INTERNATIONAL URBAN COOPERATION
European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean

A European Union Programme

OPEN DIALOGUES IUC-LAC - 2020

EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA RETHINK POST-COVID-19 CITIES

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INDEX

01 Block 1: Rethinking the tourist city after COVID-19

- Madrid (ES)
- Málaga (ES)
- Rome (IT)
- Génova (IT)
- Cartagena de Indias (CO)
- Tourism and plan Costa del Sol (ES)
- Associazione i Borghi Più Belli d'Italia (IT)

4

Block 2: Rethinking Urban transformation

02 Urban Planning and Public Spaces

- Arequipa (PE)
- Buenos Aires (ARG)
- Madrid (ES)
- Vilnius (LT)
- Case Study: European Union's Urban Agenda. Partnership for the Security of Public Spaces, Brussels-Capital Region, Hans Crab

14

03 Urban Transport and Mobility

- Armenia (CO)
- Eurocities
- Rosario (ARG)
- Turin (IT)
- Case Study: Vitoria-Gasteiz (ES) and Territorial Ecology Foundation – Barcelona (ES)

18

Block 3: Economic recovery

04 Green Recovery

- Viana do Castelo (PT)
- São Leopoldo (BR)
- Pablos Melas (GR)
- Ibagué-UCC (CO)
- Case Study – Utrecht (HO)

22

05 Smart Recovery

- Barranquilla (CO)
- Benedito Novo (BR)
- Smart City Cluster España (ES)
- Oporto (PT)
- Case Study: Start Up Lisboa(PT)

26

Block 4: Climate resilience

06 Rethinking public services and natural resources

- Miraflores (PE)
- San Pedro de la Paz (CL)
- Granada (ES)
- ANCI Lazio (IT)
- Case Study – Global Network of Resilient Cities (GNRC)

30

07 Climate actions and solutions

- Almada (PT)
- Viña del Mar (CL)
- Pereira (CO)
- Zagreb (CR)
- Case Study: The European Green Deal

36

Presentation

The future of cities has been the centre of debates in the last 3 months all around the world. The reorganization of public space, social and economic activity to new priorities in such a short period of time, has forced local governments to think different.

The IUC-LAC Open Dialogues have tried to capitalize the added value of international city to city cooperation & thematic networking of European cities, which have started earlier to suffer the impacts of the pandemia, and LAC ones, to transform these impacts into opportunities.

The topics selected, tourism, public space, mobility & transport, green & smart economy or climate resilience, open a world of possibilities for structural changes where people will be in the centre of urban transformation. Integrated sustainable urban development is always behind IUC, not only as a concept but as a strategy to inspire urban agendas.

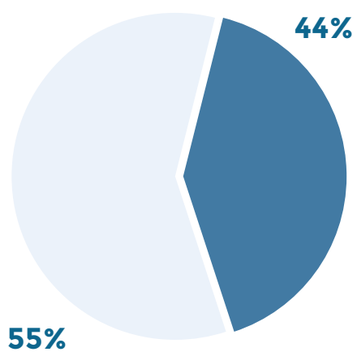
During these **7 webinars** we brought together **39 speakers** including **cities (mayors & technicians),** their stakeholders **(business & academia), networks or associations, and thematic case studies.** Registrations have reached a total number of 1228 (55,7% women – 44,3% men) and 21,09% from Europe and 77,52% from LAC.

The present report presents the main "takeaways" around each webinar helping us to identify key topics that will be reinforced and accelerated in the "new normal". We really hope that these exchanges under International **Urban Cooperation between Europe and Latin America & the Caribbean,** inspire you to rethink your cities from innovative perspectives.

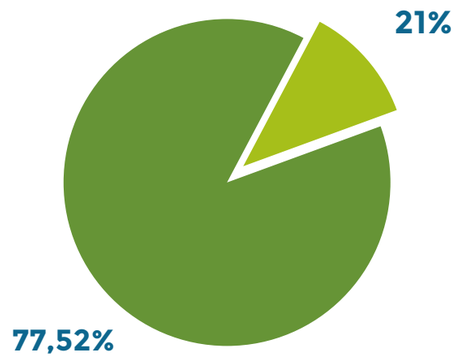
"We really hope that these exchanges between **Europe and Latin America & the Caribbean,** inspire you to rethink your cities from innovative perspectives."

Sandra Marín Herbert
City to City Cooperation Coordinator for IUC-LAC

Total 1228
Participation by gender



Total 1228
Participation by region



Block 1: Rethinking the tourist city after COVID-19

Génova, Rome (IT), Madrid, Málaga (ES), Cartagena de Indias (CO)
Case study: Tourism and plan Costa del Sol (ES) and Associazione i Borghi Più Belli d'Italia (IT)

- **Will our way of traveling change and will we look for other tourist attributes beyond sun and sand or museums?**
- **Will we change our attitude away from mass tourism?**
- **What tensions arise from the need to reorganize the space available for inhabitants and visitors with sufficient distance?**

01

RETHINKING THE TOURIST CITY AFTER COVID-19

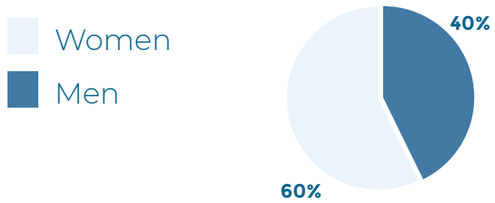
Watch the webinar on YouTube

The first open webinar of the IUC-LAC DIALOGUES series: **"Rethinking the post-COVID-19 tourist city"**, organized by the International Urban Cooperation Program for Latin America and the Caribbean (IUC-LAC), where Italy and Spain shared their ideas and strategies on tourism.

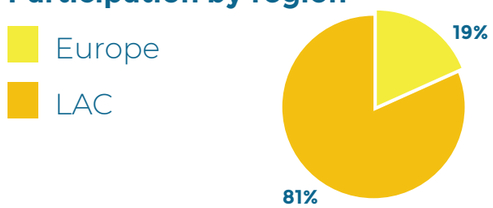
The European cities and entities that participated in this event were: **Genoa, Rome, Madrid, Malaga and the key actors of the Planning and Tourism sector Costa del Sol (ES), and the Association "Borghi più belli d'Italia" (IT).**

Tourist cities around the world are facing enormous uncertainty and great challenges in dealing with the post-COVID-19, and the first thing they have done is to react locally.

Total 306
Participation by gender



Total 306
Participation by region



MALAGA | Francisco Quereda | Director Málaga Convention Bureau

During the second interventio, **Francisco Quereda** mentioned that Malaga was having **a moderate incidence of COVID-19 infections,** with a rate of infected people per 100,000 inhabitants of 318. On the other hand, the city has respected the confinement in an exemplary way, awakening a wave of solidarity in the population and great initiatives such as Fujitsu's manufacturing of the artificial respirators 'Andalucía Respira', a prototype developed in record time by the University of Malaga, IBIMA and the Regional Hospital of Malaga.

The main challenges and strategies of the city are:

- Health and safety.
- Entrepreneurs and SMEs.
- Job recovery.
- Social assistance.
- As a tourist destination: We must once again enchant, attract and build loyalty.
- Digitization.
- We have to reformulate the model of the city we want.

3 TOP TAKEAWAYS | MALAGA

- **We are working to reformulate the type of city-destination to which we want to be reconverted.**
- **In collaboration with the Institute for Spanish Tourism Quality (ICTE), the bases are being prepared to launch the COVID-Free Seal, by sector.**
- **To reactivate, renew and reinvent the tourism sector after the coronavirus is our challenge as a destination, and for which we have resorted to innovative ideas from companies, entrepreneurs and SMEs, through the CHALLENGE PROJECT.**

Among the main **measures-ideas-proposed for the reactivation of the sector,** he highlighted the following:

- Malaga safe city. COVID Free stamp by sector.
- Tourism sector ICTE standards - national framework.
- Employment - SMEs, entrepreneurs, self-employed - change.
- #malagatourismchallenge - reactivates - renews - reinvents (+ 300 ideas and projects that companies and individuals are bringing to the city.
- Specific training - digital tourism.
- Sector Tables -Tourism Forum, together we add up to more.
- Reformulation of the city strategic plan - new model towards digital and sustainable tourism?
- Malaga is open for business - recovering strategic sectors.
- Tourism Innovation Working Group - Accelerate.
- Capitalize on the fact that Malaga is an intelligent tourist destination - Segittur.
- Sustainability, accessibility, culture, digitalization.
- Capital of Málaga 2020 Smart Tourism European Capital, requested extension to 2021.
- Intelligence system at destination - big data.
- Air connectivity, new routes - Aena, Andalusia, Costa del Sol.
- Promotion; inbound marketing - building loyalty, regaining trust.
- National and international residents: ambassadors who will convey the security of our destination.

MADRID | Cecilio Cerdán | General Director of Cooperation and Global Citizenship

In his first intervention, **Cecilio Cerdán** acknowledged that **Madrid, together with Milan and New York, are currently the center of the pandemic**, and that its challenges are therefore of great relevance to both his city and its areas of influence. The measures to be developed have been established on the basis of the following **strategies:**

- Recovery of objective security in cultural and leisure establishments and places, with specific measures especially for security.
- Recovery of the subjective security in the tourist's perception, as a safe destination.
- Reactivation of the Madrid destination: measures of attraction at origin in an educational way.
- Sector recovery: Services, economy and employment recovery.

Among the main **measures-ideas-proposed for the reactivation of the sector**, he highlighted the following:

- COVID-Free" hotels. As an example, Madrid already has hotels that have been opened during confinement, for health personnel, transporters, etc.
- Collaboration with the Institute for Spanish Tourism Quality (ICTE), to launch the COVID-Free Seal, by sector, standardizing hygiene and prevention measures.
- Close return roadmap and staggered opening to ensure balance between supply and demand.
- Maintenance of the traveler's experience in parallel with the life of the people of Madrid.
- To facilitate the hotel and catering terraces.
- Reinforcement of other activities already planned in advance (extension of tourist routes in Madrid, shopping tourism), to avoid massive concentrations and facilitate interpersonal distance.
- National tourism' campaign.
- Economic measures: exemption from property tax, business tax, exemption from fees, guarantees and securities.

3 TOP TAKEAWAYS | MADRID

- **Reinforcement of Apps that allow our visitors to access alternative tourist routes in an updated way, and recommend to our visitors places with less massification in real time.**
- **Allow the use of public terraces to bars and restaurants, as long as free access to homes, shops, etc., and the corresponding pedestrian traffic spaces are maintained, in order to support and reactivate the hotel economy.**
- **In Madrid it has not been detected and we will probably not have the so-called Tourism-Phobia Syndrome. Most of our visitors are looking for the same experiences and tend to make the same leisure life as a Madrid resident. Therefore its integrity in the population is total.**

GENOA | Bárbara Poggio & Gianluca Saba | Head of International Relations

During the fourth intervention, Barbara Poggio, recalled that Genova is the 6th most important city in Italy. The weight of tourism in Genoa has been transformed from being a mere port city, with the most important port in Italy, to being the 4th most important city for tourist investments in the country.

With regard to COVID-19 infections, the number of cases in Genoa compared to other areas in Italy was much lower, but totaled 3,000 cases.

The main **challenges and strategies** of the city are:

- International and National Marketing for the promotion of the city.
- Concrete actions to adapt the tourist offer: organizing and distributing tourism in time and space.
- Keeping the Genova brand alive and attractive.
- Maintain relationships and partnerships with the private/public sector.
- Adapt the tourist offer.
- Rethink the offer by adapting the spaces and services based on the new health criteria.
- Recover long term segments, so important for our destination, such as the cruise.

Among the **main measures-ideas-proposed for the reactivation of the sector**, she highlighted the following:

- Digital actions through Social Networks. Digital actions and editorial projects to create new textual content, involving the local community.
- Increase in bilateral relations with other cities within the framework of European Projects. Territorial marketing.
- Work with a health safety seal/certificate, with all the guarantees and international parameters.
- Measurements. Reactivation to the new normality.
- Re-organization of services with smaller groups and with platforms and devices that facilitate the appropriate distances. In collaboration with guide associations and other key players in the sector.
- City Card. Control where tourists go and offer alternatives, as a tool for the spatial-temporal distribution of visitors.
- Increase mobility by means of bicycle paths. Enhancing the value of the territory, urban trekking, etc.
- Terraces for Restaurants, facility without cost and by means of easy proceedings with the administration such authorizations. Eliminate land occupation tax. Regulations to facilitate the application for terraces.
- European Projects with City, help local communities with new actions, measures and solutions.

3 TOP TAKEAWAYS | GENOVA

- **To extend the City Card service as a tool for the spatial-temporal distribution of visitors. Collaboration with the sector to reorganize services that guarantee the necessary distances**
- **Elimination of taxes for the use of terraces for restaurants, providing them with these authorizations at no cost and through easy procedures with the administration.**
- **In the near future, return to proximity tourism.**

ROME | Marco Agostini | Chief of the Tourism Departament and Frederico Carli, Scientific Committee on Tourism

During the third intervention, **Marco Agostini and Federico Carli,** reported that the impact of the contagion in Rome, had been very slight so far, with only 7,000 cases, far below other areas of Italy and especially Lombardy (Milan). The transport and food sectors are the only logistics sectors that have not been affected. However, the collapse of trade and tourism has had a serious economic impact. Nevertheless, Rome's objective is to prevent a resurgence of contagion. Tourism will have to go through sustainability and proximity to recover.

The main **challenges and strategies** of the city are:

- Prevent the business community to from closing.
- New normality in relation to time and people's behavior, based on government decisions, demand (how people will travel from now on), and on supply.
- Transforming Rome and investing in quality, quality and quality.

3 TOP TAKEAWAYS | ROMA

- **Preserve the business community to find a model of non-closure, and invest in Quality, Quality, Quality.**
- **Focus on the first place in the tourism of proximity. To increase connectivity and joint actions with the 14 regional capitals of Italy in order to capture tourist flows.**
- **Tourism will have to go through sustainability and proximity to recover.**

Among the main **measures-ideas-proposed for the reactivation of the sector**, he highlighted the following:

- Work with a health safety seal/certificate, with all the guarantees and international parameters, for all types of transport. Competitive advantage.
- Implementation of FUTOUROMA, a unified strategy in the name of quality and social, environmental and economic sustainability, whose objective is to identify needs and devise solutions, to adapt the tourist offer to ever higher quality standards, to protect the artistic heritage, to grow in a sustainable way, to confirm itself as one of the most visited cities of art in Europe and internationally. At the same time, it spreads the image of a living, innovative, active and future-oriented metropolis.
- Attracting new quality tourism from local and inter-regional tourism, preparing for the recovery of international tourism by communicating Rome with the outside world.
- Increase the number of hotel beds and 5* category hotels. Brand strategy.
- Post-COVID19 Info Point. Information call center (openings, certificates, etc.)
- Communication with the 14 regional capitals that support, in tourist flows to Rome and other nearby regions/cities Tourist transport on safe health routes.

QUESTION 1: What tensions arise from the need to reorganize the space available for inhabitants and visitors with sufficient distance?

THE CITIES RESPOND:

MALAGA: New regulations recently approved for the use of the terraces during the 1st phase of confinement. There is not so much tension at the moment, as it will be implemented shortly and with the solidarity of all. Without a gastronomic, museum, leisure, cultural and museum offer, a tourist promotion of a destination would not be viable.

GENOVA: We do not have as many terraces as in Spain, but taking into account the businesses that have been closed since March 9, **the Administration has decided to take advantage of the terrace** spaces and offer them to businesses (172 applications received so far, with very good acceptance).

MADRID: The case of our city is very similar to that of Malaga. The public space is large and has been chosen for a street to street regulation, point to point. Rearrangement and use with a very flexible regulation.

CARTAGENA DE INDIAS Ana María González Director of International Cooperation

Following the intervention of European cities that are experiencing another moment of the impact of the pandemic, Cartagena de Indias "reacts" with questions. Ana Maria Gonzalez, welcomes this type of information exchange, as it allows Latin American and Caribbean destinations to anticipate what has already happened in Europe, so it is very important to assess the measures we will have to take to regain the prominence of our tourist destinations.

With 523 cases of contagion, our 5 main challenges are largely the same as those mentioned above.

QUESTION 2: What kind of technologies are you thinking or have you begin to implement? some of you have presented examples of technologies to be able to organize and follow up the distance, to promote virtual tours, etc. i.e. use of technologies

THE CITIES RESPOND:

MADRID: Even before the pandemic, we had already implemented certain measures in tourism for certain areas that were attracting a large **flows of visitors**. Now we are working on intensifying our efforts so that **through Smartphones and free apps managed by the City Council** can help decongest them.

ROME: Overtourist and visualizing tourist concentrations to redirect trends is something we are already developing. **They are working on developing PPPs to view live tourism concentrations, suggesting alternative points of interest.**

GENOVA: **City Card for Museums. On the basis of this card, it will be extended to other proposals (transport, food experience, etc), and that can help to avoid massive concentrations.** The Card also aims to extend the trend for more overnight stays in our city, of more than 2 days, moving towards a slower and sustainable tourism offering more experiences.

THE VOICE OF THE SECTOR

TURISM AND PLANNING COSTA DEL SOL | Rafael Fuentes Head of Tourism Intelligence

Rafael Fuentes reports that at present the entire tourist sector on the Costa del Sol is absolutely closed.

Current keys:

- Health is above economic activity.
- The aim is to get the safe tourism label.
- Immediate response with a powerful promotion campaign in the national market.

Some coordinated industry actions:

- Plenty of signs reminding to keep the safety distance.
- Extend hygiene measures to work tools that have to be passed from one hand to another (dataphones, computers, keys).
- Increase in cleaning frequencies in areas with greater contact (surfaces, handles, sinks, taps, cranks, lifts, etc.) . All personnel wearing masks and gloves.
- Placement of disinfectant mats at the entrance of the establishments.
- To have a contactless thermometer for checking between employees and customers.
- The elevator should only be used by one person at a time or by those travelling together.
- The buffet menus will already be in place. In restaurants, individual plates will be promoted.
- Removal of all commonly used items such as cruets, salt and oil shakers.
- In the rooms we will try to reduce the textiles (including carpets).
- The trash can should have a lid.
- The hangers and hairdryer must be disinfected at the exit of each client.
- Towels will be avoided in the common toilets and the wastebaskets will have a non-manual opening with a double inner bag.
- With regard to employees, the hotel shall plan the tasks and work processes in such a way as to guarantee the established safety distance.
- They will be provided with appropriate EPISs following an occupational risk assessment.

KEYS

- **Until March 2021, we won't get back to normal in the tourism indicators.**
- **Promotion alone will not solve this situation.**
- **We structure our actions through Governance, between the public and private sectors, and have been doing so since 2011.**

Specific measure for beaches:

Project (through an app) so that both citizens and the competent authority can know the capacity of the beaches in real time as well as the preventive measures available to each one of them, based on geographic information systems.

With the present situation of the COVID, 198 measures have been established, which can be accessed through our website **https://www.costadelsolmalaga.org/** , and in the face of complex situations, we have opted for complex actions.

Association "Borghi más bonitos de Italia" | Claudio Bordi

Borghi più belli d'italia was born in 2001, there are 307 villages, all over the Italian territory, selected through an ISO 9001 certified process.

New opportunities for tourism development are emerging. Architectural and/or natural heritage is required. It is their time as it is easier to respect social distance and offer high quality of life.

Some measures:

- Advertising campaigns on social networks, TV and radio. 2 hashtags on instagram.
- Common health and safety rules for all Borghi. Coupons with tourist proposals through a telematic portal: a catalogue of unique and qualified experiences and offers. The coupons can be redeemed once the hotels reopen...
- Network of exchange of visits and experiences between villages involving groups, associations and families.

Strategy based on a Slow Tourism

Offer more experiences. Develop an agreement between the public and private sectors to identify the strengths and weaknesses of the tourism sector and negotiate on investment, take risks, internationalize markets, innovate... The future that seems closer is quality tourism. Informing about financial problems, creating synergies, collaborative promotion strategies, applying new rules and strategies.

KEYS

- **Mistrust of crowds is an opportunity for our destinations/associates.**
- **The strong contraction of medium and long-distance travel will lead** most individuals and families **to prefer low-density, local tourist destinations.**
- According to our criteria, post-COVID tourism will choose those destinations oriented towards healthier and "human-sized" lifestyles and where it will be easier to respect the rules of social distancing, with which we will have to live for some time.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS:

Will it be long before we see tourist crowds? What will the new tourism be?

Claudio Bordi coincides with the Governance applied in the Costa del Sol. In our Association we are working in that sense, in order to open ourselves to the quality tourism post COVID, and to negotiate with the administrations and working groups to create synergies and promotional actions, with new strategies that monitor the trends of the COVID19 and its implication in our sector.

Will the urban stress from the residents affect tourism?

COSTA DEL SOL: indicates that we have not been able to conduct any surveys yet due to the current confinement. Our objective is to reactivate the economy and employment, and in our province this is only through tourism.

MADRID: does not foresee any tourismphobia effects in this regard.

ROME: It is difficult to make forecasts at the moment, although it will depend on 2 factors: Opening little by little. An attitude of rejection may arise in our own country, towards areas most affected by COVID19, although it will depend on the responsible behavior of the visitors. Proximity tourism is the fastest solution to recovery.

FINAL CONCLUSION

CARTAGENA DE INDIAS:

This Webinar has been a joint reflection, and given the similarity of our cities and the experiences that have already been lived in Europe, it will help us to make the most suitable decisions.

The main immediate measures are focused on these groups of actions:

- Health and safety. Certifications
- New technologies applied both for distance control and for information on agglomerations, certified establishments, etc.
- Support measures for the increase of terraces and outdoor facilities
- Public-private and city-to-city cooperation

The future of COVID19 will be conditioned by 3 factors:

- **The decisions of our governments.**
- **Demand behavior. How is the new tourism going to behave?**
- **To take advantage of this situation to rethink our tourism, improve the quality of our destinations and experiences so that they are more pleasant, sustainable and more respectful of the identity of the destinations and their residents**

Block 2: Rethinking Urban transformation

Arequipa (PE), Buenos Aires (ARG), Madrid (ES), Vilnius (LT), Brussels (BE)
Case Study: European Union's Urban Agenda. Partnership for the Security of Public Spaces

- Will the compact city model as a benchmark of sustainability shift?
- Will the role of public spaces as facilitators of social cohesion be challenged?
- How will public spaces be transformed to continue to promote recreation while ensuring physical distancing?

02 URBAN PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES

Watch the webinar on YouTube

In recent decades, urban planning has prioritized densification, mixed uses, and the concept of proximity. However, the COVID-19 crisis and the consequent need for physical distancing have forced cities to immediately rethink how they operate and establish new models of mobility, transport, and public space usage.

In the city, public space is a catalyst for social cohesion, economic development, civic engagement, and public health. How will these aspects of urban life be affected? What measures are cities implementing to balance physical distancing and continue promoting the use of public space? This challenge can become an opportunity to redefine our cities, experiment, and develop more sustainable and inclusive urban plans.

On June 9th at 17h. CET during the dialogue organized by IUC Latin America, **Rethinking Public Space and Urban Planning,** the cities of **Arequipa, Buenos Aires, Madrid, and Vilnius** together with the **Brussels Regional Capital** representing the **Partnership for the Security of Public Spaces from the EU Urban Agenda** discussed:

AREQUIPA (PE)

Julio C. Aspicueta

BUENOS AIRES (ARG)

Cecilia Segal

MADRID (ES)

José Luis Infazón

VILNIUS (LT)

Ruta Matoniene

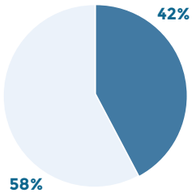
Hans Crab

Caso de Estudio
Agenda Urbana de la Unión Europea.

Moderadora
Susana Arellano

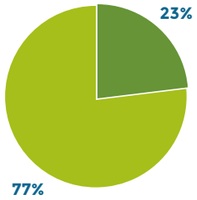
Total 149
Participation by gender

Women
Men



Total 149
Participation by region

Europe
LAC



Will the compact city model as a benchmark of sustainability shift?

"The compact city model is the most sustainable ... mix uses satisfy a large number of needs without major displacement." **José Luis Infanzón (Madrid)**

- There will likely be a territorial rebalance because teleworking allows new urban centers to appear outside larger cities. The excessive growth of the metropolis could be slowed down. The 15-minute city model and the decentralized city will become more relevant.
- Housing is expected to change to readjust floorplan minimums and generate new typologies that allow working from home and more access to gardens.
- The changes produced by this pandemic must be considered an opportunity to improve the quality of life in cities.

Will the role of public spaces as facilitators of social cohesion be challenged?

"The role of public space as the main factor for social cohesion is unquestionable and irreplaceable." **José Luis Infanzón (Madrid)**

"This is a time to learn and reinvent. This year is for new plans, designs, and ideas." **Rūta Matoniene (Vilnius)**

- The challenge is to define the distribution of public space in the city. You have to know how to balance the uses and demands without too much conflict.
- In the case of Vilnius, the municipality is seeking to democratize public space and moderate the discussion between different actors and social groups. A balance can be reached by resolving these conflicts.

How will public spaces be transformed to continue to promote recreation while ensuring physical distancing?

Buenos Aires - Redefining Public Space

"This is an opportunity to start structural changes." **Cecilia Segal (Buenos Aires)**

- In Buenos Aires, they established a transversal working group, so there is an integral vision of public space that satisfies all needs and guarantees security.
- The changes are closely aligned with policies that were already in place, such as the superblocks and priority areas for pedestrians.
- Local businesses are gaining importance, so there is a focus on commercial corridors.
- Children go out on weekends with their parents. Some streets will be closed to expand public space, and, shortly, they will intervene the streets with playgrounds and similar measures.

- The farmers' markets reopened in 4 stages. The markets were within squares and sidewalks, now they have been moved to roads to increase the necessary safety distance. The stalls and the city regularly implement sanitary measures.

How will public spaces be transformed to continue to promote recreation while ensuring physical distancing?

Madrid- Expanding Terraces

"In Madrid in the 70s practically most of the public space was for private, motorized vehicles. The Plaza Mayor was a large parking lot. Today nobody would imagine cars in that public space." **José Luis Infanzón (Madrid)**

- Public space has always been a place of conflict. Bars and restaurants have been allowed to continue with the same number of diners but extending the space between tables, which in turn requires expanding the terraces.
- Nearby businesses do not want tables and umbrellas to block their window displays, pedestrians require space to maintain the necessary physical distance, and they cannot eliminate parking spaces. The expansion of the terraces also affects accessibility, for example, by covering tactile pavements. This generates a great conflict between different sectors.
- The role of urban planners is to balance the city. The great challenge is to create a balance during the pandemic, but especially after it.

Brussels - Security of Public Spaces

"Public space is vital for resilience ... This is a time to change the mindset and make public space more inclusive and diverse in its use ..." **Hans Crab (Brussels)**

- Public space is at the core of EU public policies.
- Public spaces are the heart of urban life and the place that best reflects the identity of the city.
- We must first understand the risks in order to make public spaces safer.
- In Brussels, drones communicate security measures and prevent contagion. They have also created 40 km of bicycle lanes and the new Good Move mobility strategy.
- We need to maximize public space and adapt it so that it can be used in the safest way possible.
- The current crisis is a time to reflect on the reorientation of public space and increase society's resilience.

Vilnius - The City as an Open-Air Cafe

"To avoid conflicts, we organize meetings in the streets that are going to be closed ... we invite local communities to discuss this option... and we moderate between businesses and the community so that they can reach an agreement..." **Rūta Matoniene (Vilnius)**

- In Vilnius, traffic was closed in some streets, and they expanded the possibilities for using certain areas of public space for commercial use. It was also made easier for cafes and restaurants to apply for a license.
- Meetings between residents, businesses, cyclists, and city representatives were organized to reach agreements on the transformation of public space.
- Vilnius uses an online platform that any resident can access to see if the terraces have a license and to see the requirements and measures that must be followed.
- This strategy will last until the end of the summer, and surveys will be carried out to understand if it should be implemented again next year and how to adapt it to respond to everyone's needs.

Arequipa - Pedestrianizing the Historic Center

"The idea is that the measures implemented because of the emergency... become permanent, a change in attitude and behavior that becomes permanent ..." **Julio Aspilcueta (Arequipa)**

- The streets of the historic center have become shared between bicycles, cars, and pedestrians. The speed limit has been reduced to 30km, and they have expanded bike lanes.
- The superblocks planned around the main square become more relevant, and Arequipa is now seeking to expand it.
- The aim is to link the historic center and low-income areas with the green spaces around the city.
- They are disinfecting streets and squares.

Block 2: Rethinking Urban transformation

Armenia (CO), Rosario (ARG), Turín (IT), Vitoria-Gazteiz (ES)
Case Study Vitoria-Gasteiz (ES) and Urban and Territorial Ecology Foundation – Barcelona (ES)

- Will the changes implemented across cities produce new urban sustainability models?
- Can the superblocks offer a solution to the current mobility and transport crisis?
- What mobility measures has your city implemented in response to COVID?

03 URBAN TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY

Watch the webinar on YouTube

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced cities to accelerate the implementation of measures that once were challenged as radical even if they promised to make our cities more livable, sustainable, and inclusive. New bike lanes, the pedestrianization of streets, the widening of sidewalks, and the extension of green spaces have been making headlines as cities worldwide reconfigure streets and create safer public transport and mobility options.

The city of Vitoria-Gasteiz had embraced before the current crisis the model of the superblock, betting for a city that prioritizes people over cars and spearheading the move towards a sustainable urban development that is unafraid of reclaiming space. The superblock limits car traffic, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and opening streets to encourage recreation and social cohesion while providing the space to practice physical distancing.

On June 11th, the dialogues series organized by IUC Latin America focused on **Urban Transport and Mobility.** The cities of **Armenia, Rosario, Turin and Eurocities,** the network of large cities in Europe, along with Salvador Rueda and the mayor of Vitoria-Gasteiz, **Gorka Urtaran**, discussed the following questions:

ARMENIA (CO)

Julián T. Girlado

EUROCITIES

Arianna Americo

ROSARIO (ARG)

Eva Jokanovich

TURÍN (IT)

Fabrizio Arneodo

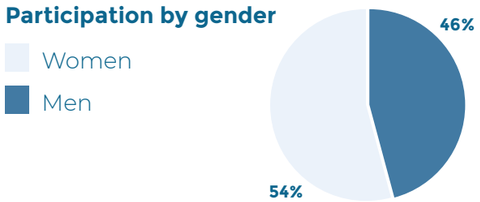
Gorka Urtaran

Salvador Rueda

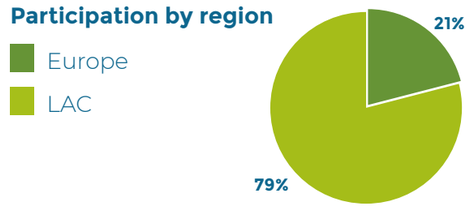
Caso de Estudio

Moderadora
Susana Arellano

Total 158
Participation by gender



Total 158
Participation by region



Will the changes implemented across cities produce new urban sustainability models?

"It is an opportunity to reinvent the city and generate conditions that help people improve their quality of life, whether in terms of health, economy or education, and to create access to all these services." **Julián Torres Giraldo (Armenia)**

- The new sustainability models must rethink commuting times and modes.
- An opportunity to reduce commuting time may be to continue teleworking. It is also necessary to work with companies and schools so that there are no longer peak hours and the number of travelers spread throughout the day.
- Cities will have to implement more intermodal options so that when commuters arrive in cities, they can park their cars and use sustainable alternatives.
- Bicycle highways must be extended to allow long-distance transfers by bicycle.
- Cities have had to learn to make decisions faster and to increase their adaptability.
- In many cities, sustainable urban mobility plans were already developed, and this crisis has accelerated the implementation of the planned measures, for example, pedestrianization of streets, speed reduction, and shared streets.
- Micro mobility will become more relevant.
- The pandemic has forced people to consider other mobility options, which represents an opportunity for permanent changes.

What mobility measures has your city implemented in response to COVID?

Eurocities – Accelerating the Implementation of Previous Plans

- Many cities in the European Union have prioritized pedestrians and bicycles.
- The measures implemented have been and should be plans that were already in place but have been accelerated.
- There is a clear relationship between health, mobility, and climate change. It is very remarkable that now that pollution has been reduced and that less time is spent on commuting, the quality of life has improved.

"This is the time to make visible the fundamental link we know working on mobility between health and the environment ... resilience is the key word to rethink our cities" **Arianna Americo (Eurocities)**

"It is crucial that confidence in public transport is restored... we cannot live in cities without public transport." **Arianna Americo (Eurocities)**

What mobility measures has your city implemented in response to COVID?

Armenia- Public Transport and its Profitability

- In Armenia, the public transport system lowered from 80,000 to 20,000 people, which is a considerable reduction that affects its profitability.
- It will be critical to generate tools to regain the public's trust to continue using public transport, and not to go for alternatives such as motorcycles.
- The bus or fleet will only be able to operate at 35% capacity due to the need for physical distancing. Measures such as the blocking of seats are already being implemented.
- The national government must generate a fund to help stabilize losses.
- The transport system is essential, and now we appreciate more the value of having economic solvency and that we should have funds for stabilization in case of a calamity.
- Intermodality will also be important for alternative means of mobility.

Rosario – The Relevancy of Data

- In Rosario, it is notable how the measures imposed by the quarantine, and which have an economic and social impact, are reflected in mobility.
- Data analysis has become paramount to make quick decisions and accelerate plans.
- Tests were already being carried out with biodiesel, electric and hybrid buses. These alternative energy sources and fuels have become a priority.
- We have also seen the environmental impact that the pandemic has had. We have seen a reduction in pollution. Nature demands a change from us.

Turin – Innovation for Sustainability

- In Turin, metrics and data are important. Companies with a certain number of employees have a mobility manager who checks and makes sure that employees have transportation benefits, or that they get scooters or bicycles. This data helps the city to better understand and manage mobility.
- Turin is now combining data from various sources and monitoring the changes produced by the pandemic in different sectors. The city provides data to stakeholders, particularly researchers who analyze the social and economic impact of the pandemic.
- Turin also seeks to offer different modes of mobility and, in particular, to encourage the use of more sustainable and low-emission options.
- An innovative pilot project is the use of hybrid cars that work with geo-fencing. When the car enters the city center, an algorithm changes the engine to electric. This pilot is the first with this technology in the world.

Can the superblocks offer a solution to the current mobility and transport crisis?

> "The superblocks allow us to combine and coordinate the response to the two great problems we have on the table, the post-pandemic scenario and climate change..." **Salvador Rueda**

- In Vitoria-Gasteiz, they decided to implement the superblocks because they want to work and create cities for people. Improving public space for people means reducing the space for private vehicles.
- The order of priorities in Vitoria-Gasteiz is first people, second public transport, third bicycles, and last private vehicles.
- In Vitoria-Gasteiz, there has been much progress with the superblock plan because politically they made strategic agreements and reached a consensus.
- Salvador Rueda has planned for the city of Vitoria-Gasteiz superblocks of 400 to 500 meters on each side, where the perimeter accommodates mobility, and 70% of the interior is freed for pedestrians, cyclists, and recreational activities.
- Superblocks can be implemented quickly and efficiently at a low cost through signage, painting the asphalt, and planters.
- Freeing space is also an opportunity for greening, which helps us to combat climate change.

> "If we know the formula ... why don't we apply it? It would be a very significant reduction in air pollution... all the variables are aligned, those from the post-pandemic, the healthy city, the sustainable city, and adaptation to climate change ..." **Salvador Rueda**

Block 3: Economic recovery

Viana do castelo (PT), Pavlos Melas (GR), Utrecht (NL), Ibagué (CO), São Leopoldo (BR) | Case Study: Utrecht (HO)

Could the coronavirus pandemic lead to a greener urban future?

What measures are being taken or could be implemented to promote the Green Economy?

04 GREEN RECOVERY

Watch the webinar on YouTube

The economic crisis generated by the coronavirus is affecting the entire planet, with impacts on the economies of countries and cities. An economy that is currently based on consumption, which leads to high levels of consumption of natural resources, supported by fossil fuels and generating high levels of CO2 emissions.

This disruptive event comes at a time when new environmental policies are under development in the European Union aimed at the transition to a more sustainable economy. The Green Deal aims to transform Europe and accelerate a transition to a "clean" and circular, climate neutral economy.

Will economic recovery be an opportunity to rethink the model of prosperity and build an economy around ecological principles? How can cities trigger a greener, more resilient and more protective model of development for biodiversity? How can local agri-food systems be made more dynamic? And can we accelerate the energy transition by increasing the efficiency of consumption and production from renewable sources? And how can we consolidate the circular economy as the alternative to the traditional model of linear economy of manufacture, use and rejection?

On 23 June, 17h CET, during the dialogue organized by IUC Latin America focused on Green Recovery, the cities of **Viana do Castelo, São Leopoldo, Pavlos Melas, Ibagué and Ultrecht discussed:**

VIANA DO CASTELO (PT)

José María Costa

SÃO LEOPOLDO (BR)

Ary Vanazzi

PAVLOS MELAS (GR)

Paris Kourti

IBAGUÉ - UCC (CO)

Sebastián Sánchez

Caso de Estudio

Marin Zegers

Moderador

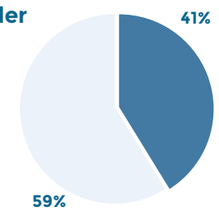
Sérglo Barroso

Total 159

Participation by gender

Women

Men

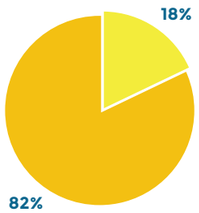


Total 159

Participation by region

Europe

LAC



Could the coronavirus pandemic lead to a greener urban future?

"A greener urban future means reinventing ourselves and getting used to a very different personal and social way of living." **(Paris Kourti, Pavlos Melas)**

- The immediate impacts of the pandemic and the need to confine populations have accelerated the digital transition and enabled gains to be made in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions generated by transport. It has also benefited the consumption of local agri-food products, encouraged cyclable mobility and is enhancing nature tourism.
- However, crises are complex and multidimensional situations with various interconnections. The crisis triggered by COVID-19 also has several dimensions: social, environmental, economic and political. This complexity and the interconnections between issues do not create an opportunity for a greener urban future, as this objective depends on major changes in all aspects of human life. It also depends on greater coordination and cooperation between the various levels of government, and between the public and private sectors.
- In Latin American cities, the prospects for green growth do not seem very encouraging, given that the economic policy is misaligned with environmental policy. The current scale of the social and economic problems generated by the pandemic, especially at the level of unemployment, are more conducive to an economic recovery based on classical approaches than on innovative solutions in line with sustainable development.
- Covid-19 is thus revealing the structural deficiencies of the economic and social systems of countries and cities, but also environmental vulnerability and the difficulty in having a Green Economy.

What measures are being taken or could be implemented to promote the Green Economy?

Ibagué – local agri-food systems of proximity and the rural-urban relationship

"Our economies have treated nature only from an extractive perspective and the transformation of the countryside will allow us to work from the perspective of the Green Economy" **Sebastián Sánchez (Ibagué)**

- The rural population, especially agricultural producers, should be trained in commercial aspects in order to avoid unnecessary intermediaries in selling their products and to be able to reach urban consumers more effectively.
- It is also necessary to work on connectivity between rural and urban spaces, improving the road infrastructure of many municipalities that have difficulty in ensuring access for agricultural products produced in the rural environment to the main commercial centers.
- Cultural relations between urban and rural areas must also be worked on and valued. For example, in Colombia, the countryside is stigmatized as a place of little development, poverty and few opportunities. The social, cultural and economic valorization of rural areas is essential to fix the population and attract young entrepreneurs to give new impetus to agricultural activity.
- The added value of rural products should also be promoted through, for example, the creation of green stamps.

Pavlos Melas – multi-level governance

"In a very centralized state, such as Greece, the priorities and funding of the government are fundamental for the cities' action." **Paris Kourti (Pavlos Melas)**

- The main challenge for cities is how to "deepen" and "intensify" green policies to achieve an effective impact. To do this, there are two main horizontal measures: increasing public investment in all sectors relevant to environmental improvement; supporting the private economy to become greener.
- The recovery of the Greek economy will follow a new, greener and fairer development model, with priority being given to green recovery, namely by supporting municipalities in investments in drinking water, clean air, clean energy, expansion of green areas and investments in ICT improvement.
- Funding is also being organised on the basis of "spatial justice" criteria, meaning that the poorest communities will have more financial support and more technical assistance.
- Decarbonization will be another priority by supporting public and private investments for large-scale clean energy projects.

Viana do Castelo – renewable energies and energetic efficiency

"We have a major European project, which is WindFloat, to build three floating wind platforms." **José Maria Costa (Viana do Castelo)**

- Viana do Castelo has been investing in energy efficiency, with several interventions, for example in public lighting (adjustment of working hours, replacement of light bulbs by more efficient ones and installation of light flux regulators) or in mobility (infrastructures inducing electric mobility and replacement of vehicles in the municipal fleet by hybrids and electric ones).
- At the economic level, in addition to actions to raise the awareness of traders to increase energy efficiency, innovative projects are being supported in the area of renewable energies, for example: the WindFloat Atlantic, which will create the first Marine Wind Farm in Portugal or the CorPower Ocean project to develop wave energy converters, which will also be installed on floating platforms.
- The investment in renewable energies means that the city has a large number of companies in the production of wind turbines and other associated equipment, constituting itself as a cluster.

São Leopoldo – green economy and social development

"We have had a central concern to combine economic development with environmental sustainability." **Ary Vannazi (São Leopoldo)**

- The lack of a national strategic project leading to the response to the pandemic and the abandonment of Brazil's traditional environmental policies in recent years creates great difficulties for municipalities and cities to respond to the challenges of a green economic recovery, especially when investment and financing are missing.
- São Leopoldo has developed a very intensive environmental development policy both in the field of industrial production and in the construction of a sustainable city, through the investment in less polluting public transport, the promotion of alternative urban mobility or the use of renewable energies.
- In the area of recycling, work is being done with cooperatives, which are financially supported by the City Hall, and which allow to combine an environmental policy with the organization of society, the awareness of the population, the promotion of social inclusion and income distribution.

Block 3: Economic recovery

Málaga (ES), Oporto, Lisboa (PT), Benedito Novo (BR) y Barraquilla (CO)
Case Study: Start Up Lisboa (PT)

Does the smart, digital city come out strongest from the COVID-19 pandemic?

What measures can be taken to speed up the digital transition?

05 SMART RECOVERY

Watch the webinar on YouTube

In recent years, cities have increasingly incorporated digital and smart innovations to improve the quality of life of their citizens. New technologies have been used to address a number of challenges such as economic development, water or waste management, transport and mobility, security, citizen involvement and transparency and access to information. In parallel, the emergence of the digital economy has created new engines of growth and jobs in cities.

With the emergence of COVID-19 and the establishment of quarantines, digital infrastructure has played a critical role in the functioning of the local economy and the access of the population to essential public goods and services. Local commerce is now intensively exploiting the opportunities of online sales, while medical and distance education services have become more widespread.

Does this trend of digital transition, accelerated by the pandemic, provide an opportunity for the economic recovery of cities? Can new 5G network infrastructure and data centers, and the spread of blockchain, machine learning, or internet of things solutions and technologies make cities smarter, more sustainable and inclusive? And what can cities do to promote the digital economy?

On June 23, 17h CET, during the dialogue organized by IUC Latin America focused on Smart Recovery, the cities of **Barranquilla, Benedito Novo, Porto, Smart City Cluster de Spain and Start up Lisbon** discussed the following issues:

BARRANQUILLA (CO)

Ricardo Plata

BENEDITO NOVO (BR)

Simone Gomes Traleski

SMART CITY CLUSTER (ES)

Verónica Ramírez

OPORTO (PT)

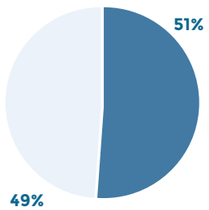
Paulo Calçada

Caso de Estudio
Miguel Fontes

Moderador
Sérgio Barroso

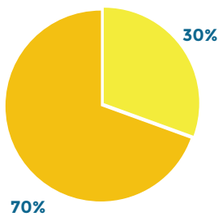
Total 126
Participation by gender

Women
Men



Total 126
Participation by region

Europe
LAC



Does the smart, digital city come out strongest from the COVID-19 pandemic?

"The municipalities were not responding to the need for digital transformation. Now that need has arisen to meet the challenges of the pandemic." **Veronica Ramírez (Smart City Cluster Spain)**

- An event like the COVID-19 disease pandemic never makes cities stronger. It affects people, their customs, generates insecurity and a lack of financial and health resources, causing a serious setback for the economy. But the smart, digital city is better prepared to deal with these problems and to face future similar events.
- The experience of these cities makes it clear that smart and digital cities are dealing better with a pandemic crisis. On the one hand, because the speed of responses has to be greater, and this is only possible with the support of digital tools. On the other hand, because they can offer better public services, be more efficient in the use of resources and communicate better with citizens.
- Surprisingly, many of the measures related to smart, digital cities that seemed so far away have now quickly materialized. Cities that participated in the debate are being able to implement various technological solutions to respond to the crisis, such as portals to support economic recovery or digital contact centers that allow interaction with citizens.
- This experience makes it clear that cities must invest in the development of platforms that leverage the crossing of data in an integrated manner, allowing the relevant entities, in each of their areas of action, to design, implement and monitor, in an articulated manner, public policy measures.
- These solutions and others related to mobility or to participative ways of managing cities, have had a great advance with the pandemic and will be essential in the future. The digital and technological tools used in the first phase of the pandemic will from now on serve to support economic recovery, taking advantage of the accelerated digital transition process of administration, businesses and citizens.

What measures can be taken to speed up the digital transition?

- Through the capacity of data aggregation and information processing, adopting descriptive, predictive and prescriptive analytical approaches, it will be possible to obtain real-time indicators on the impacts of implemented measures.
- The information shared between city managers and digital entrepreneurs is another path that can be adopted, according to Porto Digital's experience, helping entrepreneurs to align their technological solutions with the problems faced by the need, thus helping to boost the Smart Economy and improve local government.

Porto – management of city problems and data sharing platforms

> "Cities can and should invest in Smart Cities processes, with greater security and confidence that the return to their cities will be increased, provided they do so with the citizens and businesses of their local ecosystem". **Paulo Calçada (Porto Digital)**

- In the context of combating the pandemic, given that most problems are anticipatory, the responsiveness and, above all, the effectiveness of the solutions developed, significantly benefits from greater information sharing between the multiple levels of management in society.
- The commitment to digital platforms, data and information sharing is essential to ensure an effective response to the problems of cities, particularly with regard to economic and social development.
- Cities must therefore have an action plan that ensures the availability of instruments that contribute to better management, but also enable effective retention of knowledge, which is fundamental for combating global systemic risks in the future, both in the planning and construction of public policies and in management.

Benedito Novo – partnerships with other municipalities as accelerators

> "Benedito Novo had its first effective contact with the smart city concept through a partnership supported by the IUC." **Simone Traleski (Smart Cities Cluster)**

- The development in Benedito Novo of technological solutions integrated in the concept of intelligent city benefited the cooperation with the city of Alba Lulia in Romania, in the framework of the International Programme for Urban Cooperation (IUC).
- The exchange between the municipalities and as Romanian companies has made it possible to make contact with technological solutions for citizen information and to create an application to establish a direct channel between the population and the City Hall. At the time of the pandemic, this tool was very important to keep citizens informed about the evolution of the pandemic in the municipality, the behaviors to adopt and the measures that were implemented.
- Considering the characteristics of the population, the municipality has also been developing work to promote digital inclusion, so that the population can access this platform, ensuring equal opportunities in access to public services.
- Also as a result of the experience of cooperation supported by the IUC and in partnership with other 12 neighbouring municipalities, they are seeking to develop smart solutions in the field of tourism, especially in support of the European Valley Circuit.

Barranquilla – plan the smart city

- Barranquilla intends to accelerate its urban and economic development, becoming a city structured around four major challenges following an ambitious plan framed in the concept of intelligent cities.
- The first challenge is to be the first in biodiversity in the country. This implies the protection of ecosystems (green and blue), environmental sustainability and the prevention of climate change risks. In all these aspects, symbiosis with technology plays a key role and projects are being developed such as: real-time air quality measurement systems, efficient programming for solid waste collection, implementation of renewable energy, particularly solar energy; among others;
- The second challenge is to be an attractive and prosperous city. Here they are promoting economic growth, employment, innovation, or increasing the efficiency of public administration. The role of technology is also essential. The digital centralization of all urban services, such as street lighting, traffic lights, emergency system, and, with the implementation of automated traffic control systems, environmental monitoring with the aim of optimizing the city.
- The third challenge is to make the city fairer. To this end, issues such as inclusion, protection of vulnerable populations, housing or urban services work. In this context, the project to promote bilingualism stands out, which results from alliances with companies that are allowing all children in the public education system to have remote access to educational platforms.
- Finally, they will work to make Barranquilla a more connected city, improving the integrated public transport systems, which clearly has technological solutions for its efficiency, as well as simpler but equally intelligent topics, such as promoting the use of bicycles.

> "The technology will allow our cities to go further and faster with less effort". **Ricardo Vives (Barranquilla)**

Smart City Cluster Spain – smart cities experiences

> "The digital transition, even if we speed it up, has to be accompanied by a preparation of the environment." **Veronica Ramírez (Smart City Cluster Spain)**

- The digital transition can be achieved by following the examples of cities that have already successfully traveled this path and that can say not only what the best practices are, but also the mistakes to be avoided.
- But for this process to become a reality, it is essential to prepare the administration, citizens and companies, enabling them to digitize so they can effectively participate in this digital society.
- There is an important list of solutions for digitization, both from public administration and from other urban processes, which not only allow transferring a crucial part of management to the virtual domain, but also transforming it according to optimized practices, always taking care to adapt them to local regulations.
- For example, management systems based on geographical platforms allow the overlapping of various sources of information and visually identify what may be happening in cities. On the other hand, the cost-benefit analyses, supported in these systems, allow us to start undertaking the solutions that bring the most benefits with the least costs.

Block 4: Climate resilience

Granada (ES), Rome (IT) , Miraflores (PE), San Pedro de La Paz (CL)
Case Study: Global Network of Resilient Cities (GNRC)

- What aspects should we consider to ensure sustainability and equity in the provision of basic resources such as water and waste management?
- In the Chilean context and in the wake of the crisis arising from the pandemic, what role should local governments play to ensure the provision, care and defense of resources and basic services of quality and without leaving anyone behind?
- How to incorporate measures for supervision, innovation, data management and control, and citizen participation in the provision of these services?
- Should the provision of basic services such as water and waste management be a shared competence between different levels of government? Who should be involved?
- How can the link between good public service delivery and sustainable use of natural resources be improved?
- What is the appropriate territorial scale to ensure the proper provision of services and natural resources?

06 RETHINKING PUBLIC SERVICES AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Watch the webinar on YouTube

Cities have been at the forefront of action to address the crisis generated by COVID-19. Their responses, through emergency plans, have been critical in ensuring the provision of affordable, fair public services and maintaining their functioning on crucial issues such as water and waste management.

However, in recent years the concern for modernising these public services has highlighted the need to improve the operation and quality of the services based on new models for their management that include principles of participation, transparency, innovation and sustainability. The lack of access to basic local services is a factor that aggravates inequalities, poverty and, as a consequence, social and environmental vulnerability.

Therefore, asking ourselves what aspects we should consider to ensure sustainability and equity in the provision of basic resources such as water and waste management, will be decisive in rethinking the model so that it can better respond to the current challenges of the urban environment.

In July 7th at 5pm. CET during the dialogue organized by IUC Latin America, **Rethinking public services and natural resources** the cities of **San Pedro de la Paz, Granada, the district of Miraflores and the region of Lazio** discussed:

MIRAFLORES (PE)

Doris Aspiazu Arévalo

SAN PEDRO DE LA PAZ (CL)

Audito Retamal

GRANADA (ES)

Marcos A. Martínez

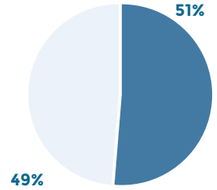
ANCI LAZIO (IT)

Andrea Vignoll

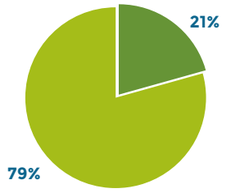
Eugène Zapata
Caso de Estudio

Moderador
Braulio Díaz

Total 144
Participation by gender



Total 144
Participation by region



What aspects should we consider to ensure sustainability and equity in the provision of basic resources such as water and waste management?

"The municipalities did not respond to the need for digital transformation. Now that need has emerged to respond to the challenges of the pandemic ". **Verónica Ramírez (Smart City Cluster España)**

- Reducing the ecological footprint and waste recovery through innovation and exploring the generation of alternative energy sources.
- In social matters, consideration should be given to collaboration with public bodies that facilitate the generation of protocols to avoid cuts for those who cannot cover the costs but also generate penalties for those who make excessive use.
- Develop strategies that integrate three main elements

1. Incorporate citizen participation and the involvement of other actors in the territory, such as the private sector, identifying and highlighting the role that each actor plays.

2. Implement solutions and tools that improve the quality of services.

3. To close the waste management chain by investing in waste management plans to increase the added value of waste from a circular economy perspective.

- The equitable provision of public services and natural resources in Latin America is a major challenge. Peru has 2% of the world's fresh water reserves, yet 1 in 4 Peruvians does not have access to drinking water as a basic service. In Chile, natural resources such as water are privatized which generates inequity in access especially in vulnerable communities.

- Ensure that the property rights of natural resources are a public good and that it is the State with its different levels that guarantees that this model is sustained.
- The pandemic has led to the development of solutions and protocols to ensure the correct management of waste with sanitary measures that prevent the possible spread of the virus and in Italy strategies have been developed that manage to combine these two challenges at the time of confinement.

Another relevant aspect is looking at the main global agreements such as the global climate pact and Agenda 2030 and its 17 ODS. These are important reference frameworks for guiding actions at the local level and defining the most appropriate public policies with them.

Case study. Urban Resilience since GNRC

Urban resilience is the capacity of a city/system to cope with risks and vulnerabilities of two kinds:

- Acute impacts: natural or human-induced
- Chronic stress: silent diseases that affect the city in the medium and long term.

The vision of resilience is a supra-sectoral vision. The urban fabric interacts with inter-functionality and interdependence with the different sectors. This makes a city more resilient

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How to make a city more resilient?

The urban transformation cannot be made if concrete measures are not taken to prepare and organize the city to anticipate the vulnerabilities and challenges of the territory. It is therefore understood that resilience must be thought of as a supra-sectoral strategy

Generate resilience strategies with a multi-stakeholder participation that have a long-term vision where it is clear what things must change, agree and develop in the territory with a diversity of tools and access to knowledge.

Resilience is an approach that can help to prepare with real capacity to move forward in the face of any unforeseen event.

Municipality of San Pedro de la Paz, Chile

In the Chilean context and in the wake of the crisis arising from the pandemic, what role should local governments play to ensure the provision, care and defense of resources and basic services of quality and without leaving anyone behind?

- In Chile, a constitutional change is required at the national level on the use and development of natural resources, since resources such as water are in private hands, which causes a disparity in service and a widening of inequality gaps.
- In this context, local governments have an active role in advocacy processes at the national level. For example, in the Municipality of San Pedro la Paz, it has been possible to develop a communal regulatory plan for the use of the basins and thus avoid the incorrect use of natural resources due to real estate pressure.
- The municipality promotes the protection of the wetlands and lagoons so that they can be declared a nature sanctuary. This legal reconversion will allow their conservation.
- In addition, work is under way on an ordinance to reduce water use in the municipality's green areas.

Should the provision of basic services such as water and waste management be a shared competence between different levels of government? Who should be involved?

ANCI Lazio, Italy

- A regional strategy is needed to provide for proper waste management. Municipalities cannot achieve the same results by working in isolation and autonomously.
- Municipalities face bureaucratic and even legislative barriers because of the current rules. From a vision of regional governance where there are shared decisions and consensus, positive effects can be achieved in the long term. In addition to creating the right environment to attract private sector investment that becomes essential to support public resources.
- The participation of various actors and levels of government is essential to improve waste value chains.
- In the region of Lazio, Italy, a public-private consortium for waste recycling has been developed, involving a number of territories with their stakeholders. This consortium is based on the premise of who produces the waste and who can use it, and is complemented by strong political will from local authorities.
- Mayors lead door-to-door campaigns to raise public awareness to show that waste separation and use is a determining factor for the local economy.

How can the link between good public service delivery and sustainable use of natural resources be improved?

Municipality of Miraflores, Peru

- In Peru, the provision of services is granted to individuals who, although regulated by the State and local governments, it is through the participatory action of the city that these services are monitored to ensure that they meet local demands.
- In addition, through awareness and communication campaigns, citizens understand that their quality of life depends, to a great extent, on the quality of the public services they receive.
- Various programs have been promoted in the municipality of Miraflores to: preserve green areas through the citizen appropriation of green spaces "Naturaliza Miraflores"; "Desplastificar Miraflores" which has developed alliances with the private sector to eliminate single-use plastics; and the ordinance for the care of pollinators.
- The articulation between various levels of government is achieved through legal systems that seek to integrate the principle of subsidiarity, and this is complemented by a multi-stakeholder approach where local actors participate in various aspects of public service delivery.

How to incorporate measures for supervision, innovation, data management and control, and citizen participation in the provision of these services?

Emasagra Municipal Water Company of Granada, Spain

- These measures are incorporated with a strong decision supported by a management system that is solid, robust and that generates certainty to the user in the handling of his personal data.
- Innovation, through international projects and cooperation on physical security and food safety are essential for the quality of services to evolve positively.
- Citizen participation is fundamental. One way to incorporate participation in the provision of services is to generate schemes of transparency and accountability. The water company's data and transparency portal contains and updates the rates assigned to the territories with different measures, generates a series of reports on the execution of expenditure and service, and is also a bridge for information and citizen dialogue with the service.
- In addition, the public company encourages meetings and workshops with key stakeholders at the local level to find out their opinions and demands for a better quality of services.

What is the appropriate territorial scale to ensure the proper provision of services and natural resources?

Municipality of Miraflores, Perú

- There is no challenge that local governments can address autonomously.
- Competencies and responsibilities for waste management and service provision must be shared because they affect us all equally
- The long-term vision of projects that transcend political mandates is one of the pending issues in local governments in the Latin American region.
- To overcome this, strategic allies are required in the territories that appropriate a vision of the city that does not belong to a politician but to the whole of the citizenry

Block 4: Climate resilience

Almada (PT), Zagreb (CR), Viña del Mar (CL), Pereira (CO)
Case Study: The European Green Deal

- What changes and opportunities can a local government promote to bring forward a climate agenda?
- How to put inclusive climate action at the center of urban planning and decision-making?
- What is the role of local and regional governments in complying with the main global climate agreements?

07

CLIMATE ACTIONS AND SOLUTIONS

Watch the webinar on YouTube

The climate change and environmental deprivation are an existential threat to any territory in the world. To overcome these challenges, various political agreements have been carried out at regional and global level, such as the European Green Deal or the so-called Green New Deal promoted by local governments around the world.

These agreements are seeking to build a roadmap for sustainable development align with the 2030 Agenda, which promotes structural changes towards a green, modern and resource-efficient economy. All this, through ambitious energy transition and emission reduction plans; the eradication of poverty and inequalities; and the restoration of the biodiversity, among other inclusive actions for climate.

The context of **COVID-19** aggravates the conflictual relationship that we maintain with nature, by increasing the risks associated with health and extreme climate episodes. Further, it provides a special opportunity to reflect on the changes and opportunities can a local government promote to bring forward a climate agenda

On July 9 th at 17h. CET, the dialogues series organized by IUC Latin America was focused on **Climate actions and solutions.** The cities of **Almada, Viña del Mar, Pereira and Zagreb** discussed the following questions:

ALMADA (PT)

Catarina Freitas

VIÑA DEL MAR (CL)

Angela Escobar

PEREIRA (CO)

Yecid Armando Rozo

ZAGREB (CR)

Sanja Jerković

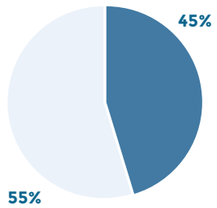
Caso de Estudio
Eero Ailio

Intervención especial
Ronald Hall

Moderador
Braulio Díaz

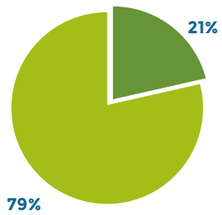
Total 186
Participation by gender

Women
Men



Total 186
Participation by region

Europe
LAC



What changes and opportunities can a local government promote to bring forward a climate agenda?

"The municipalities did not respond to the need for digital transformation. Now that need it has emerged to respond to the challenges of the pandemic ". **Verónica Ramírez (Smart City Cluster Spain)**

- Local governments are called to articulate and transfer the global agendas to the local scale and, in turn, reflect local priorities in these global commitments.
- The challenges highlighted on the climate agendas become reality at the local level, therefore, local governments are the most appropriate actors to carry out a cooperative and integrative work with the community and to promote their active role and joint responsibility.
- A commitment to localize the climate agendas could enable an multistakeholder environment to rethink strategies and plans to mitigate the effects of climate change, analyzing local priorities and identifying common elements.
- The localization / adaptation of climate agendas at the local level is a process that must be reviewed in a timely manner, seeking the relationship of the main targets and goals with territorial aspects like the identity, culture and education since these are channels of social legitimation.
- To include elements such as biotechnology, the knowledge society, co-creation and knowledge sharing in the main international commitments and decentralized cooperation is a way to foster innovation in local public policies.
- The role of Smart cities should be linked to the approaches of the climate agendas. Incorporate technology and the strategic use of data in public administration.

- Climate action is a cross-cutting topic to the LRG's duties. For example, Almada, Portugal has tried to work to promote the consumption of more sustainable and healthy products, taking advantage of the productive and logistical capacity found in neighborhood markets. During the lockdown period, a healthier diet was promoted by the city council based on the consumption of fresh local products. Markets have been the most effective channel as they are almost the only stores that have remained open.

"The pandemic comes to teach us that the sustainability model is the right path and that we have to give it a bigger boost. And those measures that transform our cities into sustainable and with a better quality of life must come to stay once it has been overcome." **Bárbara Roces,** Project Manager of the regional FPI team for the Americas of the EU.

Case study. European green deal

- The European Green Deal seeks to promote the rapid transition towards clean energy and for this, 3 actors are required: governments, investors and citizens.
- The pact is connected to the goals of the Paris Accords and seeks to make Europe the first carbon neutral region in the world by 2050. This is aligned with a decided strategy for the digital transition of the economy that integrates sustainability in all the actions and programs.
- The strategy is based on supplying the existing energies with safe, clean and affordable ones; in addition to building and renovating in an efficient way with the use of alternative and clean energy.
- City diplomacy on these issues will be very important to carry this agenda forward. Through the Covenant of Mayors, the bottom-up principle is guaranteed in the implementation of the Green Deal.
- The European Green Deal involves an important component of behavioral change and the mayors are the most qualified to lead this process.

"One of the priorities of the European Green Deal is the generation of actions that work for people and for a just energy transition." **Ronald Hall** Senior Advisor to DG Regio

Case study Urban policy of the European Commission 2020-2027

Investing in sustainable development will be a post-2020 EU's priority. The European Urban Initiative is based on three priorities:

- Capacity building in cities.
- Innovative actions.
- Knowledge, communication and policy development. This last section should have a greater impact on the cooperation programs that the EU promotes.

Urban and regional policy will have new responsibilities on:

- The REACT-EU initiative to promote the prosperity of the member states.
- The Just Transition Fund to accelerate the transition for climate neutrality.

For its part, the International Urban-Regional Cooperation program 2021-2024 will have as priorities:

- City-city cooperation in the field of sustainable urban development: New Urban Agenda, European Urban Agenda, etc.
- Region-region cooperation in the field of regional innovation systems: regional action plans during 18-24 months.

"Most European Commission programs will consider the priorities of the European Green Deal" **Eero Ailio** Advisor on Energy Transition and Local Governance for the DG Energy.

How to put inclusive climate action at the center of urban planning and decision-making?

Municipal office for strategic planning and urban development of the city of Zagreb, Croatia

- Climate action is one of the axes of public policy. As an example, the city plan places a special emphasis on the preservation of agricultural soils and forests in the urban agglomeration area (which includes 29 municipalities). This is especially relevant to guarantee a vision of sustainability in urban expansion and sub-urbanization in the coming years.
- The local government has developed a program for the protection of the city's infrastructure and sustainable urban planning with special measures to promote green areas. The purpose is to optimize the green infrastructure element to improve ecosystems through consolidation projects and connection with the green spaces of the city.

Planning secretary of the municipality of Pereira, Colombia

- Since 2013, Pereira develops a municipal strategy of adaptation and variability to climate change with a framework of local government programs and policies. This is carried out based on an articulation model to mitigate the threats of the territory (floods, rainfall, etc.).
- The localization / adaptation processes of climate agendas are combined with other local instruments such as the scarcity index to identify aquifer load, which allow the bottom-up vision to be included in the agendas.
- To participate in international programs and projects is essential for peer-to-peer and knowledge sharing. To this end, it is necessary to reinforce the institutional framework to enable international cooperation with mention on urban environmental development.
- Likewise, it seeks to incorporate citizen participation in international cooperation. Specifically, develop an approach of "global citizen" in people and seek the link between entrepreneurs / ventures in communities with financing funds and cooperation.

"In the territorial development model, the combination of instruments has been key to ensure effective climate actions in public policies." **Yesid Armando Rozo**, Secretary of Planning for the city of Pereira, Colombia

What is the role of local and regional governments in complying with the main global climate agreements?

Latin America, Municipality of Viña del Mar

- Knowledge sharing, training and education for citizens in a simple and understandable way facilitates the appropriation of agendas and the construction of participatory action plans.
- When global issues are adequately communicated, citizenship has a better traceability of the impacts in their lifestyle over time.
- Communication permits local demands and aspirations to be institutionalized regardless of the political orientation in turn in local government.
- LRG's have is able to think in a metropolitan / regional / international scale, and combine it with a local perspective that reaches the citizen. In this scenario, decentralized cooperation becomes a priority for better peer-to-peer, technical exchange, knowledge sharing and coordination platform.
- The communal civil protection and emergency plan reflects a hard work of coordination with the National government and local groups, with the local government as the leader. This plan also has a global perspective enriched with the URB-AL program.
- Policy innovation with the support of universities has significant potential to accelerate the localization of climate agendas. Specifically, the City Hall works along with the University of Viña del Mar in a local storm surge prediction system, where the urban coastline is analyzed to determine possible events.
- Highly scalable projects can support cooperation between cities. Currently, the municipality is working on a climate risk atlas, that includes a profound analysis of the territorial endangers, along with the Climate and Resilience Center. The objective is to carry out a micro-scale analysis that references the possible affectations in specific areas of the city. This tool is able to be socialized to other cities and / or regions.

Europe, Almada's City Council

- Climate agendas have to be designed and concretized at the local level. The flexibility and capacity of action of a local government –due to its proximity to people- allows it agile, flexible and more effective responses to problems. This also gives legitimacy to local authorities as international actors.
- Portugal does not have regional governments. Cities have to make an important effort of verticality and sometimes intervene and advocate directly with the European (regional) and international instances. This advocacy aims to achieve conditions, tools and resources for climate agendas.

> "Cities are global actors, they can provide concrete responses to climate agendas in a post-pandemic situation" **Catarina Freitas**, head of the Department of Innovation, Environment, Climate and sustainability. Almada

- At the regional level, we need to review the financial table to meet global demands for sustainable mobility. For example, Almada has got European funding for a new electric car fleet, but measures to allocate these funds are designed at the national level. Therefore, important disparities are caused such as the state being able to renew the fleet 100% and the municipalities approximately 30%. Multilevel governance has, above all, to pay attention to local demands.