

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Hosting of the Eleventh session of the World Urban Forum - in 2022

WUF 11

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

19 May 2017

1. THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

The World Urban Forum (WUF) is the world's premier conference on urban issues. It is a non-legislative technical forum convened by UN-Habitat since 2002.

The Forum has become one of the most open international gatherings for exchanging views and experiences on urban challenges. The inclusive nature of the Forum, combined with high-level participation, makes it a unique United Nations conference and the foremost global arena for interaction among policymakers, local government leaders, non-governmental organizations and expert practitioners in the field of sustainable urban development and human settlements.

The Forum is held in a different host city and country biennially. The participation in the Forum has significantly increased in last years and steadied at around 18,000 participants from all over the world in WUF7 held in Medellín, Colombia, in 2014.

WUF sessions*	Location	Dates	Participants
WUF1	Nairobi, Kenya	29 April – 3 May 2002	1,155
WUF2	Barcelona, Spain	13 – 17 September 2004	4,389
WUF3	Vancouver, Canada	19 – 23 June 2006	9,689
WUF4	Nanjing, China	3 – 6 November 2008	8,000
WUF5	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	22 – 26 March 2010	10,634
WUF6	Naples, Italy	1 – 7 September 2012	6,516
WUF7	Medellín, Colombia	5 – 11 April 2014	18,030
WUF9	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	7 – 13 February 2018	-
WUF10	Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	October-November 2020	-

*WUF8 was not held since the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) was held in October 2016.

2. THE WORLD URBAN FORUM AND THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

The New Urban Agenda¹ was adopted in October 2016 at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development – Habitat III in Quito, Ecuador. It is a result of a unique consensus among all participating states. The document sets out a common vision and global standards for urban development in the coming decades and offers a paradigm shift in the way we think, build, and manage cities.

The New Urban Agenda has come at a critical moment, when for the first time in history over half of the world's population is residing in cities. Cities, if planned and managed well, will become the main tool for sustainable development and have a potential to be a solution to many of the challenges our planet is facing today. The New Urban Agenda lays out the vision for future cities based on the science of urban development providing tools in crucial areas.

¹ United Nations General Assembly resolution A/RES/71/256

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In paragraph 167 of the New Urban Agenda, participating States request the report of the implementation of the Agenda to incorporate, to the extent possible, the inputs of multilateral organizations and processes where appropriate, civil society, the private sector and academia and to build on existing platforms and processes such as the World Urban Forum convened by UN-Habitat.

3. THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE WORLD URBAN FORUM (WUF11) IN 2022

By 2050, the world's urban population is expected to nearly double, making urbanization one of the twenty-first century's most transformative trends. The World Urban Forum aims to gather participants to discuss and readdress the way cities and human settlements are planned, designed, financed, developed, governed and managed in a city that is globally recognized for its innovation and urban solutions in sustainable development. The Forum will explore ways and provide insights and lesson that will promote and contribute to inclusive development in all parts of the world and the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

4. OBJECTIVE OF THE FORUM

The World Urban Forum has the following objectives:

- raise awareness of sustainable urbanization among stakeholders and constituencies, including the general public;
- improve the collective knowledge of sustainable urban development through inclusive open debates, sharing of lessons learned and the exchange of best practices and good policies; and
- increase coordination and cooperation between different stakeholders and constituencies for the advancement and implementation of sustainable urbanization
- platform to incorporate the inputs of multilateral organizations and stakeholders into the reporting of the implementation of the New Urban Agenda

The Eleventh session of the World Urban Forum will also contribute to global mobilization towards advocating for the common vision on sustainable urban development and advancing on the achievement of the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals.

5. BID PROCESS AND TIME FRAME

The closing date for receiving of the Expression of Interest for WUF11 is 30 July 2017. The table below outlines the time frame of important dates for the complete bidding process.

Opening of the Call for expression of interest	19 May 2017
Deadline for receiving expressions of interest	30 July 2017
Follow up with the potential hosts (only with expressions of interest received within set deadline) and provision of the bidding procedure and guidelines	30 July to 30 October 2017
Deadline for receiving bidding proposals	31 October 2017
Bid evaluation	31 October – 31 December 2017
Announcement of selected WUF11 host city/country	10 February 2018
Signing of Host Country Agreement and Conference Agreement	June 2018
Starting of preparations for WUF11	June 2018

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6. FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

To host the World Urban Forum a financial contribution is required. The host country for WUF11 is expected to make a minimal contribution of eight million US dollars (USD 8,000,000) total cash contribution to UN-Habitat spread over 4 years. Information on the purpose of the cash contribution to UN-Habitat will be provided as part of the bidding proposal.

Additionally, the host country is required to provide an in-kind contribution of: the venue with its conference facilities; services and requirements for registration and accreditation; security services and equipment according to United Nations security regulations within the city, around and within the venue; interpretation services for the main sessions; operational and logistical needs with respective human resources in the country, city and at the venue.

7. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

A city wishing to express its interest to officially host the Eleventh session of the World Urban Forum (WUF11) is required to send an official communication (on letter head and with signature) to the UN-Habitat WUF Secretariat, addressed to the UN-Habitat Executive Director, Dr. Joan Clos, within the above mentioned deadline to the following email address: **wuf11bid@unhabitat.org**

For any clarifications on the call for expression of interest, please contact the UN-Habitat WUF Secretariat at the email address above.

Please note: Any submission for the call for expression of interest which is not of official nature or is received after the deadline will not be considered.