enhances cooperation within the United Nations system and between the United Nations and stakeholder constituencies dealing with sustainable urban development.

WUF10 contributed to continued momentum on the common vision for sustainable urban development. Delegates gathered at the Forum to renew their commitments to implementing the New Urban Agenda and recognised the Forum's role as an accelerator for achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

WUF10 was informed by a set of key thematic objectives (See Box 5).

Box 5: **WUF10 thematic objectives**

1. To take stock of emerging innovative approaches and practices in harnessing culture and innovation as drivers of sustainable urbanisation

2. To provide greater insights into the linkages between urbanisation, culture and innovation as a basis for achieving inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements

3. To promote synergies between the past and the future, creating spaces for convergence in multicultural and multigenerational communities

4. To promote innovative solutions and approaches to urban development, building on the value of cultural diversity to improve quality of life for all in cities and human settlements

5. To explore the role of culture and the creative economy in driving prosperity and socioeconomic opportunities for all in cities and human settlements

6. To explore the role of culture and innovation in implementing the New Urban Agenda and achieving the urban dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

7. To build on the lessons learned from previous WUFs, especially with respect to bottom-up approaches to sustainable urbanisation

5.2 Overview of participation

WUF10 had 13,333 attendees. More than 70 per cent were Forum participants with the remainder made up of the workforce that ensured smooth running of the event.

Nearly 80 per cent of participants were internationals, drawn from 169 countries. In fact, WUF10 set the record for the highest number of participating countries thus far (See Table 1). This confirms the importance of the Forum for international experts, who gather together to discuss solutions that drive sustainable urbanisation.

Almost 50 per cent of total participants were from Asia when including those from host country, the United Arab Emirates. Even when excluding the 1,854 participants from the host country, participants from Asia still accounted for nearly 36 per cent of Forum participants. This was followed by Africa (27 per cent), Europe (23 per cent), North America (7 per cent), Latin America and the Caribbean (4 percent) and Oceania (2 per cent).

In terms of the age profile, the average age of participants ranged between 33-45 (See Figure 2). More than 4 per cent of participants were people aged between 18-24: they will be the makers and users of cities for decades to come. Over 39 per cent of participants were women. There was broad representation of women across the various partner types (See Figure 4).

A total of 422 United Nations system organisation representatives attended the Forum. These included four Under-Secretary-Generals, five Assistant-Secretary-Generals, and the United Nations Secretariat departments and offices. The overall participation of the United Nations System, including the One UN Roundtable, with the participation of several United Nations agencies, programmes and United Nations Resident Coordinators, provided the opportunity to strengthen collective knowledge, coordination and cooperation in the United Nations System on sustainable urban development.

Figure 1: International participants and number of countries represented from WUF5 to WUF10

	WUF5 2010, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	**WUF6** 2012, Naples, Italy	**WUF7** 2014, Medellin, Colombia	**WUF9** 2018, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	**WUF10** 2020, Abu Dhabi, UAE
International participants	4,221	3,800	4,863	6,276	7,726
Number of countries	**150**	**152**	**142**	**163**	**169**

Note: WUF8 in 2016 was not convened by UN-Habitat, as it would have coincided with the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in October. A stakeholders Forum was organised in parallel with the Habitat III in Quito in a similar structure to the World Urban Forum.

Figure 2: Participation at WUF10 by age

- Under 18: 40 — **0.46%**
- 18-24: 363 — **4.18%**
- 25-32: 1,363 — **15.69%**
- 33-45: 3,838 — **44.18%**
- 46-55: 2,075 — **23.88%**
- 56-65: 841 — **9.68%**
- 66 and above: 168 — **1.93%**

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS 8,688 (100%)
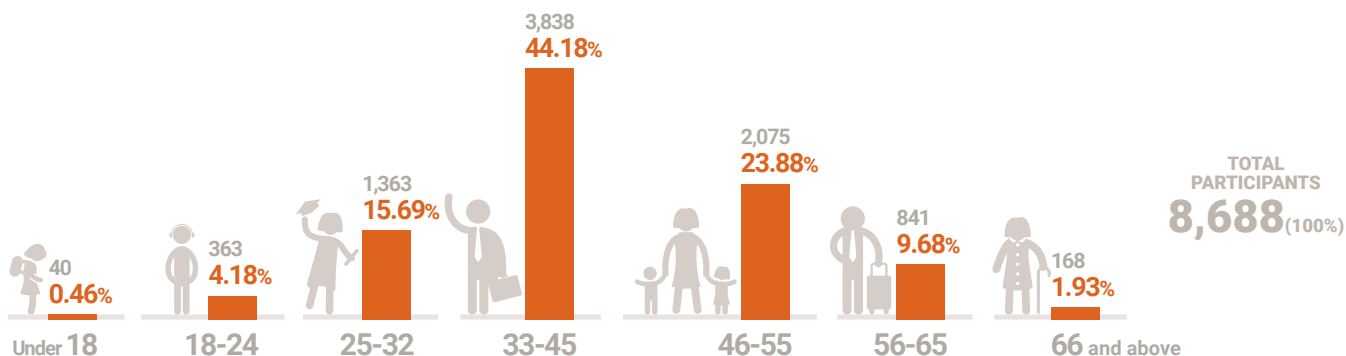
Note: Represents total participants who provided information on their date of birth when registering online.

Figure 3: Participation by partner type
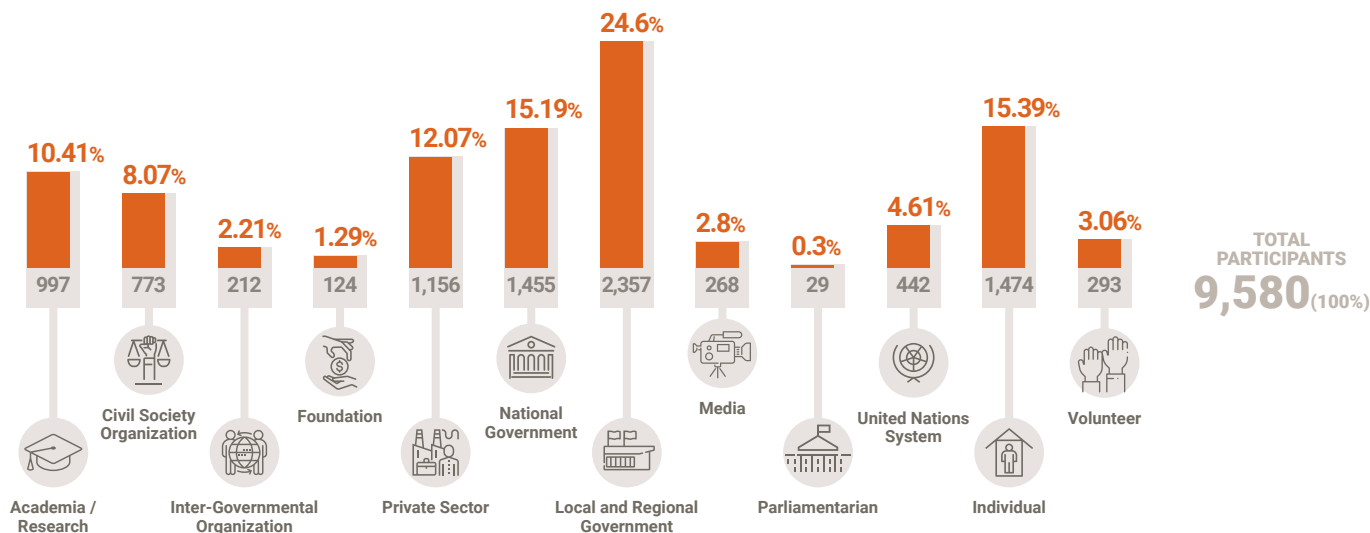
- Academia / Research: 997 — **10.41%**
- Civil Society Organization: 773 — **8.07%**
- Inter-Governmental Organization: 212 — **2.21%**
- Foundation: 124 — **1.29%**
- Private Sector: 1,156 — **12.07%**
- National Government: 1,455 — **15.19%**
- Local and Regional Government: 2,357 — **24.6%**
- Media: 268 — **2.8%**
- Parliamentarian: 29 — **0.3%**
- United Nations System: 442 — **4.61%**
- Individual: 1,474 — **15.39%**
- Volunteer: 293 — **3.06%**

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS 9,580 (100%)

Note: UN-Habitat staff members are counted as part of the partner type: United Nations System.

Figure 4: Gender by partner type

	997	773	212	124	1,156	1,455	2,357	268	29	442	1,474	293
Upper	49%	50%	45%	50%	33%	34%	38%	25%	14%	50%	33%	64%
Lower	51%	50%	55%	50%	67%	66%	62%	75%	86%	50%	67%	36%

Academia / Research · Civil Society Organization · Inter-Governmental Organization · Foundation · Private Sector · National Government · Local and Regional Government · Media · Parliamentarian · United Nations System · Individual · Volunteer

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS 9,580

Note: Total participants who provided information on gender when registering online.

Figure 5: Top 10 countries by participation

Number of participants from top 10 countries - 4,854 (50.66%)
Number of participants from other 159 countries - 4,726 (49.33%)
Total number of participants - 9,580 (100%)

United Arab Emirates	India	United States of America	Nigeria	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Egypt	Malaysia	Kenya	Russian Federation	France
19.35%	5.31%	4.60%	3.97%	3.43%	3.23%	2.88%	2.86%	2.55%	2.48%
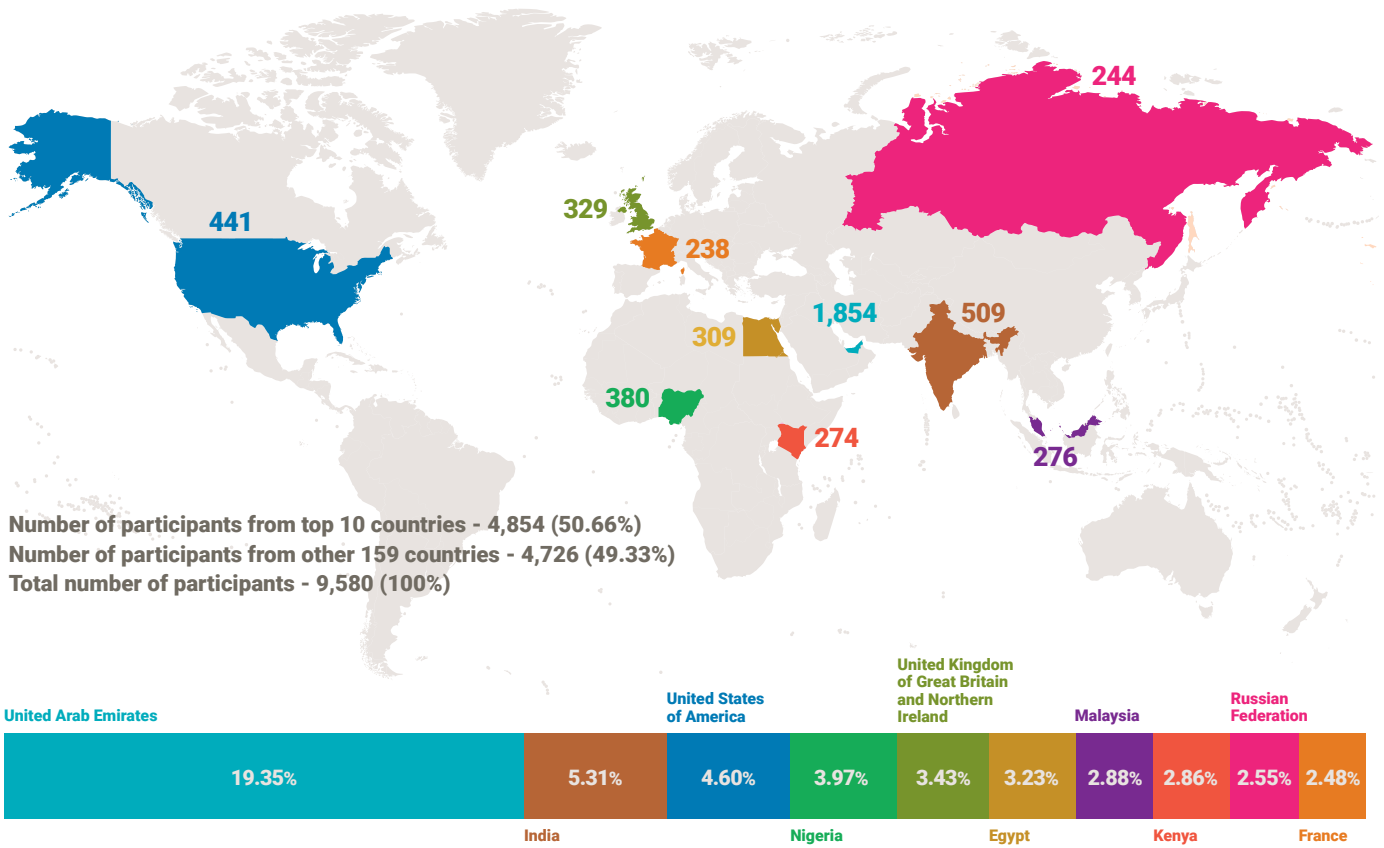
> **It is a privilege to see the world's greatest minds in sustainability come together from more than 160 countries to challenge the conventional ways to tackle crucial issues and discover new insights on urbanisation.**
>
> **H.E. Falah Al Ahbabi**
> **Member of the Executive Council, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Department of Municipalities and Transport, UAE**

Box 6:   Records broken

WUF10 broke a few records in terms of participation.

Building on the traction of Habitat III, which mobilised all constituencies towards the formulation and adoption of the New Urban Agenda, WUF10 reaffirmed its convening power, drawing 7,726 international participants – the most of any WUF.

Representatives from 169 countries took part, including those from 43 of the 47 Least Developed Countries (LDCs). The list of top 10 countries by participation (See Figure 5) shows well-balanced representation from different regions, including the host region.

It is also encouraging to see that constituencies like local and regional governments, the UN System and the media increased their presence alongside traditionally well-represented constituencies like CSOs, academia and national governments (See Figure 6).

Figure 6: Participation by partner type: comparison with previous editions


	WUF7	WUF9	WUF10
Total participants (100%)	18,030	19,273	9,580
Workforce	4,008	5,094	3,753
Total attendance	22,038	24,331	13,333

Note: UN-Habitat staff members are counted as part of the partner type: United Nations System.
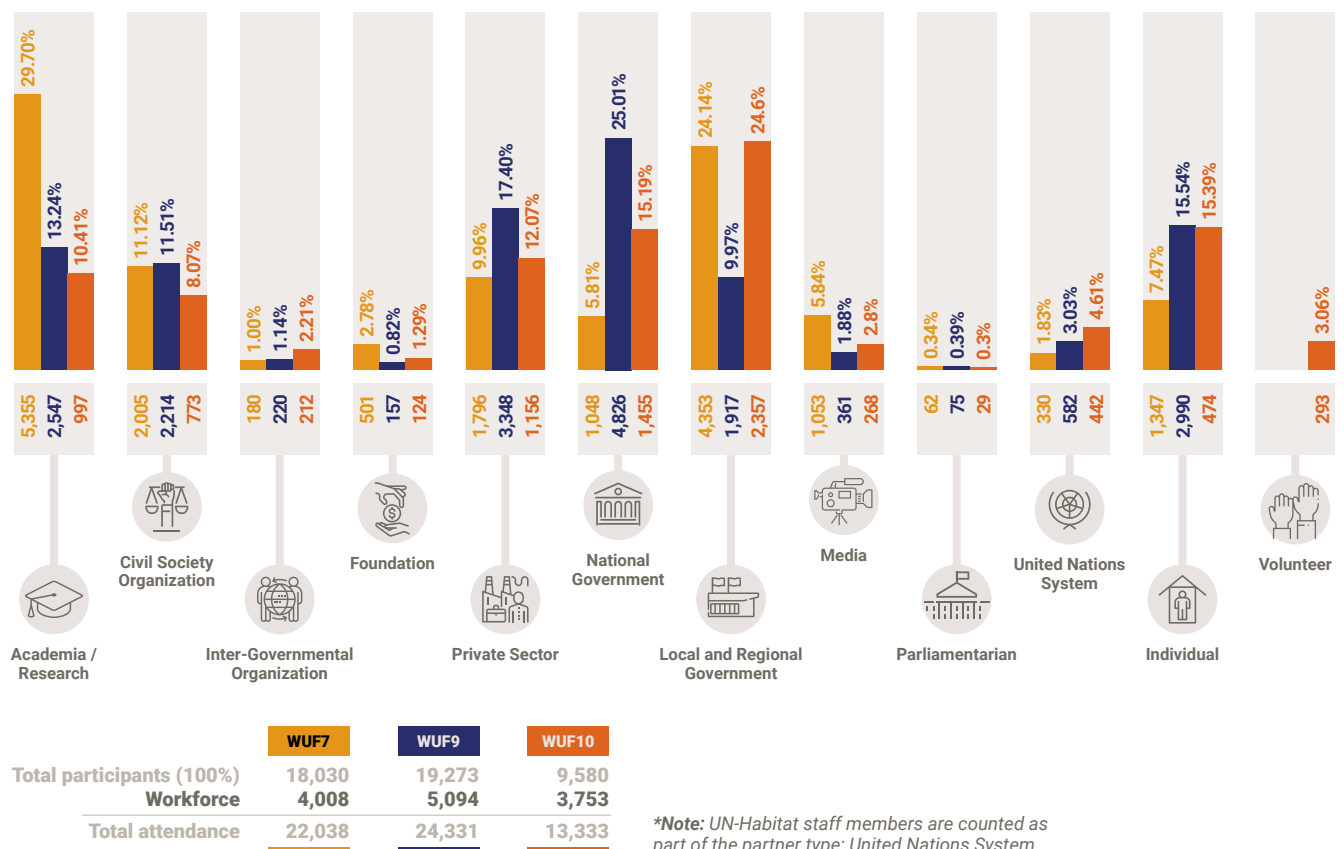
Table 1: Top 10 participating countries- historical overview/comparison

WUF10		WUF9		WUF7		WUF6	
Country	**%**	**Country**	**%**	**Country**	**%**	**Country**	**%**
United Arab Emirates	19.35	Malaysia	67.38	Colombia	73.03	Italy	41.68
India	5.31	Indonesia	3.84	United States of America	2.94	United States of America	3.74
United States of America	4.60	United States of America	1.81	Mexico	2.70	Nigeria	3.31
Nigeria	3.97	Kenya	1.61	Brazil	1.67	France	2.95
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	3.43	Philippines	1.59	Ecuador	1.55	South Africa	2.52
Egypt	3.23	China	1.56	Spain	1.41	Germany	2.42
Malaysia	2.88	India	1.36	France	1.18	United Kingdom	2.18
Kenya	2.86	Germany	0.87	Chile	1.02	Kenya	2.15
Russian Federation	2.55	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	0.78	Peru	0.87	Sweden	1.92
France	2.48	South Africa	0.76	Germany	0.86	Brazil	1.63
Total of top 10 countries	**50.66**		**81.55**		**87.23**		**64.5**
Total of top 10 countries without host country	**31.31**		**14.18**		**14.20**		**22.82**
Total of remaining countries	**49.33**		**18.45**		**12.77**		**35.5**

WUF5		WUF4		WUF3	
Country	**%**	**Country**	**%**	**Country**	**%**
Brazil	60.31	China	48.1	Canada	51.2
United States of America	4.82	Kenya	3.5	United States of America	6.2
Kenya	2.86	Nigeria	3.2	Mexico	1.8
Nigeria	2.36	Sweden	3	South Africa	1.7
France	1.38	United States of America	2.2	China	1.6
Argentina	1.32	South Africa	2	Kenya	1.5
Canada	1.21	India	1.9	Sweden	1.4
South Africa	1.12	Germany	1.8	Brazil	1.4
Germany	1.08	Canada	1.7	India	1.3
Uganda	0.92	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1.6	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1.2
Total of top 10 countries	**77.38**		**69**		**69.3**
Total of top 10 countries without host country	**17.0**		**20.9**		**18.1**
Total of remaining countries	**22.62**		**31**		**30.7**

Table 2: Top 10 participating countries- historical overview/comparison (absolute numbers)

WUF10		WUF9		WUF7		WUF6		WUF5	
Country	Absolute numbers	Country	Absolute numbers	Country	Absolute numbers	Country	Absolute numbers	Country	Absolute numbers
United Arab Emirates	1,854	Malaysia	12,961	Colombia (Republic of)	13,167	Italy	2,716	Brazil	6,413
India	509	Indonesia	739	United States of America	530	United States of America	244	United States of America	513
United States of America	441	United States of America	349	Mexico (United States of)	487	Nigeria	216	Kenya	304
Nigeria	380	Kenya	310	Brazil (Federative Republic of)	301	France	192	Nigeria	251
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	329	Philippines	305	Ecuador (Republic of)	280	South Africa	164	France	147
Egypt	309	China	300	Spain (Kingdom of)	254	Germany	158	Argentina	140
Malaysia	276	India	261	France (Republic of)	213	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	142	Canada	129
Kenya	274	Germany	167	Chile (Republic of)	184	Kenya	140	South Africa	119
Russian Federation	244	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	150	Peru (Republic of)	157	Sweden	125	Germany	115
France	238	South Africa	146	Germany (Federal Republic of)	155	Brazil	106	Uganda	98
Total of top 10 countries	4,854		15,688		15,728		4,203		8,229
Total of 10 countries without host country	3,000		2,727		2,561		1,487		1,816
Total of remaining countries	4,726		3,549		2,302		2,313		2,405

5.3 Overview of the programme

WUF10 added significance as the first large-scale event on urban development inaugurating the Decade of Action. It contributed to global mobilisation and advocacy for the common vision on actions for achieving sustainable urban development in line with the 2030 Agenda. It also highlighted UN-Habitat's role as lead and focal point for sustainable urban development in coordination with all levels of government, stakeholders and the United Nations system.

The WUF10 programme featured more than 530 events

6 Dialogues	**16** Roundtables	**16** Special eessions	**5** Assemblies	**159** Networking events	**79** Side events
30 Training events	**57** Voices from Cities events	**17** One UN events	**29** SDGs in Action events	**35** Urban Library events	**130** Exhibition booths at the Urban Expo

Networking and side events

Nearly 787 applications were received from partners for the networking, side and training events. Because there were more applicants than available slots, some of the partners were encouraged to jointly organize their events in the spirit of cooperation and knowledge sharing.

WUF10 offered over 230 networking and side events, balanced to represent diverse themes and regions. Curated by global, regional and country based organisations, the 159 networking events proved to be among the most successful for sharing knowledge and initiating new partnerships for action. The 79 side events saw organisations launching books, announcing projects and data initiatives, and winning support on issues related to sustainable urban development. These were held at lunch and in a one-hour time slot.

Over 100 bilateral meetings between governments, United Nations entities and stakeholders took place on the sidelines of the main events.

Training events

The 30 training events gave participants the chance to learn about innovative tools, instruments and methodologies for addressing urban development challenges in the context of dynamic cultural shifts and rapid technological innovation. Organised by United Nations agencies, international and national training institutions, academic think tanks, universities, government bodies, capacity building institutions, and other

stakeholders, the training events were popular. They attracted a large number of partners, universities, and training organizers from different backgrounds and countries of origin.

Additionally, almost 500 students from schools in Abu Dhabi- visited the WUF10 Urban Expo as part of their educational training.

UN Web TV

All main programme sessions, including dialogues, roundtables, special sessions and assemblies, were livestreamed on UN Web TV, increasing outreach to those who could not attend the Forum in person. This also allowed participants the opportunity to catch up on issues covered in meetings they were unable to attend.

Abu Dhabi site visits

Along with the engaging programme, WUF10 was an opportunity to introduce participants to the host city. Through 17 technical and site visits, a number of participants got to experience a wide range of Abu Dhabi's cultural, historical and heritage sites. In keeping with the Forum's theme, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi introduced delegates to their unique mix of culture, art, history and innovation to project a modern identity.

Table 3: Number and type of event

Type of event	Number
Opening and Closing Ceremonies	2
Dialogues	6
Assemblies	5
Assembly Breakout Sessions	13
Roundtables	16
Special Sessions	16
Urban Talks	3
Networking events	159
Side events	79
Training events	30
Voices from Cities events	57
One UN events	17
Urban Library events	35
SDGs in Action events	29
Urban Cinema	19
Flagship Programme launch	5
Award sessions	3
Cities Investment Platform events	3
WUF Alumni event	1
Caucus Meetings	13
Press conferences	5
Press Room events	21
Total	537

66 **Over 10,000 of the leading urbanists, all gathered for joint SDGs, are both extremely humbling and inspiring. We all have vital pieces of the solutions, networks, and passions needed to address our global goals. WUF10 excelled at setting us up to collaborate for cities.**

Thank you WUF 10 team.

Ethan Kent
Executive Director
PlacemakingX

Participants in a session during WUF10
© UN-Habitat

wuf¹⁰

5.3.1

Dialogues

Dialogues were high-profile events where participants debated policy recommendations and drew attention to strategic actions needed to drive the delivery of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The six dialogues at WUF10 played a critical role in driving discussion around ways that culture and innovation can contribute to sustainable urbanisation in different contexts. The dialogues promoted synergies between tradition and modernity, creating spaces for convergence in multicultural and multigenerational communities.

The dialogues worked well to set the scene every morning, guiding debate on the mutually reinforcing links between urbanisation, culture and innovation; culture and innovation as key drivers of sustainable urbanisation; protecting and harnessing traditional knowledge systems in the face of contemporary challenges; the contribution of the cultural and creative industries to inclusive urban prosperity; culture as a basis for urban regeneration and revitalisation; and the role of global and regional partnerships that support culture and innovation in achieving sustainable urbanisation.

The six dialogues were titled:

1. Urbanisation, Culture and Innovation
2. Implementing the New Urban Agenda to Drive Sustainable Change
3. Tradition and Modernity: a Creative Convergence for Sustainable Cities
4. Frontier Technologies and Innovation for Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Smart Cities
5. Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation: Regeneration
6. Partnerships and Initiatives Supporting Culture and Innovation in Cities

1. Dialogue session © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
2. Joyce Msuya, Assistant Secretary-General, Deputy Executive Director, UN Environment © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
3. Mami Mizutori, Special Representative of the Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction, UNDRR © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

Dialogues

Total number of attendees: 1,036

Regional balance

46% Asia 472

21% Africa 216

19% Europe 195

4% Latin America and the Caribbean 44

8% North America 86

2% Oceania 23

Gender balance

592 **57**%

444 **43**%

Balance of partner groups

12% — 121 — Academia / Research		
12% — 126 — Civil Society Organization		
2% — 19 — Inter-Governmental Organization		
2% — 18 — Foundation		
10% — 105 — Private Sector		
18% — 191 — National Government		
22% — 231 — Local and Regional Government		
3% — 27 — Media		
12% — 122 — United Nations System		
6% — 59 — Individual		
1% — 17 — Volunteer		
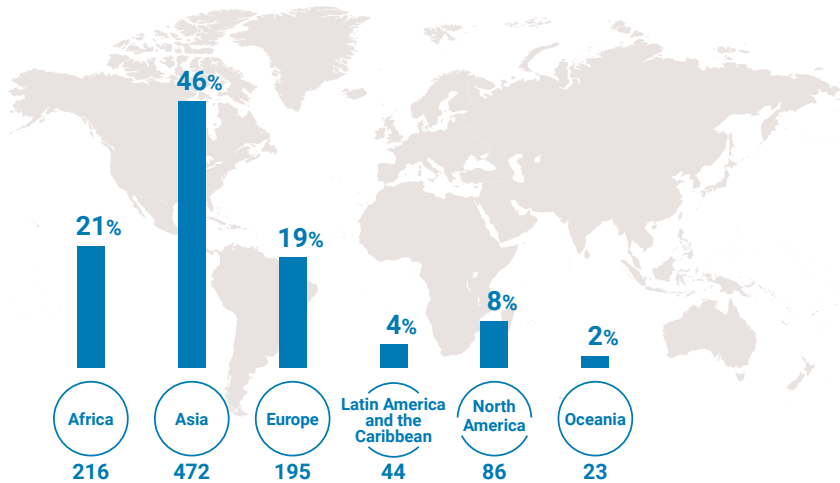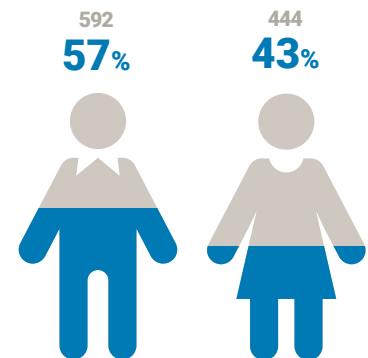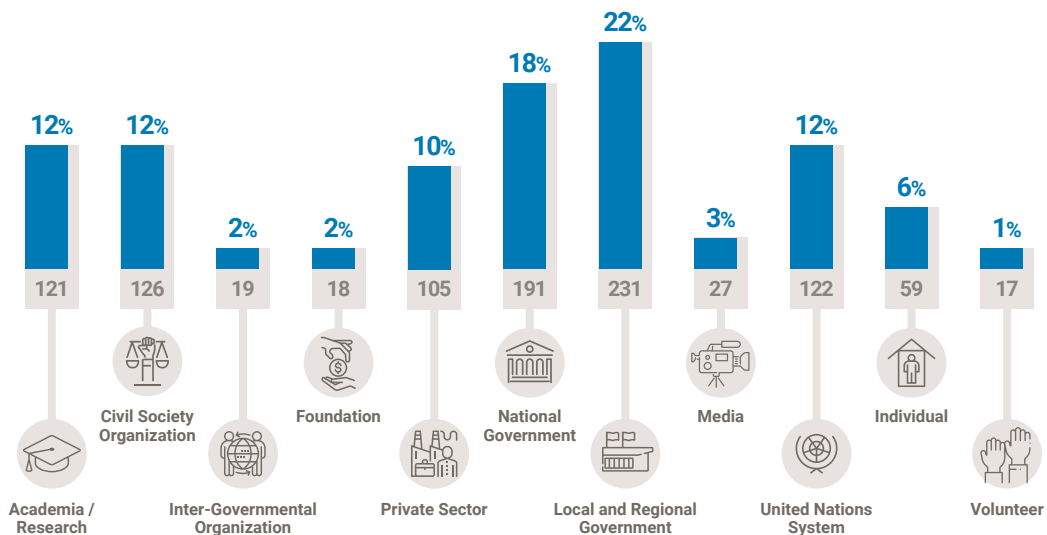
Dialogues

Total number of speakers:
77

Regional balance

Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America and the Caribbean	North America	Oceania	Global
9%	27%	20%	9%	9%	4%	22%
7	21	15	7	7	3	17

Gender balance

32
42%

45
58%

Balance of partner groups

Academia / Research	Civil Society Organization	Inter-Governmental Organization	Foundation	Private Sector	National Government	Local and Regional Government	United Nations System	Individual
13%	23%	1%	4%	9%	13%	12%	21%	4%
10	18	1	3	7	10	9	16	3
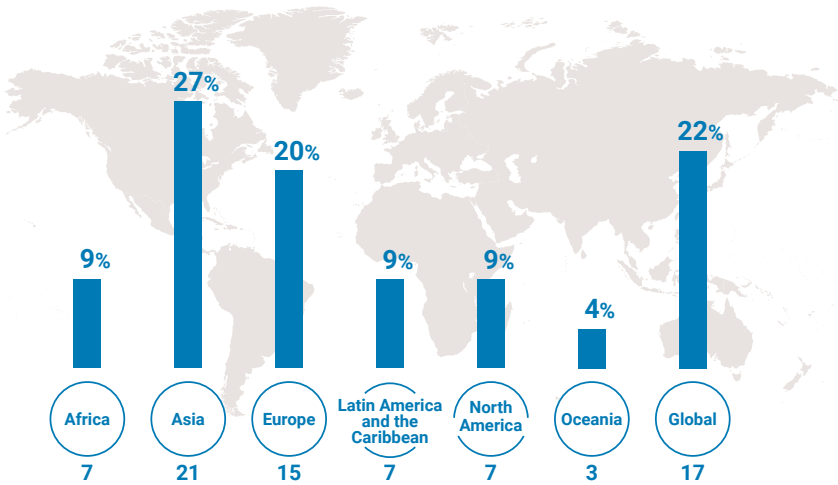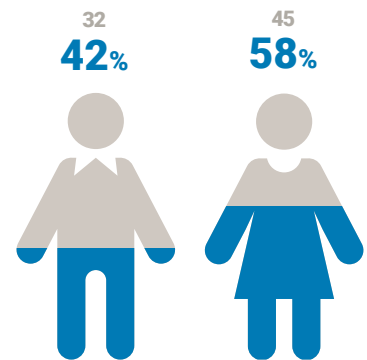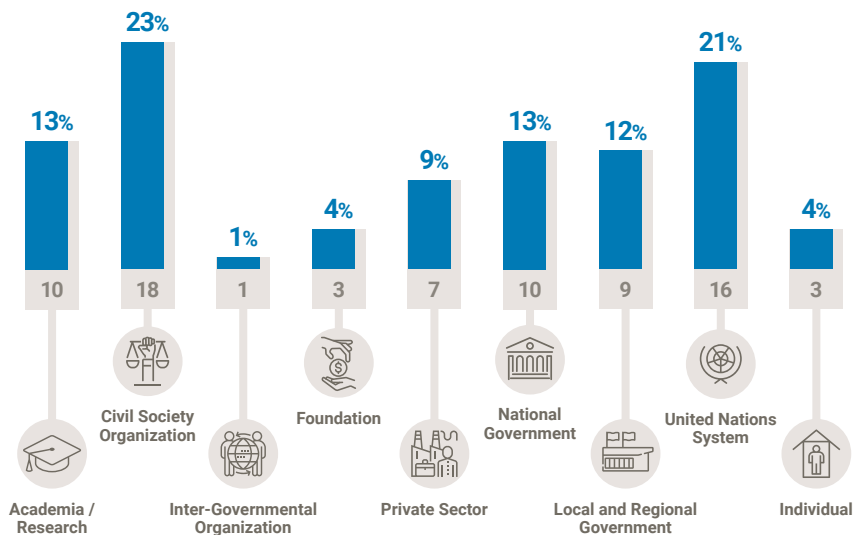
Insights and key recommendations from dialogues

Dialogue on Urbanisation, Culture and Innovation

→ Protecting and conserving cultural heritage contributes to the emotional well-being of urban dwellers.

→ Governments should be alert to investment practices that turn cities and their buildings into assets, which represent a higher value when they are inhabited.

→ Processes of urban development have to be inclusive for all inhabitants of a city, including those living informally. Including all groups in all steps of urban development will create cities that leave no one and no space behind.

→ Migrants bring new cultural influences in food, music, literature, theatre and art that can enrich host communities and create new economic opportunities. Understanding similarities instead of differences between cultures can reduce stigma against migrants.

→ To help resolve urban challenges, technology and innovation should be people-centred. Including urban communities in the development of new ideas instead of presenting them with finished products will greatly improve the outcome of interventions.

Dialogue on Implementing the New Urban Agenda to Drive Sustainable Change

→ Cities are key to help mitigate climate change, but the inevitable impacts of climate change and the disproportionate effects on the urban poor require an urgent focus on adaptation. The way we plan, shape and build our cities is critical for adaptation but is often neglected. Nature- based solutions have great potential to address environmental and biodiversity challenges while creating a better urban environment and reducing the impacts of climate change.

→ Citizen engagement is key for unlocking innovative urban solutions. The focus on leaving no one behind needs to extend to leaving no place and no mayor behind. Leaving no one behind requires making those who are invisible today visible, particularly those living in informal settlements and slums.

→ The public sector drives transformational innovation. Transformative commitments can scale through binding political and legal frameworks, including through the related unlocking of innovative finance solutions.

→ Artificial intelligence can help to create knowledge platforms that pool local and global knowledge and share good practices and failures for decision makers to consult.

Dialogue on Tradition and Modernity: a Creative Convergence for Sustainable Cities

→ Mechanisms are needed for creating convergence between the traditional aspects of culture and modernisation, with the aim of making culture more relevant and dynamic in the face of rapid modernisation.

→ There is a need to find the right balance between modernity and tradition. The past needs to inform the future. At the same time, we need to create livelihood opportunities and opportunities for citizens to thrive.

→ It is important to explore ways cities can work with nature, using ecosystems thinking to see cities as dynamic systems made up of human, animal, and plant communities that function as a unified unit.

→ Recognition of the rights and territories of indigenous people, and the inclusion of their traditional knowledge, is essential for sustainability.

→ Cities have a role to play in creating an environment that nurtures entrepreneurship in creative industries using modern technologies.

Dialogue on Frontier Technologies and Innovation for Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Smart Cities

→ Cities can only be smart if they are inclusive. Smart cities need to make the urban digital transformation work for the benefit of all, driving sustainability, inclusivity, prosperity and the realisation of human rights.

→ Smart technologies can increase the availability and quality of data, which enables better decision-making, monitoring and reporting. Better data also enables improved implementation of, and reporting on, the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. It can be used to hold service providers accountable and for improved civic engagement.

→ Smart city technologies should increase inclusion and improve service provision, particularly for the poor. These technologies should be recognised as foundational for the provision of basic services, such as transport, water and sanitation. As the use of smart city technologies increases with the expansion of service delivery, the increasing data harvested should be used to further accelerate the provision of basic services.

Dena Assaf, UN Resident Coordinator, UAE; Jyoti Hosagrahar, Deputy Director, World Heritage Center, UNESCO at a dialogue session © UN-Habitat

→ City-to-city exchanges and coalitions can be an effective way to enhance the uptake of smart city technologies for basic service provision.

Dialogue on Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation: Regeneration

→ Integration of finance with strategic planning can guide urban development and support implementation of the New Urban Agenda and efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

→ Addressing heritage conservation in the context of urban regeneration is a more sustainable and holistic approach than focusing on individual monuments.

→ The private sector can assist by developing business cases and strategies for heritage conservation as part of urban regeneration while ensuring community inclusion throughout the process.

Dialogue on Partnerships and Initiatives Supporting Culture and Innovation in Cities

→ Global challenges and disruption to value chains call for increased appreciation of cultural identity and the relevance of local and regional settings, with clear linkages between local cultural leaders, local and national authorities and regional partners. National and local actors should use culture as a determinant of what a society consumes as this impacts food security in cities and healthy living.

→ Partnerships between communities and innovators, leaders in creative industries and technology companies should be enhanced to ensure a rounded understanding of people's needs when addressing community challenges. This will help inform the design of relevant products and applications.

❝ How do we build cities that are for people? Our cultural experience is often around the table, around food. It's about getting together to rebuild what we lost.

Ernesto Ottone Ramirez
Assistant Director-General for Culture, UNESCO

Martine Abel-Williamson, World Blind Union © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

❝ We need to rebuild the public space, where people meet. The recognition of society goes beyond the material reconstruction of communal spaces.

Luis Monreal
General Manager of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture

1. **Mariana Mazzucato, University College London**
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
2. **Alaina Beverly, University of Chicago**
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

1. Khalid Abdul Samad, Minister for Federal Territories, Malaysia © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

2. Moderator Dena Assaf © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

3. Urban Planning in post conflict © UN-Habitat/Mayur

1. **Sandra Piesik, architect**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

2. **Urban Planning in post conflict**
   © UN-Habitat/Mayur

3. **Beth Chitekwe-Biti, SDI**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

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5.3.2

Roundtables

Roundtables were an opportunity for key partners to participate and organise their constituencies around the delivery of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, laying the groundwork for inclusive and representative implementation at every level. Constituent groups were given an equal opportunity to deliberate on subjects in line with the Forum's core theme, including high-profile emerging issues and global trends. Debates took place in a large roundtable-like setting.

Roundtables

Total number of attendees:
1,574

Regional balance

36% Africa **574**
30% Asia **465**
18% Europe **278**
6% Latin America and the Caribbean **93**
8% North America **131**
2% Oceania **33**

Gender balance

901
57%

673
43%

Balance of partner groups

12% Academia / Research **195**
14% Civil Society Organization **222**
2% Inter-Governmental Organization **34**
3% Foundation **42**
9% Private Sector **139**
26% National Government **414**
15% Local and Regional Government **236**
26% Media **26**
10% United Nations System **164**
6% Individual **94**
1% Volunteer **8**
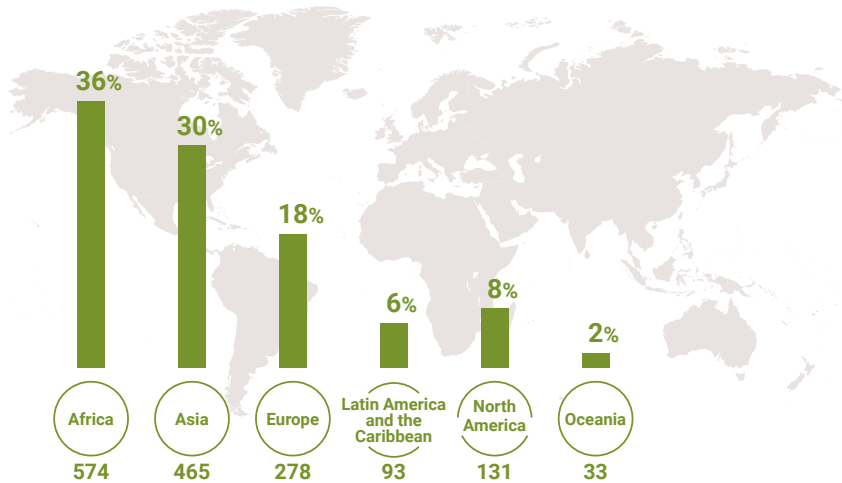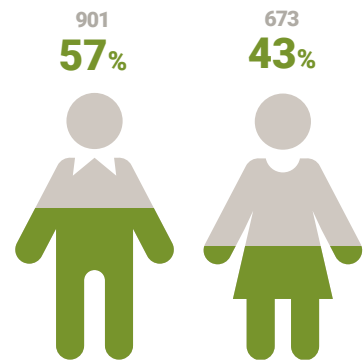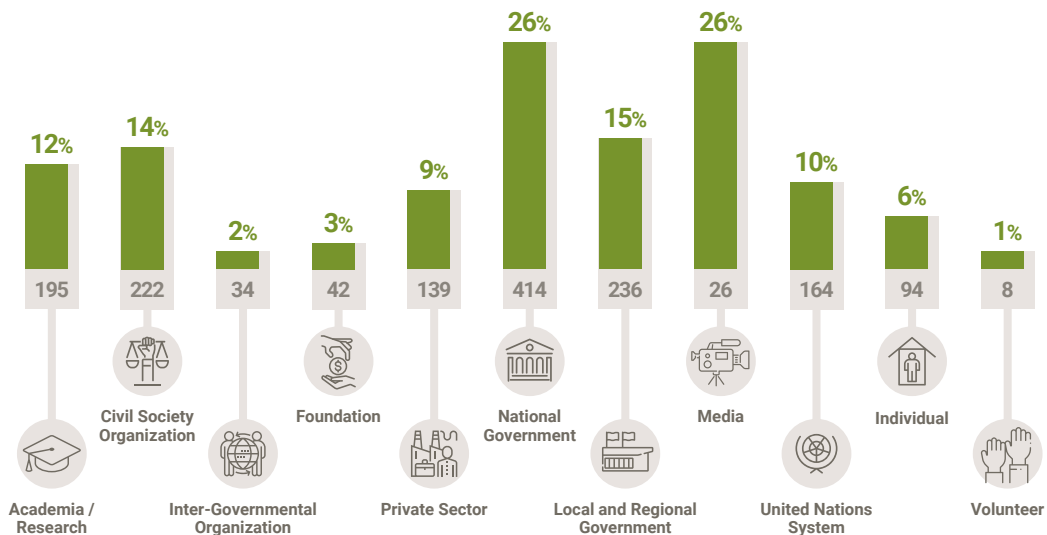
Roundtables

Total number of speakers: 218

Regional balance

Africa	Asia	Europe	Latin America and the Caribbean	North America	Oceania	Global
22%	19%	16%	7%	16%	3%	18%
47	41	35	15	34	6	40

Gender balance

113	105
52%	48%

Balance of partner groups

Academia / Research	Civil Society Organization	Inter-Governmental Organization	Foundation	Private Sector	National Government	Local and Regional Government	Media	Parliamentarian	United Nations System	Individual
15%	21%	1%	6%	5%	22%	10%	1%	1%	15%	3%
32	45	2	14	12	48	22	1	3	33	6
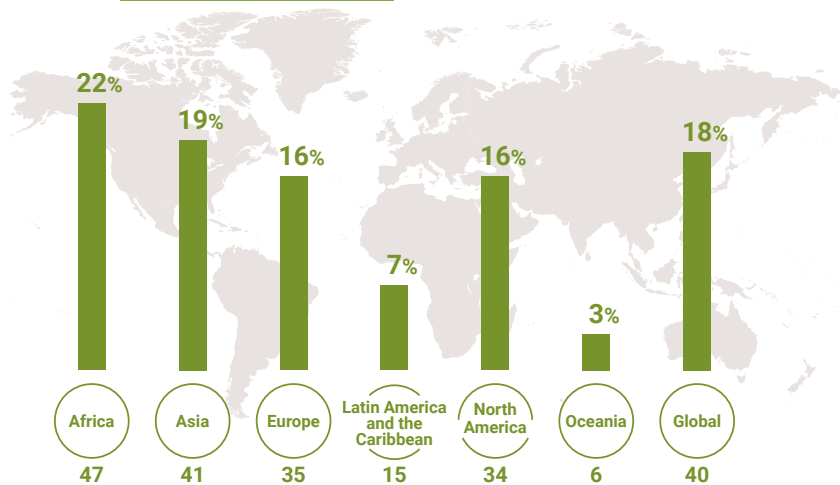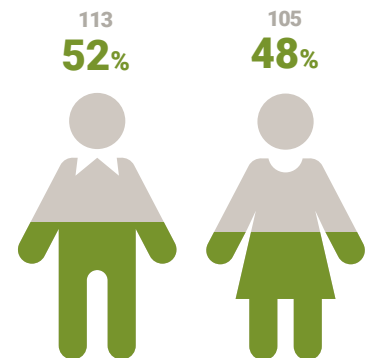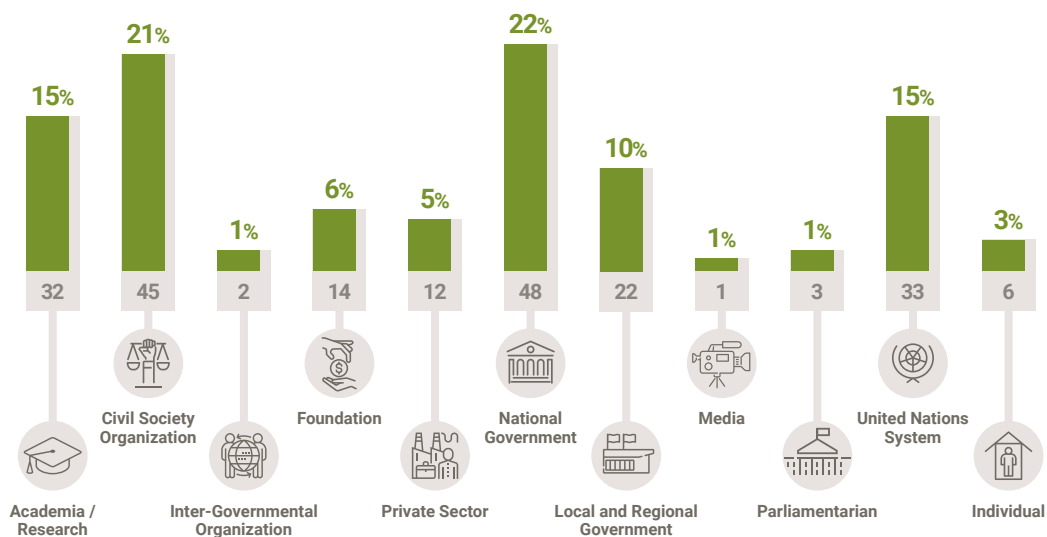
There were 16 roundtables:

1. Ministers
2. Local and Regional Governments
3. One UN
4. Traditional Authorities
5. Women
6. Children and Youth
7. Business and Industries
8. Grassroots/Civil Society Organisations
9. Foundations and Philanthropies
10. Indigenous Peoples
11. Older Persons
12. Parliamentarians
13. Persons with Determination/Disability
14. Professionals
15. Researchers
16. Universities

Insights and key recommendations from roundtables

Roundtable on Local and Regional Governments

→ All levels of government need to communicate with one another to achieve the ambitions of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. Decision makers at national and regional levels need to speak directly with cities to find out about the needs of local governments.

→ All partners need to adapt to new challenges and technologies. And local practices need to be taken into account before rolling out policy initiatives.

→ To drive positive change, there is a need to build trust between municipalities for mutual learning and sharing of experiences.

Roundtable on One UN

→ Urbanisation can be harnessed as a way to implement the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly with assistance from the United Nations in monitoring development patterns. The UN System-wide Strategy on Sustainable Urbanisation (UNSWSSU) may convince high-level decision makers of the need for National Urban Policies.

→ Collaboration between United Nations agencies and states, regions and cities can assist stakeholders in using new technologies, reducing net emissions to zero and changing consumption behaviours to address water scarcity and climate change.

Roundtable on Traditional Authorities

→ There is a need to integrate traditional authorities into existing governance systems and provide them with adequate finance to enhance local development and improve service delivery. Reinforcing partnerships between traditional authorities, local governments and service providers is key.

→ Decision makers need to listen to women and youth and include them in decision-making processes.

Roundtable on Children and Youth

→ Recognising culture as an integral part of building more liveable cities and stronger communities, youth should engage in shaping urban culture and be involved in planning and implementation of policies at the local, national, regional and global level.

→ Youth can help identify urban development problems. They can be included in participatory processes through the use of affordable technology. This will help inform the development of youth-oriented solutions for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, New Urban Agenda and other development frameworks.

Roundtable on Business and Industries

→ When businesses and creative industries engage with cities they advance urban transformation while introducing new perspectives. Businesses and creative industries have a major role to play in advancing sustainable development and promoting new ways of thinking and doing business.

Roundtable on Grassroots/Civil Society Organisations

→ Culture and positive traditions are diverse and evolving. They create opportunities for enhanced social cohesion, liveability and productivity. Culture and innovation from all stakeholders should be recognised as key for building inclusive, prosperous and safe cities with a sense of community,

→ Social inclusion must include all groups, especially indigenous groups, and their positive cultural choices, while providing them with citizenship and participatory rights.

Roundtable on Foundations and Philanthropies

→ Cities take initiatives to incorporate strategies for investment in their policies, which are a special place for philanthropy to unlock private investment to meet the investment drive where progressive government policy exists (e.g., in housing). Cities

need to articulate their resilience and sustainable development plans to enable philanthropies to understand city priorities and build capacity to unlock private sector investment.

Roundtable on Indigenous Peoples

→ States and local governments need to ensure that the basic needs and human rights of indigenous peoples are met so that they are able to live healthy, sustainable and respectful lives. Self-determination of indigenous peoples needs to be realised and exercised in cities.

→ A human rights-based model is needed to guide all phases of urban development and planning.

Roundtable on Parliamentarians

→ Parliamentarians should conduct regulatory impact assessments of the legislation they are passing, to assess whether new laws are promoting the rule of law, human rights and compliance with international laws and global agendas, such as the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals.

→ Parliamentarians should make good use of their hearing sessions to listen to and engage all stakeholders and should establish coalitions and alliances to discuss urban challenges.

Roundtable on Persons with Determination/Disability

→ Local governments need to have policies with finance, implementation and accountability mechanisms to address accessibility and inclusion of persons with disabilities in cities. Such policies should have persons with disabilities and their organisations as partners in designing, planning, implementing and monitoring with disaggregated data to be collected to inform inclusive policies and financing mechanisms.

→ Universal design needs to be used to ensure accessible, sustainable, resilient, equitable, safe urban development for all, including persons with disabilities and older persons.

Roundtable on Professionals

→ Culture should be retained within development programmes to improve the lives of poorer communities while reducing inequality by addressing underlying shared prosperity. Culture and technology play a role in releasing that potential.

→ Culture as a whole should be integrated within planning and development action, which should encourage capacity development and more acknowledgement of intangible and indigenous knowledge in relation to crisis responses.

Roundtable on Researchers

→ Research must be compelling and relevant. Researchers need to explore different ways of sharing evidence and make use of storytelling.

→ To better inform policy, there is a need for clearer messages from researchers that appeal to policymakers.

→ Partnerships for data-sharing with the private sector can unlock new avenues for innovative policymaking, particularly in light of increasing big data sources and technological change.

Roundtable on Universities

→ To broaden students' knowledge of cities and culture, universities can take students to different urban areas so that they can learn about unfamiliar neighbourhoods from the perspective of residents in those areas.

→ Engagement with youth is vital when higher education and research institutes launch initiatives that are responsive to local contexts.

1. Local and Regional Governments Assembly
   © UN-Habitat
2. Ministers Roundtable
   © UN-Habitat/Ishtiyaq Mohammad
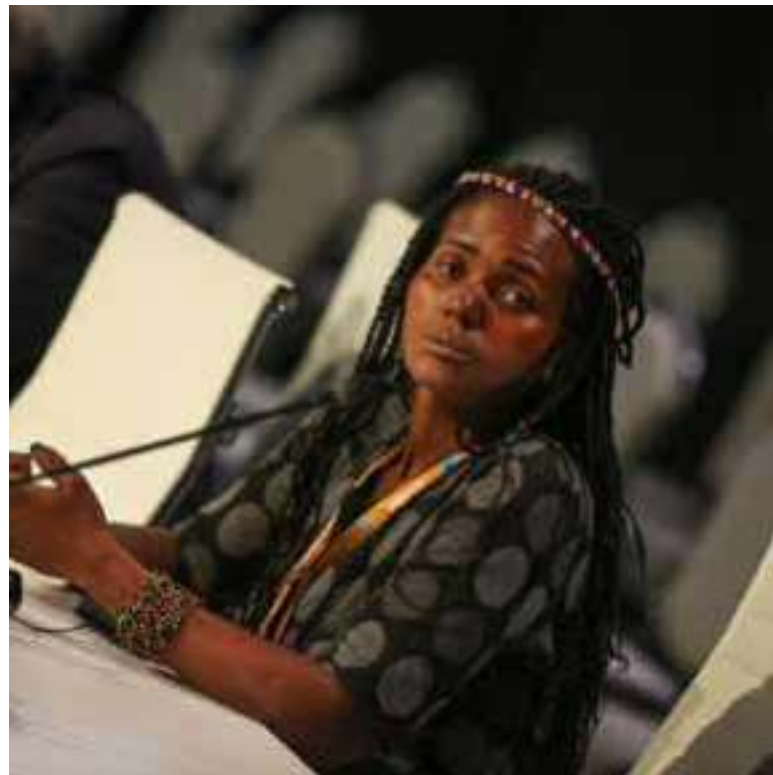
1. A participant makes a comment © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

2. Participants of the Children and Youth Roundtable react to the discussion © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

3. Participants of the Children and Youth Roundtable react to the discussion © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

1. **Monica Ramirez, Habitat for Humanity**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
2. **Fuad Muradov, State Committee on Work with Diaspora, Azerbaijan**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
3. **Manal El Shahat, Ezbet Community Center**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
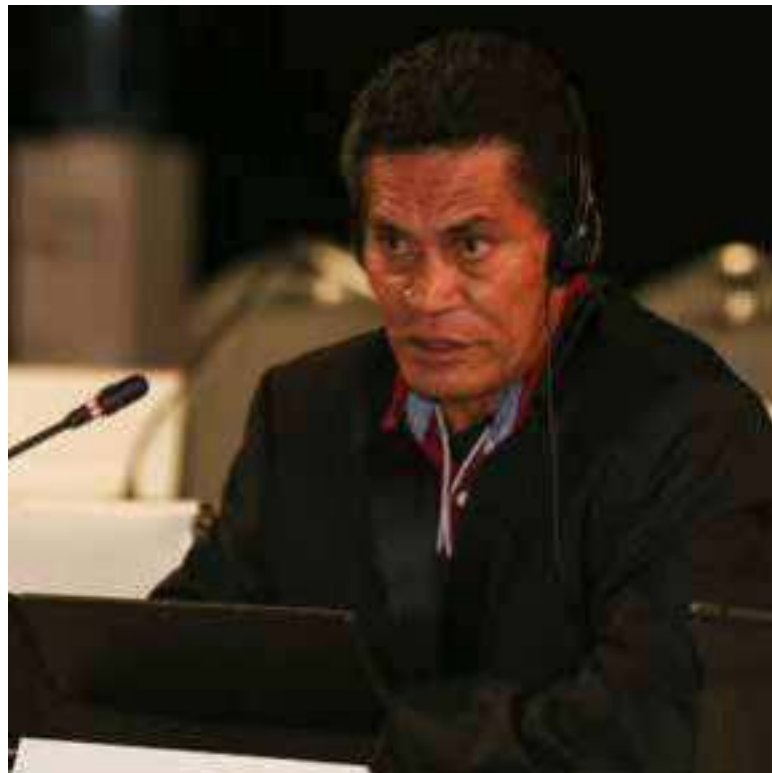
1. **Moderator Joan Erakit**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

2. **Foundations and Philanthropies Roundtable**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

3. **Abdoulaye Makhtar Diop, Chief of the Lebu people**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

4. **Katepu Laoi, Minister of Local Government and Agriculture, Tuvalu**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

1. **Seth Appleton, US Department of Housing and Urban Development** © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

2. **Abdullah Belhaif Al Nuaimi, Minister of Infrastructure Development, UAE** © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

3. **Fatima Mohamed El Fadol Adam, Mayor of Nyala** © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

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5.3.3

Special sessions

The special sessions were set up so that the speakers and moderator sat in a circle, instead of a row, with the audience surrounding them. This created an intimate, less formal environment. Nearly 160 experts took part in these sessions, generating debate about issues related to strategic implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

Special Sessions

Total number of attendees:

1,475

Regional balance

27% Africa **405**

38% Asia **561**

19% Europe **281**

6% Latin America and the Caribbean **92**

7% North America **108**

2% Oceania **28**

Gender balance

830 **56%**

645 **44%**

Balance of partner groups

13% Academia / Research **189**

14% Civil Society Organization **210**

4% Inter-Governmental Organization **61**

1% Foundation **26**

12% Private Sector **173**

17% National Government **244**

20% Local and Regional Government **293**

1% Media **21**

11% United Nations System **160**

6% Individual **95**

1% Volunteer **3**
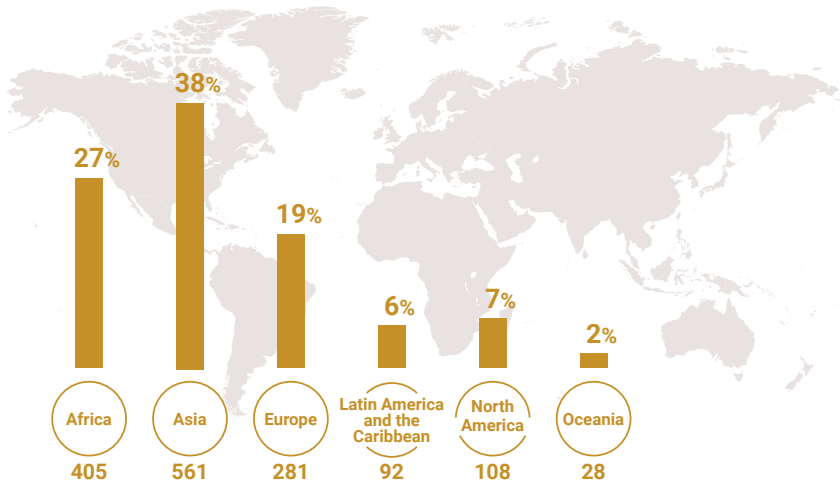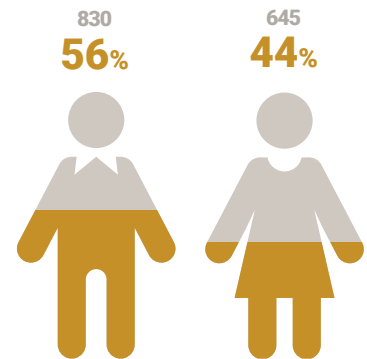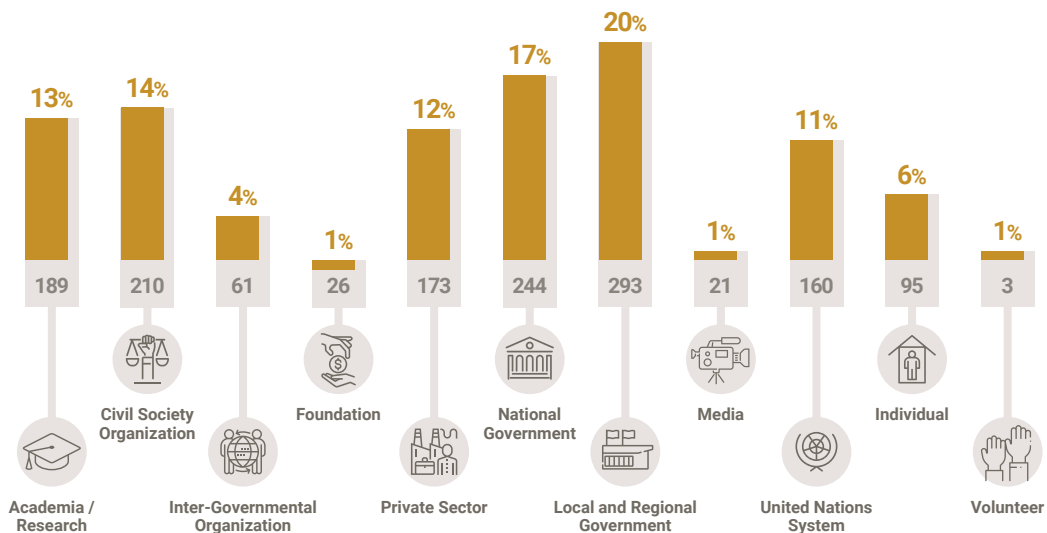
Special sessions

Total number of speakers: 169

Regional balance

Region	Percentage	Count
Africa	19%	20
Asia	21%	35
Europe	20%	34
Latin America and the Caribbean	8%	14
North America	16%	16
Oceania	1%	2
Global	28%	48

Gender balance

82 — 48%

87 — 52%

Balance of partner groups

Partner group	Percentage	Count
Academia / Research	9%	15
Civil Society Organization	17%	29
Inter-Governmental Organization	7%	12
Foundation	2%	3
Private Sector	2%	4
National Government	19%	33
Local and Regional Government	16%	27
Media	1%	1
United Nations System	22%	37
Individual	5%	8

There were 16 special sessions:

1. Sustainable Urban Development in the Arab/MENA Region
2. Addressing Inequality Through Culture and Innovation
3. Driving Shared Urban Prosperity Through a Cultural Lens
4. Urban Culture and Climate Change Action
5. Culture, the Creative Industry and Their Impact on Urban Reconstruction and Resilience
6. Migration, Culture and Urban Development
7. Youth, Culture and Urbanism
8. Financing for Sustainable Urban Development
9. Local 2030 – a Global Network to Localize Agenda 2030
10. Platform on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda
11. Affordable and Adequate Housing
12. Enhanced Resilience of the Built Environment and Infrastructure
13. Community Outreach and Liveable Cities
14. Land Governance and Urban Growth
15. Voluntary Local Reviews
16. National Urban Forums

Insights and key recommendations from special sessions

Special Session on Sustainable Urban Development in the Arab/MENA Region

→ Speakers highlighted the UAE's efforts to find innovative solutions to integrate sustainable development into urban planning, noting that success relies on comprehensive strategies and close cooperation among different levels of government.

→ Speakers and audience members exchanged views on ways to increase knowledge exchanges between Arab countries. They also discussed how to effectively build trust among stakeholders and decision makers, such as through embedding feedback mechanisms and citizen engagement in project design and implementation.

Special Session on Addressing Inequality Through Culture and Innovation

→ Evidence has shown that culture is a driver for sustainable transformation. Mainstreaming culture in development plans is therefore crucial. When doing so, the multidimensional nature of inequality needs to be taken into account with consideration of how heritage, age, faith, ethnicity and gender play into inequality.

→ Dedicated institutions are needed to scale up current efforts to address inequality. These should make use of technology-based solutions for data collection that can feed into policy implementation.

Special Session on Culture, the Creative Industry and Their Impact on Urban Reconstruction and Resilience

→ In the wake of disasters, reconstruction and rebuilding efforts are often based on the false assumption that the planet's resources are unlimited. The finite nature of natural resources should be a central consideration with a view for understanding the systemic nature of the environment.

→ Different phases of disaster risk reduction, such as preparedness, response and reconstruction, need to include environmental considerations. This should be reflected in resilience proposals. The 'P' for Planet should be on equal footing with the 'P's for People and Profit.

Special Session on Migration, Culture and Urban Development

→ The session highlighted the positive outcomes of multicultural societies, which create an enabling environment for innovation by bringing together different skill sets, capacities and cultures.

→ Multilevel governance, multi-stakeholder and multisectoral approaches should be applied for developing innovative strategies for urban development. The private sector has an important role to play in local economic development planning and in matching skills development of migrants, refugees and IDPs to labour market needs.

→ There is a need to increase cooperation and coordination within the humanitarian-development-peace nexus, including development approaches for improved urban systems, when responding to humanitarian crises.

Special Session on Youth, Culture and Urbanism

→ There is a need to advocate for intergenerational interaction so that youth can input on urban development.

→ The government and private sector should allocate funds to promote culture and art. Creative industries should invest in more public spaces where young people can nurture their artistic talents.

→ Culture audits should be done so that children and youth are supported to create platforms that promote social cohesion among youth.

Haoliang Xu, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau of Policy and Programme Support,
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

Special Session on Financing for Sustainable Urban Development

→ Finance is arguably one of the most important challenges facing cities today in their efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. For cities in developing countries to create more bankable projects and lower the costs of investment, they need to get the basics right (i.e., increase own revenue sources, improve the enabling environment, receive more reliable intergovernmental transfers and fully leverage existing assets and infrastructure for service provision).

→ Financing sustainable urbanisation requires comprehensive and large-scale financing solutions and will not be addressed via individual project finance endeavors. Local governments need to be capacitated to fully leverage the financing options available to them to fund necessary public investments and create trust to attract private investments.

Special Session on Local 2030 – a Global Network to Localize Agenda 2030

→ It is important to support local and regional governments so they can collect data and monitor the Sustainable Development Goals at the local level.

South Sudanese-Canadian artist Emmanuel Jal in Special Session on Migration and the Open City: the Role of Culture in Enabling Inclusive Societies. © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

→ Voluntary Local Reviews can be considered as the main tool for reporting on the Sustainable Development Goals and other major global agreements, including the New Urban Agenda.

Special Session on Platform on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda

→ Further tracking of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda is needed to enable citizens to hold their officials accountable in a meaningful way.

→ Voluntary Local Reviews will not work beyond political initiatives if they don't talk to Voluntary National Reviews.

These processes need to go hand in hand, and stakeholders need to ensure that reporting shapes governments, policies and actions.

Special Session on Affordable and Adequate Housing

→ Participants explored solutions for preserving and creating affordable housing. They shared experiences and showcased inspiring innovations and frontier technologies that contribute to durable solutions for adequate and affordable housing delivery.

Sign language translation during during a session at WUF10
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

Special Session on Enhanced Resilience of the Built Environment and Infrastructure

→ Participants acknowledged that resilience-building actions in cities have been mainstreamed on the global stage. A gap remains, however. There is a need to reach more local governments and ensure they have the right tools, methodologies and networks to mainstream resilience in their functions.

→ The discussion highlighted the need for technical training aligned with policy frameworks. This would allow the mandate of local governments on resilience actions to increase as local capacity increases. It was recommended that community engagement should be integrated into all resilience projects, including those related to large-scale infrastructure.

Special Session on Community Outreach and Liveable Cities

→ People matter. True community engagement requires listening to people and making sure they are understood. This requires time, resources and tools.

→ Planners are technical experts, but communities are best placed to create a vision and plan that reflects local culture and history. Community engagement must become integral to urban planning, design and implementation as a continuous cycle. It is essential that planners follow up with communities after doing visioning exercises.

Abdulla bin Ahmed Al Khalifa
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

Special Session on Land Governance and Urban Growth

→ New land-related technologies and fit-for-purpose land administration approaches, such as the Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), have proved to be effective for issuing occupancy or customary certificates in a simple manner.

→ Speakers explained how a community land trust is another approach that can be used. In this model, land ownership is given to a community as a whole. Individuals have the right to use the land and can own houses built on it. The community owns the value increase of the land.

Special Session on Voluntary Local Reviews

→ Participants emphasised that local governments and city inhabitants should be the main drivers of change in cities when it comes to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and New Urban Agenda. Importantly, communities should be included in the Voluntary Local Review process.

→ The use of technology and data raises awareness, creates common frameworks, and drives fact-based programmes and projects.

Special Session on National Urban Forums

→ National Urban Forums and Committees are key to domesticate and localise global and regional agendas. They will be critical inclusive platforms to advance evidence-based policy making and review.

→ Wide participation and engagement will ensure diversity and culture-based innovations. Deploying appropriate and inclusive digital technology will allow more participation. Local governments will need to adapt technologies and good practices to meet the needs and demands of their cities. Multi-stakeholder platforms supported by digital technologies can widen participation and leverage the valuable contributions from all actors.

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5.3.4

Assemblies

____

Assemblies created an environment for sharing experiences, networking and discussion. They included breakout sessions and plenaries. More than 160 speakers and moderators gathered key stakeholder constituencies to present commitments and strategies for implementation of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, exchange solutions, and strengthen global partnerships for sustainable urban development.

Assemblies

Total number of attendees:
1,332

Regional balance

- **37%** Africa — 495
- **35%** Asia — 460
- **15%** Europe — 200
- **5%** Latin America and the Caribbean — 68
- **6%** North America — 84
- **2%** Oceania — 25

Gender balance

- 726 — **55%**
- 606 — **45%**

Balance of partner groups

- **8%** Academia / Research — 112
- **17%** Civil Society Organization — 230
- **2%** Inter-Governmental Organization — 24
- **1%** Foundation — 15
- **10%** Private Sector — 134
- **13%** National Government — 179
- **29%** Local and Regional Government — 384
- **2%** Media — 19
- **12%** United Nations System — 164
- **5%** Individual — 60
- **1%** Volunteer — 8
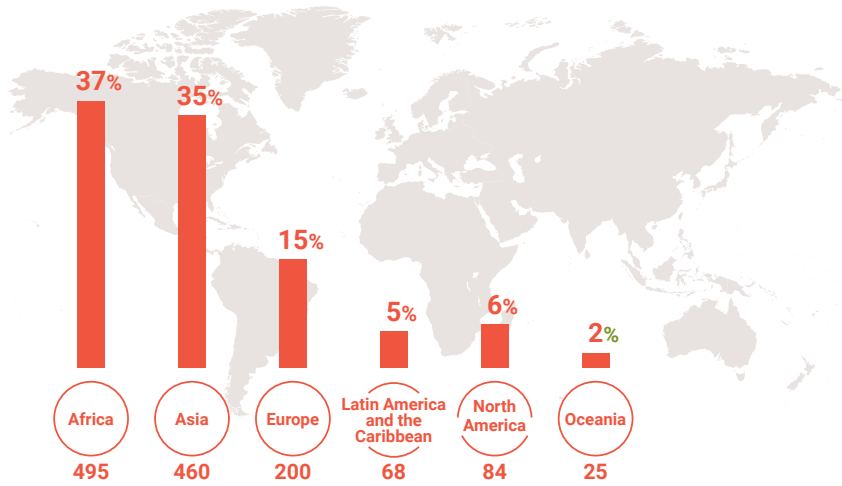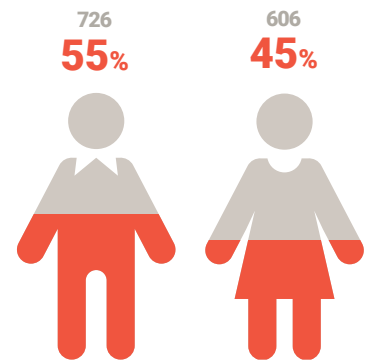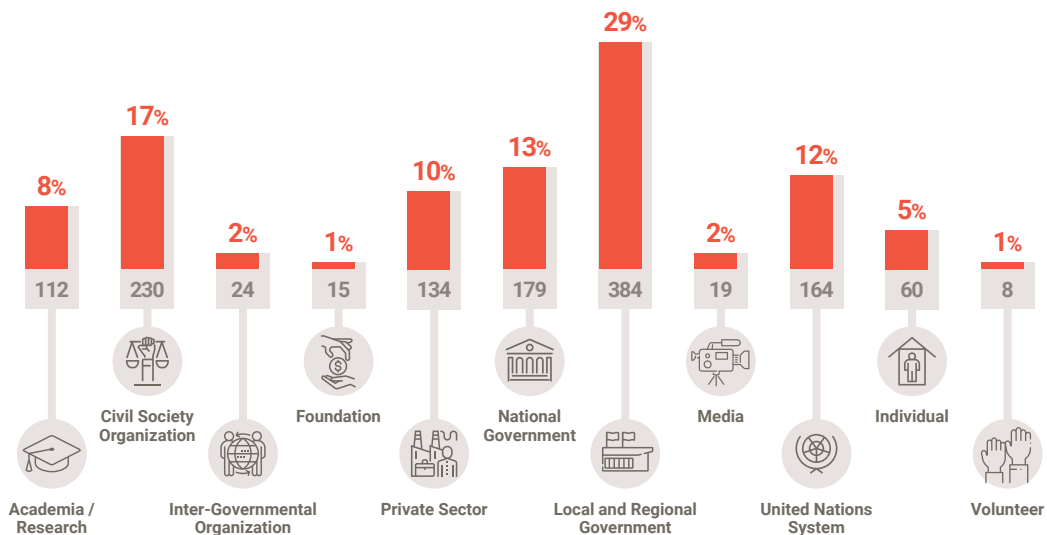
Assemblies

Total number of speakers: 167

Regional balance

- Africa: 26% — 43
- Asia: 26% — 44
- Europe: 25% — 41
- Latin America and the Caribbean: 7% — 11
- North America: 7% — 12
- Oceania: 2% — 3
- Global: 7% — 13

Gender balance

- 76 — 45%
- 91 — 55%

Balance of partner groups

- Academia / Research: 10% — 16
- Civil Society Organization: 36% — 61
- Inter-Governmental Organization: 2% — 3
- Foundation: 1% — 1
- Private Sector: 12% — 20
- National Government: 5% — 8
- Local and Regional Government: 24% — 41
- United Nations System: 5% — 9
- Individual: 5% — 8
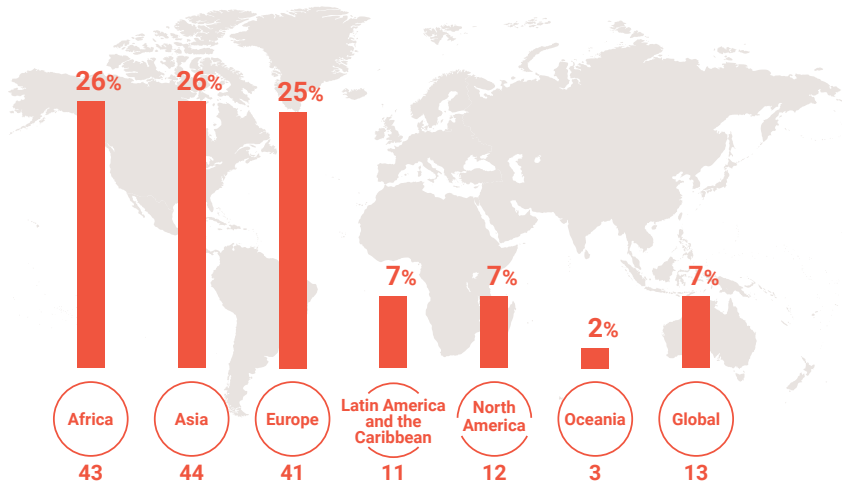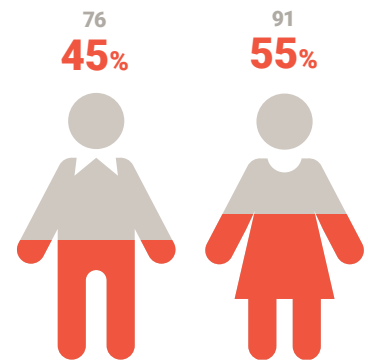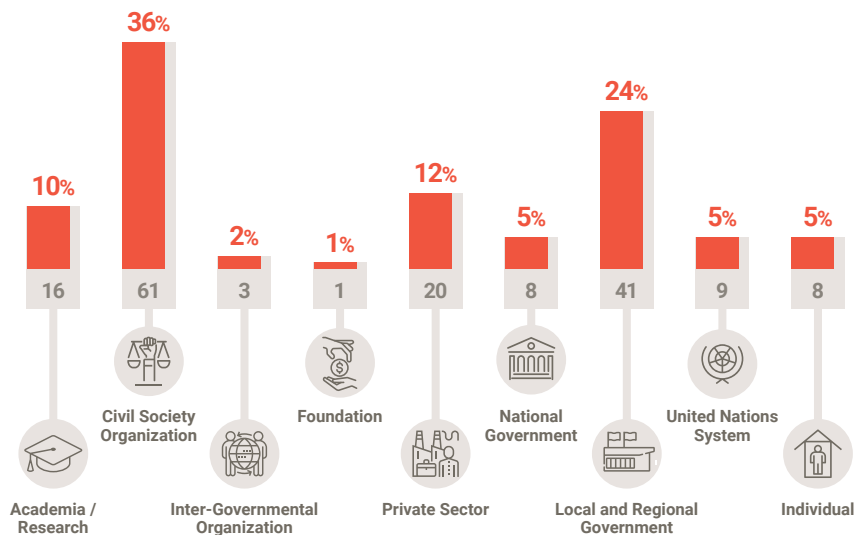
There were five assemblies:

1. Women's Assembly
2. Youth Assembly
3. World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments
4. Grassroots Assembly
5. Business Assembly

Insights and key recommendations from assemblies

Women's Assembly

→ Once women and girls own their stories, they can engage with local governments to creatively communicate their needs and perspectives for long-term urban change.

→ Culture offers a different perspective towards leaving no one behind: it enables women and girls that may otherwise be at risk of marginalisation to find their voice through creative means, and brings these women and girls together. Women, youth and girls, especially at the grassroots level, need effective and equal ways to participate through cultural expression, innovative actions and decision-making.

Youth Assembly

→ Young people should be engaged to enhance the science-policy interface through collecting citizen-generated data from formal, informal, traditional and indigenous sources.

→ There is a need for participatory and community-based technology assessments; building digital and complementary skills among youth that promote sustainable livelihoods; and designing appropriate innovations that fill gaps in the territorial dimension of sustainable urban development.

→ Diversity, sense of identity and cultural values should be promoted to build social cohesion.

World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments

→ Urban heritage includes not only cultural heritage but also natural heritage. Urban planning needs to include appropriate tools so that local and regional governments can begin to imagine the future together. These include impact assessment methods to ensure respect for biodiversity and cultural diversity.

→ To promote inclusion of innovation and culture in city policies, local and regional governments need to bridge multilevel and multi-stakeholder cooperation and enhance political leadership.

Grassroots Assembly

→ Grassroots organisations are helping communities understand policies and empowering them to contribute to implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and New Urban Agenda through equal engagement with governments.

→ The New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals are enabling civil society to sensitise underserved communities to development goals. Inclusion of grassroots communities in local spatial planning groups will create space for multicultural integration in implementation of urban projects.

Business Assembly

→ There is a need to translate the Sustainable Development Goals into more tangible goals for the business community. This will help facilitate their adherence to shared global norms of what it means to engage in sustainable development.

→ Participants said they would work to promote a culture of evidence-based policies which ensure that local and regional action attempts to address actual problems on the ground.

→ Financing solutions need to be based on a precise understanding of the local context and the particular problems faced by local governments.

1. The audience during the opening session
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

2. Ms Leah Namugerwa, a Ugandan climate warrior giving her opening statement at the assemblies joint opening ceremony © UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

1. **Grassroots Assembly Group Work**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
2. **Local and Regional Governments Assembly**
   © UN-Habitat

1. Bernadia Irawati, United Cities and Local Government © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
2. Zuraida Kamaruddin, Minister for Housing and Local Government, Malaysia © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
3. Juan Ramón Lazcano De la Concha, Vice Mayor, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

1. **Moderator Kehkashan Bas**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
2. **Carlos Martínez, Mayor of Soria, Spain**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
3. **Arsalaan Ahmed, HSBC Amanah**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
4. **Siraj Sait, Co-Chair of the UN-Habitat Stakeholder Advisory Group Enterprise** © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

5.3.5

SDGs in Action

The SDGs in Action zone was a large open common space that hosted 29 events, organised by different partners. It provided an opportunity for partners to showcase their hands-on SDG actions and share experiences, good practices, stories, and solutions for building multilateral partnerships to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. Speakers included experts and key urban actors representing a wide range of perspectives in society.

UN-Habitat Executive Director Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif with Deputy Executive Director Mr. Victor Kisob
during WUF10 in Abu Dhabi 2020 © UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

As speakers noted, the next decade will be critical for improving city management. It is important to have integrated urban planning and design at different scales and across different sectors, along with incentives to promote behavioural shifts to increase the use and provision of alternative, sustainable modes of transport. Additionally, there is a need for efficient use of data that supports evidence-based decision-making processes.

A highlight at the SDG in Action zone was the launch of the SDG Project Assessment Tool, which was developed by UN-Habitat and its partners as part of the Global Future Cities Programme, a component of the UK Prosperity Fund. The tool is based on normative studies from over 500 cities worldwide. It guides city authorities and delivery partners to develop more inclusive urban projects and aims to improve the quality of projects in the planning, development and design phases

Table 4: SDGs in Action events by region

Region	Number by region hosting a total of 29 events	%
Africa	4	13.33
Asia	7	23.33
Global	5	16.67
Europe	5	16.67
Latin America and the Caribbean	4	13.33
North America	4	13.33
Oceania	1	3.33
TOTAL	**30**	**100**

Table 5: SDGs in Action events by partner type

Partner type	Number by partner type hosting a total of 29 events	%
National Government	5	16.67
Academia / Research	6	20.00
Local and Regional Government	5	16.67
Private Sector	2	6.67
Civil Society Organization	6	20.00
United Nations	4	13.33
Inter-Governmental Organization	2	6.66
TOTAL	**30**	**100**

Joint Opening of Assemblies at SDGs in Action
© UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

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5.3.6

Voices from Cities

Fifty-seven Voices from Cities events took place at WUF10. These showcased tested examples of implementation of the New Urban Agenda, as well as city-to-city collaboration and interactive debates among participants. Participants and speakers featured national and local government representatives, academics, development practitioners, private sector actors and entrepreneurs.

1. Participants in Voices from Cities © UN-Habitat
2, 3. Speakers in Voices from Cities © UN-Habitat

One event, organised by Bangladesh's Urban Development Directorate, showcased an innovative socio-cultural approach for spatial transformation in Mymensingh City. The theme of the event, "rhythm of a city," was closely related to SDG Target 11.4 - Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage. The main issue for discussion was how inclusion of intangible cultural phenomena in urban planning processes can make a city vibrant. Preserving and safeguarding cultural and natural heritage with respect to rapid urbanisation in countries like Bangladesh is a big challenge. Identifying the "rhythm of a city" and carefully

preserving it helps to ensure that the city remains vibrant, helping to achieve this SDG target.

Speakers from Urbanice Malaysia discussed how cities can play a crucial role as testbeds for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. When cities publish their own SDG Reports and Voluntary Local Reviews, the lessons can be used to inform policies that are scaled at the national level. Malaysia, through Urbanice Malaysia and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, is now preparing Malaysia's SDG City Report with a few local governments and will develop a Voluntary Local Review for Malaysia's cities.

Voices from Cities

Total number of attendees:
1,669

Regional balance

30% Africa **504**

41% Asia **684**

18% Europe **259**

4% Latin America and the Caribbean **75**

5% North America **82**

2% Oceania **29**

Gender balance

980 **59%**

689 **41%**

Balance of partner groups

13% 213 Academia / Research

13% 216 Civil Society Organization

4% 63 Inter-Governmental Organization

2% 28 Foundation

14% 237 Private Sector

13% 218 National Government

28% 468 Local and Regional Government

0.5% 19 Media

6% 108 United Nations System

6% 95 Individual

0.5% 4 Volunteer
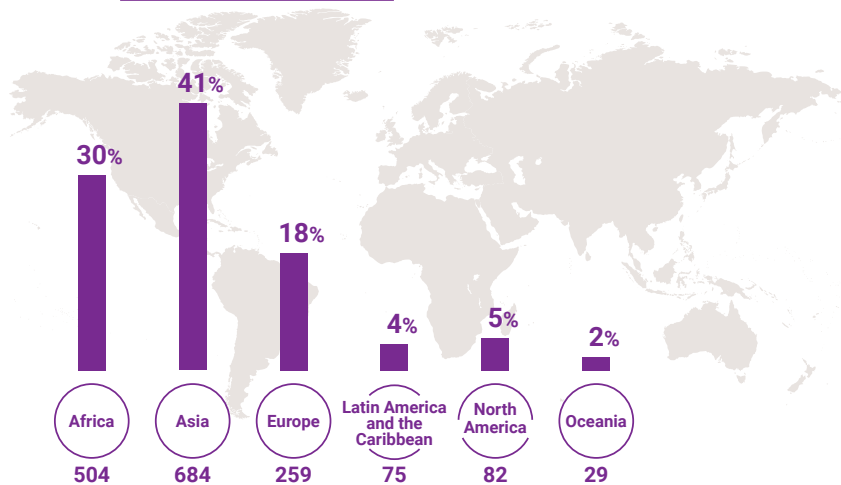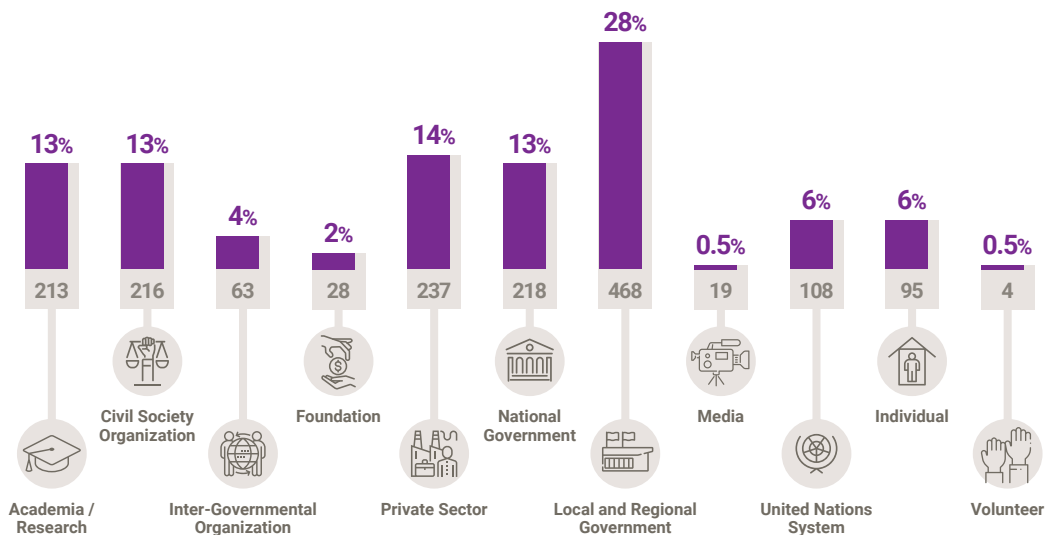
Table 6: Voices from Cities events by region

Region	Number by region hosting a total of 57 events	%
Africa	11	19.30
Asia	21	36.84
Global	5	8.77
Europe	11	19.30
Latin America and the Caribbean	4	7.02
North America	3	5.26
Oceania	2	3.51
TOTAL	**57**	**100**

Table 7: Voices from Cities events by partner type

Partner type	Number by partner type hosting a total of 57 events	%
National Government	7	11.47
Academia / Research	6	9.84
Local and Regional Government	32	52.45
Private Sector	4	6.56
Civil Society Organization	3	4.92
United Nations	5	8.20
Inter-Governmental Organization	4	6.56
TOTAL	**61**	**100**

Launch case studies of implementing urban-rural linkages © UN-Habitat/Monu

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5.3.7

One UN Room

The One UN Room was a space for partners to showcase relevant projects, initiatives and partnerships for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Speaker at One UN Room © UN-Habitat

Fourteen different agencies and departments from the United Nations System organised 17 events at the One UN Room in collaboration with their partners, such as intergovernmental organisations and academic institutions.

The five United Nations Regional Social and Economic Commissions also shared their regional development perspectives. Through an interregional New Urban Agenda implementation support project, running from 2020 to 2023, the Commissions and UN-Habitat aim to strengthen policy coherence in nine countries and selected cities. This regional collaborative project will promote improved capacities of institutions and other agents of change in the implementation and monitoring of the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda.

At the One UN Room sessions, the Commissions and UN-Habitat shared experiences of successful implementation related to urban policy development, promoting a dialogue on interregional cooperation and triangular learning. Speakers highlighted the need for a cohesive approach between countries and different sectors when it comes to achieving the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda. Speakers emphasised the importance of understanding different levels of urbanisation by focusing on localisation of the New Urban Agenda and SDG 11 implementation. Another key point in the discussion was the increasing importance of data in interregional collaboration on sustainable urbanisation. Collaboration with civil society, the private sector and academia can help identify lessons learned and provide data that will strengthen policy development and implementation.

The Decade of Action, which is an acceleration programme to achieve the SDGs by 2030, will only be possible when stakeholders work together instead of operating in silos. Discussions in the One UN Room promoted a culture of strengthened cooperation and partnerships at the global, regional and sub-regional levels as well as within the United Nations System.

One UN Room

Total number of attendees:
625

Regional balance

39% **Africa** 245

30% **Asia** 189

18% **Europe** 113

3% **Latin America and the Caribbean** 20

8% **North America** 48

2% **Oceania** 10

Gender balance

371 **59%**

254 **41%**

Balance of partner groups

11% 70 **Academia / Research**

12% 75 **Civil Society Organization**

3% 21 **Inter-Governmental Organization**

1% 7 **Foundation**

14% 85 **Private Sector**

18% 114 **National Government**

19% 121 **Local and Regional Government**

1% 3 **Media**

16% 97 **United Nations System**

5% 32 **Individual**
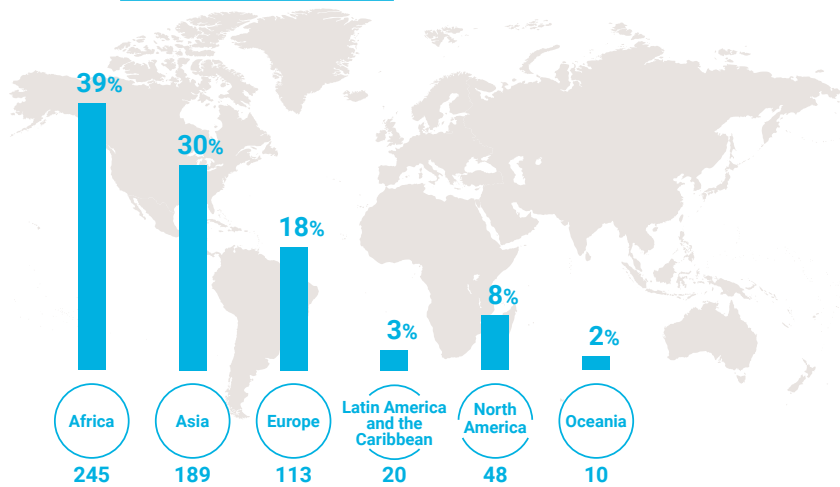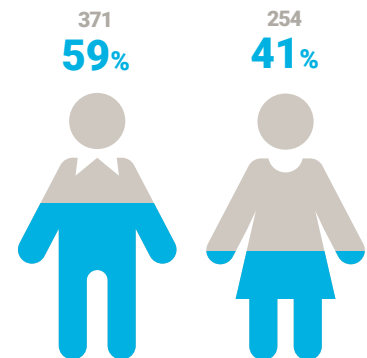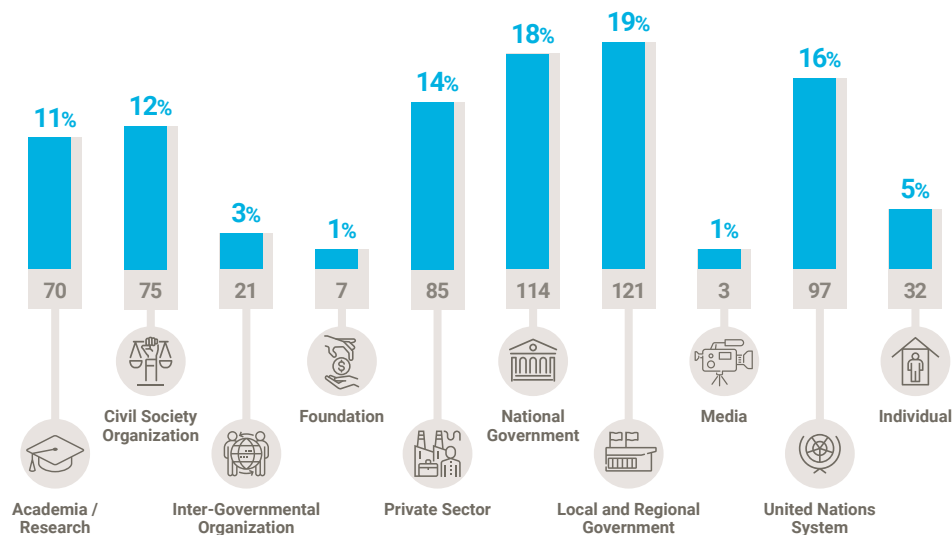
Table 8: One UN event by region

Region	Number by region hosting a total of 17 events	%
Asia	1	5.55
Global	17	94.45
TOTAL	**18**	**100**

Table 9: One UNevent by partner type

Partner type	Number by partner type hosting a total of 17 events	%
Academia / Research	1	5
United Nations	17	85
Inter-Governmental Organization	2	10
TOTAL	**20**	**100**

Norliza Hashim, Chief Executive Officer, Urbanice Malaysia
© UN-Habitat

Hajah Noraini binti Haji Roslan, President of Subang Jaya Municipal Council © UN-Habitat/Mirza Azeeem

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5.3.8

Urban Library

Designed to attract a large audience, the Urban Library, situated inside the Urban Expo area, hosted the launch of the latest publications related to the Forum's theme. With 35 events, the Library generated lively debates between authors, speakers and audience members from different fields on how improved access to information can contribute to sustainable urban development.

Sharing knowledge and solutions at the Urban Library
© UN-Habitat/Mirza Azeeem

Events included discussion forums, seminars, panel presentations with question and answer sessions, and 21 book and report launches. Topics included sustainable urbanisation, the New Urban Agenda and urban data mining. Partners were encouraged to make commitments to support Urban Libraries and improve access to relevant information in line with SDG Target 16.10 - Ensure public access to information and protect fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

> 〝 **It's very positive to see the idea of a library as a place supporting knowledge management and dissemination recognized in such a public way!**
>
> Stephen Wyber
> **Manager, Policy and Advocacy, IFLA**

A Library highlight was the launch of the first European Handbook for SDG Voluntary Local Reviews. Developed by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, the handbook is for cities that want to prepare a VLR. It offers guidance on the selection of indicators for local monitoring systems and considers the need for tailoring the VLR to local situations and challenges. The Handbook serves as a reference for cities in other regions too. The Joint Research Centre has ongoing engagement with cities willing to prepare their VLRs.

Table 10: Urban Library events by region

Region	Number by region hosting a total of 35 events	%
Africa	2	5.26
Asia	7	18.42
Global	7	18.42
Europe	18	47.37
Latin America and the Caribbean	1	2.63
North America	2	5.26
Oceania	1	2.63
TOTAL	**38**	**100**

Table 11: Urban Library events by partner type

Partner Type	Number by partner type hosting a total of 35 events	%
National Government	3	7.89
Academia / Research	11	28.95
Local and Regional Government	4	10.53
Private Sector	2	5.26
Civil Society Organization	5	13.16
United Nations	7	18.42
Inter-Governmental Organization	5	13.16
Foundation	1	2.63
TOTAL	**38**	**100**

1, 2. Learning opportunities from the latest publications © UN-Habitat/Babu Lal

3. Designed to attract a large audience, the Urban Library was situated in the Urban Expo © UN-Habitat/Waseem Ali

1, 2. Learning opportunities from the latest publications © UN-Habitat/Babu Lal

3. Partners launched events at the Urban Library © UN-Habitat/Babu Lal

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5.3.9

Urban Cinema

The Urban Cinema hosted for the first time the Better Cities Film Festival, an international festival that presents films centred on the theme of "making better cities, towns, and neighbourhoods."[46] Curated by partner organisation First+Main Films, the festival screened a collection of documentary and fiction short films to inspire visions of thriving cities around the world. Nearly 25 short films were shown followed by interactive discussions among the hosts, filmmakers and audience. There were daily workshops on story telling.

Nine entries were considered for the Best Feature Film award, which went to Soufra, a documentary about the "world's most unlikely entrepreneur living in a Syrian refugee camp."[47] The award for Best Short Film went to Briançon, a documentary about a historic French town that tackles issues of preservation of urban life and architectural heritage.

UN-Habitat Urban Cinema at the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum 10 in Abu Dhabi 2020
© UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

Dialogues | Roundtables | Special Sessions | Assemblies | SDGs in Action | Voices from Cities | One UN Room | Urban Library | Urban Cinema | Urban Talks

Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation

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1, 2. UN-Habitat Urban Cinema at the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum 10 in Abu Dhabi 2020
© UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

1, 2. UN-Habitat Urban Cinema at the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum 10 in Abu Dhabi 2020
© UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

5.3.10

Urban Talks

Urban Talks featured dialogues and discussions with renowned urbanists and thought leaders. They were held at the end of the daily programme from 10 to 12 February 2020. These keynote sessions explored specific perspectives on culture and innovation. The Talks highlighted how citizens can be engaged in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals.

— Urban Talks

Total number of speakers:
11

Regional balance

27% — Asia — 3
27% — Europe — 3
36% — North America — 4
1% — Global — 10

Gender balance

5
45%

6
55%

Balance of partner groups

46% — 5 — Academia / Research
9% — 1 — Foundation
18% — 2 — Private Sector
9% — 1 — United Nations System
18% — 2 — Individual
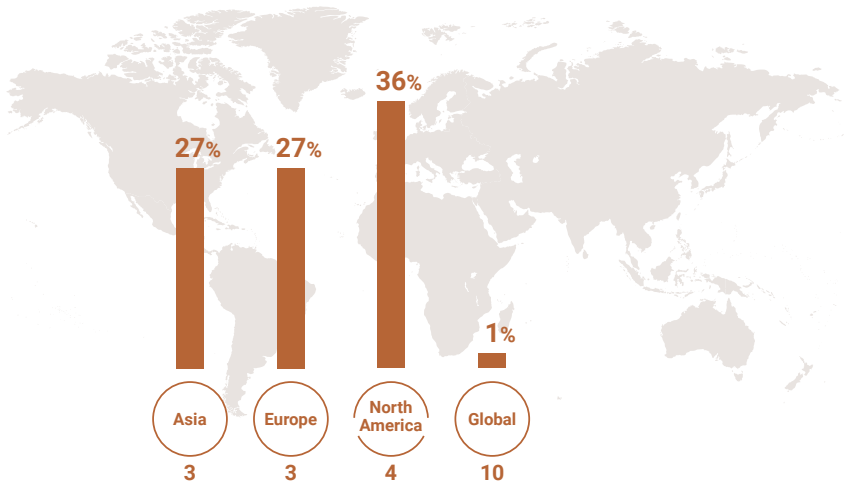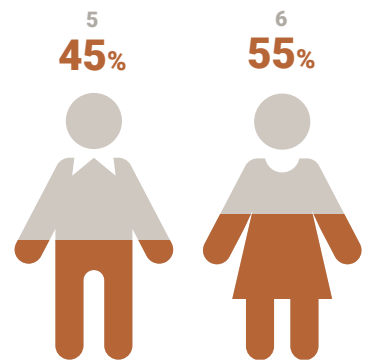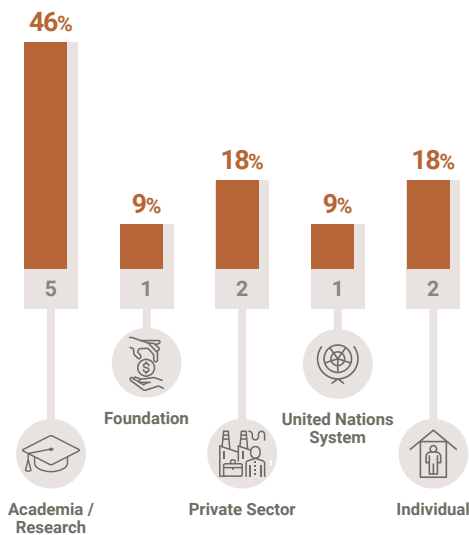
Urban Talks: themes and speakers

Frontiers for Our Future

Most green economy proposals treat "the environment" as a global totality, combining country and city; earth, water and air. Yet we know that urban economies are very particular animals; they have agglomeration and syncretic functions which arise from the density and diversity of activities concentrated in one place. This Urban Talk addressed how green economies will take advantage of such special conditions, and it is not a simple dense-is-good proposition, because large urban places exist economically in near zero-sum relations to smaller environments.

Richard Sennett
Professor of Urban Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Richard Sennett has written about social life in cities, changes in labour, and social theory over the last five decades. His books include Families Against the City; The Hidden Injuries of Class; The Fall of Public Man; The Corrosion of Character; The Culture of the New Capitalism; The Craftsman; and Building and Dwelling. He is the founder of the New York Institute for the Humanities and has been president of the American Council on Work.

Mariana Mazzucato
Professor of Economics of Innovation and Public Value, University College London (UCL)

Mariana Mazzucato is the winner of several international prizes including the 2018 Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought and the 2019 All European Academies Madame de Staël Prize for Cultural Values. She was named one of the '3 most important thinkers about innovation' by the New Republic and one of the 25 leaders shaping the future of capitalism by Wired.

Richard Burdett
Director of LSE Cities, the London School of Economics

Ricky Burdett is a London-based urban specialist with a wide portfolio of academic and consultancy activities at the international level. As a professor of urban studies he leads LSE Cities, a global center of research and teaching at the London School of Economics and Political Science and founded the authoritative Urban Age programme.

Saskia Sassen
Professor of Sociology, Columbia University

Saskia Sassen is the Robert S. Lynd professor of sociology at Columbia University and a member of its Committee on Global Thought which she chaired from 2009 to 2015. She is a student of cities, immigration and states in the world economy. Inequality, gender and digitization are three key variables in her work.

Cities and Climate Change

In 2019, we saw the emergence of a diverse worldwide youth movement demanding urgent action on climate change. We saw the UN-Secretary General's Climate Action Summit and unprecedented commitment to action from the business sector. At the same time, we saw record emissions, record investments in fossil fuels, unprecedented climate change-fuelled catastrophes and devastation around the globe -- and a UN Climate Change Conference in stalemate. This Urban Talk addressed the issue of balance between climate change mitigation and adaptation -- the focus and starting points for both. It outlined a roadmap for massive action during the Decade of Action.

Yama Karim
Partner, Studio Libeskind

Since joining the Studio in 2003 in New York, Yama Karim has brought extraordinary experience to the Studio, having served first as a senior designer at Polshek Partnership (now Ennead Architects) where he worked on the Brown Fine Arts Center at Smith College, Massachusetts and the Sarah Lawrence College Monica A. and Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Visual Arts Center, New York, among others.

H.H. Sheikha Shamma bint Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan
CEO, Alliances for Global Sustainability

Sheikha Shamma is the Founder and CEO of Alliances for Global Sustainability and is a well-respected businesswoman and industry expert in the field of sustainability. Holding a Master's degree in Sustainability Leadership from Cambridge University, she has presented academic papers at global conferences and holds the position of Research Associate at the Institute for Social and Economic Research, Zayed University.

Simon Gathercole
Partner at Allies and Morrison

Simon studied at the University of Cambridge, where he also participated in the Harvard Exchange programme, working in London and New York before joining Allies and Morrison in 2005. Simon was made a partner of the practice in 2015. Simon has a particular interest in historic environments and place-making and has worked on several large scale regeneration projects in the UK with Allies and Morrison including the London 2012 Olympic Park and Legacy, Hereford Old Market and the Knightsbridge Estate.

Jason Pomeroy
Founding Principal, Pomeroy Studio and Pomeroy Academy

Prof. Jason Pomeroy, an award-winning architect, academic, author and TV presenter is regarded as one of the world's thought leaders in sustainable design. He gained undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from the Canterbury School of Architecture and the University of Cambridge, and his PhD from the University of Westminster.

Women of Arabia: Shaping Cities through Culture and Innovation - an Arab Women's Perspective

Urban growth in several Arab States countries has been going hand in hand with culture-driven initiatives, often led by creative and visionary women and men. From art biennales to cultural labs, from youth start-ups to cultural heritage conservation and reuse, culture and innovation also provide crucial means for recovery in conflict-affected countries, and for the reshaping of societies. This Urban Talk was dedicated to exceptional Arab women who help shape vibrant cities and provide space for reflection and transformation, in particular for the youth.

Tala Hadrawi
Urban planning and design analyst
Royal Commission for AlUla

Jwanah Qudsi
Urban Planner

Jwanah Qudsi grew up in Aleppo, Syria, watching her father dedicate his life to the reconstruction and preservation of the Old City of Aleppo. In 2011, the war forced her family to leave Syria and watch from afar as the war destroyed the city and the neighborhood her father fought to preserve. She has since dedicated her academic career to the study of Urban Planning in the hopes of one day rebuilding her beloved old town and graduated with a Master's in Urban Planning from New York University.

Tala Hadrawi

Tala Hadrawi is a young Saudi woman passionate about the realization of Vision 2030. Keen to make an impact in the world, she graduated from Prince Sultan University, Saudi Arabia, with a bachelor's degree in Architecture and is currently working with the Royal Commission for AlUla as an urban planning and design analyst.

Nada Al Hassan
Head of the Sub-Regional Maghreb office, UN-Habitat

Before joining UN-Habitat, Nada Al Hassan held the position of Chief of the Arab States Unit at the UNESCO World Heritage Centre from the end of 2013, where she ensured the implementation of the World Heritage Convention while actively contributing to sustainable development, capacity building, and policymaking initiatives in the Arab States region.

Dwinita Larasati, Indonesia Creative Cities Network
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

1. Laila Robledo, Municipality of Malvinas Argentinas
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

2. Inés Samudio, Minister of Housing and Land Management, Panama © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

3. Jyoti Hosagrahar, UNESCO
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

1. **Saskia Sassen, Columbia University**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

2. **Haoliang Xu, UN Development Programme (UNDP)**
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

3. **Ege Yildirim, International Council on Monuments and Sites** © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

5.4 What made WUF10 a success?

High-level participants

Numerous high-level officials took part in WUF10. These included 49 ministers and 64 deputy ministers, close to 100 mayors, and numerous vice-mayors. Along with H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, high-level presence at WUF10 featured two heads of state and government members from Afghanistan and Fiji.

H.E. President Ashraf Ghani of Afghanistan said that meeting the challenges posed by the scale and scope of urbanisation in the context of global uncertainty and disruptive and destructive change requires urgent action. "Urgent, systematic and global action is required. We have the tools and repertoire of techniques to solve the problem," he said, adding that the world needed change in the culture of states, culture of people, and the culture of global organisations.

Fiji's prime minister, H.E. Josaia V. Bainimarama mentioned that WUF10 offered the opportunity to discuss the role of cities in averting crises by making urban living synonymous with sustainability. Living standards in cities have grown remarkably, but progress has come at the cost of a warming world. The old model of development is untenable. If we continue to urbanise with carbon-intensive industries, the world's cities will crumble into hotbeds of inequality and extreme vulnerability, he warned.

Quality venue for the convergence of cultures

WUF10 took place at Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC), an-award-winning venue with a total space of 133,000m². There were 130 exhibition booths at the Urban Expo. The venue created an open platform for the participants from 169 countries to exchange knowledge on culture and innovation and commit to actions to accelerate efforts in the Decade of Action.

The venue and the way the WUF10 programme made use of the space created an environment for people from different cultures to come together and discuss, debate and reflect on sustainable urban development issues at the global level. Forum participants agreed that cultural diversity is a defining feature of humanity. People, places and societies are diverse and plural, changing across time and space. This is what creates the fundamental notion of uniqueness.[48]

Discussions at the Forum's dialogues and assemblies focused on the role of cultural diversity in sustainable development. "Culture and cultural diversity are sources of enrichment that contribute significantly to sustainable urban development," said one panellist at the Dialogue on Partnerships and Initiatives Supporting Culture and Innovation in Cities.

❝ Intercultural dialogue has an important role to play. It allows us to prevent ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural divides.

A speaker at the Grassroots Assembly

Many participants highlighted the relationship between cultural diversity and inclusion. Cultural adequacy is key to avoid social exclusion by policy makers, argued Laurinda Godjo, an urban planner from Benin. It is crucial for the full realisation of human rights and fundamental freedoms and is a commitment to democracy that promotes solidarity in particular territories, she explained.[49]

Representatives from grassroots communities emphasised that inclusion enables the co-creation, co-production and co-generation of ideas and solutions to sustainable development challenges. This position enjoyed a great consensus in different meetings. One of the participants in the Special Session on Migration highlighted the positive outcomes of multicultural societies that create an enabling environment for innovation by bringing together different skill sets, capacities and cultures.

Speakers at the Dialogue on Partnerships and Initiatives Supporting Culture and Innovation in Cities noted that global challenges and disruption to global value chains call for increased appreciation of cultural identity and the relevance of local and regional settings, with clear linkages between local cultural leaders, local and national authorities and regional partners. Investment in cultural goods and services, which stimulate local and national markets, has the potential to promote economic growth and decent work in cities, speakers noted.

There were different opinions on the importance of including communities, youth and other associations in cultural diversity programmes. Better territorial planning that includes protection of the environment and local expressions of identity and community development should retain the practices, knowledge

and culture of indigenous peoples, noted speakers at the Youth Assembly. Grassroots communities have a rich heritage and their local knowledge needs to be incorporated into urban policies, said speakers at the Grassroots Assembly. This will be more effective if data collected by grassroots communities is used to sensitise national and local governments and creates avenues for partnerships, they said.

Participants put numerous proposals on the table to promote cultural diversity in specific territories to foster knowledge exchange and social interaction. These included the connection of public spaces, the need for parliaments to open public mechanisms for debate, and the need for academics to foster the exchange of knowledge and best practices in regard to cultural pluralism.

Innovative city financing and business discussions

It will cost trillions of dollars, annually, to achieve the urban Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. This enormous investment requires re-thinking how the development of cities is financed and highlights the importance of co-creating urban development through collective action built on shared priorities. Mobilising business partners and investors will help integrate key elements for sustainable urbanisation and development such as creativity, innovation and technologies. With this in mind, WUF10 brought cities and investors together. Both have a mutual interest in businesses becoming long-term partners of cities and cities becoming better clients of business.

Compared to past Forums, WUF10 raised the profile of WUFs for mobilising city business partners. The business- and finance-related sessions highlighted the need for a paradigm shift in the relationship between cities and businesses. There is a need to establish trust between urban communities, city leaders, businesses, investors and creative industries with relationships grounded by a unified vision with clear, interlinked roles and responsibilities, and legal safeguards.

Launched at WUF10, the Cities Investment Platform in collaboration with Abu Dhabi Global Market (ADGM) was one of the successful WUF legacy initiatives that fostered new partnerships and supported investment in sustainable urbanisation (8.1). This event showed the proof-of-concept for a new initiative being piloted by UN-Habitat: the Cities Investment Facility (CIF). This is a programme that is building capacity

among local and regional governments for project preparation, capital mobilisation and standard setting. Through showcasing CIP and CIF, WUF10 contributed to a general shift in the United Nations System away from a model of direct funding of projects to longer-term financing of strategic initiatives that can leverage additional resources from private financiers towards causes for the public good.

Diversity of experts

The Forum brought together high-level speakers, thought leaders, thematic experts and a variety of moderators to strengthen urban debates and contribute to the Decade of Action. Experts included ministers, mayors, business executives, community leaders, artists, writers, urban planners, architects, and academics. Compared to previous WUFs, there was a significant increase in the number of speakers representing non-governmental organisations, civil society, local and regional governments, the private sector and the United Nations. There was also more equal representation from national and local governments.

Livestreaming to a broader audience

Streaming the main programme sessions on UN Web TV[50] meant that those who couldn't join in person had access to WUF10 via their phones and computers - a significant contribution to making the Forum more inclusive. The recordings were made available afterwards on the UN Web TV website as well as on UN-Habitat's YouTube channel. Universities, schools, community groups and urbanists were encouraged to follow the discussions and engage with UN-Habitat's Twitter and Facebook feeds.

❝ WUF10 was one of the best conferences I have attended and it exceeded my expectations. So practical – so interactive – so much dialogue and never a boring moment.

Ingrid Kasper
Video producer, United Nations Department of Global Communications.

> ❝ To meet the challenge posed by the scale and scope of urbanisation in the context of global uncertainty and disruptive and destructive change requires a true sense of urgency.

H.E. Ashraf Ghani
President of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Box 7: **Analysis of participant survey**

WUF10 attracted more than 13,000 attendees, representing a broad range of partner categories, from 169 countries. Participation was high despite the Forum taking place in the midst of two major challenges - rising political tensions in the Persian Gulf and the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic, arising from Hubei Province in China.

Results from the participant survey show participant satisfaction with the quality of inclusive, relevant and coherent discussions and the programme overall. Despite the positive feedback, there are some areas of improvement for future WUFs. Mainly, there is a need to more clearly define the theme of the Forum and improve engagement with key stakeholders.[51] Though the WUF10 theme, "Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation," was understood by different stakeholders, some of the participants seemed to understand "culture" in the context of using different cultures to accelerate implementation of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, while others understood it as preservation of culture, tradition and heritage amid modernization. Participants recommended the use of broad-based procedures for clearly defining the WUF theme and sub-themes to make these more coherent and relevant to different partners and stakeholders and to improve interlinkages among events.The theme and sub-themes should also be relevant to the strategies and work programme of UN-Habitat in the context of current global, national and local issues.

As part of promoting coordinated development support and inclusiveness, partners and stakeholders should be mobilised and involved in the WUF processes, early enough, so they understand their roles and responsibilities toward common WUF objectives and comparative advantages.

5.5 Speaker profiles

A total of 642 thought leaders, speakers and moderators, hailing from 99 countries, participated at WUF10. Speakers were selected to ensure thematic competency as well as a good balance of genders, regions and partners.

Speakers from Least Developed Countries were encouraged to participate and 49 speakers from 25 Least Developed Countries took part.

WUF10 was the first WUF to achieve gender parity among speakers in the main programme sessions. Here, participation of women exceeded that of men (52 per cent for women and 48 per cent for men). This demonstrated support of Beijing+25 and UN-Habitat's gender resolution, as well the Secretariat's commitment to achieving gender parity.

When it came to regional representation, the highest portion of speakers hailed from host region Asia (22.4 per cent), followed by Europe (20 per cent), Africa (18.2 per cent), Global (18.5 per cent), North America (11.4 per cent), Latin America and the Caribbean (7.3 per cent) and Oceania (2.2 per cent).

Civil Society Organisations accounted for 23.8 per cent of panellists, followed by national government (15.4 per cent), local and regional government (15.4 per cent), research and academia (12.2 per cent), the UN System (15 per cent), and the private sector (7.1 per cent).

> ❝ Building alliances between cities and businesses has never been more critical for realising sustainable urbanisation.

Victor Kisob
Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director, UN-Habitat

Speakers

Total number of speakers: 642

Regional balance

Region	%	Count
Africa	18%	117
Asia	18%	114
UAE	5%	30
Europe	20%	128
Latin America and the Caribbean	7%	47
North America	11%	73
Oceania	2%	14
Global	19%	19

Host City

Gender balance

308 — 48%

334 — 52%

Balance of partner groups

Partner group	%	Count
Academia / Research	12%	78
Civil Society Organization	24%	153
Inter-Governmental Organization	3%	18
Foundation	3%	22
Private Sector	7%	45
National Government	15%	99
Local and Regional Government	15%	99
Media	1%	2
Parliamentarian	1%	3
United Nations System	15%	96
Individual	4%	27

5.6 Press and social media

Press coverage

A total of 268 journalists registered for WUF10. Most of them came from the Arab world and reported in Arabic and English for a wide range of media. International journalists from publications including the Thomson Reuters Foundation (coverage here and here), Devex and Next City attended and published articles.

There were around 170 articles published on news platforms targeting the Arab region, including the Khaleej Times, Gulf Today, the National, Al Ittihad, Al Khaleej, Al Bayan, Bahrain Tribune, Al Bayader, 7adramout and Sharjah 24 Arabic. Abu Dhabi television broadcast live from the event. UN-Habitat and Abu Dhabi's public relations partner, Newgate worked together to amplify this coverage.

Material generated by UN-Habitat included the Executive Director's joint blog with the International Institute for Environment and Development (published by the Thomson Reuters Foundation) and a piece in US News. The publicity around WUF10 led to SDG 11 being chosen as the SDG of the month on the United Nations SDG webpage and articles in UN News about UN-Habitat's work. There was a piece in the UN Chronicle and a blog by the Executive Director.

The global UN website also featured material generated from the Forum, including a piece on the audiovisual exhibition *Changing the narrative on migrants in cities*. Stories on the website about WUF included coverage of Assemblies Day, the Secretary-General's opening address, the opening of Ai Weiwei's *Forever Bicycles* sculpture, UN-Habitat's Arena, and the closing ceremony with highlights video.

The top news article was a story on UN.org[52] with a reach of 616,000. There were around 1,400 mentions of WUF on online news sites and 709 on blogs, according to Media Monitoring.

Around 30 journalists visited the media room daily for briefings and updates and to get support for finding suitable interviewees. The Press Conference room hosted over 20 events. Along with

press conferences, these included book and report launches, including the State of Arab Cities Report launch (Press release); the announcement of the first UN-Habitat Goodwill Ambassador for Arab States; agreement-signing ceremonies, the Better Cities Film Festival Launch (Press release); and awards and panel discussions. UN-Habitat Communication organised four well-attended press conferences and put out several press releases.[53]

Many media outlets around the world, unable to attend, used the wide range of Forum press releases, the live UN Web TV feed and daily reports from IISD to produce coverage.

Social media

Through social media platforms, WUF10 amplified awareness of key urbanisation challenges and solutions. #WUF10 was a trending hashtag from 8 - 10 February, 2020, registering 5,309 tweets on the first day followed by 3,741 tweets carrying the hashtag #SDGs.

The UN-Habitat corporate social media accounts had a spike in engagement over WUF10. The Twitter account registered as the top influencer around the forum. WUF-related posts had around 76,000 impressions.

On the Arabic UN-Habitat Facebook page, posts tagged #WUF10 had a reach of around 35,000 during the period 8-13 February 2020.

Support from partners

IISD was brought onboard to support with coverage and photography. IISD's daily reports and final summation in English and Arabic were widely reproduced. In addition, the team from UN Web TV, who covered up to eight events at one time with live feeds, provided recordings and were extremely helpful with outreach. These feeds were available to the public, broadcasters and for group discussions. National academic institutions such as Ain Shams University in Egypt, livestreamed WUF sessions and side events on campus, and held interactive discussions with students, UN-Habitat experts and academia.

66 Fiji is fully committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2050. I call for every city to join in achieving zero net emissions by 2050! Join us for the sake of the coming generations. Join us for the good of the generations today.

H.E. Josaia V. Bainimarama
Prime Minister of Fiji

Participants with their gift bags at WUF10 venue
© UN-Habitat-Mayur Bhawsar

5.7 Urban Expo

The Urban Expo hosted 130 exhibits from 51 countries, showcasing technology and best practices to tackle the most pressing urban challenges (see 10.2). A number of pavilions had networking spaces which hosted informal events to share experiences and build partnerships. The role of culture was promoted through the Urban Village, which featured art and cultural performances, as well as the Urban Library and Urban Cinema.

Countries and cities exhibited transformative projects through virtual reality displays, prototypes and interactive installations. Academic institutions presented new research on urban issues while civil society promoted inclusive policies. The private sector showcased solutions related to building technology, big data, affordable housing, waste management, sustainable transport and mobility.

To increase participation of civil society and academic institutions from developing countries, free exhibition space was provided. In the past, only national delegations from Least Developed Countries received free space. Attendance from Europe also rose by 10 per cent compared to past sessions due to participation from Eastern Europe. Overall, the Urban Expo had the highest number of exhibitors compared to past sessions of the WUF.

The UN-Habitat Arena was one of the most popular spaces due to a unique design inspired by the SDG brand and elements of urban form. The Arena showcased UN-Habitat's work and the urban dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals through compelling visuals, key messages and immersive experiences. The Arena also hosted well-attended launches of UN-Habitat's flagship programmes.

Table 12: Exhibitors by partner type

Partner type	WUF7		WUF9		WUF10	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Civil Society Organizations	25	24.27	11	11.46	20	15.38
National Governments	23	22.33	27	28.13	26	20.00
Business and Industries	12	11.65	16	16.67	18	13.85
Local and regional governments	13	12.62	12	12.50	25	19.23
Research and academia	13	12.62	11	11.46	27	20.77
United Nations	10	9.71	6	6.25	4	3.08
Foundations and philanthropies	3	2.91	4	4.17	5	3.85
Grassroots organizations*	n/a	n/a	3	3.13	n/a	n/a
Intergovernmental Organizations	4	3.88	3	3.13	5	3.85
Professionals*	n/a	n/a	3	3.13	n/a	n/a
	103	100	96	100	130	100

In WUF7 they were not a category

Table 13: Exhibitors by region

Region	WUF7		WUF9		WUF10	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Africa	11	10.68	14	14.58	20	15.38
Asia	10	9.71	52	54.17	51	39.23
Europe	16	15.53	18	18.75	39	30.00
Global	10	9.71	1	1.04	5	3.85
Latin America and Caribbean	40	38.83	2	2.08	3	2.31
Northern America	16	15.53	9	9.38	12	9.23
	103	100	96	100	130	100

Box 8: **What participants said**[54]

→ WUF10 is excellent and very professionally managed.

→ WUF is mandated as a United Nations Conference. Participation of the UN agencies, the group whose cooperation and support is required most, was evident.

→ UN-Habitat should engage innovation and technology sectors to explore and take advantage of big data and artificial intelligence in assessing cities and helping in decisions and [allocating] resources to deliver basic city services.

→ I believe strong grassroots participation and [participation by] persons with disability will be of great value in future WUFs.

→ The exhibition was very good and I liked the launch of the Alumni journey of WUF1-WUF10.

→ Contextually, balanced WUF programme design could aim to contribute to the Decade of Action…

→ WUF10 was a platform for sharing experiences and to show how women are key in sustainable development.

→ WUF10 is a platform for sharing knowledge and raising awareness to promote youth and changes in communities.

→ WUF10 helped us to come together and form partnerships and [the Forum] is a place where the poor can participate in changing their lives.

→ Let's use the WUF platform to influence the future.

→ Let us provide science and data to youth to put pressure on politicians to change policies.

→ A great transition: During WUF1 grassroots were speaking to themselves but in WUF10 we are active participants and engaging all stakeholders and pushing governments to take actions.

→ Heritage forms an opportunity to integrate [culture] in sustainable development. Let us preserve, keeping what is of value in the past as we implement the New Urban Agenda.

→ Sustainable development cannot be achieved if it ignores culture.

→ I enjoyed the conference as a young person who wants to take ideas from the forum and apply [them] to my community.

Official opening of Urban Expo at WUF10
© UN-Habitat

5.8 UN-Habitat Corporate Exhibition - Urban SDG Circle

The docking station of the SDGs

UN-Habitat's corporate exhibition provided a space as the UN focal point for sustainable urbanisation and SDG 11, the docking station for all other Sustainable Development Goals.

Explore the SDGs from an Urban perspective

The concept of the UN-Habitat Arena was based on the SDG circle and designed as a city with various Goals representing urban spaces such as houses, court yards, alleys and city squares. The centre of the Arena acted as a city square, hosting different activities every day.

Each house had interesting facts on our work, some houses invite you to explore the Goals in a new way such as experience nature in Goal 13, life below water in Goal 14, view inequality through a bird's eye in Goal 10 or see yourself in a new arty light in Goal 7.
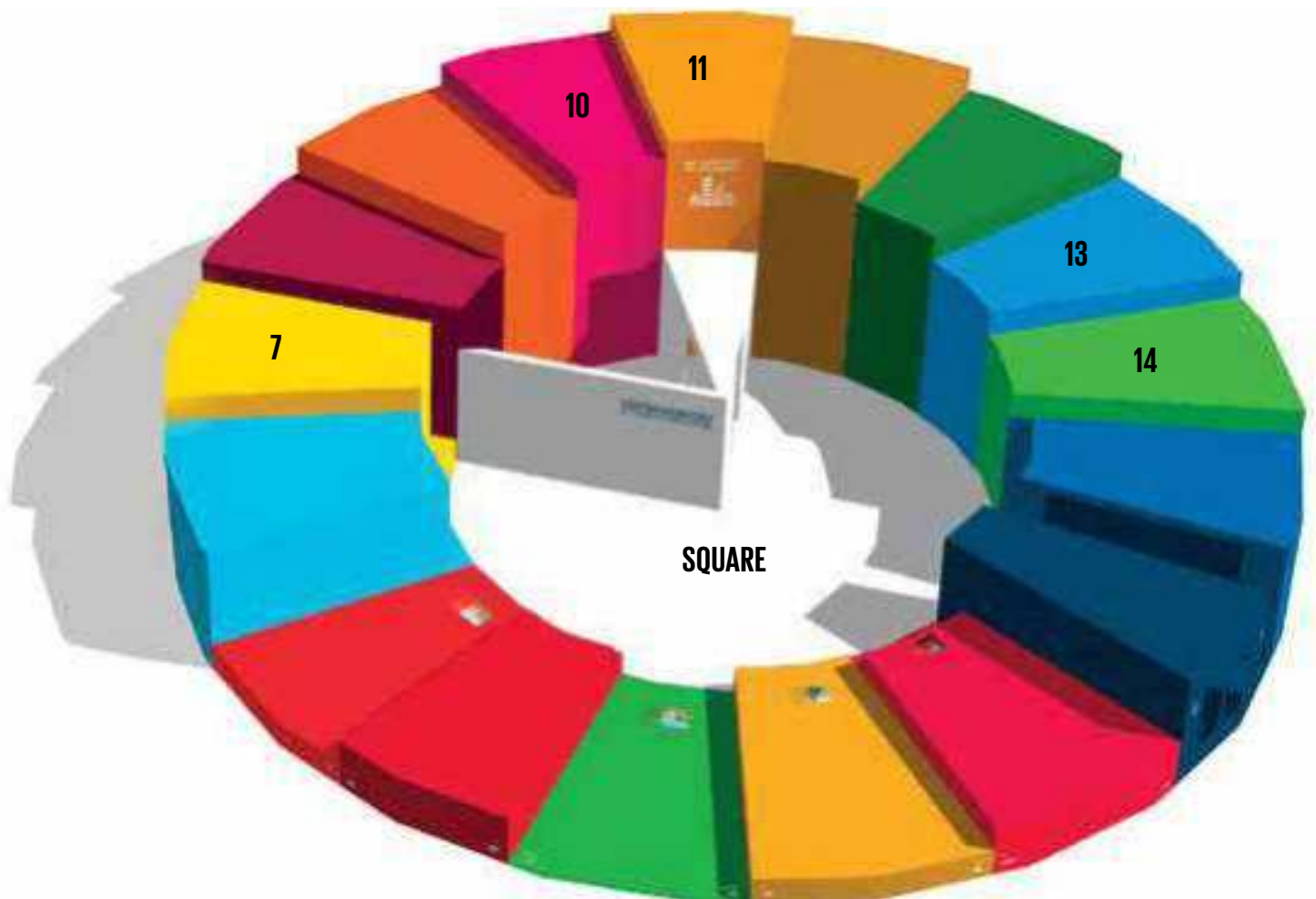
Increasing international cooperation is seen as vital to achieving each of the 16 other goals. Achieving the SDGs, including Goal 11, will only be possible if there are strong partnerships within and across all the goals.

Peaceful, inclusive and sustainable cities rely on the kind of institutions we build in cities. This impacts how we govern our cities as well as how we implement the process of urbanisation itself.

Sustainable urbanization and better urban planning, including the development of green infrastructures, safe management and treatment of waste, can conserve and restore terrestrial ecosystems.

Sustainable urban planning and management of resources can reduce the pressure coastal cities put on the environment. Proper management of waste generated by cities prevents ocean pollution and protects biodiversity.

Sustainable cities provide real opportunities to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change, through environmentally sustainable and resilient urban design, development and governance.

Sustainable urbanisation uses natural resources innovatively and efficiently. These sustainable patterns of production and consumption increase cities productivity and reduce negative environmental impacts.

Half the world's population now live in cities, and this is projected to increase to two-thirds by 2050. Cities can solve many of the challenges our world faces. Urban areas drive innovation, consumption and investment worldwide, making them a positive and potent force for addressing sustainable economic growth, urban development and prosperity.

Sustainable cities address prevailing inequalities through better urban planning, design and governance, providing better opportunities for employment, affordable housing and accessible transport.

Investment in infrastructure, industrialization and innovation are key to making cities safe, resilient, inclusive and sustainable.

With humanity becoming increasingly urban, trends indicate poverty is also becoming increasingly urban. Sustainable urbanisation improves the lives of people in human settlements around the world and increases prosperity.

Sustainable urbanisation increases food security. The presence of cultivatable land for farming provides food for urban areas and supports agricultural productivity whilst improving the livelihoods of rural populations.

Through integrated urban planning, access to basic services, and access to decent and affordable housing, sustainable cities contribute to better health.

Inclusive and sustainable cities provide better access to education by the urban poor, women and girls. Inclusive and equitable education provides adequate skills for decent jobs and improved living conditions.

Providing women and girls with equal access to education, health care, decent work, and representation in political and economic decision-making processes nurtures sustainable economies, and helps develop inclusive and sustainable cities.

Inclusive and sustainable cities are a positive and potent force for addressing sustainable economic growth and prosperity, as they drive innovation, consumption and investment.

Access to clean and efficient energy systems is crucial for the development of safe, resilient and sustainable cities, allowing them to grow and perform efficiently while reducing pollution and mitigating climate change.

Effective urban planning and urban waste management systems ensure access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene, and improve the quality and sustainability of water resources worldwide.

URBAN SDG CIRCLE
UN-HABITAT ARENA

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
15 LIFE ON LAND
14 LIFE BELOW WATER
13 CLIMATE ACTION
12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
5 GENDER EQUALITY
4 QUALITY EDUCATION
3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
2 ZERO HUNGER
1 NO POVERTY

1 **2**

1, 2. UN-Habitat booth at the exhibition © Maiken

1, 2. UN-Habitat booth at the exhibition © Maiken

1. **Reflective mirror room at UN-Habitat expo booth** © UN-Habitat
2. **Partner's exhibition at Urban Expo** © UN-Habitat

1, 2. Partner's exhibition at Urban Expo © UN-Habitat

1. Partner's exhibition at Urban Expo © UN-Habitat

2. UN-Habitat's Corporate Exhibition - Flagship Programme Launch © UN-Habitat

1. UN-Habitat's Corporate Exhibition - Flagship Programme Launch © UN-Habitat
2. Partner's exhibition at Urban Expo © UN-Habitat

6

Advancing the global urban agenda together through innovation, creativity and culture

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6.1 The transformative power of cities

Urbanisation has been a key driver of global change in the 20th and 21st centuries. As the world population became predominantly urban with nearly 60 per cent of people living in urban areas in 2020, cities have taken central stage, playing a fundamental role in industry, technology, entrepreneurship and general development. In this process, cities have driven national economies by creating wealth, enhancing social development and providing employment. They have been the physical manifestation of history and culture and incubators of different forms of creativity and innovation.

Cities produce social, cultural and economic outputs that are needed for national growth and development. They are the home of prosperity and massive agents of positive change and societal development. However, they can also be the contrary: breeding grounds for poverty, exclusion and environmental degradation. This happens when they are not well-planned and well-managed, and when they are not ready to produce adequate public goods and adopt redistributive policies and actions. This also happens when the benefits of urbanisation are not shared among the population and are concentrated in the hands of a few.

A society cannot claim to be harmonious if large sections of its population are deprived of basic needs while other sections live in opulence. A city cannot be harmonious if some groups concentrate resources and opportunities while others remain impoverished and marginalised.[55] The transformative power of cities can be better realised when unity is promoted within diversity, when culture and creativity are used as positive drivers of change, and when cities are sufficiently empowered to follow a sustainable urban transformation pathway.

The evidence of the positive link between urban areas and economic growth is overwhelming. Cities account for more than 80 per cent of global GDP. They also generate a sizeable share of formal and informal jobs that are an important cornerstone of economic and social development. However, realising the gains of urbanisation depends on how urban growth is planned and managed, and the extent to which the benefits accruing from urbanisation are equitably distributed.

Cities have the potential to become a transformative force for addressing sustainable economic growth, development and prosperity. They can underpin profound social, political, cultural and economic transformations, providing the setting, the underlying base and also the momentum for local and global change. Participants at WUF10 discussed these issues, while debating about ways to create harmony between the physical, social and environmental aspects of cities and the people who inhabit them through a cultural lens.

6.2 Driving change through ministerial interventions

Over 110 ministers and deputy ministers attended WUF10. They engaged with stakeholders in several sessions and made valuable contributions based on interventions in their respective countries. The Ministers Roundtable, which featured 25 speakers, was a key session for sharing good practices.

Ministerial representatives, including ministers and government representatives, recognised that culture plays a key role in sustainable urbanisation. In cities, people share their stories and experiences. Culture is a mechanism for transmitting these stories and experiences. To create a better world we must respect the past and embrace the new.

For example, by harnessing technologies like artificial intelligence while preserving culture we can honour the past and plan for the cities of tomorrow. This is something Abdullah Belhaif Al Nuaimi, Minister of Infrastructure Development, UAE, noted in his opening statement, highlighting the need to bring our heritage forward.

The European Commission's Elisa Ferreira said that culture involves being able to live with other ways of thinking. She called on people to open their ears and minds and respect one another, noting that these are ideas on which the European Union was built. She stressed the EU's willingness to cooperate with cities and countries worldwide to share experiences in promoting culture and inclusion in development.

Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner, European Commission for Cohesion and Reform
© UN-Habitat/Flickr

Participants taking photos with SDGs Blocks at the WUF Alumni exhibition © UN-Habitat

The European Commission recognises the role of cities and their inhabitants in driving major change in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. Cities have "not only become places where heritage is concentrated, but they are the hosts of the people capable of triggering change," she said.

Abdul Baqi Popal, Deputy Minister of Municipalities, Afghanistan, emphasised that Afghanistan is committed to the New Urban Agenda and believes cities are the centre of culture. Culture, however, does not belong to any single nation; culture belongs to the world, he explained.

To restore important cultural landmarks sadly damaged during times of conflict, Afghanistan has undertaken initiatives with the help of UNESCO, and is hoping to implement even greater initiatives in the post-peace scenario. Cities in Afghanistan have long been symbols of national unity. The Government of Afghanistan is committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, especially affordable housing, which is key for the Afghan people, where municipalities prepare their plans with involvement of the citizens.

Carlos Salazar, Vice Minister of Urban Development and Housing, Ecuador, expressed a commitment to incorporating the Sustainable Development Goals into city planning. The loss of culture, non-resilient cities and loss of empowerment are salient challenges in Ecuador. To bridge the gap in the housing sector, since 2017 the government has been running the "House for everyone" project. This involves multiple stakeholders to ensure a national dialogue about implementation of Agenda 2030.

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, Mongolia is developing its vision for 2030 and beyond. Khavdislam Badyelkhan, Mongolia's Minister of Construction and Urban Development, stressed that government is enhancing human settlement plans and developing new cities towards its long-term vision for 2050. The new policy was recently submitted to parliament for ratification. Economic relationships are being developed with a focus on resilience through regional integration. The government is also emphasising development programmes that are less costly to implement and more environmentally sound. City networks are another key priority. Mongolia is pursuing policies that include public participation and aims for a responsive and transparent government system supported by public participation.

❝ Cities are complex but incomplete systems. There are enormous possibilities for citizens to be part of the process of making.

Saskia Sassen
Professor of Sociology at Columbia University.

In Bahrain, a programme for urban rehabilitation has been in place to encourage people to return to rehabilitated areas. The goal is to strengthen communities. Bahrain is determined to preserve its cultural fabric and move forward towards sustainable livelihoods for all. It has placed housing at the center of its development agenda.

❝ If we do not connect cities to the cultural needs of citizens, quality of life will be negatively affected.

Abdullah bin Ahmed Al Khalifa, Undersecretary of Bahrain's Ministry of Housing

❝ We need to have culturally sustainable cities to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and ensure sustainable livelihoods for all.

Grzegorz Puda, Poland's Deputy Minister of Funds and Regional Policy

Grzegorz Puda affirmed that Poland supports multi-level cooperation.

The Association of Polish Cities has signed a new plan to implement the New Urban Agenda and SDG 11 is key in the national urban agenda, he said. Poland is developing strategic projects that bring local and regional government resources together to improve quality of life in cities. Culture is not only important for building the image of a city but also has a role in improving the quality of life for citizens, he noted.

The roundtable highlighted that cities within and outside regions should collaborate and share experiences with each other in order to learn and grow.

6.3 People-centred development

People shape the cities they live in. This sentiment was at the heart of many conversations at WUF10. In the Special Session on Community Engagement participants noted that while community engagement may seem like a large investment of time and resources, it allows urban planners to "put people at the centre," incorporating their cultures, beliefs and histories into subsequent plans and actions.

"Community engagement is one of the most valuable tools towards localising the New Urban Agenda," a Nigerian panellist said. While grassroots groups, especially women's groups, can catalyse engagement with local authorities they often do not have the convening power that local governments do. It is therefore key that local authorities use their convening power to engage citizens in truly participatory processes, through listening to and understanding people's needs, she said.

The Nigerian panellist stressed the idea of implementing "quick-win" projects, such as investing in latrine toilets in underserved communities, or investing in affordable housing for the urban poor as a means of truly investing in the communities that need support.

Another panellist kicked off his presentation with the message, "local knowledge informs best practice." He described UN-Habitat's programme "Cities for All" in Afghanistan, which focuses on strengthening liveability and inclusion. He mentioned that urban residents are best placed to judge the level of access to quality services, such as transport and housing, and should be placed at the centre of decision-making.

In terms of inclusion, levels may vary depending on the country. For example, Kenya's Land Use and Planning Act describes public consultation and participation in mandatory terms: the Planning Authority must consult the residents in an area under planning, and must allocate funds and facilitate participation. In Afghanistan, he elaborated, UN-Habitat is supporting the government to build an inclusive programme since the inclusion of all populations in decision-making processes is not yet established.

Other panellists echoed the need for inclusive planning processes. "If people come together through community groups to understand their common issues, it is already 50 per cent of the success [of a programme]," said a panellist from Mongolia.

❝ Culture and innovation are a creative capital that has direct implications on various dimensions of development and prosperity. They do not happen by accident. They require a creative process that is embedded in the way urban centres operate.

Maimunah Mohd Sharif
Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director
UN-Habitat

She shared an example of a Mongolian community that had come together to identify risks and solutions, built trust among each other and with the government, and improved their living conditions. In 2010, Mongolia's president also promoted a directive allowing for new participatory budgeting processes to be led at the local level, which helped more people take part in larger planning processes.

Despite such progress there is more to be done. With varying levels of rights for inclusion and participation, many urban citizens globally have not yet been empowered to take part in decision-making that affects them. The panellists discussed ways of enhancing community participation. One suggestion was for crowd-sourcing ideas from communities and empowering community members to implement them by providing training in marketing, business plan development, communication and crowdfunding. For example, in Turin, Italy, winners of a design competition for public spaces were trained to use crowdfunding to gather resources for the implementation of their winning ideas.

Others ideas included designing public spaces to break social and cultural barriers, thereby re-shaping narratives of communities broken by violence and conflict; and using tactical urbanism strategies for temporary public interventions, such as painting streets to encourage walkability and road safety.

Speakers emphasised that policy and legislation must mandate and enable human rights-based approaches and community engagement throughout the planning and implementation process. For instance, in India the state of Odisha has expanded the rights of slum dwellers by providing in-situ land rights in tenable slums and upgrading untenable slums. It has also created a statutory welfare fund for the urban poor to build infrastructure in slum areas. The City of New York, meanwhile, mandates citizen review in the planning and zoning process within definite time frames to ensure accountability and timeliness in the development process.

6.4 A changing environment for the private sector

The Business Assembly highlighted the work of partners that work with UN-Habitat in four areas of its business engagement strategy: investment, co-creation and innovation, joint advocacy, and norms and standards. Panellists shared insights on the role that the business community plays in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

For example, one speaker mentioned the importance of the public sector in creating an enabling environment to foster innovation, noting that the world could look to Islamic finance as an example of an alternative model of a capital market.

Alice Charles, Project Lead for the Cities, Infrastructure and Urban Services Platform of the World Economic Forum, mentioned that during their last Real Estate and Urban Services CEOs Leaders Group meeting in Davos, there has been a focus on addressing climate change. The objective is for all new buildings to be net-zero carbon buildings by 2030 and for existing buildings to be retrofitted by 2050. However, for these ambitious targets to be reached, new financial instruments are required.

Panellists also recognised that there are huge gaps in the global affordable housing market, resulting in unrest in many cities. Developers, real estate advisors and asset managers also observed that there is over-supply at the top end of the market, and there is no balance of supply at the lower and middle ends of the market. The business community has to work with their financial services colleagues to make viable propositions to address this gap. Another idea for tackling the housing crisis is to see how developers could influence policy around building codes. In the G20 zones, developers and asset managers have come together to see how they can make building codes uniform.

CEOs working in the area of infrastructure saw the lack of capacity within the public sector as a reason why innovation and technology is often not deployed. Public-Private-Partnerships (PPPs) often turn out to be difficult and the CEOs believe that risk is often not effectively managed. There is also an increasing funding gap to deliver infrastructure within cities, which will increase even further as we shift towards more sustainable practices.

6.5 Research and creative thinking influencing the urban agenda

During the Researchers Roundtable, a Mentimeter[56] was used to survey participants. It showed that half of the audience came from academia and represented countries from Asia and Europe.

Over 50 per cent of the audience thought the major challenge in leveraging research to support global agendas was inadequate mainstreaming of research into policy, while 23 per cent felt a lack of collaboration was the primary hurdle. As for which urban issues require more attention, 55 per cent of the audience selected climate change and resilience. This was followed by housing and informal settlements, and urban planning and land use. All attendees reported having worked with some form of data in the past year, including survey, administrative, focus group and big data.

Thembisile Nkadimeng, Mayor, President of SALGA, Mayor of the City of Polokwane, South Africa © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

Three issues emerged from this survey. First, the discussion of research for urban policy and practice needs to be widened and strengthened in under-represented regions; second, a major challenge is how to integrate research and data into policy-making; and third, the major developmental challenges affecting most of us are how to protect cities and human settlements from the adverse impacts of climate change and its associated effects.

The Roundtable brought several discussions to light regarding mainstreaming research into policy.

In terms of data, participants identified the need to compare cities internationally. An example of this is monitoring of the progress of National Urban Policies. In data-scarce regions, such as the Arab region, it is important to involve the public in data generation through participatory approaches. At the same time, participants noted that to foster integrity in the collection and use of data requires negotiation, and the ability to show a clear purpose for the research. It is also important to recognise that data can be a source of revenue and that big data can support household data

❝ The dominant cities as perceived by planners do a massive disservice to the urban poor. Cities are often created for people who have resources.

Bathsheba Tatenda Biti
Managing Director, Slum Dwellers International

When it comes to mainstreaming research into policy, participants highlighted the need for research to be more practical, taking local complexities into account, and more cost-effective. They noted that relationship building must start long before the research begins and that researchers can consider involving local municipalities and institutions.

Speakers also addressed the need to better communicate and market their research so that policymakers can quickly respond to emerging research. They discussed how storytelling can be used to share research in a different way that still relies on qualitative and quantitative data.

While collaborative efforts are key, there are not many incentives for researchers to undertake interdisciplinary research. That culture needs to be nurtured.

6.6 Parliamentarians and their role in nurturing culture and creativity in cities

Parliamentarians play a crucial role in responding to the challenges and opportunities of urban development (See Box 9). They face daily decisions regarding housing needs and affordability, economic and social inequalities, climate change resilience, population growth, territorial development and investment policies, waste management, and food security. They have an opportunity, and a constitutional responsibility, to play a significant role in supporting and monitoring implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 11. Indeed, Agenda 2030 acknowledges the "essential role of national parliaments through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets, and their role in ensuring accountability for the effective implementation of our commitments."[57] They are also uniquely positioned to act as the bridge between people and their governments and are instrumental in advocating for the rights and needs of citizens.

Stakeholders agreed that it would be important for parliamentarians to continue sharing experiences and collaborate. Having a platform such as the Parliamentarians Roundtable during WUFs and UN-Habitat Assemblies allows for everyone to support each other, tackle issues, and design laws that apply in their own countries. Additionally, parliamentarians need adequate studies and knowledge to make informed decisions on new laws and budget allocations.

Speakers noted that parliamentarians should conduct regulatory impact assessments for the legislation they are passing to assess whether new laws are promoting the rule of law, human rights and compliance with international laws and global development agendas. This would reduce the chances of legislation being challenged and declared unconstitutional by the judiciary. They should also improve their accountability during

their mandates, and make good use of their hearing sessions to listen and engage all stakeholders and should establish coalitions and alliances to discuss urban challenges.

The judiciary is not always involved in urban policy decisions. Often, governments design and implement policy and legal frameworks without consulting the judiciary. In an ideal scenario, the government needs to allocate space and time to discuss decisions on implementation and enforcement of urban policies and laws with the judiciary system, making sure that potential conflicts can be addressed and solved. In cases of non-compliance, parliamentarians should be more responsive and amend the laws once the judiciary has challenged them and declared them unconstitutional. One panellist from Malawi said, "local governments have their own legislative agenda which is very different from national assembly agendas. That in itself can create conflict that needs to be managed."

Housing remains a fundamental challenge in many countries and parliaments need active support and engagement with the executive arm of government to develop innovative approaches to housing finance. One parliamentarian from Kenya suggested that UN-Habitat could work directly with the parliament to identify innovative financing mechanisms to implement the housing goals identified in the national agenda. He proposed exploring the feasibility of using resources currently available

Stein Erik Lauvås, Norwegian Parliament in Parliamentarian Roundtable
© UN-Habitat

in savings cooperatives, public insurance companies or social security funds for housing investments to be guaranteed by the national treasury. Exploring PPPs further could help lift the country out of the challenge of financing 500,000 affordable housing units. He stressed the importance of forums such as the WUF to share knowledge and learn from others that have managed to overcome this challenge. Senegal, for example, has managed to build 200,000 affordable housing units since the initiation of a Presidential initiative to raise funds for housing construction through a tax on cement (fonds de l'habitat).

Box 9:   Best practice examples

Two mechanisms have proved successful in strengthening the role of parliamentarians in shaping public and local policy making:

1. In Senegal, due to a new constitution, the President has given a new prerogative to the parliament to follow up and control public policy. Abdoulaye Diop, a member of Senegal's National Assembly, explained that the parliament has worked with various stakeholders to improve the country's urban areas, including through socio-economic data gathering, work on a cultural heritage fund, and promoting territorial equity in planning and resource allocation to ensure basic services for all by 2030.[58]

2. In the United States, the Voluntary Local Review for the Sustainable Development Goals has proven to be a useful instrument to support policy and legal formulation and accelerate implementation of the Goals, as described by Penny Abeywardena, New York City's Commissioner for International Affairs. (See Box 3).

6.7 Special UN inter-agency collaboration for culture and city development

Virtually all stakeholders agreed that there is a need to enhance coherence and coordination across the United Nations System in efforts to assist national and local governments in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and related global agreements, particularly the New Urban Agenda, which supports accelerated implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.[59]

The interrelations and interdependencies among the global agendas offer a powerful instrument to articulate efforts across the mandates and expertise of the different United Nations agencies. The position of different United Nations representatives at WUF10 was clear: there is a need for greater focus on dialogue, the design of normative products and state-of-the-art solutions, and the preparation and implementation of field projects to make the most of creativity, culture and innovation for more liveable, safer and productive cities.

WUF10 helped advance cooperation between agencies (See Box 9). Participants in the Special Session, Platform on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the One UN Roundtable agreed on the importance of pulling together collective knowledge on sustainable urban development through dialogues, exchange of best practice and policies, and sharing of lessons learned. Several also stressed that a major strength of the United Nations is its

Fiona McCluney, UN Resident Coordinator in Montenegro © UN-Habitat

Ghulam Isaczai, UN Resident Coordinator in Azerbaijan © UN-Habitat

ability to deliver economies of scale for disadvantaged populations throughout regions and across boundaries. The reform of the United Nations development system requires a new, less competitive mode of working together that prevents agencies from making similar requests of the same donors.

For renewed inter-agency collaboration at the United Nations there is a need to:

→ Strengthen and sustain commitments to implement the New Urban Agenda by leveraging regional advocacy platforms, such as WUF and the collective expertise and resources of its vast network of partners[60]

→ Refrain from duplicating technical assistance at the country level and leverage the competitive and complementary advantages of the United Nations system and other institutions[61]

→ Produce accurate and up-to-date data collection and analysis systems with support from the United Nations to strengthen the capacity to collect, analyse and disaggregate information to provide forecasts of future growth and infrastructure requirements[62]

Ugochi Florence Daniels, UN Resident Coordinator in Iran © UN-Habitat

In the One UN Roundtable many speakers touched upon the role of the UN Resident Coordinators (RCs) and the potential they have to act as agents of change on the ground. RCs have the capacity to translate global advocacy to the local scale while simultaneously turning local needs back to the global scale for UN support. RCs could contribute to addressing nexus issues (e.g., rising sea level) in an integrated manner and irrespective of sectoral mandates.

Fabrizio Hochschild Drummond, Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the UN's 75th Anniversary © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

Participants in the Foundations and Philanthropists Roundtable argued that it is paramount to utilise the United Nations' expertise and knowledge, based on experience across multiple countries, cities and jurisdictions, and create information sharing mechanisms to fuel agenda achievements and facilitate dialogue at higher levels. Many stakeholders in this meeting saw RCs as advocates for a broader strategy that will help facilitate coordination implementation at all levels.

The UN System-wide Strategy on Sustainable Urbanisation (UNSWSSU) can find a space of collaboration in the area of National Urban Policies and the expansion of Voluntary National Reviews into local reports. These local reports can collect subnational voices to be part of global conversations, exchanging good practices and reflecting on the status quo. As some stakeholders pointed out, local and national voluntary reviews are the basis for more impact-driven actions and evidence-based policies, articulating the efforts of different agencies.[63]

Some stressed that although country-level demands (and related UN Development Assistance Frameworks) are not explicitly framed as urban, their multidimensionality and implications for land use, waste management, spatial inequalities and area-based resilience makes them particularly relevant for United Nations convergence and coordination. Inter-agency collaboration can strengthen focus on the "urban" as a practical organizing framework with culture playing a key role as a driver for positive change.

Box 10: **Examples of collaborative partnerships**

WUF10 showcased United Nations cooperation and collaborative actions in areas such as climate change, migration, public space, basic services, and transport and youth. Examples include:

→ UNESCO and the World Bank collaborating on the UNESCO-World Bank Framework on Cities and Creativity, which aims to support sustainable urban development by "advancing creativity as a key driver of people's participation, ownership and innovation."[64]

→ Various United Nations agencies working together to improve the ability of urban systems to respond to migration.[65]

→ UN-Habitat collaborating with UNESCO in monitoring culture's contribution to implementation of the 2030 Agenda using the Culture|2030 Indicators.[66]

→ UN-Habitat Building Climate Resilience for the Urban Poor: a new initiative, coordinated by UN-Habitat, is collaboration with UNDP, UNDRR, Cities Alliance, World Resources Institute and other partners.

1, 2, 3. Active participants in discussions
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

7

WUF10: a platform to capture knowledge, innovation and creativity for sustainable urban development

7.1 Reducing spatial inequality and poverty

The dialogues on Urbanisation, Culture and Innovation and Implementing the New Urban Agenda to Drive Sustainable Change both affirmed that the way cities are designed and planned can either result in additional inequalities or reduce them. Several effective tools were highlighted, including mixed-use development, transport planning for all users (including non-motorised options), affordable housing policies, innovative community mapping methods, and urban renewal programmes. Speakers noted the importance of inclusive decision-making and planning processes. "Cities must be built for the people that live in them and not for political or economic purposes," said Ernesto Ottone Ramírez, UNESCO's Assistant Director-General for Culture.

Several sessions highlighted the importance of building a sense of community belonging for citizens, wherever they live in the city. Developing cultural identity and strengthening the sense of connection between citizens and their cities helps address social exclusion. The Special Session on Community Outreach noted the need for policy and legislation to enable a human rights-based approach and the need for community engagement to become integral to planning, design and implementation as a reiterative cycle. Continuous follow-up is a must.

The Dialogue on Urban Planning and Heritage Conservation – Regeneration stressed the importance of effective urban renewal and regeneration programmes for reducing spatial inequality and poverty. The need to involve women and youth in the programmes was noted, even more so given the new opportunities in the creative economy and their key contribution to local economic development.

The Special Session on Affordable Housing Innovation stressed the need to expand understandings of affordable housing supply needs, with adequate disaggregated data for different groups. It also urged different actors to adopt shared responsibility as they play their role in responding to the huge global demand for more affordable housing options.

The Dialogue on Frontier Technologies and Innovation for Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Smart Cities concluded that the so-called digital transition, along with urbanisation, offers a way to make cities better places to live. However, the digital divide must be closed and the inequality in access to the Internet needs to be addressed by understanding people's needs and then adapting solutions accordingly, as well as promoting civic engagement.

As noted in the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions, "cities that are well-planned and well-managed, grounded in their cultural heritage, have more opportunities for sustainable urban development."[67] Sessions underscored this by recommending several policy and planning approaches and tools to ensure that the urbanisation process is managed in an inclusive manner, engaging all urban dwellers (See Box 11).

Box 11: **Regeneration for inclusive, vibrant neighbourhoods and communities**

Inequality in cities is rising. 75 per cent of the world's cities are more unequal today compared to two decades ago.[68] And 30 to 40 per cent of people in many rapidly urbanising cities live in disconnected and unserved neighbourhoods. Equal cities are planned well and distribute the gains evenly across the city so that everybody has access to affordable housing and economic and life opportunities. Urban regeneration is one tool to reduce spatial inequalities by improving quality of life in targeted areas. It refers to a combination of physical and socioeconomic measures that can help to restore, integrate, redevelop and revive parts of the city and connect their transformation to the overall city.

UN-Habitat's flagship programme Inclusive, Vibrant Neighbourhoods and Communities aims to transform deprived areas and strategic locations of the city into connected, dynamic, diverse and vibrant neighbourhoods that achieve increasing equality for all. It will make regenerated parts of cities accessible for all while opening pathways for broader socio-economic transformation. Speakers at the programme's launch event shared their experience in different areas, including densification of the suburbs (France), a social approach to regeneration of cities focusing on the housing sector (Mexico) and reclamation of public spaces through a people-centred approach (Seoul). The speakers emphasised factors including the role of new technologies and importance of information and data to document and improve current situations of spatial inequality. The Mexican case highlighted how good development plans can guarantee effective regeneration processes, using examples from successful neighbouring cities' plans and applied planning principles. The event emphasised the important role of the private sector in both short- and long-term investments to improve quality of life in communities and neighbourhoods.

Urban regeneration is a widely used place-based policy tool to revive declining areas while also incubating benefits for the wider city. However, it is important to clarify the purpose of urban regeneration projects. Past experiences have shown that if the focus is only on unlocking land for development without attention to how the gains are distributed, urban regeneration can exacerbate inequalities by creating direct and indirect forms of displacement. WUF was an opportunity to advocate for a more inclusive approach to urban regeneration and keep people and communities at the centre.

The presentations emphasised that UN-Habitat's expertise, planning principles and past and current projects can be models to follow to support local governments and private sector initiatives to fight social exclusion. Speakers supported the flagship programme, which will substantiate UN-Habitat's efforts in advancing the inclusive and people-focused vision adopted in the Strategic Plan 2020-2023. Read more about the programme:

https://unhabitat.org/programme/inclusive-vibrant-neighbourhoods-and-communities

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Małgorzata Jarosińska-Jedynak, Minister, Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy, Poland © UN-Habitat/Flickr

7.2 Enhancing shared prosperity of cities and regions

City prosperity is not an accident. Panellists participating in the Special Session on Driving Shared Urban Prosperity Through a Cultural Lens agreed that cities that have made a quantum leap towards prosperity have deployed a similar set of ingredients.

Mukhisa Kitui, Secretary-General of United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

A clear vision is key. One created by strong leadership with an understanding of the skills, capacities and imagination of local residents, available resources and assets, comparative advantages, geographic endowments, and the importance of local identity.

Cities that have created prosperity have city development plans guided by a strong cultural approach, noted Jyoti Hosagrahar, UNESCO's Deputy Director of the World Heritage Centre. These cities have been able to integrate cultural values, social capital, tradition, knowledge, and art as transformative tools to preserve regional and local values, protect their heritage, enhance the built environment and safeguard intangible assets.

Culture is recognised as a key driver of shared prosperity and success in an increasing number of cities. There is a strong connection between heritage preservation and prosperity, stressed Martha Delgado, President of the UN-Habitat Assembly and Undersecretary of Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico. Prosperity belongs to the people living in a territory and requires openness and diversity for all age groups, sexual preferences, women and the elderly, she said. In particular, "young people should be provided with the necessary space to see and live the city in a different way."

Virtually all stakeholders agreed that culture is a driver of sustainable development. It contributes to trade, employment, tourism, public finance, and other elements of city economic growth, along with integrated development, education, knowledge, skills, art and climate adaptation actions. Culture is therefore a public asset. Culture's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals can be measured using UNESCO's *Culture|2030 Indicators*, a monitoring framework that supports decision-makers in building a coherent, evidence-based narrative on culture and integrating culture into city development plans and policies.[69]

Participants in the Special Session on Sustainable Urban Development in the Arab/MENA Region asserted that to promote innovative solutions and approaches to urban development it is paramount to build on the values of cultural diversity and improve quality of life. Participants in the Dialogue on Partnership and Initiatives Supporting Culture and Innovation in Cities pointed out that through partnerships and concrete actions supporting culture and innovation, cities can contribute to national economic growth, shared prosperity and poverty reduction.[70] This entails local initiatives for creative industries, smart cities, art, culture, music and theatre, which greatly contribute to employment creation and generation of jobs for young people.[71] (See Box 12).

Resourcefully combined, culture and space can redefine the production of creative goods and services, the notion of place, the importance of history, and the intrinsic value of the local and unique. They can reveal a city's soul by enhancing its social fabric,

1. Participant asking a question © UN-Habitat/Mirza Azeeem
2. Youth participant at WUF10 © UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu
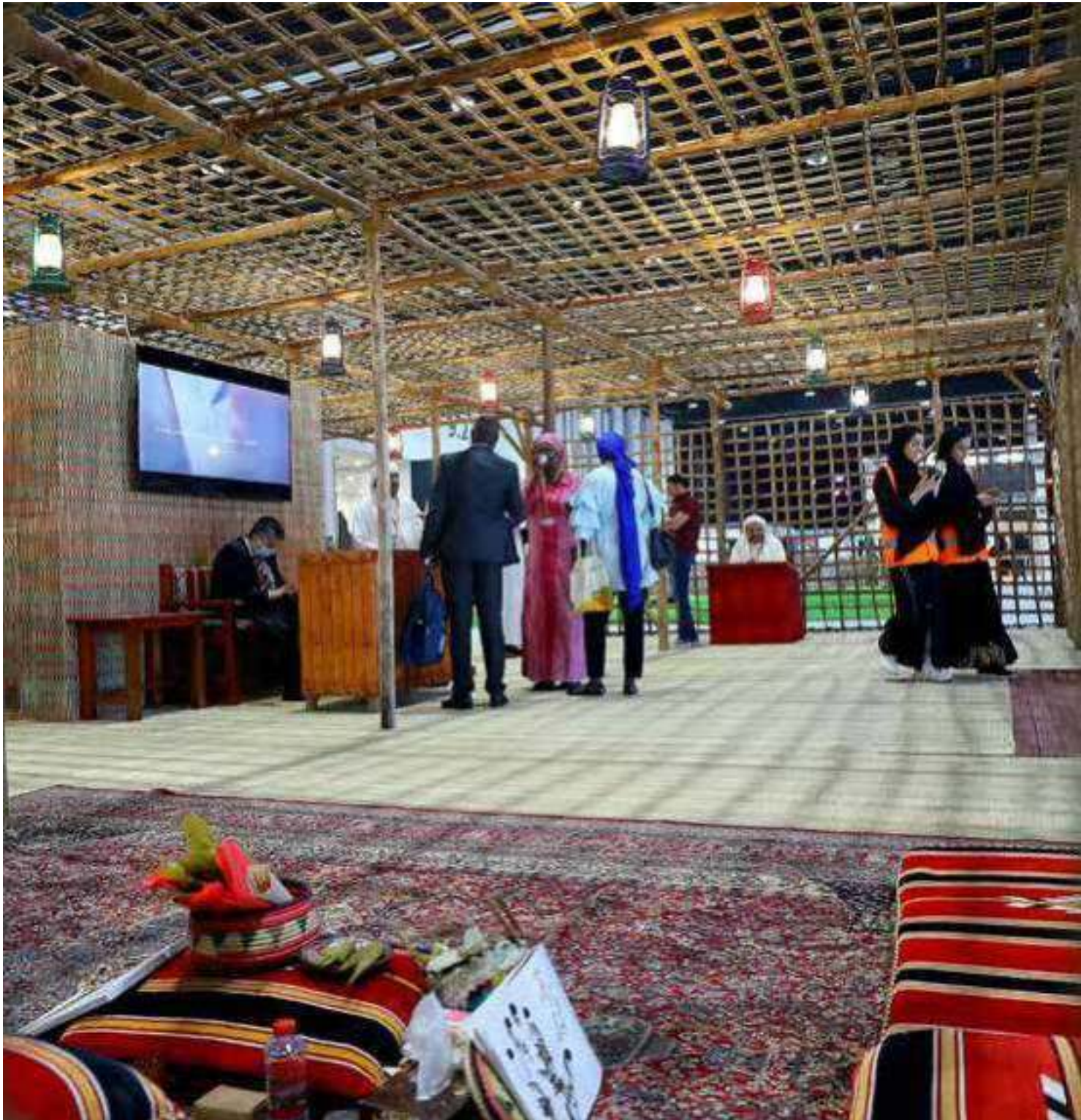
Cultural experience at Urban Expo © UN-Habitat

collective values, creative and intellectual assets and protection of local communities. Together, these contribute to creating vibrancy, a distinct urban personality and the possibility of shared prosperity.[72]

The preservation of cultural heritage plays an important role in creating and enhancing social capital. It has the ability to inspire and promote citizen participation in public life and improve the well-being of individuals and communities. This contributes to the reduction of social inequalities and facilitates social inclusion. Many speakers in the dialogues and roundtables touched upon the important role of communities and traditional authorities as custodians of traditions and local values.[73]

Participants in the Dialogue on Culture also highlighted the need for vibrant streets that allow for spontaneity and a certain level of informality, which contribute to a vital urban culture and the creation of economic opportunities.[74] Nargiza Miralova, Head of Urbanisation and Agglomerations from the Republic of Uzbekistan, argued that territorial planning requires consideration of the vocations and comparative advantages of local communities for their integration within a system that redefines the role of cities and urban centres and the linkages between urban and rural areas, while preserving tangible and intangible heritage.[75]

Eulalia Moreno, General Director of Territory and Urbanism of the Junta de Extremadura, noted that in the context of aging and shrinking populations, as is the case in the autonomous community of Extremadura, in Spain, the use of social cohesion programmes, combined with culture, innovation and community development programmes, is key to retain populations and ensure more geographically balanced development.[76]

7.3 Climate action in cities

Climate change intersects with urban cultural heritage in several ways, at times unexpected and encompassing almost the entire urban fabric. WUF10 provided an opportunity to build knowledge and explore partnerships on the intersections between these two issues.

"Modernity seems to promise that there is no challenge and no obstacle that technology cannot overcome, but … sometimes it is best to take a step back and take wisdom from our roots, history and heritage," said the Prime Minister of Fiji. "We can use our cultures to re-shape climate change."

Restoring historical cultural practices and traditional knowledge and techniques can support climate action in cities and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This includes solutions such as wind catchers, courtyard houses, natural ventilation, and shading and air exchangers that could be adopted in modern architecture and urban planning.

The Dialogue on Implementing the New Urban Agenda to Drive Sustainable Change affirmed that cities are key to mitigating climate change, but a stronger focus on climate adaptation is required to deal with unavoidable climate impacts. In doing so, we should work with nature and not against it, maximizing the contribution of nature-based solutions. In the Special Session on Climate Action in Cities, representatives from the cities of Moscow, Russia, and Quito, Ecuador, stressed the need to implement climate action measures that can achieve co-benefits and support other development objectives such as heritage conservation.

Box 12: **People-focused smart cities**

UN-Habitat's flagship programme on People-Focused Smart Cities aims to make urban digital transformation work for the benefit of all, driving sustainability, inclusivity and prosperity and the realisation of human rights in cities and human settlements.

It is crucial to work with national and local governments on digital transitions, applying a multilevel governance strategy to build skills and capabilities to develop, procure and effectively use digital technologies in an ethical and inclusive way to make sure that no one is left behind. It is critical to ensure that the voices from marginalised groups, including children, youth and older people, women in vulnerable situations and people with disabilities, as well as cities with fewer resources are heard in global platforms. These include platforms such as United for Smart Sustainable Cities, Agile and Open Smart Cities, and the Cities Coalition for Digital Rights.

Finally, significant financing must be mobilised for urban innovation projects that make a direct positive impact on the planet and on people's lives in cities, prioritizing the Global South and communities with less access to resources. Investment objectives should be guided by the achievement of higher social, economic and environmental standards. Several partners, including Mastercard, the Italian Innovation Fund, New York City, UNDP, Smart Dubai and the World Blind Union, expressed support for and interest in working with this flagship programme. Read more about the programme:

https://unhabitat.org/programme/people-focused-smart-cities

Another key message from climate discussions at WUF10 is that climate change financing needs to reorient its attention to resilience and preparedness (See Box 13). The Adaptation Fund focuses on supporting climate resilience with attention to the most vulnerable communities and with strong safeguard measures. The Special Session on Enhanced Resilience of the Built Environment and Infrastructure identified several common challenges and opportunities, including the need to increase development capacity at local government level and focus attention on coordination and integrated approaches.

❝ Ask me what it means to live in a city that is not planned for climate change. Resilience requires urgent action.

Leah Namugerwa
Climate Change Activist, Uganda

Participants at WUF10 © UN-Habitat

Box 13: **RISE-UP: Resilient settlements for the urban poor**

One of the greatest climate challenges today is how to build resilience for the close to one billion urban poor who live in informal urban settlements. Despite all efforts, a large part of the urban reality in the developing world is still defined by informality and absence of essential services and infrastructure. In parallel, the impacts of climate change are increasing, especially in cities, causing damage to homes and infrastructure, and disrupting livelihoods and economies. This is challenging governments to safeguard their citizens.

UN-Habitat's flagship programme RISE-UP aims to improve the social-economic prosperity of urban poor communities by reducing climate disruptions to livelihoods, enhancing service provision and protecting them from the monetary and social costs of climate disasters. Together, we will profile and plan for strengthened resilience in the global urban vulnerability hotspots, providing meaningful frameworks for investments in risk-reducing infrastructure, services and improved systems and capacities. This will help large urban populations adapt and make cities more resilient.

The Prime Minister of Fiji, H.E. Josaia V. Bainimarama, and Deputy Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Victor Kisob launched the RISE-UP programme in unison, expressing the need for urgent action by all levels of government to guide and enable local impact. The launch brought together experts to exchange their experiences in coordinating investments for the urban poor, including Sheela Patel of Slum Dwellers International, Ani Dasgupta from the World Resources Institute, and Bianka Kretschmer from the Adaptation Fund.

Prime Minister Bainimarama urged the international community to include the urban poor in the larger fabric of society. "By doing so, you are fostering a spirit of inclusivity that serves us all," he said. "When we involve those that we seek to help in what we are doing, I believe we can forge the greatest solutions of all. With more and more of the world's citizens living in unsustainable informal settlements and with climate change worsening as global temperatures rise, the need to 'rise up' is clear to address the sustainability of our urban poor."

Mr. Kisob noted, "during my visit in Mozambique, after the cyclone Idai, I saw how it is extremely important to focus our attention on these local adaptation actions. This brings enormous co-benefits in terms of poverty and inequality reduction, improved health, and greater livelihood security. At the local level, people demand positive change and sustainable development."

Cities won't succeed in the "battle against climate change" if the urban poor are not supported and included as active participants, emphasised Ms. Dasgupta.

With a lack of adequate funds as a key challenge, cities need to step up in mobilizing and dedicating resources to these efforts. Adaption remains underfunded with only a fraction of available funds reaching the local level. The Adaptation Fund is responding to this. Since 2010, it has committed USD 720 million to climate adaptation and resilience activities in over 100 projects with the poorest people in the world.

Sustainable development can only be achieved by taking a holistic and integrated approach to the climate crisis. UN-Habitat will join forces with its partners and work towards urban equality, safeguarding the most vulnerable population groups from climate change. Building on lessons we have learned in our slum upgrading and climate programmes, RISE-UP is ready for action. Read more about the programme:

https://unhabitat.org/programme/rise-up-resilient-settlements-for-the-urban-poor

Frank Bainimarama, Prime Minister of Fiji at the launch of UN-Habitat Flagship Prgramme RISE-UP © UN-Habitat/Flickr

Participant at the launching of UN-Habitat Flagship Programme RISE-UP © UN-Habitat/Flickr

Participants at the launch of UN-Habitat Flagship Programme RISE-UP © UN-Habitat

7.4 Urban crisis prevention and response

Culture can be the key factor that prevents urban crises and, when crises do occur, it can also help ensure a sustainable and long-term recovery. Culture can be a means to not just make cities more inclusive, but also to build bridges between new migrants and host communities. Moreover, speakers at WUF10 pointed to the need for the build-back-better approach to leverage local culture to rebuild the social fabric in the wake of a crisis so that it prevents future conflicts.

Participants at the Special Session on Enhanced Resilience of the Built Environment and Infrastructure pointed to the need to scale up learning and exchange of experiences while creating a shared vision for urban resilience solutions. Discussions highlighted the need for technical training to be further scaled up in alignment with policy frameworks to allow the increase of capacity to implement resilience solutions while increasing the mandate of local governments.

The critical importance of social resilience was highlighted during the Special Session on Culture, the Creative Industry and Their Impact on Reconstruction and Resilience as an under-prioritised issue that is not given the required attention, despite its interlinkage with resilient infrastructure. Community

engagement should be integrated into all resilience projects, including those related to large-scale infrastructure. In post-conflict settings, there should be a focus on rebuilding after the crisis to help a society recover and re-establish social contracts.

Notably, discussions highlighted that reconstruction and recovery efforts are still often based on the assumption that the resources on planet Earth are unlimited. The systemic nature of the environment is not sufficiently understood, incorporated and applied as a variable in resilience projects. Different phases from preparedness, response and reconstruction need to take this key aspect into account and bring an environmental culture into resilience.

Recommendations were provided on how culture should be mainstreamed into urban recovery frameworks and resilience building. This can be done by: incorporating both tangible and intangible cultural elements in reconstruction and rehabilitation processes (See Box 18); placing local communities and populations at the centre of all approaches related to reconstruction; centring efforts to change people's mindsets and recover from trauma in reconstruction and rehabilitation efforts; actively involving local authorities, academia, local communities and international expertise to enhance reconstruction efforts and enable actors to protect cultural heritage.

Box 14: Inclusive cities: enhancing the positive impact of urban migration

Most migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons today reside in or move to urban areas, looking for safety, but also livelihood and job opportunities, improved access to education and health and better living conditions in general. When migration occurs in a safe, orderly and regular way, the impacts for cities, but also for migrants and their families in the places of origin, are mostly positive. Rapid and unplanned influx, on the other hand, puts stress on cities' services, housing and employment markets and infrastructure. When forcibly displaced or undocumented migrants find themselves in vulnerable situations.

Even though national-level actors are responsible for most migration policies, local authorities are first in line when it comes to provision of services, housing and shelter. Recent global frameworks, such as the New Urban Agenda, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees, acknowledge the role of local authorities for migrants' inclusion into urban systems. While this is widely understood, many cities lack capacity and resources for upscaling their services or accommodating additional people in a sustainable way, leading to an increase in informality (in the employment and housing sectors), thus either increasing density to an unhealthy level, or advancing unplanned urban sprawl. Due to the increased competition for services, jobs and housing in many cities, xenophobia is on the rise and migrants face social exclusion and discrimination. They struggle to positively contribute to the urban society.

UN-Habitat's flagship programme, Inclusive Cities: Enhancing the Positive Impact of Urban Migration aims to enable cities to harness the opportunities from urban migration by supporting local and national authorities to respond to rapid influxes of people and create inclusive societies in urban areas. The programme draws on UN-Habitat's experiences with sustainable urbanisation, namely urban and territorial planning, housing, land, access to basic services, municipal finance and inclusive governance. It will also link humanitarian actions to urban development strategies, based on the agency's work in urban crisis situations. In line with the recent global frameworks, the flagship programme will promote and apply area-based, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches for advancing the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically SDG 11 and SDG 10. To meet the needs of governments, both in humanitarian and development contexts, the activities will be tailored to the relevant policy environment, migration and displacement challenges, and local capacity.

During WUF10, cities shared their actions for migrants' inclusion, highlighting the lack of data as well as the limitations due to budgets and capacity. In urban crisis situations specifically, the inclusion of migrants, IDPs and refugees into response and recovery strategies was acknowledged to be crucial for increasing social cohesion, reducing inequalities and promoting human rights. The Special Session on Migration brought to light that inclusive policies, participatory processes and strong engagements with stakeholders such as civil society and the private sector can lead to more open societies, while a partner session, which included United Nations agencies such as UNHCR and IOM, underlined UN-Habitat's added value based on its specific knowledge of urban systems.

This flagship programme will be run with partners at global, regional, national and local level as well as United Nations agencies, humanitarian and development partners and key actors for sustainable urbanisation. It will improve urban systems for better accommodating migrants, benefitting both host and migrant communities. Through its participatory data collection and decision-making processes, it will also foster social cohesion, offering spaces for defining joint priorities and implementing solutions that make sure no one and no place are left behind. Read more about the programme:

https://unhabitat.org/programme/inclusive-cities-enhancing-the-positive-impacts-of-urban-migration

7.5 Social inclusion and human rights

Inclusive societies require a culture of diversity, tolerance and solidarity. Cities can be both the receptacle and the vector to feed this culture of change and inclusion. But cities need to be open and ready for their inhabitants to participate actively in decision-making. They need to be imperfect, flexible and unfinished, with the possibility to adjust in a progressive manner through adequate planning approaches that make room for everyone. The culture of openness is fundamental for reducing inequalities and ensuring inclusion, long-term resilience, equitable societies and respect for human rights. It is a necessary precondition to consider planetary boundaries and biological carrying capacities.[77]

Stakeholders in the Special Session on Addressing Inequality highlighted the importance of building a sense of belonging for city dwellers, a local identity and strong community participation. Many stressed that local knowledge should be used to design innovative and sustainable solutions, supported by the collection and use of data on city status that can be critical

for policy formulation. Policies that enable local governments to take actions for strengthening social cohesion and making all people part of an inclusive urban society are paramount for growth and shared prosperity.[78] Culture can be an enabler to address different forms of inequality and exclusion and a way to adopt local and community-based solutions and participatory approaches to find long-term solutions.[79]

Many stakeholders noted that community engagement is an investment of time, resources and tools. True engagement comes from listening to people, making sure they are understood and acknowledging that they really matter. "By excluding people, particularly youth, the society loses creativity, innovation and talent, but if we give youth a chance we will see change," said a participant in the Youth Assembly.

Examples of inclusion in local responses include community resilience funds in Peru, the federation of urban poor in the Philippines and grassroots data and knowledge systems in South Africa. "Only when we co-create, co-produce and co-generate solutions do we really achieve sustainability," said George

Wesonga, Coordinator of the Civil Society Urban Development Platform from Kenya during the Grassroots Assembly.

An inclusive society needs to give all people, including migrants, refugees, IDPs and returnees, the possibility to shape urban development and to be part of the city, living a life in dignity. However, more often than not, policies and local actions are disconnected or not caring for the urban poor, creating social exclusion mechanisms, particularly for those that are already disadvantaged. Yet, as many stakeholders at the Special Session on Migration and the Open City highlighted, migration is a continuous trend that is one of the main reasons for urbanisation. Even though most people move in a regular and orderly manner, climate change, conflict, natural disasters and economic deprivation force many to leave their countries and cities of origin.

Cities can deploy a set of local actions to strengthen social cohesion, ensure higher inclusion, provide services and public goods, and engage in different responses for urban crises that include newcomers. The Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees underline the role of local authorities for local solutions. However, some argue that national policies are not adapted to urban realities and local authorities are not included in migration policy development, though they are the ones enabling inclusion.

Ultimately, cities have a vital role to play in shaping the positive outcomes of migration. As one participant in the Dialogue on Implementing the New Urban Agenda to Drive Sustainable Change put it: "If we get our cities right, we transform the way we live our lives; we can scale climate action, and we can maximise migration as a positive contribution. It gives us the 'how' and will take us a long way towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals." (See Box 14).

Henry Murillo Salazar, Representative, Latin American Network of Persons with Disabilities and their Families © UN-Habitat/Flickr

❝ We are living in a time where we need to strip political reasons not to rebuild previously vibrant spaces. Data will make our lives easier when we think of building or demolishing a place.

H.E. Noura Al Kaabi
Minister of Culture and Knowledge Development, UAE

Box 15: **The right to the city**

Human rights and the right to the city had a significant place at WUF10. A large number of stakeholders, across levels, emphasised the urgent task of deepening the culture of rights. An important entry point to the right to the city is the vision to leave no one behind. This permeates the 2030 Agenda with respect to issues such as climate change, poverty, inequality, gender equality and empowerment of women and girls, and the creation of just and inclusive societies.

Representatives from foundations and philanthropies proposed working more closely with human rights-based approaches to make cities places for dignity and human rights that uphold due process, principles of consent, inclusion and expansion of access to public goods.[80] Speakers at the University Roundtable acknowledged that traditionally curricula are very "dry" and there is a need to reorient efforts to incorporate spatial justice into curricula.

Participants shared examples of where the right to the city is advanced. This is the case, for instance, with the Citizen's Charter in Afghanistan, which empowers local communities to plan, design and implement solutions through mobilisation of institutional and financial resources. The State of Odisha in India has expanded rights to slum dwellers by providing in-situ land rights and creating a statutory fund to build infrastructure in deprived areas. The city of New York mandates citizen review of planning and zoning process to ensure higher accountability.[81]

At different WUF10 engagements, participants reiterated the need to protect and uphold the rights of all people, including minorities, indigenous communities, and people with disabilities. Many stakeholders were adamant that institutional spaces must be not only defended but expanded, particularly for those affected by development injustice. Additionally, they called for those responsible for not respecting these rights to be held accountable for their actions and omissions through the broader ecosystem of human rights in cities.[82]

The Decade of Action is an opportunity to mobilize people around the world, individually and collectively, locally and globally, with a sense of urgency and clear ambitions framed in human rights. However, as some stakeholders pointed out, many still do not know of the existence of the right to the city. In practice, rights in urban settings continue to be ignored. Others commented on the need for concrete human rights policies, practices and commitments at city level as a way to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. As Roberto Rocco, Associate Professor of Spatial Planning at the Delft University of Technology in The Netherlands, stressed, "justice is the way that we guarantee the sustainability of solutions."[83]

7.6 Urban planning and heritage preservation

Rapid unplanned urbanisation coupled with the urge for quick economic transformation continues to result in dilapidated city centres, low-density urban sprawl and the destruction of urban heritage. In the context of inadequate resources and capacities, these challenges are even more pronounced. WUF10 opened a window for new discussions on the role of urban planning where a strategic approach to leveraging local culture and heritage preservation was discussed as an effective tool to build prosperity and drive socio-economic transformation.

"Conservation of cultural heritage, tangible and intangible, is development. However, it has often been challenging to clearly articulate the relation between the two," said UN-Habitat's Executive Director Maimunah Mohd Sharif during the Dialogue on Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation – Regeneration.

Speakers at the same dialogue stressed the role of the private sector in urban regeneration projects. Not even the wealthiest governments can provide sufficient funding to preserve and conserve all heritage, but heritage has the potential to self-generate resources, noted Donovan Rykpema of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS). For urban heritage preservation, a strong business case to attract private sector investment is a prerequisite to ensure sufficient financial resources. Regulation and economic incentives have a role to play in attracting private investors.

Many speakers in the Dialogue highlighted that only an inclusive and strategic engagement with communities will ensure that urban regeneration and heritage projects achieve their commonly agreed goals. Investments into heritage need to not only conserve and respect the heritage objects but also maximise prosperity at all levels of society, they noted, echoing views expressed in several other sessions.

Panellists in the Dialogue on Urbanisation, Culture and Innovation affirmed that streets and open public spaces have consequential influence on life in cities today and will be part of our heritage in future. They are, in themselves, vectors for culture and innovation. Along similar lines, panellists at the Special Session on Culture, the Creative Industry and Their Impact on Reconstruction and Resilience agreed that local culture and heritage are the starting point for people-centred, socio-economic recovery after conflicts and disasters, far beyond the material aspects of the reconstruction process.

Participants at the Special Session on Climate Action reflected on the need to protect urban heritage from flooding and improve energy efficiency of heritage buildings. At the same time, traditional planning and construction techniques have often demonstrated their resilience towards shocks and stresses and ought to be revisited.

1. WUF10 Flagship - RISE-UP (urban poor)
   ©UN-Habitat/Waseem Ali

2. Participants in their traditional outfits
   © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

Many highlighted the role of heritage for youth and future populations. In the Dialogue on Urbanisation, Culture and Innovation, UNESCO's Ernesto Ramirez highlighted that the historical identity and value of heritage has importance for building the cities of the future. In the same respect, the lack of attention to culture as a long-term strategic agenda, given the short tenures of elected officials, will need to be addressed in order to maximize positive outcomes.

The Dialogue on Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation proposed a "golden triangle approach" between cultural heritage conservation, urban regeneration and local economic development, as a key vision to ensure that community engagement, inclusion, and youth and gender are integrated through urban regeneration efforts. The conservation of tangible and intangible heritage can directly improve livelihoods and contribute to sustainable urbanisation when participatory tools and approaches are applied within a strategic planning and financing framework.

Box 16: **SDG Cities**

UN-Habitat's SDG Cities flagship initiative is a bold call to action for cities to accelerate SDG delivery. It follows a systematic methodology that links urban data, 2030 strategic planning, capacity strengthening and impact investment to achieve large-scale impact. With the ambition of impacting 1,000 cities and a billion lives it calls for a partnership ecosystem of UN entities, professionals, academics, international organisations, local government networks, civil society and the finance community to support cities in achieving their SDG ambitions.

At WUF10, cities that share this vision and have already initiated their own efforts to drive SDG achievement had the opportunity to communicate about the programme. Constructive feedback from stakeholders including the investment community, civil society organisations, city leaders, national government and international organisations and local government associations, has informed the programme's further development.

With its partners, UN-Habitat will develop a UN System-wide Urban Monitoring Framework, accessible capacity development tools, a City Investment Facility and SDG Cities Certification. These initiatives will stand as pillars of the programme, to support, guide and motivate cities in their efforts to accelerate the goals. The best solutions are those that are driven in close collaboration with city inhabitants and "owned" by the same. This programme can only be effective through continuous citizen engagement. Cities, partners and networks are encouraged to commit to its co-development and implementation. Read more about the programme:

https://unhabitat.org/programme/sustainable-development-goals-cities

7.7 Governance and the provision of public goods

Effective institutions and governance mechanisms are fundamental for decisions that determine the sustainability of our urban future, and for their implementation and follow-up. Several sessions at WUF10 debated the new governance paradigms required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

At the Local and Regional Governments Roundtable, mayors and ministers addressed the topic of effective multilevel governance and called for international, national and city-level actors, including civil society, to work together for full implementation of the New Urban Agenda to address local needs. The Mayor of Utrecht urged policy makers to "take into account local practices before rolling out policy initiatives." Several speakers referred to the need for different levels of government to build trust and capacity, while sharing and scaling up successful plans and practices.

In the Dialogue on Implementing the New Urban Agenda to Drive Sustainable Change, Mariana Mazzucato, Professor in the Economics of Innovation and Public Value at the University College London, pointed to a wartime-like urgency to transform how the public sector governs different actors involved in urban development. She urged the public and private sectors, other organisations and communities to come together to implement a mission-oriented approach towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. She noted the need for the public sector to shift from fixing market failures to shaping markets and creating hard conditionalities for the private sector geared towards achieving sustainability at all levels. The Special Sessions on Affordable Housing and Land Governance confirmed these realities.

The Dialogue on Frontier Technologies and Innovation for Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilience Smart Cities addressed the issue of data ownership and its implications for power and governance structures. Speakers noted that stronger governance frameworks are needed to ensure that data and technology also benefit those currently left behind, moreover that smart city approaches deliver more equitable outcomes. Participants stressed that digital technologies and data are increasingly becoming a public good that must be governed, regulated and provided in appropriate ways, ensuring that lack of access by the urban poor is addressed.

1. Participants at UN-Habitat Flagship Programme SDG Cities launch
©UN-Habitat/Waseem Ali

2. Participants at SDG Cities Flagship Programme launch
© IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

Launch of UN-Habitat Flagship Programme SDG Cities © UN-Habitat/Flickr

Siraj Sait, Professor and Director, University of East London
© UN-Habitat/Flickr

7.8 Financing sustainable urban development

To achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require significant financial resources. While considerable financing is available, it is difficult for cities in developing countries to access and attract funding and produce bankable and transformative projects.

The discussion at the Special Session on Financing for Sustainable Urban Development highlighted the important need to de-risk investments and build trust between the different actors involved, with close attention to context-specific solutions. This view was echoed across other sessions, such as the Business and Industry Roundtable and Local and Regional Governments Roundtable. Speakers stressed that local governments need to be supported to fully leverage the financing options available to them to fund necessary public investments and create trust to attract private investments. Private sector actors such as the insurance industry are also responsible for fostering this trust.

Speakers at the session noted the need to strengthen project development processes to increase bankability and lower the costs of investment. This entails getting the basics right by, for example, increasing own revenue source at city level, improving the enabling environment, receiving more reliable inter-governmental transfers and fully leveraging existing assets and infrastructure for service provision. The need to avoid a singular focus on capital investment was also stressed as crucial. Sustainability of investments can only be achieved by ensuring resourcing for operational expenses, which should be addressed from the onset, before the capital investment is considered.

Several sessions highlighted the role of multi-stakeholder mechanisms and platforms to advance effective policy and decision-making processes at both national and local level. National Urban Forums (NUFs) were recognised as a necessary component to advance national urban policies, bringing all stakeholders and the intermediate cities and small towns into the process. NUFs can also promote scalable efforts during the Decade of Action, building on international exchanges on how to accelerate achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Several sessions acknowledged the need to deepen the understanding of community engagement and integrate the processes into the formal system. Policy and legislation must mandate and enable human rights-based approaches throughout the planning and implementation process. Only by doing so can true development outcomes be achieved and realised by all citizens.

The Special Session on Affordable Housing affirmed the need for improved coordination among public institutions through a joint strategy to address the huge demand for more equitable housing solutions. Housing policies must connect with all social policies and social infrastructure, which should be embedded in social housing provision. A critical role of government is to provide security of tenure and legal protection against forced evictions.

Beyond bankability, discussions stressed the need to ensure that projects create not only economic prosperity but also the social and environmental sustainability aspects of development. Equally, the Foundations and Philanthropy Roundtable noted the role of philanthropic organisations in ensuring catalytic support and advocacy in areas that are often associated with risk or unclear business models yet have high potential for impact.

The Cities Investment Platform was launched at WUF10 as a mechanism to help prepare bankable and transformative projects (see 8.1).

7.9 Culture and the creative city

Culture and innovation are part of good urban planning and can ensure equitable access to services, transport, education, public space, employment and housing for all, including the most vulnerable. It is people that give life to cities, with the support of other actors. Putting culture and heritage at the centre of political processes will ensure human-centred, inclusive and equitable development outcomes. International migration, for instance, represents opportunities once we embrace similarities that connect cultures instead of focusing on differences. The integration of cultures can enrich both new and host communities of a city and create economic opportunities for all. This can be achieved by enabling a certain degree of spontaneity and informality, which represent the pulse of urban systems, and by ensuring that political and planning processes are inclusive at all stages and for all inhabitants of a city, including those living in informality.

> **The city may collapse, but culture remains. It is in your brain.**
>
> Sergio Roldan, CEO, Grupo Urbano Medellín

Much of the discussion during the Special Session on Culture and the Creative Industry centred around the role of culture in reconstruction and resilience.

> **Culture is the foundation upon which cities are built. Understanding that culture is critical.**
>
> Sameh Wahba, Global Director for the World Bank's Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice.

For example, when looking at the reconstruction of cities such as Mosul, in Iraq, it is culture that has the power to reconstruct and reconcile communities. Cultural expression should be fostered and used to process trauma. Recommendations made by the panel members included mainstreaming culture in urban recovery frameworks and resilience-building processes.

It is also crucial to prioritise culture as early as possible in urban planning processes, so that it reflects community priorities, and to engage communities in every step of the process. This also means addressing short-term needs as well as longer-term plans through sustainable financing mechanisms. Culture should be at the centre when managing reconstruction process, so that a balance can be found between the community's needs and the recovery of a city's larger character.

In the session on Creativity and Culture for Jobs and Inclusive Growth, Penny Abeywardena, New York City's Commissioner for International Affairs, talked about Create NYC, a cultural plan implemented by the city administration. The plan addresses issues like inequality in culture and creativity. For instance, cultural participation is 20 per cent higher among New York City's highest earners than among its lowest earners. Having cultural opportunities for low-income communities is correlated with improved outcomes in education, health, and safety. Thus, the city has committed USD 1.5 million in grants to increase support to the cultural life of low-income communities and underrepresented groups. What is evident from this example is that often creative opportunities and cultural activities are still perceived as luxuries, whereas they should be part of the common good for increased productivity, happiness and health for all citizens. Bridging this gap with targeted activities, as New York City is doing, will make cultural activities and creative industries more accessible to all population groups.

The same session highlighted the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, which brings together 180 cities across seven creative fields – crafts and folk art, design, film, gastronomy, literature, media arts and music. The network is an excellent forum for brainstorming the role of creativity as a driver and an enabler for sustainable urban development, and a platform for action and innovation towards implementing the Sustainable Development Goals at the city level. It has led to professional and artistic exchanges between member cities; increased awareness, studies and research on creative cities; and new pilot activities in the creative fields.

Urbanisation, rehabilitation and culture

In Mogadishu, Somalia, for example, it is the combination of tangible and intangible culture that helps address the challenges and complexity of urban life in a conflict zone. Prior to the collapse of the Somali state, it was a progressive state known to be inclusive of various religions and cultures. Post-conflict challenges include poor governance with social disintegration, which has led to poor basic service provision. Culture is an important reference point for something positive. For instance, monuments have been reinstalled that were destroyed during the civil war, giving a group of young people a look at a cultural identity they have not seen before. This is important for the hearts and minds of youth who have not known peace. Intangible culture is also found in Mogadishu, home to large numbers of IDPs and diaspora. There has been reflection on what unites Somalis and sport has played an important role in bringing people together. "The common elements bring us together, rather than the issues that divide us," said Hodan Ali, Senior Advisor for Mayor of Mogadishu: Humanitarian Affairs and Durable Solutions, Benadir Regional Administration, during the Special Session.

Young participants take a photo during WUF10
© UN-Habitat_Babu Lal

8

Legacy and looking ahead

8.1 WUF10 Abu Dhabi Declared Actions

The Abu Dhabi Declared Actions brought together voluntary actions and commitments by all stakeholder groups in support of the New Urban Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals. The Actions present participants' perspectives on the relationship between culture, innovation, and urban development. The diverse commitments were made at WUF10 by international organizations, national governments, local and regional governments, the private sector, civil society, academia, and other stakeholder groups. The full text of the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions can be found at https://wuf.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020-02/WUF10_final_declared_actions.pdf.

Cities of Opportunities:	Connecting Culture and Innovation

1

We, the participants of the tenth session of the World Urban Forum, represent national, subnational and local governments, international and regional organisations, parliamentarians, civil society, older persons, women, youth, children, persons with disabilities, grassroots groups, indigenous peoples and local communities, professionals, the private sector, foundations and philanthropies, academia, professionals and other relevant stakeholders. Together we gathered in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, to dialogue on the theme "Cities of Opportunities, Connecting Culture and Innovation." Now, at the conclusion of this World Urban Forum we declare our voluntary actions and commitments for the next two years and beyond. We do so in support of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda as an accelerator to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in this Decade of Action.

2

We recognize that an increasingly urbanised world constitutes a transformative force which can be harnessed and steered for more sustainable development. Cities have the opportunity to take the lead to plan and design as well as manage transitions towards inclusion, resilience, sustainability, economic growth and shared prosperity. At the same time, cities are addressing many global challenges including poverty, gender inequalities, human rights violations, unemployment, health emergencies, loss of social cohesion, threat to cultural heritage and cultural diversity, environmental degradation, migration, disaster risk and climate change.

3

We, the participants of WUF 10, are convinced that culture is an integral part of the solution to the challenges of urbanisation and achieving the New Urban Agenda. The urban environment, in turn, has an influence on culture. Culture is a core component of local identity including heritage, creativity and diversity and urbanisation need to be planned, designed and managed to enhance this. Culture is considered by some constituencies as the fourth pillar of sustainable development and must be a stronger strand of global solidarity. Culture and heritage are essential in the context of peoples' empowerment as well as their universal access to services, and ownership of regeneration and social cohesion strategies. Urban heritage—both cultural and natural—is an asset and enables sustainable urban development. Revitalising cities whilst respecting urban heritage allows us to celebrate the past while embracing a sustainable future. It limits the negative impacts of city sprawl while also reducing waste, infrastructure needs and transportation costs. Strategic integrated urban planning provides the tools to ensure the integration of urban heritage, culture, local economic needs, environmental considerations, biodiversity, low carbon development and climate resilience to ensure the creation of sustainable, prosperous, liveable communities. Attention to the urban rural continuum and to nature in cities is essential. Participatory community engagement and innovation are key means to achieve this.

4 ——

We believe that cities are centres of creativity and innovation as well as places with valuable cultural heritage and identity. The culture and creative industries are rapidly expanding sources of employment and economic development in cities and urban areas globally. Innovation and cultural heritage must at the foundation of how urban centres operate, with strong support from national governments, a strengthened role for subnational and local governments and systematic collaboration with civil society. Cities that are well-planned and well-managed, grounded in cultural heritage, have more opportunities for sustainable urban development. Supported by peoplecentred technology, smart city initiatives and fit-for-purpose land governance, culture and innovation become creative drivers for sustainable growth, shared prosperity and inclusive development.

5 ——

We also believe that cities are incubators of social, economic, environmental, political and cultural progress. They are equally the guardians of cultural heritage and identity which must be safeguarded to pass on to future generations. Subnational and local governments play an integral role in enhancing the diversity of urban life, through the adoption of rights-based approaches to cities and, in particular, with the promotion of gender equality and equal access to opportunities for all. They provide solutions for decent work, housing, and transport, the provision of basic cultural services such as libraries, tangible and living heritage, and community centres and adopt inclusive, accessible, and transparent participatory processes.

6 ——

The New Urban Agenda acknowledges the importance of culture, cultural diversity and cultural heritage in all its forms as resources that enrich humankind, making an important contribution to sustainable urbanisation and the development of inclusive safe cities and human settlements, empowering all people to play an active role in development initiatives.

7 ——

We celebrate cultural heritage as a valuable resource to be protected and safeguarded in its diversity of expression and forms. These assets inspire innovation and creativity in cities and human settlements, creating and implementing new knowledge and solutions to improve living conditions for all. We emphasize that women and girls are key agents of transformative change in their cities. Culture offers a perspective on leaving no one and no place behind as it enables women and girls to identify with their heritage and make their voice heard through creative means. Women and girls must have effective and equal ways to participate through cultural expressions as well as innovative and inclusive decision-making.

8 ——

We encourage stronger commitments to safeguarding culture heritage and finding related innovative solutions to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Agreement, the New Urban Agenda and other global frameworks.

9 ——

We recognize the need for an integrated approach to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda by all levels of government and by various stakeholders. This includes enhanced coordination and coherence supported by institutional, social and technological innovations which protect tangible and intangible cultural heritage. This is crucial for the achievement of sustainable urban development and the overall prosperity of cities and human settlements.

10

We also recognize that innovation and advances in science and technology are critical for implementing the NUA, achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and other global development frameworks relevant to sustainable urbanisation.

11

We draw attention to the importance of data and knowledge as a fundamental starting point to understand gaps and needs. We acknowledge the need to critically link data to evidence-based policy formulation, development of action plans and sources of funding. In this regard we welcome the New Urban Agenda monitoring platform, City Prosperity Initiative, and other platforms such as the Culture 2030 indicators. In this respect, the global people-based definition of cities and settlements (Degree of Urbanisation), will be a crucial instrument for collecting comparable data and facilitating harmonised reporting in the implementation of the SDGs.

12

We encourage stakeholders to declare their actions towards strengthening investments and efforts in developing better data platforms to support evidence-based policies and investments and accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

13

We believe that together sustainable urbanisation, culture and innovation are fundamental in supporting the Decade of Action. We aim to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals which call for sustainable and inclusive solutions to all the world's biggest challenges. Cities represent an entry point for all 17 SDGs and create a window of opportunity for sustainable urban development. Service provision, density and economies of scale are factors that bind all development goals together.

14

We encourage all development actors gathered in Abu Dhabi to mobilize their respective capacities in this Decade of Action. We will continue to call for actions and mobilisation and track progress through a monitoring and reporting mechanism. At the global level, this requires strong leadership, more resources and smarter solutions. At the local level, this includes shifts in policy, budget, institutions, and regulatory frameworks to make cities safe, resilient and sustainable, grounded in cultural heritage and creative practice. At the people level, we call for a movement of youth, civil society, media, private sector, academia and others to advocate for social and economic transformations. We want to raise awareness of all stakeholders: the cities we build today are tomorrow's heritage.

15

We thank the Government of the United Arab Emirates and the City of Abu Dhabi, and UNHabitat for convening the Forum. And we commit to providing continuous cooperation to the next hosts, the Government of Poland and the City of Katowice.

Abu Dhabi, 13 February 2020

The World Urban Forum is committed to continuous integrated knowledge exchange and incubation of scalable initiatives in the pursuit of sustainable urbanisation. To demonstrate this commitment, various WUF10 Legacy Projects were initiated in Abu Dhabi. These will contribute to accelerated actions in the Decade of Action, particularly achievement of SDG Target 17.6 - knowledge sharing and cooperation for access to science, technology and innovation. The legacy initiatives will be implemented during the inter-session period with a report back on their progress during the Eleventh Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF11).

8.2 Legacy projects for urban investment

Cities Investment Platform

The Cities Investment Platform (CIP) brought together cities and investors, fostered new partnerships and provided support towards making sustainable urbanisation investment-worthy. In this session, city leaders pitched projects to panels of investors who offered feedback on the projects' investment readiness.

Figure 7: Cities Investment Platform project submissions

Category	Percentage
Affordable housing	14%
Urban infil & public space	17%
Transport & mobility	14%
Roads & bridges	9%
Slum upgrading	10%
Waste management	16%
Water & sanitation	13%
Energy	7%
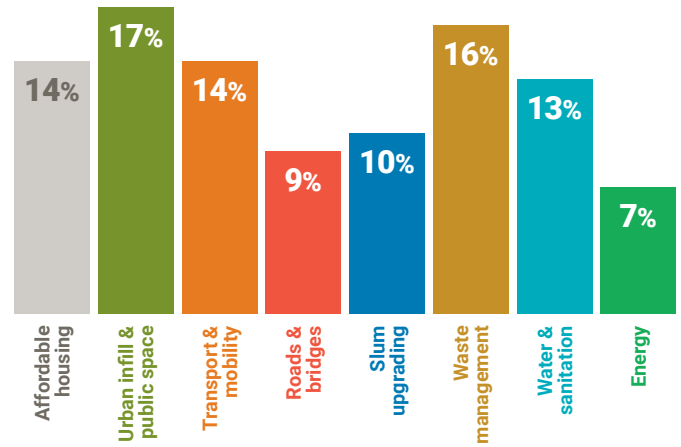
HRH Princess Lamia Bint Majed Al Saud appointed as the First UN-Habitat Goodwill Ambassador for the Arab Region © UN-Habitat

Participants and financiers at the Cities Investment Platform © Think City

In the lead-up to the CIP at WUF10, UN-Habitat issued an open call for urban development projects with the aim of presenting them during the "Pitching Session" at the Cities Investment Platform event. Cities and development authorities were invited to submit projects that had a clear opportunity for commercial investments to finance part of the project in a blended finance approach.

UN-Habitat, partnering with Abu Dhabi Global Market and Global Development Incubator, selected a shortlist of projects, and subsequently worked together with applicants to prepare their projects for presentation and pitching. Projects needed to be developed to a calibre both appealing to investors and with relevant information for financial terms to be discussed, while ensuring a focus on the Sustainable Development Goals. Following input from experts at the Global Development Incubator, shortlisted applicants pitched nine projects to a range of investors who offered frank feedback on each. In many cases, further conversations were had between investors in the audience, those on the judging panel, and the city leaders who pitched their projects. A number of these conversations resulted in deals and further collaborations.

The CIP will continue to exist as an event at future WUFs. With the unprecedented demand for a pipeline of projects, the CIP will draw more projects and investors, and aims to become the global flagship investor showcase event for municipal urban development projects.

Figure 8: Cities Investment Platform breakdown of attendees

City leaders: 16%
Investors: 20%
Financiers: 13%
Project promoters: 20%
Technical experts: 31%
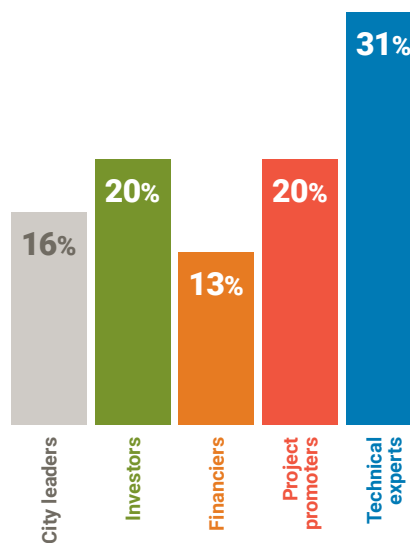
Building on the Cities Investment Platform: the Cities Investment Facility

The CIP event at WUF10 was the "proof of concept" for a new initiative being piloted at UN-Habitat, the Cities Investment Facility (CIF). CIF enables the flow of capital into urban impact projects by supporting the process of ideation, design, and financing through a series of instruments that engage city authorities, investors and other stakeholders. The programme complements the United Nations system-wide shift from a model of funding projects to longer-term financing of strategic initiatives that leverage commercial and institutional capital towards causes for the public good.

The CIF builds on the SDG Cities Global Initiative (See Box 16) and is a next step to the CIP. The launch session demonstrated the CIF's three systems that are being developed to take investable projects from ideation to realisation. The session featured: a demonstration of the Cities Investment Portal, developed by UN-Habitat partner, Think City; the Cities Investment Advisory Platform, by partner Global Development Incubator; and the blended finance possibilities of the Cities Investment Vehicle, by Impact Valley. The session also showcased a successful model for the CIF, where with the support of United World Infrastructure, UN-Habitat can shift a major housing project from plan to investor realisation.

The CIF connects innovators in city development projects and innovative financiers by convening support from businesses, multilateral agencies, and development finance institutions across levels. CIF is innovating in the delivery of financing to municipal development projects. By convening this commercial capital, through blended finance, the facility helps cities progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Data plays an inherent role in the CIF - from being used to identify projects with potential to impact on SDG achievement, to quantifying the SDG value of projects and reporting on the impact of investments on the SDGs.

CIF helps UN-Habitat ensure the end-to-end delivery of actionable support to cities. Moving towards blended financing, through the CIF as an upstream project preparation facility, we unlock billions of dollars of commercial capital to finance sustainable urban development projects. With a diversified advisory platform for countries, cities and investors, CIF helps cities respond to investor needs and close the gap between sustainable urban development projects and investors. With the support of UN-Habitat flagships such as the SDG Cities Global Initiative, CIF will add to a growing set of tools with a relevant value proposition towards sustainable urbanisation offered to member states. It will also provide improved in-roads towards UN-Habitat's direct connections with local, municipal and regional authorities.

1. Christine Musisi, Resident Representative, UNDP Tanzania at the Cities Investment Platform © Think City
2. Pitching Session by Hyderabad City, India, at the Cities Investment Platform © Think City

1. Participants and financiers at the Cities Investment Platform © Think City
2. Pitching Session by Pune City, India, at the Cities Investment Platform © Think City
3. Pitching Session by Penang City, Malaysia, at the Cities Investment Platform © Think City

8.3 WUF Alumni

The WUF has grown progressively since its first session in 2002 at UN-Habitat's headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, with just over 1,000 participants, to become the world's premier meeting on sustainable urbanisation. To celebrate the Forum's history and support its ability to have a lasting impact, UN-Habitat launched the WUF Alumni Network at WUF10.

The Network brings together previous host cities (Nairobi, 2002; Barcelona, 2004; Vancouver, 2006; Nanjing, 2008; Rio, 2010; Naples, 2012; Medellin, 2014; Kuala Lumpur, 2018) to promote cross-learning and sharing of best practices. The Alumni Network will work with UN-Habitat to support future host cities on how to best identify, plan, activate and measure the impact of WUF legacy projects and offer practical guidance on organizing a successful WUF.

UN-Habitat is also keen to make legacy initiatives a key deliverable of WUF. The broader goal is to move beyond reporting on WUF attendance numbers and session outcomes, which are important, and identify and activate legacy projects that fortify the impact of WUF in host cities and transform their communities long-term. The network will also promote among its members the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and urban-related Sustainable Development Goals, support monitoring of implementation of WUF Declarations, and showcase how the commitments and follow-up actions are translated into actions. To do this, the Network will work closely with the WUF Advisory Group to establish a follow-up and monitoring framework for WUF Declarations.

Along with the launch of the network there was an Alumni Exhibition, with descriptions of previous WUFs, and a three-dimensional map of the WUF locations, as well as video footage.

WUF Alumni exhibition at WUF10, Abu Dhabi 2020
© Maiken Thonke

1, 2. **WUF Alumni exhibition at WUF10, Abu Dhabi 2020**
© Maiken Thonke

8.4 WUF living legacy: kick-off of tree planting week in the UAE

As part of the WUF legacy initiatives, WUF10 featured a tree planting ceremony at Abu Dhabi's Old Airport Park on 12 February. This was organised by the UAE Ministry of Climate Change and Environment, in partnership with UN-Habitat and the Abu Dhabi Department of Municipalities and Transport.

Dignitaries at the event planted roughly 400 seedlings of the evergreen Ghaf tree. The Ghaf tree was declared the national tree of the UAE in 2008 because of its great cultural and traditional significance. There is a popular saying in the Arab world that "death will not visit a man, even at the time of famine, if he has a Ghaf tree, a goat and a camel, since the three together will sustain him under the most trying conditions."[84]

The tree-planting event coincided with the UAE Planting Week, an annual initiative spearheaded by the Ministry of Climate Change and Environment to increase the country's green cover and tackle climate change through offsetting emissions. In 2020, the Ministry aims to plant 500,000 trees, a remarkable increase above the 150,000 trees planted in 2019.

This living legacy of tree planting is a fitting way to enhance the legacy of WUF10, which is all about creating a better future in our cities. Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi, UAE's Minister of Climate Change and Environment; UN-Habitat's Executive Director, Maimunah Mohd Sharif; and President of the UN-Habitat Assembly, Martha Delgado, attended the event and each planted a tree, along with Forum participants, high-level representatives of municipal entities and diplomatic missions across the UAE.

> **❝ We are pleased to take part in this event, alongside the Department of Municipalities and Transport and UN-Habitat. We are all resolved to acting for the environment and leaving behind a green legacy for future generations.**
>
> **Dr. Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi,**
> **UAE's Minister of Climate Change and Environment**

Delegates gathered for Tree Planting Ceremony at Abu Dhabi's Old Airport Park
© UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

1,2.   Delegates gathered for Tree Planting Ceremony at Abu Dhabi's Old Airport Park
© UN-Habitat/Julius Mwelu

8.5 Public art for Abu Dhabi

To celebrate WUF10 and its core themes, which are in line with the goals of the city's For Abu Dhabi initiative, Abu Dhabi unveiled the public art piece, *Forever Bicycles* at WUF10. Produced in 2012 by arguably China's most well known modern artist Ai Weiwei, the piece is comprised of 720 stainless steel bicycles. Presented along the Corniche in Abu Dhabi, it symbolises the city's commitment to building more than 400 kilometres of safe segregated cycle tracks, currently under construction or in the design phase.

Creative use of public space and art has the potential to draw communities together and create safe and comfortable areas for them to interact. This legacy event was an opportunity to showcase innovative thinking with a focus on urban mobility. This is part of what UN-Habitat aims to achieve with WUF and the legacy will benefit the people of Abu Dhabi.

WUF10 Living legacy - Public Art for Abu Dhabi
© UN-Habitat Babu Lal

1, 2, 3. WUF10 Living legacy - Public Art for Abu Dhabi
© UN-Habitat Babu Lal

8.6 Next steps

Informing the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan 2020-2023

Over the last nine sessions, the World Urban Forum has evolved into a unique global forum where urban actors meet member states; it is also an opportunity to highlight innovative urban solutions to the challenges faced by city managers and the communities they serve. WUF is not only a one-week conference but a two-year campaign. For UN-Habitat, WUF is a means to equip urban actors with technical and substantive inputs. It provides the agency with an opportunity to highlight the UN-Habitat Strategic Plan and showcase urban solutions as they are implemented throughout the world in partnership with member states, the private sector, local governments and stakeholder groups

UN-Habitat's Strategic Plan has a four-year implementation schedule. It was launched in 2020 and will end in 2023. Given this timing, the WUF provides an excellent platform to advocate for the Strategic Plan in 2020 and marks a midpoint for review in 2022. The WUF is therefore more than a singular event. It provides an opportunity for continuous learning across its biennial cycle, making it a tool to accelerate implementation of the New Urban Agenda and help member states in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

Since its first session, the WUF has significantly improved its results-oriented approach by identifying clearly focused objectives and measurable indicators of success. This is complemented by designing conducive event formats and strengthening the reporting mechanisms to collect the Forum's substantive outcomes as summarised in this report.

Promoting follow-through on the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions

At WUF10, partners and stakeholders agreed on the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions and took part in the launch of UN-Habitat's implementation of the Decade of Action. At the Forum's closing, partners declared their voluntary actions and commitments for the next two years and beyond. These are commitments that partners will implement and report on in the inter-sessional period before WUF11, which will be held in Katowice, Poland, in 2022. These voluntary actions are even more relevant as the world begins to recover from COVID-19 and cities embark on "building back better."

As this report highlights, culture is an integral part of the solution to the challenges of urbanisation and provides an important dimension to the New Urban Agenda. At the same time, the urban environment also shapes culture, giving it a dynamic quality. Culture is a core component of local identity including heritage, creativity and diversity. This means that urbanisation needs to

be planned, designed and managed to enhance cultural aspects. Cities are also centres of creativity and innovation. The cultural and creative industries are rapidly expanding sources of employment and economic development in cities and urban areas globally.

Recognizing that innovation and advances in science and technology are critical, during WUF10 partners were encouraged to declare their actions towards strengthening investments and efforts for developing better data platforms to support implementation of the New Urban Agenda, Sustainable Development Goals, and other global development frameworks relevant to sustainable urbanisation. One of the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions is the development of an online platform to facilitate reporting on the Actions. Sustainable urbanisation, culture and innovation are fundamental in supporting the Decade of Action.

SDG 11, the "urban goal," has linkages with many of the Sustainable Development Goals and is key for the delivery of safe, sustainable and inclusive development. With the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions, WUF10 addressed some of the "what, how and when" components needed to achieve SDG 11. At the same time, WUF10 was a platform to convene and convey the most urgent messages from the most vulnerable communities - those who are most negatively impacted by rapid urbanisation and the climate emergency. It is not enough, however, that the WUF provides a platform to shine a light on the plight of these communities. Follow-up action is required. Therefore, in the coming two years, mechanisms will be put in place to ensure that these committed actions are turned into reality on the ground so that we can deliver the most positive impact to the communities that need it most.

All partners and stakeholders with an interest in sustainable urbanisation are encouraged to mobilize within their respective capacities to implement and report on the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions as a means to accelerate delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Decade of Action. The World Urban Forum will continue to call for actions and track progress through a monitoring and reporting mechanism with the support of partners. At the global level, this requires strong leadership, more resources and smarter solutions. At the local level, this includes shifts in policy, budget, institutions, and regulatory frameworks to make cities safe, resilient, sustainable and grounded in cultural heritage and creative practices. The Forum will also continue supporting a movement of youth, civil society, media, private sector, academia and others to advocate for social and economic transformations and to raise awareness among all stakeholders in the run up to WUF11 in Katowice.

Read more about the Abu Dhabi Declared Actions (See 8.1)**:** https://wuf.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020-02/WUF10_final_declared_actions.pdf

Call for expressions of interest: hosting of the Twelfth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF12) in 2024

WUF12 will mobilise further action on sustainable urban development and build upon the diverse commitments from partners and stakeholders to accelerating implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in the Decade of Action.

Cities wishing to host WUF12 are invited to submit an Expression of Interest to UN-Habitat by **30 November 2020**.

Expressions of interest should be emailed to UN-Habitat's WUF Coordination Office as an official communication (on letterhead with signature) and addressed to UN-Habitat Executive Director Maimunah Mohd Sharif. Email: unhabitat-wuf12bid@un.org.

Expressions of interest will be followed by a bidding questionnaire and subsequent invitation to submit bidding proposals.

Further details about the process and call for expressions of interest can be found at: https://unhabitat.org/un-habitat-extends-the-deadline-for-applications-to-host-the-world-urban-forum-in-2024.

The city selected to host WUF12 will be announced on World Habitat Day in October 2021.

For further enquiries contact the UN-Habitat World Urban Forum Coordination Office: unhabitat-wuf@un.org.

Katowice, Poland, where WUF11 will be held in 2022
© Pixabay/karola405

1. Participants preparing for WUF10 concert at the venue © UN-Habitat/Babu Lal
© UN-Habitat/Mirza Azeeem

2. Participants having a good time during WUF10 concert at the venue © UN-Habitat/Babu Lal
© UN-Habitat/Mirza Azeeem

1. An entertainer keeping the participants busy during WUF10 concert at the venue
   © UN-Habitat/Babu Lal

2. Participants having a good time during WUF10 concert at the venue
   © UN-Habitat/Babu Lal

1. UN-Habitat Executive Director Maimunah Mohd Sharif having a word with United Nations security personnel during WUF10 © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz
2. Happy participants pose for a photo during WUF10 © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

1. WUF10 participants pose for a photo with UN-Habitat Executive Director Maimunah Mohd Sharif © UN-Habitat

2. H.E. Mohamed Al Khadar Al Ahmed and UN-Habitat Executive Director Maimunah Mohd Sharif pose for a photo with participants during WUF10 © IISD/ENB | Natalia Mroz

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Annexes

Annex I: WUF10 Advisory Group

		Designation and Organisation
	WUF10 Chair	
1.	Mr. Falah Al Ahbabi	Chairman, Department of Municipalities and Transport, Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates
	WUF10 Co-Chair	
2.	Ms. Martha Delgado Peralta	President of the UN-Habitat Assembly
	Local and Regional Governments	
3.	Mr. Jordi Pascual	Coordinator Culture UCLG
4.	Ms. Kobie Brand	Regional Director of ICLEI Africa
5.	Mr. Puven Akkiah	Senior Manager of the Office of Strategy Management at eThekwini Municipality
	Stakeholders	
6.	Mr. Bert Smolders	Arcadis
7.	Mr. Hannes Lagrelius	World Blind Union
8.	Ms. Leah Namugerwa	Student/Fridays for Future
9.	Ms. Lana Finikin	Huairou Commission
10.	Mr. Siraj Sait	Noon Centre, University of East London
11.	Ms. Dyan Currie	Brisbane City Council
12.	Ms. Abeer Sajwani	Host Country Local Organizing Committee
13.	Mr. Gregory Baeker	Culture Planning & Development Department, Department of Municipalities and Transport, Government of Abu Dhabi
	Member States	
14.	Mr. William Lehmberg	Permanent Representative of United States of America to UN-Habitat
15.	Mr. Beyene Russom	Permanent Representative State of Eritrea to Kenya, Chair of Committee of Permanent Representatives UN-Habitat
16.	Ms. Małgorzata Jarosińska-Jedynak	Minister, Ministry for Funds and Regional Policy, Republic of Poland
	Alternate:	
	Mr. Marek Rohr-Garztecki	Permanent Representative of the Republic of Poland to UN-Habitat and UNEP, Mission in Nairobi
	United Nations	
17.	Ms. Mami Mizutori	Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction - UNDRR
18.	Mr. Haoliang Xu	Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau of Policy and Programme Support, UNDP
19.	Mr. Karim Hendili	Head of the Culture Unit, Regional Office in Rabat, UNESCO
	Intergovernmental Organisation	
20.	Ms. Wallis Goelen	European Union

Annex II: WUF10 list of countries

	Country
1	Afghanistan*
2	Albania
3	Algeria
4	Angola*
5	Argentina
6	Armenia
7	Australia
8	Austria
9	Azerbaijan
10	Bahrain
11	Bangladesh*
12	Barbados
13	Belarus
14	Belgium
15	Benin*
16	Bhutan*
17	Bolivia (Plurinational State of)
18	Bosnia and Herzegovina
19	Botswana
20	Brazil
21	Brunei Darussalam
22	Bulgaria
23	Burkina Faso*
24	Burundi*
25	Cambodia*
26	Cameroon
27	Canada
28	Central African Republic*
29	Chad*
30	Chile
31	China
32	Colombia
33	Comoros*
34	Congo
35	Costa Rica
36	Côte D'Ivoire
37	Croatia
38	Cuba
39	Cyprus
40	Czech Republic

	Country
41	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
42	Democratic Republic of the Congo*
43	Denmark
44	Djibouti*
45	Dominica
46	Dominican Republic
47	Ecuador
48	Egypt
49	El Salvador
50	Eritrea*
51	Estonia
52	Eswatini
53	Ethiopia*
54	Fiji
55	Finland
56	France
57	Gabon
58	Gambia (Republic of The)*
59	Georgia
60	Germany
61	Ghana
62	Greece
63	Grenada
64	Guatemala
65	Guinea Bissau*
66	Guinea*
67	Honduras
68	Hungary
69	India
70	Indonesia
71	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
72	Iraq
73	Ireland
74	Israel
75	Italy
76	Jamaica
77	Japan
78	Jordan
79	Kazakhstan
80	Kenya
81	Kiribati*
82	Kuwait
83	Kyrgyzstan

	Country
84	Lao People's Democratic Republic*
85	Latvia
86	Lebanon
87	Lesotho*
88	Liberia*
89	Libya
90	Lithuania
91	Luxembourg
92	Madagascar*
93	Malawi*
94	Malaysia
95	Maldives
96	Mali*
97	Malta
98	Mauritania*
99	Mauritius
100	Mexico
101	Monaco
102	Mongolia
103	Montenegro
104	Morocco
105	Mozambique*
106	Myanmar*
107	Namibia
108	Nepal*
109	Netherlands
110	New Zealand
111	Niger*
112	Nigeria
113	North Macedonia (Republic of)
114	Norway
115	Oman
116	Pakistan
117	Palestine, State of (Observer)
118	Panama
119	Papua New Guinea
120	Paraguay
121	Peru
122	Philippines
123	Poland
124	Portugal
125	Qatar
126	Republic of Korea

	Country
127	Republic of Moldova
128	Romania
129	Russian Federation
130	Rwanda*
131	Saudi Arabia
132	Senegal*
133	Serbia
134	Seychelles
135	Sierra Leone*
136	Singapore
137	Slovakia
138	Slovenia
139	Solomon Islands*
140	Somalia*
141	South Africa

	Country
142	South Sudan*
143	Spain
144	Sri Lanka
145	Sudan*
146	Sweden
147	Switzerland
148	Syrian Arab Republic
149	Tajikistan
150	Thailand
151	Togo*
152	Trinidad and Tobago
153	Tunisia
154	Turkey
155	Turkmenistan
156	Tuvalu*

	Country
157	Uganda*
158	Ukraine
159	United Arab Emirates
160	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
161	United Republic of Tanzania*
162	United States of America
163	Uruguay
164	Uzbekistan
165	Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of
166	Viet Nam
167	Yemen*
168	Zambia*
169	Zimbabwe
TOTAL	**13,333 Attendees**

*Note: *43 Least Developed Countries*

Annex III: WUF10 list of exhibitors

	Organization Name	Country
1	Academy of Real Estate	Russian Federation
2	AECON	United Arab Emirates
3	AESOP Association of European Schools of Planning	Belgium
4	Al Qudra Holding	United Arab Emirates
5	Asia Pacific Urban Designers	Indonesia
6	Asian Landscape Architecture Society	China
7	ATEPA GROUP – DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
8	Bamboofix	Switzerland
9	Beijing Baogui Stone Art Technology Co., Ltd	China
10	Block Solutions Oy	Finland
11	Brussels International	Belgium
12	Busworld Academy	Belgium
13	CEMAS (Centro Mundial Para La Alimentacion Urbana Sostenible)	Spain
14	Chinese Society for Sustainable Development	China
15	City Space Architecture	Italy
16	COAMSS/OPAMSS (Consejo De Alcades Y Oficina De Planificacion Del Area Metropolitana De San Salvador)	El Salvador
17	Compass Housing Services	Australia
18	Dar Al Uloom University	Saudi Arabia
19	Delft University of Technology	Netherlands
20	Department of Culture and Tourism	United Arab Emirates
21	Department of Municipalities and Transport	United Arab Emirates
22	Deusto Cities Lab (University of Deusto)	Spain
23	Dubai Municipality	United Arab Emirates
24	ECoH Holdings Limited	Kenya
25	Emirates Foundation	United Arab Emirates
26	Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD)	United Arab Emirates
27	Erhan Reklam Ve Matbaacilik	Turkey
28	ESRI	United Arab Emirates
29	European Commission - Joint Research Centre	Italy
30	Faris Group	United Arab Emirates
31	Fondation Botnar	Switzerland
32	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)	Italy
33	France	France
34	Ghadan21	United Arab Emirates
35	Global Planning Education Association Network	United States of America

	Organization Name	Country
36	Government of Catalonia	Spain
37	Government of Ghana	Ghana
38	Grove Landscaping	United Arab Emirates
39	Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation	China
40	Habitat for Humanity	Slovakia
41	Heriot-Watt University	United Arab Emirates
42	Heritage Strategies International	United States of America
43	Humanitarian Openstreetmap Team (HOT)	United States of America
44	ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability Europe	Germany
45	IFRC/American Red Cross	Switzerland
46	iMMAP	Jordan
47	Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam	Netherlands
48	Institution of New Economic Development	China
49	Interfusion Services Limited	Cyprus
50	International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP)	Netherlands
51	International Tunnelling and Underground Space Association	Switzerland
52	Japan Habitat Association	Japan
53	JPI Urban Europe	Sweden
54	Korea Land and Housing Corporation	Republic of Korea
55	Korean National Committee for UN-Habitat / Nano Medics Inc.	Republic of Korea
56	Lagos State Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development	Nigeria
57	Lincoln Institute of Land & Policy	United States of America
58	Malaysia Pavilion	Malaysia
59	Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation at the University of Chicago	United States of America
60	Marmara Municipalities	Turkey
61	Masdar	United Arab Emirates
62	Ministry of Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation	Russian Federation
63	Ministry of Development Funds and Regional Policy	Poland
64	Ministry of Housing, Saudi	Saudi Arabia
65	Ministry of Housing, Utilities & Urban Communities	Egypt
66	Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation, National Council for Physical Development	Sudan
67	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport, and Tourism	Japan
68	Ministry of Lands, Housing & Urban Development, Uganda	Uganda
69	Ministry of lands, Housing and Urban Development	Malawi
70	Ministry of Town Planning, Housing and Social Housing, Government of Mali	Mali
71	Ministry of Urban Planning, Morocco	Morocco
72	Ministry of Urbanism, Housing and Public Hygiene	Senegal

	Organization Name	Country
73	Montclair State University	United States of America
74	Moscow City Government	Russian Federation
75	Municipality of Kazan	Russian Federation
76	Musanada	United Arab Emirates
77	National Fund for Housing & Reconstruction	Sudan
78	National Housing Authority	Bangladesh
79	National institute of housing, Government of Angola	Angola
80	National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India	India
81	Nepal Engineering college	Nepal
82	Next City	United States of America
83	Notre Dame University	Lebanon
84	NTNU Norwegian University of Science and Technology	Norway
85	OECD Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC)	France
86	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD)	France
87	Planet Smart City	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
88	Reall	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
89	Republic of Botswana	Botswana
90	Republic of South Africa	South Africa
91	RMIT University	Australia
92	Royal Commission for AlUla	Saudi Arabia
93	Royal Commission for Riyadh City	Saudi Arabia
94	Rwanda Green Fund, FONERWA	Rwanda
95	Saga Asuka Technology	Malaysia
96	School of City and Regional Planning, Georgia Institute of Technology	United States of America
97	Sejong City/External Cooperation Division	Republic of Korea
98	Semarang Municipality	Indonesia
99	Seoul Metropolitan Government	Republic of Korea
100	Shanghai Coordination Center for World Cities Day	China
101	SIGUS Group, school of architecture and planning	United States of America
102	SKL International (affiliated to Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions)	Sweden
103	Songyang County People's Government	China
104	State Department of Housing and Urban Development	Kenya
105	Technical Meeting Area (GIZ)	Germany
106	Thane Smart City Limited	India
107	The Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Housing of the Government of Spain	Spain
108	The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU.	Sweden

	Organization Name	Country
109	The University of Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning	Australia
110	The World Bank	United States of America
111	Think City Sdn Bhd	Malaysia
112	Tsingrun International Architecture Design Ltd.	China
113	UCLG World Secretariat Barcelona	Spain
114	UN-Habitat	Kenya
115	United Cities and Local Governments of Africa	Ghana
116	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	United States of America
117	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Kenya
118	Universidad Piloto de Colombia	Colombia
119	Universidad Privada del Norte	Peru
120	Universities of Lincoln (UK) and Auckland (NZ	New Zealand
121	University of Papua New Guinea	Papua New Guinea
122	University of Pennsylvania	United States of America
123	University of Sharjah	United Arab Emirates
124	Urban Development Directorate (UDD) & Ministry of Housing and Public Works (MOHPW)	Bangladesh
125	Urban Expansion Observatory	India
126	Urbid	Bulgaria
127	Villiger Entsorgungssysteme AG	Switzerland
128	World Habitat	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
129	World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WEGO)	Republic of Korea
130	Zhongdi Design	China

Annex IV: List of all events hosted by partners with the lead organization

Events hosted by partners include Networking events, Side events, Training events, Voices from Cities, One UN Room, SDG in Action and Urban Library.

Networking Events

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
1	African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town	Academia/Research	South Africa	Africa	Cities of integrity – innovative approaches to tackling corruption and cultivating a culture of integrity, trust and openness in urban development
2	Dreamtown	Civil Society Organization	Denmark	Europe	Public space interventions in urban slums: A catalyst for the well-being of young people
3	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)	National Government	Germany	Europe	Building the future urban world – construction materials as the link between tradition and innovation
4	Healthbridge Foundation of Canada	Foundation	Canada	North America	Launching a Market Cities Network: Linking government, market leaders and NGOs to preserve food cultures, traditions, and economies
5	European Parliament and Directorate General for International Cooperation and Development of the European Commission	Inter-Governmental Organization	Belgium	Europe	Innovative urban finance instruments – creating effective links to planning and policy
6	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Stakeholder Engagement Mechanisms for Sustainable Development
7	AECOM and Global Resilient Cities Network	Private Sector / Civil Society Organization	United Kingdom	Europe	Climate Emergency Declarations: Implications and Next Steps
8	COLAB	Private Sector	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Technology and Citizen Engagement: Using innovative mobile phone technology in monitoring the SDG11 in cities
9	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction	United Nations	Global	Global	Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030)
10	Department of Urban and Housing Development, Ministry of Construction	National Government	Myanmar	Asia	Implementing national urban policy in Myanmar in the context of rapid urbanisation: country experiences and lessons
11	International Research Group on Law and Urban Space; School of Law, University of the Witwatersrand	Academia/Research	South Africa	Africa	Achieving spatial equity through human rights and rule of law
12	Ministry of Municipalities and Rural Affairs	National Government	Saudi Arabia		Future Saudi Cities Urban Lab – urban innovations for a new vision of Saudi Cities
13	Metropolitan and Territorial Planning Agencies Global Network (MTPA), ISOCARP (International Society of City and Regional Planners) and METROPOLIS	Inter-Governmental Organization / Civil Society Organization / Private Sector	France / Netherlands / Columbia	Europe / Latin America and the Caribbean	BEYOND THE METROPOLIS: Inspiring and innovative initiatives to strength territorial management in worldwide metropolises and regions
14	UK Urban Ecology Forum And University of Pennsylvania Institute for Urban Research	Civil Society Organization and Academia/Research	United Kingdom / United States of America	Europe / North America	Joining Forces: Planning, Managing, and Financing City-Climate Resilient Infrastructure Grounded in Nature-Based Solutions
15	Global Planners Network	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Climate action through cultural engagement

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
16	Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands/ Ministry of Education, Culture and Science	National Government	Netherlands	Europe	HERITAGE BEYOND HISTORY Towards a sustainable and inclusive historic urban core
17	Save the Children, UNICEF, IFRC, ARUP, European Network for Child Friendly Cities	Civil Society Organization / United Nations / Private Sector	Global	Global	Urban Areas for Children and Youth: Establishing a Collaborative Network of Organizations
18	UN-Habitat and 3r Waste Foundation	United Nations / Foundation	Global / India	Global / Asia	Working Together: making our cities Waste Wise to achieve SDGs and Implement NUA
19	Department of Municipalities and Transport - Abu Dhabi	Local and Regional Government	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Connecting Liveability and Sustainability: Panel Discussion
20	Ministry of Regional Development	National Government	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	The role of digital transformation in urban development policies – the Global South perspectives and opportunities on Smart Cities
21	Cardiff University, School of Geography and Planning	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Partnerships for Peace through Community Innovation and Economic Inclusion
22	Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT)	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Leaving no one behind: A cross-constituency approach to sustainable urban mobility
23	Lincoln Institute of Land Policy	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	Global Innovations in Land Value Capture for Sustainable and Equitable Cities
24	Community Solutions	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Getting to Zero Homelessness: How Real-Time Measurement and New Collaborative Action Structures are Driving Real Results Around the World
25	International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)	Inter-Governmental Organization	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Energy Transition for Cities of the Future
26	National Institute of Urban Affairs, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India; PLANMalaysia, Department of Town and Country planning; and Institute of Development Studies, Sussex	National Government / Academia/Research	India / Malaysia / United Kingdom	Asia / Europe	The Future of Urban Observatories and Inclusive Data Systems
27	Ministry of Infrastructure	National Government	Rwanda	Africa	Delivering Sustainable Urbanization and Development in the Commonwealth
28	PlacemakingX, and Omdurman Islamic University	Foundation / Academia/Research	United States of America / Sudan	North America / Africa	International Launch of PlacemakingX: Expanding the Global Network for People-Powered Public Spaces
29	Woodrow Wilson Intl Center and Korea Housing and Urban Guarantee Corp. (HUG)	Academia/Research	United States of America / Republic of Korea	North America / Asia	Innovative partnerships and financing for urban regeneration
30	Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS) and UN-Habitat (with UNCTAD, UNESCO, UNICEF, CMI, WHO, OECD, UCLG)	United Nations	Switzerland / Global	Europe / Global	Addressing migration and displacement challenges in cities through innovation in data, policy and governance: urban profiling, urban recovery frameworks, and multi-level governance approaches
31	Foundation Botnar and the Healthy Cities for Adolescents Program	Foundation / Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Empowering adolescents to drive innovation in their cities and communities to achieve cultural and sustained social change
32	Global Platform for the Right to the City (GPR2C)	Civil Society Organization	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Right to the City: connecting the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
33	International Urban Cooperation	Inter-Governmental Organization	Belgium	Europe	City-to-city cooperation on culture and innovation as a driver of sustainable urban development
34	Planet Smart City	Private Sector	United Kingdom	Europe	Places That Matter: how affordable neighborhoods can be smart and innovative creating communities that improve the quality of life of their residents
35	Plan International	Civil Society Organization	Zimbabwe	Africa	Pathways to Enabling Cities – Feminist reflections on participation and urban governance
36	The World Bank	United Nations	Global	Global	Convergence: Critical Steps toward Integrating Lagging and Leading Areas in the Middle East and North Africa
37	Urbanice Malaysia, Ministry of Housing and Local Government	National Government	Malaysia	Asia	The implementation of 4th Industrial revolution (4iR) to accelerate sustainable urbanisation in Malaysia cities
38	Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Housing	National Government	Spain	Europe	Governance: a key element to implement National Urban Policies. The experience of the Spanish Urban Agenda
39	University of Twente, ITC	Academia/Research	Netherlands	Europe	Leveraging Crowd Wisdom to Better Understand the Technology and Ethics of Neighbourhood Deprivation ("Slum") Mapping
40	University College London	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Soft-power in the governance of urban design: a new approach for achieving quality in Cities
41	Kantar GmbH	Private Sector	Germany	Europe	Mobility Futures: how people, cities and mobility players can collaborate to shape the future of urban mobility across the world
42	BMBF, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, DLR Project Management Agency, Department Environment and Sustainability and AECOM	National Government / Private Sector	United Kingdom	Europe	New Approaches of addressing Rapid Urbanisation through Planning
43	World Resources Institute	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Towards a More Equal City: Engaging Changemakers in Transforming Cities
44	Kuala Lumpur City Hall	Local and Regional Government	Malaysia	Asia	Art, Culture and Design in creating City vibrancy and strong communities
45	International Civil Society Centre; Habitat for Humanity International; Slum Dwellers International and World Vision International	Civil Society Organization	Germany	Europe	Civil Society Innovation and Urban Inclusion: Launch of an international civil society sector innovation platform and report
46	Network-Association of European Researchers on Urbanisation in the South (N-Aerus); African Urban Research Initiative (AURI); Red de desarollo urbano sustentable en latinoamerica y el caribe (Redeus LAC)	Inter-Governmental Organization	Germany	Europe	Mobilizing local research for global agendas: connecting regional networks to encourage sustainable urban development across research and policy cultures
47	United Nations International Telecommunication Union	United Nations	Global	Global	Governing and managing smart sustainable cities
48	La Fabrique de la Cité	Foundation	France	Europe	Smart city, between global circulation and local cultures: For a cultural anthropology of urban uses of digital technology

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49	The Bahrain Center for Strategic, International, and Energy Studies, DERASAT	Academia/Research	Bahrain	Asia	Financing Sustainable Urban Development in the Arab Region: Discussion of the findings of State of Arab Cities Report 2020
50	International Union of Architects (IUA); Africa Union of Architects (AUA); Consortium of Sustainable Urbanisation (CSU) and International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)	Civil Society Organization	France, Egypt, United States of America / Netherlands	Europe / Africa / North America	Heritage & Culture-led development – A paradigm shift towards Sustainable Architecture
51	IHS Alumni International Network	Academia/Research	Netherlands	Europe	Celebrating Cultural Diversity through Urban Leadership: The IHS Alumni International Urban and Youth Professional Awards
52	Ministry of Local Government and Chieftainship; Development Action Group (DAG); International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED); and National Union of Tenants in Nigeria	National Government / Civil Society Organization and Academia/Research	Lesotho / South Africa / Nigeria	Africa	Exploring the potentials of rental housing in African cities
53	United Kingdom Foreign and Commonwealth Office	National Government	United Kingdom	Europe	UK Government Partnerships for Sustainable Cities: Innovative programmes and tools
54	Block by Block Foundation	Foundation	Sweden	Europe	Public space and digital transformation: an innovative approach to community-led transformation and the creation of inclusive cities
55	Slum Dwellers International (SDI)	Civil Society Organization	South Africa	Africa	Informal Settlements as Places of Opportunity and Innovation
56	Beirut Heritage and AJM Planning and Urban Design Group (APUDG)	Civil Society Organization / Private Sector	Lebanon / Malaysia	Asia	Heritage in Lebanese and Malaysian Lenses: Landscape of Urban Transformation & Cultural Geography
57	UN Food and Agriculture Organization; Cities4Forests; World Resources Institute and GIZ	United Nations / Civil Society Organization / Inter-Governmental Organization	Global / Mexico	Global / Latin America and the Caribbean	Nature-Based-Solutions for increased sustainability and resilience of the urban development
58	UCLG Committee on Culture	Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	Culture2030 goal: Strengthening the global platform on culture and the SDGs
59	National Sanitation Secretariat of the Ministry of Regional Development; Jospong Group of Companies - Zoomlion; and Urban Development Directorate	National Government / Private Sector	Brazil / Ghana / Bangladesh	Latin America and the Caribbean / Africa / Asia	Protecting environmental health and delivering sustainable solutions for urban sanitation and integrated waste management
60	University of Oxford Centre on Migration, Policy, and Society (COMPAS)- Anthropology Department, and UN-Habitat	Academia/Research and United Nations	United Kingdom and Global	Europe / Global	Future cities and new economy series: Interdisciplinary Dialogues 1 on economic opportunities and shared prosperity driven by Technological Innovations
61	PLANMalaysia (Federal Department of Town & Country Planning)	National Government	Malaysia	Asia	Smart Cities Hold the Key to Sustainable Urbanisation: How Cultural Heritage Integrate in Smart City Environment
62	Hub for Urban Initiatives and World Evangelical Alliance (WEA)	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Faith and Religion as a pathway for implementing the New Urban Agenda: Insights from Researchers and Practitioners
63	European Commission, Union for the Mediterranean, European Investment Bank, French Development Agency and Open and Agile Smart Cities	Inter-Governmental Organization / Civil Society Organization	Spain	Europe	Implementing the Urban Agenda – The role of the digital transformation and financing mechanisms, in the EU and in the Mediterranean region

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64	Ministry of Construction, Housing and Utilities of the Russian Federation	National Government	Russian Federation	Europe	Developing cities of the future: where to start?
65	General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP)	National Government	Egypt	Africa	National Urban Policy and the 'Sense of Place' - Integrating Culture as a Pillar for Sustainable Urban Development
66	The Norwegian Mapping Authority	National Government	Norway	Europe	Integration of geospatial data to support smart and resilient societies
67	City of Dortmund and Urban Pathways Secretariat	Local and Regional Government	Germany	Europe	Mastering transitions – Global dialogue and local participation opportunities
68	Stockholm Environment Institute; International Society for Urban Health (ISUH); and Urban Health and well-being from the International Science Council	Civil Society Organization and Academia/Research	Thailand / United States of America / China	Asia / North America	Partnerships towards an inclusive culture of health in cities
69	Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Centre (IFRC)	Inter-Governmental Organization	United States of America	North America	Heatwaves in an Increasingly Urban World: The Silent Killer
70	INTBAU Malaysia	Private Sector	Malaysia	Asia	Global Perspectives on Heritage-led Urban Regeneration
71	Urban Competence Hub of Russian Agency for Strategic Initiatives	Civil Society Organization	Russian Federation	Europe	The Urban Leaders
72	Global Challenges Research Fund, UKRI, Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and Cities for Digital Rights Coalition	Inter-Governmental Organization / Foundation	United Kingdom / United States of America	Europe / North America	Inclusive governance of urban digital technologies: southern and northern experiences
73	Regional Ministry of Territory and Sustainability, Government of Catalonia	Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	Localizing global agendas for sustainability at subnational level: the implementation of 4 strategic plans in subnational regions of the EU
74	Secretariat of Spatial Planning Platform (SPP)	National Government	Japan	Asia	Supporting the formulation and implementation of territorial/spatial plans through multilateral collaboration: Pilot programs of Spatial Planning Platform (SPP) in Cambodia, Mongolia, and Myanmar
75	Department of Municipalities and Transport - Abu Dhabi	Local and Regional Government	United Arab Emirates	Asia	The 'For Abu Dhabi' Initiative: Peer Review
76	International Observatory on Participatory Democracy, United Cities and Local Governments	Civil Society Organization / Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	Participatory practices and the right to the city at the core of urban innovation
77	National Institute of Urban Affairs; and WASTE	Academia/Research and Civil Society Organization	India / Netherlands	Asia / Europe	Investing in Inclusive and People-Centred Urban Sanitation Innovations: Role of Capacity Building to Drive Innovations - Experiences from Asia and Africa
78	InterAction, CARE International, REALL, Habitat for Humanity	Civil Society Organization	Global	Global	More than four walls: An Integrated and Innovative Approach to Housing as a Driver of Sustainable Socio, Cultural, Economic, and Health Outcomes in Cities
79	What Design Can Do	Civil Society Organization	Netherlands	Europe	Creative Cities are Safer Cities
80	SIDA, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency	Inter-Governmental Organization	Sweden	Europe	SIDA presents: The unique, high-impact and investable proposition of affordable housing in urban Africa and Asia
81	World Bank and Capsus Sustainable Capital, Mexico	United Nations / Private Sector	Global / Mexico	Global / Latin America and the Carribean	Urban Performance - An Innovative Planning Tool in Palestine
82	Asian Coalition for Housing Rights	Civil Society Organization	Thailand	Asia	Something from nothing: How urban poor communities are coping with food insecurity and finding ways to eat better

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83	Commonwealth Local Government Forum Pacific, Fiji	Inter-Governmental Organization	Fiji	Oceania	Accelerating the implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in the Pacific through a multi-stakeholder partnership
84	American Institute of Architects	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	The Economic Policy Strategy for Sustainable Housing Cooperative Programs
85	Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Human Settlements (EAROPH), Australia / Malaysia; and Global Road Safety Partnership / IFRC, Switzerland; and International Youth Council, USA	Inter-Governmental Organizations	United States of America	North America / Europe / Asia / Oceania	Learning from diversity: cultural exchanges, youth action and innovation to advance the sustainable development of cities
86	Global Shelter Cluster	Inter-Governmental Organization	Switzerland	Europe	Improving Shelter Coordination and Response in Crises: looking back to move forward
87	Dakahlia Governorate	Local and Regional Government	Egypt/ Palestine / India	Africa / Asia	mplementing the SDGs in Cities with/ under Different Cultural Influences – the case of Egypt, Palestine and India
88	ICOMOS	Civil Society Organization	France	Europe	Mobilising Arts, Culture and Heritage for Transformative Climate Action in Cities and their Territories
89	Green Climate Fund Songdo Business District, Yeonsu-gu, Republic of Korea	Inter-Governmental Organization	Republic of Korea	Asia	Scaling up finance for transformative climate action in cities
90	National Institute of Urban Affairs	Academia/Research	India	Asia	Launch and inaugural dialogue of: "Megacities of the Global South network" - a co-laboratory framework
91	UN-Habitat; and Gauteng City-Region Observatory, South Africa; and Urban expansion program - Marron Institute of Urban Management, New York University	United Nations and Academia/ Research	Global / United States of America	Global / North America	Cities and Data - Urban Monitoring and Governance for Achievement of Sustainable Cities
92	World Habitat	Foundation	United Kingdom	Europe	Presentation of the 2019 World Habitat Awards - Celebrating solutions to end the global housing crisis
93	PFVT (French Partnership on Cities and Territories)	Civil Society Organization	France	Europe	Urban rights and commons for inclusive and innovative cities
94	Ministry of Housing, Utilities & Urban Communities	National Government	Egypt	Africa	Integrated Housing Strategies: Towards Sustainable Urbanization and Urban Regeneration
95	EAWAG (Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology)	Academia/Research	Switzerland	Europe	Closing Loops towards Plastic Smart and Waste Wise Cities: How measuring waste and plastic leakage encourages cities to go circular
96	CORDAID, Netherlands; Partners for Resilience; *Global Challenges Research Fund* (GCRF); Slum Dwellers International Worldwide Federation and UCLG	Foundation / Academia/Research / Local and Regional Government / Civil Society Organization	Netherlands / UK	Europe	Spearheading the New Urban Agenda through Community Engagement and Resilience
97	European Network of Living Labs	Civil Society Organization	Belgium	Europe	Social and cultural innovation for sustainable cities: a myth or reality?
98	Sharjah Urban Planning Council	Local and Regional Government	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Towards child friendly public spaces in Sharjah, UAE
99	United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific	Local and Regional Government	Indonesia	Asia	Join Us! VLRs Cities and Regions Networking & Match-making Event

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100	Huairou Commission	Civil Society Organization	Malaysia	Asia	Urban Thinkers Campus (UTC) - A Platform for Partnerships & Initiatives - A Creative & Innovative Convergence Space for Stakeholders Driving Common Vision of Sustainable Urban Development
101	Jordan Green Building Council	Civil Society Organization	Jordan	Asia	Bridging cultural gaps between refugees and host communities in the Middle East urban context though community based social and cultural infrastructure projects
102	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Urban Planning in Post-Conflict/ Post-Crisis Contexts
103	Ax:son Johnson Foundation, Sweden; and Centre for the Future of Places at KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Foundation / Academia/Research	Sweden	Europe	Public Space in the New Urban Agenda: New Research Findings, Strategies, and Tools
104	French Ministry of Culture	National Government	France	Europe	Worldwide Cultural Institutions Between Universal and Territorial
105	Office of Land and Urban/E3/USAID	National Government	United States of America	North America	Funding Innovation: Self-Reliance at the Local Level through Own-Source Revenue
106	Global Challenges Research Fund, UKRI	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Innovating pathways for safe and sustainable urban futures [#Innovation4SafeCities]
107	Ministry of National Territory and Urban Planning, Housing and City Policy	National Government	Morocco	Africa	Medinas: safeguarding constraints and challenges of innovation and sustainability
108	Mistra Urban Futures	Academia/Research	Sweden	Europe	Innovative SDG/NUA Localisation Practices through Cross-Sector Co-Production of Knowledge
109	Islamic Development Bank	Inter-Governmental Organization	Saudi Arabia	Asia	Informal areas in the Arab region: an opportunity to capture values and advance social protection
110	IDB - Multilateral Development Bank; and UN-Habitat	Inter-Governmental Organization/United Nation	United States of America	North America	Transit-Oriented Urban Development and Land Value Capture in LAC
111	RMIT University	Academia/Research	Australia	Oceania	Innovative Partnerships to Drive Effective National Urban Policies for Sustainable Urbanization
112	UNICEF; UN-Habitat; Arab Urban Development Institution; and Urban Synergies Group	United Nations / Civil Society Organization	Saudi Arabia / Australia	Asia / Oceania / Global	Child-friendly, Safe and Sustainable Public Spaces
113	FIDIC, International Federation of Consulting Engineers	Private Sector	Switzerland	Europe	Managing the development of sustainable cities and communities – learning from all urban stakeholders
114	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH	Inter-Governmental Organization	Germany	Europe	Mining for innovation in times of pressing urban change in Africa. The IBA and other innovative, output-oriented approaches as catalysts for sustainable urbanization
115	Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP)	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Access for All: Policies for Inclusive Transit Oriented Development
116	SPRINT - Scientific Policy Consulting	Private Sector	Germany	Europe	National Spatial Strategies for Steering Transformative Urbanisation Processes
117	IHC Global Coalition for inclusive Housing and Sustainable Cities, USA; and World Bank, Global Land Tool Network/UN-Habitat; and Huairou Comission; and Habitat for Humanity International	Civil Society Organization / United Nations	United States of America	North America / Global	Property rights, culture and context
118	The Brookings Institution	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	Opportunities for Innovative Financing to Accelerate City Progress on the SDGs: The Investors' Perspective
119	International Center for Innovative Developments (ICID); and GIZ	Academia/Research / Inter-Governmental Organization	India / Germany	Asia / Europe	Drivers for smart and accessible tourism in heritage cities

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120	Ministry of Lands, Housing, and Urban Development	National Government	Malawi	Africa	How best practices can influence the state of NUP implementation and monitoring in Malawi: Facilitating a dialogue on the successes and challenges from different country experiences in designing and implementing NUPs and SDGs
121	Global Water Operators' Partnerships Alliance (GWOPA); and UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Water Day zero: How can utilities stop the taps running dry? Localizing the SDGs through Water Operators Partnerships, helping utilities to face the challenges of water scarcity
122	Ministry of the Environment	Naitonal Government	Finland	Europe	Circular Built Environment supporting Innovations in Cities
123	Bernard van Leer Foundation	Civil Society Organization / United Nations	Kenya /Global	Africa / Global	Quick breaths need a fast response: scaling better air quality and sustainable transport for young children and caregivers in the global South
124	International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) and Planning Aid Scotland (PAS)	Inter-Governmental Organization	Latin America and the Caribbean	Latin America and the Caribbean	Global Planning Aid - A new Partnership approach to "Sustainable Cities and Communities": Empowering poor and marginalised people to Make Better Places
125	World Vision International, Canada, Joint IDP Profiling Service (JIPS), Switzerland; and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS)	Civil Society Organization / United Nations	Kenya /Global	Africa / Global	Displacement in cities: what we need to know and innovative solutions to address it
126	HILTI Foundation; and Cities Alliance; and Habitat for Humanity International; and World Bank; and UN Habitat; and UCLG	Inter-Governmental Organization	Latin America and the Caribbean	Latin America and the Caribbean	Building Global Innovation Platforms: regionally adapted expressions of the successful urban housing practitioners hub
127	AGGI, Advisory Group Gender Issues to the UN-Habitat ED; Urbanima- LUPT, Federico II, University of Naples; The women's constituent partner's group general assembly of partners, GAP	United Nations	Global	Global	Women's culture and culture of cities, between tradition and innovation: creativity and the culture of difference in NUA implementation for fair and sustainable cities in the frame of the SDGs
128	School of Architecture, Planning and Design	Civil Society Organization	France	Europe	Experiences and state of National Urban Policies in French-speaking African countries
129	Rimisp - Latin American Center for Rural Development Santiago; and Shaanxi Village and Town Construction Research Center of Xi'an University	Private Sector	Peru	Latin America and the Caribbean	Reducing the urban-rural divide through culture, revitalization and innovations
130	Commonwealth Association of Planners	Private Sector	United Kingdom	Europe	Building back better in the Small Island States of the Commonwealth
131	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Safer Cities Contributing to Social Cohesion and Livability
132	Economic Analysis Sector, DG for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission; Busworld Foundation; National Secretariat for Urban Mobility and Services, Ministry of Regional Development	Inter-Governmental Organization / Foundation / National Government	Belgium / Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean / Europe	Measuring and improving access to public transport
133	GenderCC - Women for Climate Justice, Germany	Civil Society Organization	Germany	Europe	Working towards a gender-responsive urban climate policy: sharing experiences from GenderCC's international urban pilot project and connecting with new partners
134	Kota Kita Foundation	Civil Society Organization	Indonesia	Asia	Integrating Climate Change Adaptation into Participatory Budgeting Practices
135	IHC Global Coalition for Inclusive Housing and Sustainable Cities; and Development Action Group	Civil Society Organization	South Africa / United States of America	Africa / North America	The Yin and Yang of Inclusive Cities: Technology and Local Partnership

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136	Center for Sustainable Urban Development, The Earth Institute, Columbia University, and Federal University of Rio de Janeiro	Academia/Research	United States of America / Brazil	North America / Latin America and the Caribbean	Accelerating the SDGs through the LOCAL PROJECT CHALLENGE
137	Association of Urbanistic Jurisprudence CJUR International	Civil Society Organization	Mexico	Latin America and the Caribbean	Network for a Latin American urban agreement: a new culture through urban legislation
138	CESAL; and SKL International	Civil Society Organization / Local and Regional Government	Peru / Sweden	Latin America and the Caribbean / Europe	Strengthening social cohesion - Ensuring Inclusive Urban Development
139	NewCities	Foundation	Canada	North America	Building citizen-centered cities from scratch - challenges, opportunities and innovations in sustainable urban development
140	POLYCOM Development Project	Civil Society Organization	Kenya	Africa	Grassroots women-led Tools and Approaches of navigating the customary settings to secure their land rights
141	New York University	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	Making Room for Urban Growth: Understanding the Anatomy of Density
142	German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU); and Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)	National Government / Inter-Governmental Organization	Germany	Europe	Localising global agendas – the case of collaborative climate action
143	Initiative for Advanced Urbanism and Artificial Intelligence (IAUAI)	Academia/Research	Germany	Europe	Changing the Culture of Planning: Leveraging Artificial Intelligence for Human-Centred Smart Urbanization
144	ARUP; and University of Southern Denmark	Private Sector / Academia/ Research	United Kingdom / Denmark	Europe	Understanding Urban Resilience: knowledge gaps, capacity building; and delivering sustainable & resilient infrastructure.
145	Nagrika	Civil Society Organization	India	Asia	Building Sustainable Small Cities: Innovations in Traditional Knowledge Systems
146	National Housing Secretary of Ministry of Regional Development	National Government	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Planning social housing: Challenges for sustainable urban development
147	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Let's start with streets: A step-by-step guide for cities
148	Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, University of Chicago	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	The Million Neighborhoods Network: Localizing Sustainable Development Through Better Connected Communities
149	School of Architecture and Cities, University of Westminster; and Shah Alam City Council	Academia/Research / Local and Regional Government	United Kingdom / Malaysia	Europe / Asia	Sharing Practices-cafe: Tackling Climate Change Through Affordable Green Housing design and energy operations in buildings
150	ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability World Secretariat	Civil Society Organization	Germany	Europe	Innovative governance for low-emission, climate resilient cities
151	FIDIC (International Federation of Consulting Engineers) and UN-Habitat	Private Sector / United Nations	Switzerland / Global	Europe / Global	Participatory upgrading of slums and informal settlements – urban sustainability management has a key role
152	Practical Action	Civil Society Organization	United Kingdom	Europe	Inclusive waste management: putting people and culture first
153	Reall	Civil Society Organization	United Kingdom	Europe	Sustainable and Inclusive Housing Finance: Investor, Donor and Practitioner Perspectives on Affordable Housing and Slum Upgrading

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154	Kounkuey Design Initiative, and The World Bank Group	Civil Society Organization / United Nations	Kenya /Global	Africa / Global	Launch Event: World Bank Group's Handbook for Gender-Inclusive Urban Planning and Design
155	Inter-American Development Bank	Inter-Governmental Organization	Latin America and the Caribbean	Latin America and the Caribbean	Beyond Sun, Sand and Sea: Leveraging urban heritage to change course in the Caribbean
156	World Urban Campaign Partners and UN-Habitat WUC Secretariat	United Nations	Global	Global	World Urban Campaign Partners and UN-Habitat WUC Secretariat
157	Climate Chance	Civil Society Organization	France	Europe	Land use and regeneration policies to tackle climate change
158	Inter-American Housing Union	Private Sector	Peru	Latin America and the Caribbean	New business model, introducing an investment fund's ecosystem to fulfill the SDGs and create integrated urban solutions
159	National Federation of Planning Agencies (FNAU); and Réseau Habitat et Francophonie; and Secretariat Aston/ National Agency for Urban Renewal	Civil Society Organization	France	Europe	Digital transition, affordable housing what innovation for inclusion in African cities?

Side Events

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
1	France Ville Durable / Sustainable City by France and BRAC	Civil Society Organization	Bangladesh	Asia	Building a culture of resilience: designing local processes, drawing from community based innovations furthering social inclusion and cultural preservation
2	Global Alliance for Urban Crises	Civil Society Organization	Switzerland	Europe	Crisis prevention and response in cities: it's time to take a whole of society approach
3	Metropolis, World Association of the Major Metropolises	Private Sector	Spain	Europe	Strengthening metropolitan governance: strategies and tools to build a more equitable public space
4	Urban Planning Society of China	Civil Society Organization	China	Asia	Cultural heritage and urban sustainability
5	International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)	Inter-Governmental Organization	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Energy Transformation for Cities of the Future: from A Technology Perspective
6	Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development BMZ	National Government	Germany	Europe	Financing the Urban Future: Leveraging Private Investments for Innovative Urban Projects
7	Institute of Regional Studies and Urban Planning, Moscow Higher School of Economics	Academia/Research	Russian Federation	Asia	Shrinking cities: can they be still prosperous?
8	Ministry of National and Urban Planning, Housing and City Policy	National Government	Morocco	Africa	Cities and Housing: between development imperatives and heritage preservation
9	Consortium for sustainable urbanization (CSU), and Epase - etablissement public d'aménagement de Saint-Etienne, and Perkins Eastman	Civil Society Organization	United States of America / France	North America / Europe	Urban Resilience in a Post-Industrial Context and at the Water's Edge
10	African Union specialized technical committee on public service, local government, urban development and decentralization (au stc 8)	Inter-Governmental Organization	Ethiopia	Africa	Domesticating the International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning in Africa: Lessons and Best Practices
11	State Department for Housing and Urban Development	National Government	Kenya	Africa	Driving Sustainable Urbanization and affordable housing through the Kenya Urban Support Program

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12	Public Authority for Housing Welfare	National Government	Kuwait	Asia	The Future of New Cities
13	Union Internationale des Transports Publics (UITP), and Urban electric mobility initiative (UEMI)	Civil Society Organization / Private Sector	Belgium / Germany	Europe	Build a stronger culture of innovation in public transport
14	Global Utmaning (Global Challenge); and United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Civil Society Organization / National Government	Sweden / United States of America	Europe / North America	Achieving Cities for All: Planning for and with Women and Girls
15	International Centre for migration policy development - ICMPD (regional coordination office for the Mediterranean)	Inter-Governmental Organization	Malta	Europe	Fostering Migrants' Contribution to Cities Sustainable Development
16	Global Planning Education Association Network	Academia/Research	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Planners for Climate Action: Nature-Based and Decarbonizing Solutions in Heritage contexts
17	American Planning Association	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Compact Growth: Key to Energy Reduction and Livability
18	Institute for Global Environmental Studies (IGES)	Academia/Research	Japan	Asia	Circular Economy in Cities: Looking at Waste and Beyond Waste
19	European Commission	Inter-Governmental Organization	Belgium	Europe	Implementing the New Urban Agenda locally: driving sustainable urban development through innovative city-to-city cooperation
20	International Rescue Committee	Civil Society Oragnization	United States of America	North America	Action over discourse: Global examples of strengthening resilience in fragile and at-risk cities
21	Climate and Clean Air Coalition, EAROPH, Fukuoka University, and Waste Management Association of Malaysia	Civil Society Organization / Academia/Research	Australia / Japan / Malaysia	Oceania / Asia	Solid Waste Solutions for Meeting the SDGs
22	Habitat for Humanity International (Terwilliger Center), and Shelter Afrique	Civil Society Organization / Inter-Governmental Organization	United States of America / Kenya	North America / Africa	Opportunities and Challenges to Catalysing Affordable Housing in Africa
23	Moscow City Government	Local and Regional Government	Russian Federation	Europe	Sustainable Transformation of Global Cities. Moscow's Lessons.
24	Council of European Municipalities and Regions / PLATFORMA	Local and Regional Government	Belgium	Europe	Culture as a tool for local economic development: what added value of the European and global agendas?
25	Busworld Foundation	Foundation	Belgium	Europe	Transforming Cities through attractive, efficient and sustainable public road transport systems
26	German Development Cooperation -GIZ (Palestine office)	Inter-Governmental Organization	Palestine State (Observer)	Asia	The Concept of Readable Budget and implementation on the local level in the local government sector in Palestine
27	International Council on Canadian, Chinese and African Sustainable Urbanization (ICCCASU)	Civil Society Organization	Canada	North America	Culture and Innovation in City Building in Canada, China and Africa
28	National Gender and Equality Commission	National Government	Kenya	Africa	Inclusive Mobility: Ensuring Universal and Equitable Access to Urban Public Transport in Kenya
29	University of Twente, ITC	Academia/Research	Netherlands	Europe	Building the climate resilience of the urban poor
30	Tehran Urban Research and Planning Center	Local and Regional Government	Iran	Asia	Culture and innovation in Tehran urban management
31	Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and Ministry of Works and Housing	National Government	Ghana	Africa	hana's New Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD), Rural Development & Housing Policies – Connecting Culture, Opportunities and Urban & Rural Planning to Deliver Sustainable Transformative Change

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
32	Secretariat of Spatial Planning Platform (SPP)	National Government	Japan	Asia	Implementing Territorial/Spatial Planning Systems and Strengthening Local Capacities to Achieve SDGs and NUA (hosted by the Spatial Planning Platform (SPP) Secretariat)
33	National Mission for Clean Ganga, Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India	National Government	India	Asia	Ganga: Reconnecting River, City and People
34	GCRF Centre for Sustainable, Healthy; and Learning Cities and Neighbourhood (SHLC), University of Glasgow	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Understanding cities from the inside out: Sustainability of neighbourhoods in Asia and Africa
35	Banaadir Regional Authority & Ministry of Public Works Reconstruction and Housing	Local and Regional Government	Somalia	Africa	Beyond Shelter: Sustainable Urban Solutions and the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus for Somalia's IDPs
36	Ministère de la Cohésion des Territoires et des Relations avec les Collectivités Territoriales (MCTRCT)	National Government	France	Europe	Culture and innovation in buildings for a world below 2°
37	Department of Urban and Rural Development; Division of Landscape Architecture; and the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences	Academia/Research	Sweden	Europe	Urban-Rural Nexus: Challenges and Innovations to Govern Land, Municipal and Ecosystem Services, On the Fringes of Resource Constrained Cities and Small Towns
38	ICOMOS (International council on monuments and sites), and Dar Al Uloom University	Civil Society Organization / Academia/Research	Turkey / Saudi Arabia	Asia	Measuring and Communicating Cultural Heritage for Sustainable Urban Development: good practices and global perspectives of Riyadh Museum District Youth Challenger
39	The Government of the Republic of Poland	National Government	Poland	Europe	Cultural heritage as a driver of change in deprived urban areas - examples from Poland
40	Ministry of Construction, Transport and Infrastructure	National Government	Serbia	Europe	Cultural Diversity in Smart Cities of South East Europe
41	Real Play Coalition: LEGO Foundation, ARUP, UNICEF, Ingka (IKEA), National Geographic Partners	Foundation / Private Sector / United Nations	United Kingdom	Europe / Global	Partnering for Action - Enhancing Urban Play as a Driver of Culture and Innovation. A Real Play Coalition Event
42	The British Academy	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Access to infrastructures and services in a context of urban violence
43	World Blind Union (WBU), And G3ict - the Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTS	Civil Society Organization	Canada / United States of America	North America	Inclusive and Accessible Cities for All – How can well-planned public spaces and smart city technologies bridge the inclusion gap for persons with disabilities and older persons
44	Cities Alliance	United Nations	Belgium	Europe	How secondary cities can accommodate the needs of urban population growth. Areas of cooperation for local, national, and global actors in improving migration management in secondary cities of low-income countries
45	Ministry of Housing	National Government	Djibouti	Africa	Presentation of Zero Slums Program: toward better urbanization leading to economic growth
46	Sustainable Kazakhstan Research Institute, Narxoz University	Academia/Research	Kazakhstan	Asia	Addressing air quality in emerging economies and innovative technology potentials
47	City University of New York (CUNY)	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	Promoting a culture of healthy public spaces: case studies and key drivers for action

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
48	Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU) and City Space Architecture, and Center for Sustainable Urban Development, The Earth Institute, Columbia University	Civil Society Organization / Academia/Research	Italy / United States of America	Europe / North America	The Public Realm: from the Classical to the Digital
49	Mosul Municipality	Local and Regional Government	Iraq	Asia	Making Places for All: Community-driven rehabilitations of open-air public spaces in the Arab Region
50	International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Inter-Governmental Organization	Switzerland	Europe	Changing Community Identity and Sense of Place in Urban Context
51	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)	Inter-Governmental Organization	United Kingdom	Europe	Beyond talk: EBRD Green Cities linking planning, technology and investment
52	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	United Nations	Global	Global	Guidance for Responding to Displacement in Urban Areas: A collaboration between UNHCR and UN-Habitat
53	National aeronautics and space administration (NASA)	National Government	United States of America	North America	NASA 3D Printed Habitat Challenge Competition
54	Madrid City Council	Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	Nature-based solutions at city level
55	The Oslo School of Architecture and Design	Academia/Research	Norway	Europe	Reconceptualising and responding to urban crises: Researcher-practitioner reflections on innovation, culture and transformative urban practices
56	Institute of Physical Planning	Academia/Research	Cuba	Latin America and the Caribbean	National territorial policies to implement the New Urban Agenda: the experiences of Cuba, Bolivia and Russia
57	UNEP	United Nations	Global	Global	Circular economy: changing the way we think about jobs
58	Urbanice Malaysia, Ministry of Housing and Local Government	National Government	Malaysia	Asia	Lab Cities 4.0: Accelerating Sustainable Smart City
59	UNDP and partners	United Nations	Global	Global	Accelerating Urban Transformation: The SDG Decade of Action and the Next Generation of Cities
60	Resilience Shift	Private Sector	United Kingdom	Europe	Climate Action: Accelerating UrbanWater Resilience in Asia, Africa and beyond: two approaches in theory and in practice
61	REN21	Civil Society Organization	France	Europe	Renewables in Cities: bringing cities to the energy transition - key for climate mitigation and adaptation
62	World Council on City Data	Civil Society Organization	Canada	North America	The Dubai-WCCD Local Data Hub – Catalyzing Urban Innovation Across the Middle East
63	UNHCR	United Nations	Global	Global	Using integrated planning to foster inclusive communities: how refugee and host community integration can strengthen communities and inform global sustainable development agendas
64	Informal Settlement Development Fund (ISDF) - Egyptian cabinet	National Government	Egypt	Africa	Integrated and participatory urban planning approach in transformation countries and emerging economies – a joint event presenting experiences from Egypt, India and Ukraine
65	UNEP	United Nations	Global	Global	Designing Cooler Cities – Keep cool, Naturally
66	Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Undersecretariat for Multilateral Affairs & Human Rights	National Government	Mexico	Latin America and the Caribbean	New Development Models: Territorial, economic and social transformation for south-southeast Mexico

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
67	Climate Policy Initiative /Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	A Finance Alliance to project preparation: How to transform ideas into bankable projects
68	AECOM	Private Sector	United Kingdom	Europe	Climate and Disaster Risk Assessments in Data-Scarce Cities
69	Department of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi	Local and Regional Government	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Urban Planning, Heritage Preservation and Cultural Development: Navigating Past and Future in Abu Dhabi
70	Department of Human Settlements, Government of the Republic of South Africa and Ministry of Urbanism, Housing and Public Hygiene	National Government	South Africa	Africa	Slums and Informal Settlements Network (SISnet): Linking Local Aspirations to Global Development Frameworks to fight urban poverty
71	ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability World Secretariat	Civil Society Organization	Germany	Europe	Building a culture of urban sustainability: from technology and innovation to arts and music, from Earth Day to Beethoven´s Pastoral
72	Avina Foundation, IPCRI - Israel Palestine Center for Regional Initiatives	Foundation / Civil Society Organization	Peru / Israel	Latin America and the Caribbean / Asia	Supporting community development through publicspaces: Case studies from Latin American cities, Jerusalem and Aleppo
73	World Resources Institute	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Sustainable and Safe Urban Mobility for All- Using a new mobility culture to drive sustainable urban development
74	Regional and Metropolitan Planning Unit, UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Migratory and cultural impact on urban and metropolitan settings. Migratory phenomenon of Venezuela in Latin America
75	Ministry of Housing, Cities and Territory, and The World Bank	National Government / United Nations	Colombia / Global	Latin America and the Caribbean / Global	Innovation for Sustainable Urban Expansion: The Role of National and Local Governments
76	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	Foundation	United States of America	North America	Citywide Inclusive Sanitation, a Comprehensive and Integrated, Public Service Approach to Achieve SDGs: The inextricable link of SDG 6 and SDG 11 driving the 2030 agenda of sustainable development
77	National Institute of Urban Affairs	Academia/Research	India	Asia	Innovative approaches for fostering Sustainable and Resilient Cities – Sharing lessons from Asia, Africa and Europe
78	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Ministry of Urban Development and Land, Deputy Ministry of Municipality and Kabul Municipality, and Libya Urban Planning Authority	National Government	Afghanistan / Libya	Asia / Africa	Urban tools for peace: Upgrading informal settlements and revitalizing public spaces Afghanistan and Libya
79	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)	Inter-Governmental Organization	France	Europe	OECD Report Launch: Decarbonising Urban Mobility

Training Events

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
1	Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, Erasmus University Rotterdam	Academia/Research	Netherlands	Europe	Who's Afraid of Theory of Change: innovative planning tools for project formulation with sustainable impact
2	Global policy house and Oxford University Business School Guildford	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Blockchain and digital skills for sustainable and inclusive cities executive education programme part 1
3	Public space research group, The Graduate Center, City University of New York	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	Toolkit for the ethnographic study of space: methods for culturally sensitive and inclusive public space
4	Polis Institute of Social Policy	Academia/Research	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Using right to the city to achieve cities with cultural diversity
5	Commonwealth Association of Planners	Civil Society Organization	United Kingdom	Europe	Planning for Climate Action in Urban Heritage Contexts
6	iDiscover Academy	Academia/Research	China	Asia	Map my neighbourhood; digital app for community-led cultural mapping and planning of historic inner-city districts
7	Lincoln Institute of Land Policy	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	Challenging the culture of planning: new ways of addressing inclusionary housing through land use
8	UNECE	United Nations	Global	Global	Innovative management of multi-apartment high rise housing: localizing SDG7&11 and NUA through housing strategies
9	Arup International Development	Civil Society Organization	United Kingdom	Europe	Framing urban resilience for African Cities: Leveraging resilience to develop a new culture of urbanisation
10	Prince Mohammad bin Fahd University	Academia/Research	Saudi Arabia	Asia	Cities of Innovation: Connecting Culture and Innovation
11	International Growth Centre:Cities that Work	Civil Society Organization	United Kingdom	Europe	Data-driven innovation in city governance: exploring global lessons and quick wins
12	Delft University of Technology (TU DELFT), Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment	Academia/Research	Netherlands	Europe	The Spatial Justice of Slum Upgrading Strategies: frameworks for social sustainability
13	European Commission - Joint Research Centre	Academia/Research	Italy	Europe	How to use open data and tools to measure sustainable urbanization
14	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa	United Nations	Global	Global	Mainstreaming urbanization in national economic and industrial planning
15	Think City Sdn Bhd	Academia/Research	Malaysia	Asia	Placemaking for Safer Cities: Translating Data Into Design
16	RMIT University	Academia/Research	Australia	Oceania	Innovative approaches to transforming urban transit systems
17	Urban Catalyst Lab	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	How does culture enable local governments & private sector to create meaningful urban transformation?
18	GenderCC - Women for Climate Justice	Civil Society Organization	Germany	Europe	Working towards gender-responsive urban climate policy: sharing tools to build inclusive, resilient cities
19	Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) - (GIZ on behalf of BMZ)	Inter-Governmental Organization	Germany	Europe	ACT-Initiative – E-powered innovations for climate friendly mobility
20	Future City Summit	Civil Society Organization	China	Asia	Start-Up Mindset for Cities — Eco-system for High-Quality Entrepreneurship by Youth, Females, and Minority Groups
21	Plan International	Civil Society Organization	Zimbabwe	Africa	Unpacking Social and Behaviour Change in the Transportation Sector

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
22	ANAGEO-IGEAT, Dept. Geosciences, Environment and Society, Universite libre de Bruxelles	Academia/Research	Brussels	Europe	Innovations in mapping the diversity of urban slums with free open-source solutions
23	Humanitarian Openstreetmap Team (HOT)	Civil society Organization	United States of America	North America	Map Your City: Using OpenStreetMap for Urban Resilience
24	Huairou Commission Women, Homes and Communities	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Tools and Strategies Community Based Women's Organizations Use to Foster Safe, Cooperative, Inclusive Urban Settlements
25	UNEP	United Nations	Global	Global	Integrated Neighbourhood Approach to Urban Planning and Management
26	UN Food and Agriculture Organization	United Nations	Global	Global	Integrating food systems into local planning
27	Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) / ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, The Brookings Institute, PLANMalaysia (Federal Department of Town and Country Planning)	Academia/Research / Civil Society Organization / National Government	Japan / Germany	Asia / Europe	Integrating and Localizing Global Sustainability Agenda through Voluntary Local Reviews in Cities
28	World Blind Union (WBU)	Civil Society Organization	Canada	North America	Cities Celebrating Diversity: Effective engagement of Persons with Disabilities in New Urban Agenda implementation
29	African Real Estate Society	Civil Society Organization	Kenya	Africa	Forging Partnerships and Initiatives in Support of Culture and Innovation The Case of African Cities
30	Architecture and Urban Planning, Qatar University	Academia/Research	Qatar	Asia	Towards a Sustainable Urban Regeneration of Historic Cities in the Gulf

Voices from Cities

	Name of leading organization	Partner type	Country	Region	Title of the Training
1	Cities Alliance	Inter-Governmental Organization	Belgium	Europe	Towards a new urban culture in Tunisia: advancing inclusive urban policies to achieve territorial balance and equity
2	Indonesia Creative Cities Network	Inter-Governmental Organization	Indonesia	Asia	Catha Ekadaksa: 11 Ways towards An Impactful Urban Creative Economy Ecosystem
3	Ministry for an Ecological and Solidary Transition	National Government	France	Europe	French cities in transition, XXIe century challenges : Paris 2024 Olympic Games village as frontrunner
4	Prefeitura Municipal de São João de Meriti	Local and Regional Government	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Dormitory Cities in Latin America - How to decrease the dependence of the metropolis and transform the reality of these cities?
5	Government of the State of Alagoas	Local and Regional Government	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Cooperation between local governments for an evidence-based urban development: the case of the "Vida Nova nas Grotas Programme" in Maceio, Brazil
6	Delog	Inter-Governmental Organization	Germany	Europe	If you want to go far, go with many: Strengthening the local voice at the international level
7	Public Works Studio	Private Sector	Lebanon	Asia	Narrating, Monitoring and Visioning: Towards Inclusive Housing in Beirut
8	Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces and the Community of Practice on Transparency and Open Government of UCLG	Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	Partnerships for sustainable Urban Development: Co-creating, Innovative and Inclusive Cities

	Name of leading organization	Partner type	Country	Region	Title of the Training
9	Urban Regeneration Office / Regeneration Policy Division / Seoul Metropolitan Government	Local and Regional Government	Republic of Korea	Asia	People-centred urban regeneration for sustainable urban growth: the story of Seou
10	World Health Organization	United Nations	Global	Global	Promoting healthy and livable cities through sector policy change
11	Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation	Academia/Research	China	Asia	Innovation and culture in bridging social, economic and spatial divides
12	AIVP - the Worldwide Network of Port Cities	Inter-Governmental Organization	France	Europe	Port cities as proxies for global sustainable development: The AIVP Agenda 2030
13	Korean National Committee for UN-Habitat	National Government	Republic of Korea	Asia	The era of Innovative Regeneration - Tangible/Intangible Cultural Assets for Sustainable Future
14	Municiplaity of Tehran	Local and Regional Government	Islamic Republic of Iran	Asia	The role of Culture in Livability
15	UN-Habitat and WHO	United Nations	Global	Global	Book preview "Integrating Health into Urban and Territorial planning. Sourcebook for urban leaders, health and planning professionals
16	Urban Development Directorate	Local and Regional Government	Bangladesh	Asia	Rhythm of a City: An Innovative Socio-Cultural Approach for Spatial Translation in Mymensingh City
17	United Cities and Local Governments of Africa	Local and Regional Government	Morocco	Africa	Local Strategies for financing local actions
18	OCEANIX, Floating Cities Institute	Private Sector	United States of America	North America	Sustainable Floating Cities: The next frontier for human settlements
19	The Department of Municipalities and Transport (DMT), United Arab Emirates and Pomeroy Academy	Local and Regional Government / Academia/ Research	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Cities of Opportunities Book Launch - Part 1
20	All India Institute of Local Self-Government	Local and Regional Government	India	Asia	Global launching of United Network of Circular Cities
21	Royal Commission for Riyadh City	Local and Regional Government	Saudi Arabia	Asia	Local Perspective to Achieve SDGs 2030 "Riyadh City"
22	Ecocity Builders	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	How to Advance Culturally and Ecologically Sensitive Urban Planning, Projects and Policies in the Developing Country Context
23	Agona West Municipal Assembly & Cape Coast Metropolitan Assembly	Local and Regional Government	Ghana	Africa	Climate Resilience and Equitable Economic Growth in Ghana – Opportunities for Investment and Job Creation
24	UCLG	Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	The localization of the SDGs and the NUA: lessons from the GOLD V Report
25	The Nature Conservancy, Australia; and Resilient Melbourne / University of Melbourne; and ICLEI local governments for sustainability	Academia/Research / Civil Society Organization	Australia	Oceania	CitiesWithNature: a global platform for urban nature as a pathway to showcase initiatives such as the Living Melbourne: Our Metropolitan Urban Forest strategy
26	Fundacion Metropoli in collaboration with the Government of Indonesia and Think City; Indonesia, Spain and Malaysia	Local and Regional Government / Private Sector	Malaysia	Asia	BINTAN. The Intelligent Island of Indonesia
27	Lagos State Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, Nigeria	Local and Regional Government	Nigeria	Africa	Lagos: Citizen participation in a multi-cultural City
28	UCLG	Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	The World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment
29	Madinah Region Development Authority (MDA), Saudi Arabia	Local and Regional Government	Saudia Arabia	Asia	Madinah: A Model for Humanizing Cities

	Name of leading organization	Partner type	Country	Region	Title of the Training
30	UCLG	Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	The International Municipal Investment Fund - IMIF: Facilitating Cities' Access to Capital Markets
31	Songyang County People's Government	Local and Regional Government	China	Asia	Rural Revitalization to strengthen the urban-rural linkages through innovations a case of Songyang County, China
32	City of Oulu	Local and Regional Government	Finland	Europe	Experiences and achievements of the Urban Agenda for the EU
33	The Department of Municipalities and Transport (DMT) and Pomeroy Academy	Local and Regional Government / Academia/ Research	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Cities of Opportunities Book Launch - Part 2
34	Centre for Heritage, Environment and Development	Local and Regional Government	India	Asia	Institutional Innovations for linking Heritage and Culture: Empowering Urban Local Governments in the global South
35	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Launch of the first edition of the Compendium of Case Studies for the Implementation of the Urban-Rural Linkages: Guiding Principles and framework for Action
36	NALAG - IMCC - DACF	Local and Regional Government	Ghana	Africa	Local Governments and Decentralization – A Commitment to leveraging on the Culture of Citizens to deliver Transformative Change: Sharing Knowledge and Best Practices
37	United Cities and Local Governments of Africa	Local and Regional Government	Morocco	Africa	Role of REFELA- UCLG Africa in the successful implementation of sustainable development objectives (SDOs).
38	Shah Alam City Council	Local and Regional Government	Malaysia	Asia	Shah Alam City Council (SACC) Roadmap in Achieving SDGs 11
39	Risk Management and Civil Defense Secretariat of the Government of Mexico City	Local and Regional Government	Mexico	Latin America and the Caribbean	Achieving resilient urban planning and comprehensive disaster risk management in Mexico: methodologies, tools and partnerships to prevent and mitigate the impacts of natural disasters and climate change
40	Department of Cooperative Governance	National Government	South Africa	Africa	A Peer Learning Network as a mechanism for implementing the national urban policy: Experiences from South African Intermediate Cities
41	Delhi Development Authority	National Government	India	Asia	RE-INVENTING DELHI: Fostering partnerships to steer innovation and sustainable development in world's next largest megalopolis
42	Urbanice	National Government	Malaysia	Asia	Malaysia SDG Cities Towards a Local Voluntary Reviews for Cities
43	Research Center of Migration, Environment and Social Development (CMESD); and Vietnam Union of Science and Technology Associations (VUSTA)	Academia/Research	Viet Nam	Asia	Activating Public Space for All in the Hanoi, Vietnam
44	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Presentation of the Participatory Incremental Urban Planning approach – a toolbox to support cities in developing countries to implement the New Urban Agenda
45	Eva Studio	Private Sector	United Kingdom	Europe	The "Arrival Neighborhood" in the Middle East: fostering social inclusion between displaced populations and host communities through public space projects
46	Department of Environment, Territorial Planning and Housing/ Basque Government	Local and Regional Government	Spain	Europe	The implementation of a subnational Urban Agenda through an Integrated Urban Regeneration Plan in vulnerable neighbourhoods

	Name of leading organization	Partner type	Country	Region	Title of the Training
47	Ministry of Infrastructure	National Government	Rwanda	Africa	A Call to Action on Sustainable Urbanisation at CHOGM2020
48	Instituto Municipal de Urbanismo Pereira Passos/ Rio de Janeiro City Hall	Local and Regional Government	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Articulating information to integrate social policies - the case of the Social Territories Program of the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
49	Ministry of Local Government	National Government	State of Palestine (Observer)	Asia	The Regeneration of Historic Centers role in achieving Sustainable Development/ case of alestine
50	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Book Launch: City-Wide Public Space Strategies
51	UCLG Africa	Local and Regional Government	Africa	Africa	African Capitals of Culture
52	Deputy of Social and Cultural Affairs/Tehran Municipality	Local and Regional Government	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Asia	Building Participatory Cities in Developing Countries; Infrastructures, Benefits and Limitations (Experience of Tehran, Iran)
53	Connected Cities Lab, University of Melbourne	Academia/Research	Australia	Oceania	The philanthropic city: urban governance and the culture of giving
54	Network of African Local Government Financing Institutions; FEICOM in Cameroon and the City Council of Kaloum	Local and Regional Government	Cameroon / Guinea	Africa	Financing sustainable cities in Africa. The role of local government funding institutions
55	World Enabled	Civil Society Organization	United States of America	North America	Building a Culture of Inclusion and Linguistic Diversity in Cities
56	Secretariat of Social & Urban Integration, Government of the City of Buenos Aires	Local and Regional Government	Argentina	Africa	Social & urban integration: sharing Buenos Aires' experience in Barrio 31
57	UCLG Africa	Local and Regional Government	Africa	Africa	Door of Return - A New Pan-African Era

One UN Room

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
1	UNESCAP	United Nations	Global	Global	Voices from Asia and the Pacific: Spotlighting committments from the 7th Asia-Pacific Urban Forum
2	UNESCO, Regional Office Cairo	United Nations	Global	Global	How inclusive is your city? Guide to public participation, access to information, youth inclusion through sports, and citizenship and human rights education in cities
3	United Nations - Department of Economic and Social Affairs - Division for Sustainable Development Goals	United Nations	Global	Global	Science, Technology and Innovation Roadmaps at city level - Localising and achieving the SDGs through innovation
4	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	United Nations	Global	Global	UNESCO Cities Platform: Urban solutions for global challenges
5	UNICEF	United Nations	Global	Global	Data for Children: Insights from global research on Multiple Deprivations and their Impact on children living in secondary towns and cities in Sub-Saharan Africa
6	UN-Habitat; and European Commission (DEVCO) and Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) Secretariat	United Nations / Inter-Governmental Organization	Global	Global	Upscaling Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP)
7	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction	United Nations	Global	Global	Building culture of resilience towards urban sustainable development: learning from the experience of cities from Africa, Asia-Pacific, Americas and Arab regions
8	The World Bank	United Nations	Global	Global	Creative Cities: Creativity and Culture for Jobs and Inclusive Growth
9	International Organization for Migration Displacement Tracking Matrix	United Nations	Global	Global	Urban Displacement: Figures and Relevance for Humanitarian-Development Nexus

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
10	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	United Nations	Global	Global	Urbanization and the role of Special Economic Zones
11	United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation	United Nations	Global	Global	Cities of Opportunities – Connecting Culture & Innovation
12	UN-Habitat in partnership with the five UN Regional Social and Economic Commissions	United Nations / Inter-Governmental Organization	Global	Global	Accelerating the Transition to Urban Sustainability through UN Inter-Regional Cooperation
13	The World Bank; and UN-Habitat; and Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements; and Centre for Liveable Cities, Singapore	United Nations / Academia/ Research	Global / Republic of Korea / Singapore	Global / Asia	The Hidden Wealth of Cities: Creating, Financing, and Managing Public Spaces
14	United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)	United Nations	Global	Global	Promoting resilient cities through climate change adaptation and innovative finance
15	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa	United Nations	Global	Global	Unleashing the transformative potential of urbanization through national development plannin
16	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	United Nations	Global	Global	Monitoring and measuring progress in sustainable urban development – Experiences from Latin America and the Caribbean
17	UNEP	United Nations	Global	Global	The Law and Climate Change Toolkit, an innovative tool to support the Implementation of the Paris Agreement at city level

SDGs in Action

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
1	The Banksia Foundation, Australia; and Connected Cities Lab, University of Melbourne	Civil Society Organization / Academia/Reseach	Australia	Oceania	Launch of the SDGs cities challenge
2	UN-Habiat	United Nations	Global	Global	Launch of the SDG Project Assessment Tool: An Innovative tool for inclusive, sustainable and effective urban projects
3	Shah Alam City Council	Local and Regional Government	Malaysia	Asia	Launch of Shah Alam SDGs Report
4	Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism	National Government	Japan	Asia	Localizing the SDGs through PPP in smart cities: lessons learned from Asia to the world
5.	City of Mannheim	Local and Regional Government	Germany	Europe	The Global Parliament of Mayors (GPM) Virtual Parliament the solution to accelerate digital democracy
6	Institute for Spatial Planning and Environment Research	Academia/Research	India	Asia	Localization of SDG 11 for achieving sustainable urbanization through urban planning tools
7	ENDA Ecopop, Senegal	Civil Society Organization	Senegal	Africa	Cities governance, culture and localization of SDGs
8	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	Inter-Governmental Organization	Global	Global	A territorial approach to the SDGs. Connecting culture and innovation through the sdgs in cities
9	Habitat for Humanity International	Civil Society Organizations	United States of America	North America	Leveraging partnerships to achieve success in monitoring and influencing the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 11 and other Human Settlements indicators
10	Chicago Council on Global Affairs	Local and Regional Government	United States of America	North America	Leveraging city diplomacy to achieve the SDGs

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
11	Ministry of Planning	National Government	Ghana	Africa	Delivering the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) & the New Urban Agenda in Ghana – leveraging on the culture of the people and comparative advantage of cities
12	Group on Earth Observations (GEO)	Civil Society Organization	Switzerland	Europe	Earth observations in support of the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda
13	Ministry of Agrarian, Territorial and Urban Development	National Government	Mexico	Latin America and the Caribbean	From planning to implementing the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs: local experiences in Mexico.
14	Shah Alam City Council, Malaysia	Local and Regional Government	Malaysia	Asia	Malaysia Local Efforts Towards Localisation of the SDGs and New Urban Agenda
15	Foro Ciudades Para la Vida	Civil Society Organization	Peru	Latin America and the Caribbean	Voluntary local reports - an innovative and participatory way for monitoring progress on SDG11 in cities
16	Planmalaysia (Town and Country Planning Federal Department) Wisma UOA Damansara, Jalan Dungun, Damansara Heights	Local and Regional Government	Malaysia	Asia	Challenges in implementing sustainability assessment for cities towards achieving SDGs
17	Tun Fatimah Hashim Women's Leadership Centre, the National University of Malaysia	Academia/Research	Malaysia	Asia	Connecting culture and innovation to enhance women's economic empowerment for the effective implementation of the New Urban Agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals
18	United Nations Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD), UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)	United Nations	Global	Global	Inclusive Local Governance Solutions to Accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals
19	Royal Town Planning Institute London	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Achieving SDG11 in the commonwealth through plantech: an open discussion on digitally-enabled urban planning
20	College of William and Mary	Academia/Research	United States of America	North America	Innovation-data-finance nexus: connecting the pathway to achieving the urban related SDGs and NUA
21	Ministry of Local Governments	National Government	Norway	Europe	SDGs as a tool for inclusive cities and local governments
22	UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network - Youth	United Nations	Global	Global	Local Pathways Fellowship: Empowering Youth to Implement the New Urban Agenda in Their Cities
23	Ministry of Regional Development	National Government	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean	Innovative national and local urban policies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and implement the New Urban Agenda (NUA)
24	ESRI, International supplier of geographic information system	Private Sector	United States of America	North America	How geography enables sustainable urban communities aligned with the SDGs
25	Lima Cómo Vamos	Civil Society Organization	Peru	Latin America and the Caribbean	SDGs monitoring at the city level, a multi-stakeholder effort
26	League of Arab States	Inter-Governmental Organization	Egypt	Africa	Progress made in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda in the Arab region: challenges and prospects for innovation
27	PWC Middle East, Government and Public sector	Private Sector	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Financing and implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and New Urban Agenda in cities

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
28	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	An innovative multidimensional approach to accelerate the 2030 Agenda through Participatory Budgeting
29	Technical University of Berlin - campus El Gouna, Egypt; and University of Groningen, Netherlands	Academia/Research	Egypt / Netherlands	Europe/Africa	In culturally informed pursuit of SDGs: A critical examination of urban innovations in Asia, Europe, and the MENA-region

Urban Library

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
1	Data-Driven Environmental Policy Lab	Academia/Research	Singapore	Asia	Sustainable and Inclusive? Next-generation data approaches to measuring progress towards SDG-11
2	Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD)	Inter-Governmental Organization	France	Europe	Cities in the world. Towards a new perspective on urbanisation and urban policy
3	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Effectiveness of Planning Laws: Comparative Analysis (Sub-Saharan Africa/Land-Rich Developed Countries)
4	Asian Development Bank	Inter-Governmental Organization	Asia	Asia	Dissemination of the ADB flagship study "Fostering Growth and Inclusion in Asia's Cities"
5	City Space Architecture	Civil Society Organization	Italy	Europe	The Journal of Public Space. An open access forum for the discussion and advancement of research about public space
6	Environment Europe	Foundation	United Kingdom	Europe	Cities, Ecosystems and Climate Change: The Role of Environmental Art to Facilitate Change and Transformation towards Sustainability
7	Platform for the Observation of Urban Projects and Strategies	Academia/Research	France	Europe	Research programs on post-carbon metropolises
8	UNESCAP	United Nations	Global	Global	The Future of Asian and Pacific Cities Report Global Launch
9	Fundacion Metropoli	Private Sector	Spain	Europe	Territorial Planning: Diamonds, Diagonals & Supercities
10	University of Deusto (Deusto Cities Lab)	Academia/Research	Spain	Europe	Cocreating innovative and sustainable cities with niversities/Academia
11	OECD Sahel and West Africa Club (SWAC)	Inter-Governmental Organization	France	Europe	Africapolis – Urbanisation in Africa: Innovative data for better policies
12	WUF for WUHAN, UN-Habitat	National Government / United Nations	China	Asia / Global	UN-Habitat China Reports Launching on City Prosperity and Smart Urban Development
13	United World Infrastructure	Private Sector	United Arab Emirates	Asia	Advancing Inclusive Happiness, Culture, and Sustainable Urbanization in the MENA Region
14	Observer Research Foundation	Academia/Research	India	Asia	Regional Planning: A planning approach for managing the rural-urban continuum
15	Ministry of Territorial Planning and Housing	National Government	Angola	Africa	Launching the national housing policy of Angola
16	QASSIM Municipality AFM Consults	Local and Regional Government	Saudia Arabia	Asia	Local urban observatories in support of 2030 agenda: experiences of Qassim urban observatory in local monitoring and leading data-driven decision making
17	Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Housing	National Government	Spain	Europe	Productive city and circular city. Conversations around the urban agenda
18	International Institute for Environment and Development	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Grassroots-Led Upgrading at Scale: Innovations in Partnerships and Community Media from Mukuru, Nairobi
19	Melbourne Sustainable Society Institute / University of Melbourne	Academia/Research	Australia	Oceania	Climate Resilient Development and the Urban Poor: Lessons from Adaptation Planning in the Asia-Pacific

	Name of organization(s)	Partner type	Country	Region	Title
20	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	SDGs and Sustainable Urban Competitiveness Seminar
21	The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)	Academia/Research	India	Asia	Strengthening Capacities for Sustainable Cities
22	European Commission - Joint Research Centre	Inter-Governmental Organization	Italy	Europe	Launch of the European Handbook for SDG Voluntary Local Reviews
23	Commonwealth Association of Architects	Civil Society Organization	United Kingdom	Europe	Building capacity in the built environment professions in the Commonwealth
24	UCLG Peace Prize	Local and Regional Government	Netherlands	Europe	Innovations for peaceful cities: local governments and peacebuilding
25	Pereira Passsos Municipal Institute of Urban Affairs-IPP / Rio de Janeiro City Hall and UN-Habitat Rolac Brazil	Local and Regional Government / United Nations	Brazil	Latin America and the Caribbean / Global	Articulating information to integrate social policies - the case of the Social Territories Program of the city of Rio de Janeiro
26	Centre for the Future of Places, KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Academia/Research	Sweden	Europe	Launch of "A New Pattern Language for Growing Regions: Places, Networks and Processes
27	United Kingdom Research and Innovation Global Challenges Research Fund/King's College	Academia/Research	United Kingdom	Europe	Book Launch: African Urban Risk Knowledge
28	UCCRN - NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies/Columbia University, United States of America; and Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy	Local and Regional Government / Academia/ Research	United States	North America	Achieving the Global Urban Research and Action Agenda: Co-sponsored by UCCRN and the Global Covenant of Mayors
29	Peace in Our Cities Campaign and UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	A Decade of Action to Transform Urban Violence: Achieving SDG 16+ and Implementing the UN systemwide Guidelines on Safer Cities and Human Settlements
30	UN-Habitat	United Nations	Global	Global	Publication Launch: Urban Planning for City Leaders, a Handbook for Kenya
31	NACTO-Global Designing Cities Initiative	Civil Society Organization	United States	North America	Designing Streets for Kids: presenting new design guidance for child-focused urban streets.
32	JPI Urban Europe	Inter-Governmental Organization	Sweden	Europe	Success stories: From smart city projects to sustainable urban futures
33	HelpAge International	Civil Society Organization	United Kindgom	Europe	Urban Spaces and Mobility in Older Age - research from Mexico City, Delhi and Nairobi
34	International Real Estate Federation - FIABCI	Civil Society Organization	France	Europe	The City We Need is Affordable - Innovative Solutions for Inclusive Cities
35	Universidade de Aveiro, Portugal; Department of Architecture, Ardhi University, United Republic of Tanzania	Academia/Research	Portugal / Tanzania	Europe / Africa	Beyond informality: informal settlements as contemporaneous urban heritage

Annex V: UN Web TV links

Saturday, 8 February 2020

Youth Assembly

http://webtv.un.org/search/youth-assembly-part-1-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130709069001/?term=WUF10&page=10
http://webtv.un.org/search/youth-assembly-part-2-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130756597001/?term=WUF10&page=10
http://webtv.un.org/search/youth-assembly-part-3-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130776797001/?term=WUF10&page=10

Women's Assembly

http://webtv.un.org/search/womens-assembly-part-1-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130726351001/?term=WUF10&page=10
http://webtv.un.org/search/womens-assembly-part-2-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130774493001/?term=WUF10&page=10

Business Assembly

http://webtv.un.org/search/business-assembly-opening-and-panel-1-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130721303001/?term=WUF10&page=10
http://webtv.un.org/search/business-assembly-panel-2-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130731771001/?term=WUF10&page=10
http://webtv.un.org/search/business-assembly-panel-3-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130757125001/?term=WUF10&page=10

Local and Regional Governments Assembly

http://webtv.un.org/search/world-assembly-of-local-and-regional-governments-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130780027001/?term=WUF10&page=9

Grassroots Assembly

http://webtv.un.org/search/grassroot-assembly-part-1-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130722923001/?term=WUF10&page=10
http://webtv.un.org/search/grassroot-assembly-part-2-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130765091001/?term=WUF10&page=10

Sunday, 9 February 2020

Opening Ceremony

http://webtv.un.org/search/opening-of-the-tenth-session-of-the-world-urban-forum-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130935240001/?term=WUF10&page=9
http://webtv.un.org/search/ant%C3%B3nio-guterres-un-secretary-general-on-world-urban-forum-10/6131143305001/?term=WUF10&page=9
http://webtv.un.org/search/flag-raising-ceremony-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131156039001/?term=WUF10&page=9

Ministers Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/ministers-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130957613001/?term=WUF10&page=8

Researchers Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/researchers-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130956802001/?term=WUF10&page=8

Local and Regional Governments Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/local-and-regional-governments-roundtable-effective-multi-level-governance-for-the-implementation-of-the-new-urban-agenda-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130970820001/?term=WUF10&page=8

Business and Industries Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/business-and-industries-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130972749001/?term=WUF10&page=7

Special Session on Sustainable Urban Development in the Arab/MENA Region

http://webtv.un.org/search/sustainable-urban-development-in-the-arabmena-region-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130954757001/?term=WUF10&page=9

Special Session on Addressing inequality through culture and innovation

http://webtv.un.org/search/addressing-inequality-through-culture-and-innovation-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130972409001/?term=WUF10&page=8

Special Session on Driving shared urban prosperity through cultural lens

http://webtv.un.org/search/driving-shared-urban-prosperity-through-cultural-lens-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130969344001/?term=WUF10&page=8

Special Session on Urban culture and climate change action

http://webtv.un.org/search/urban-culture-and-climate-change-action-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6130970709001/?term=WUF10&page=8

Monday, 10 February 2020

Dialogue 1: Urbanization, Culture and Innovation

http://webtv.un.org/search/dialogue-1-urbanization-culture-and-innovation-part-1-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131176816001/?term=WUF10&page=7
http://webtv.un.org/search/dialogue-1-urbanization-culture-and-innovation-part-2-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131184338001/?term=WUF10&page=7

Dialogue 2: Implementing the New Urban Agenda to drive Sustainable Change

http://webtv.un.org/search/dialogue-2-implementing-the-new-urban-agenda-to-drive-sustainable-change-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131198285001/?term=WUF10&page=7

One UN Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/one-un-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131239767001/?term=WUF10&page=6

Foundations and Philanthropies Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/foundations-and-philanthropies-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131235086001/?term=%22Philanthropies%22&sort=date

Persons with Determination (Disability) Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/persons-with-disabilities-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131273148001/?term=WUF10&page=5

Women's Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/women-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131268830001/?term=WUF10&page=5

Voluntary Local Reviews

http://webtv.un.org/search/local-voluntary-reviews-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131236614001/?term=Voluntary%20Local%20Reviews&sort=date

Special Session on Migration and the Open City: the role of culture in enabling inclusive societies

http://webtv.un.org/search/migration-and-the-open-city-the-role-of-culture-in-enabling-inclusive-societies-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131238440001/?term=%22Migration%20and%20the%20Open%20City%22&sort=date

Special Session on Financing for sustainable urban development

http://webtv.un.org/search/financing-for-sustainable-urban-development-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131264058001/?term=WUF10&page=5

Special Session on Culture, the creative industry and their impact on reconstruction and resilience

http://webtv.un.org/search/culture-the-creative-industry-and-their-impact-on-reconstruction-and-resilience-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131263250001/?term=WUF10&page=5

Tuesday, 11 February 2020

Dialogue 3: Tradition and Modernity: A Creative Convergence for Sustainable Cities

http://webtv.un.org/search/dialogue-3-tradition-and-modernity-a-creative-convergence-for-sustainable-cities-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131475554001/?term=WUF10&page=5

Dialogue 4: Frontier technologies and innovation for inclusive, sustainable and resilient smart cities

http://webtv.un.org/search/dialogue-4-frontier-technologies-and-innovation-for-inclusive-sustainable-and-resilient-smart-cities-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/61314-82060001/?term=WUF10&page=5

Parliamentarians Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/parliamentarians-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131530222001/?term=WUF10&page=4

Civil Society Organizations Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/civil-society-organizations-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131532602001/?term=WUF10&page=4

Universities Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/universities-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131567647001/?term=WUF10&page=3

Older Persons Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/older-persons-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131567667001/?term=WUF10&page=3

Special Session on Local 2030 – A global network to localize Agenda 2030

http://webtv.un.org/search/local-2030-%E2%80%93-a-global-network-to-localize-agenda-2030-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131535971001/?term=WUF10&page=4

Special Session on National Urban Forums

http://webtv.un.org/search/national-urban-forums-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131525834001/?term=WUF10&sort=date&page=4

Special Session on Platform on the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda

http://webtv.un.org/search/platform-on-the-implementation-of-the-new-urban-agenda-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131563389001/?term=Cities%20and%20culture:%20people%20on%20the%20move&sort=date&page=3

Special Session on Youth, culture and urbanism

http://webtv.un.org/search/youth-culture-and-urbanism-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131568301001/?term=WUF10&page=3

Wednesday, 12 February 2020

Dialogue 5: Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation Regeneration

http://webtv.un.org/search/dialogue-5-urban-planning-and-heritage-preservation-regeneration-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131805906001/?term=WUF10&page=3

Dialogue 6: Partnerships and Initiatives Supporting Culture and Innovation in Cities

http://webtv.un.org/search/dialogue-6-partnerships-and-initiatives-supporting-culture-and-innovation-in-cities-part-

2-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131817261001/?term=WUF10&page=3
http://webtv.un.org/search/dialogue-6-partnerships-and-initiatives-supporting-culture-and-innovation-in-cities-part-1-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131800739001/?term=WUF10&page=3

Children and Youth Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/children-and-youth-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131858275001/?term=WUF10&page=2

Traditional Authorities Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/traditional-authorities-roundtable-part-1-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131836585001/?term=WUF10&page=2
http://webtv.un.org/search/traditional-authorities-roundtable-part-2-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131854849001/?term=WUF10&page=2

Indigenous Peoples Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/indigenous-peoples-roundtable-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131893028001/?term=WUF10&page=1

Professionals Roundtable

http://webtv.un.org/search/professionals-roundtable-part-1-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131878277001/?term=WUF10&page=2
http://webtv.un.org/search/professionals-roundtable-part-2-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131893124001/?term=WUF10&page=1

Special Session on Affordable Housing Innovation to Foster Cities' Culture and Diversity

http://webtv.un.org/search/affordable-housing-innovation-to-foster-cities-culture-and-diversity-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131856662001/?term=WUF10&sort=date&page=2

Special Session on Enhanced Resilience of the built environment and infrastructure

*This session was not recorded

Special Session on Land governance and urban growth - Leveraging land value to achieve sustainable urbanization

http://webtv.un.org/search/land-governance-and-urban-growth-leveraging-land-value-to-achieve-sustainable-urbanization-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131888269001/?term=WUF10&sort=date

Special Session on Community Outreach: A mandatory investment for inclusive, sustainable and liveable cities

http://webtv.un.org/search/community-outreach-a-mandatory-investment-for-inclusive-sustainable-and-liveable-cities-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6132089650001/?term=WUF10&sort=date
http://webtv.un.org/search/community-outreach-a-mandatory-investment-for-inclusive-sustainable-and-liveable-cities-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6131891257001/?term=WUF10&sort=date

Thursday, 13 February 2020

Closing Ceremony

http://webtv.un.org/search/final-press-conference-on-the-closing-of-the-tenth-world-urban-forum-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6132124542001/?term=WUF10&page=1
http://webtv.un.org/search/closing-ceremony-of-the-tenth-session-of-the-world-urban-forum-wuf10-8-13-february-2020-abu-dhabi-uae/6132113374001/?term=WUF10&page=1

Annex VI: IISD report links

08 February 2020

Arabic: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num15a.html
English: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num15e.html

09 February 2020

Arabic: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num16a.html
English: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num16e.html

10 February 2020

Arabic: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num17a.html
English: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num17e.html

11 February 2020

Arabic: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num18a.html
English: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num18e.html

12 February 2020

Arabic: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num19a.html
English: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num19e.html

13 February 2020

Arabic: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num20a.html
English: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num20e.html

Summary

Arabic: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num21a.html
English: https://enb.iisd.org/wuf/10/html/enbplus125num21e.html

Endnotes

1   Abu Dhabi Declared Actions. 2020. https://wuf.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020-02/WUF10_final_declared_actions.pdf

2   Maimunah Mohd Sharif. 2020. The Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum: Connecting Innovation and Culture for Cities of Opportunity. UN Chronicle. https://www.un.org/pt/node/54501

3   UN Sustainable Development Goals. 2020. Decade of Action. https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/decade-of-action/

4   UCLG Policy Statement: Culture is the Fourth Pillar of Sustainable Development, adopted the 17 November 2010, in the framework of the World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders - 3rd World Congress of UCLG, held in Mexico City.

5   "Societal norms" are the rules of behaviour that are accepted by a certain community or society. These norms for "culture" are what drive city ordinances, new by-laws and building codes.

6   UNESCO. 2014. Social Inclusion, Social Transformations, Social Innovation, What Role for UNESCO in 2014-2021? http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/BPI/EPA/images/media_services/Director-General/ConceptNoteSocialInclusionSocialTransformationsSocialInnovationEN.pdf

7   Dialogue on Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation – Regeneration.

8   Grassroots Assembly.

9   Special Session on Youth, Culture and Urbanism.

10 Foundations and Philanthropies Roundtable.

11 Dialogue on Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation – Regeneration.

12 Civil Society Organizsations and Grassroots Roundtable.

13 UN-Habitat Flagship Programme – SDG Cities.

14 UN Sustainable Development Goals. 2020. Decade of Action. https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/decade-of-action/

15 UN-Habitat. 2020. Speech by the Executive Director, UN-Habitat, on the occasion of the Official Opening at the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum, 9th February 2020, Abu Dhabi.

16 UN-Habitat. 2020. Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group of the Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum, Nairobi.

17 WUF10. 2020. Preparations on WUF10 – Governance Complying with Audits and Evaluation - Enduring Structures for Accountability. https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020/01/wuf10_update_for_executive_board_bureau_14_january_2020.pdf

18 United Nations. 2018. Progress on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda: report of the Secretary-General. A/73/83–E/2018/62. https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/1628008.

19 Maimunah Mohd Sharif. 2020. The Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum: Connecting Innovation and Culture for Cities of Opportunity. UN Chronicle. https://www.un.org/pt/node/54501.

20 Available online: https://wuf.unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2020-02/WUF10_final_declared_actions.pdf.

21 Dialogue on Implementing the New Urban Agenda to Drive Sustainable Change.

22 Abu Dhabi Declared Actions.

23 Ibid.

24 Special Session on Addressing Inequality Through Culture and Innovation.

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43   Dialogue on Implementing the New Urban Agenda to Drive Sustainable Change.

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UN-Habitat's team in Abu Dhabi
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المنتدى الحضري العالمي
World Urban Forum

Abu Dhabi, UAE 8-13 February 2020

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