

5th **UCLG** Congress

**WORLD SUMMIT
OF LOCAL
AND REGIONAL
LEADERS**

#UCLGcongress



BOGOTA 2016

12-15 October

**INFORMATION
NOTE**

**Local
Voices
for a better
world**



**The largest global
gathering of
local and regional
leaders and
our partners**

INTRODUCTION

The World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders, organized by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), is the largest, most influential, global gathering of mayors, councillors, local governments, and our partners.

The 2016 edition of this triennial Summit, “Local Voices for a Better World”, will be held on 12-15 October in Bogotá, Colombia, back-to-back with the Habitat III Conference.

The Summit will see the celebration of the **5th World Congress** of UCLG as well as plenaries, policy fora and networking activities open to the **over 3,000 locally elected leaders and practitioners** in attendance.



It will be an opportunity for local governments to discuss the major social, environmental, economic and cultural trends that are affecting our day-to-day work on the ground, as well as to define the **Key Recommendations of Local and Regional Governments to Habitat III**.

But the World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders is not just about policy. It's also the ideal place to reinvigorate the international municipal movement and **strengthen the global network of local and regional leaders** by allowing us to meet face-to-face, share our experiences, and learn from one another.

THE ERA OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The world and its territories are at a turning point. Urbanization, migration, climate change, increasing inequalities, new technologies and citizen demands for democracy are reshaping our societies and our planet. It is clear that a **structural change** in how we approach development is needed over the coming decades.

In this increasingly urban, interconnected world, local and regional governments are uniquely placed to lead such a structural change by putting people at the centre of development.

As the level of government **closest to the people**, local and regional leaders are able to bring together and listen to all sectors of their communities, including the most marginalized, and adapt and target development policies accordingly. As elected authorities, we also have a **democratic mandate** to take action, and can be held to account by our citizens.

Under the motto “Local Voices for a Better World”, the 2016 World Summit will explore the structural changes that are needed to approach development differently, including more inclusive forms of governance, innovative financing mechanisms and new patterns of production and consumption, in preparation for the Habitat III Conference in Quito.

Local and regional governments are uniquely placed to lead such a structural change

THEMES



The plenaries and policy dialogues at the Summit will be based on the cornerstones of the **Global Agenda of Local and Regional Governments for the 21st Century**. These sessions will see mayors, governors, high-level representatives of national governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, academia, development agencies, finance institutions and the private sector come together to discuss the Agenda and present it to the world.

PLENARIES ON THE POLICY AGENDA

The Era of Strong Local Government: Recalling the Spirit of Habitat II

Strong local governments are crucial for the wellbeing of all. The UN Member States gathering at Habitat III will need to remember the spirit of Habitat II, which acknowledged local governments as “the closest partner” of UN Habitat and “essential” in the implementation of the Urban Agenda.

Linking up the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda

In order to ensure that no one is left behind, local and regional governments need to be directly involved in the monitoring, implementation and financing of both the 2030 Development Agenda and New Urban Agenda.

From Bogotá to Quito: A Seat at the Global Table

The local and regional leaders gathered in Bogotá will present our key recommendations for Habitat III. We will propose concrete mechanisms for a global governance architecture to ensure that the implementation of the New Urban Agenda involves all local and regional governments.

POLICY DIALOGUES: CORNERSTONES OF THE NEW URBAN AGENDA AS THE BASIS FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT

Stronger, More Accountable Local and Regional Governments

Elected local and regional leaders are uniquely placed to promote collaborative, participatory and integrated governance. Strong and accountable local and regional governments need to be empowered in order to define and drive the inclusive and sustainable development of their cities and territories.

The Right to the City at the Heart of the New Urban Agenda

The Right to the City approach should guide all the dimensions of the New Urban Agenda. This approach aims to combat exclusion and emphasizes the essential role of local governments in guaranteeing equal access to, and the protection of, public goods. It also calls for deeper, broader participation of civil society in urban governance and for the recognition and promotion of diversity.

Culture as a Driver for Urban Transformation

Promoting heritage, creativity, diversity, cultural participation and transmission of knowledge is instrumental to build people-centred societies. The function of culture as a pillar of sustainable development is increasingly recognized. The operational role played by cities and local governments within this context needs to be acknowledged in, and empowered by, the New Urban Agenda.

Territories for Sustainable Local Economic and Environmental Policies

Cities and regions are increasingly involved in initiatives relating to environmental footprints, energy production and consumption, and local economic development. The potential of city and regional governments to mobilize local actors and harness opportunities to foster economic development and environmental sustainability needs to be unlocked and recognized.

Drive Bottom-up National Development

Local and regional governments are strategic partners in building strong national systems of cities and more balanced territorial development. National urban and territorial policies should address and integrate the specificities and needs of metropolitan areas, intermediary cities, regions, small municipalities and rural areas.

Building the Spirit of Solidarity

The broad family of local governments has a proud historical tradition of decentralized cooperation and international solidarity among our members. Such cooperation allows communities from across the world to gaining shared understanding of the importance of peace, human dignity and respect for one another.

Financing the New Urban Agenda

Local government investments increasingly contribute to economic growth at national and regional levels, but they do not receive an equitable share of the resources generated at the sub-national level in return. Local governments need local financing systems that rely on endogenous, stable and structural financial resources and receive investments to fund the local infrastructures and basic services needed in our urbanizing world.

The Future of Cities

The cities of the future will face trends related to technological innovation that do not receive enough attention in discussions on the New Urban Agenda. These trends include: the blurred boundaries between privacy and identity and between virtual and real spaces in “augmented reality”; new work patterns based on the microwork economy; new approaches to governance that address the crisis of representation by leveraging the use of technology; the promotion of civic and city labs as tools for change; new possibilities provided by bio-materials for architecture; and the possibility of managing our cities as microbial health systems.

There will also be three meeting places for the different local government communities that make up the broad UCLG family. This will allow each local government community to discuss the issues relevant to its own perspective, as well as its contribution to the network as a whole.

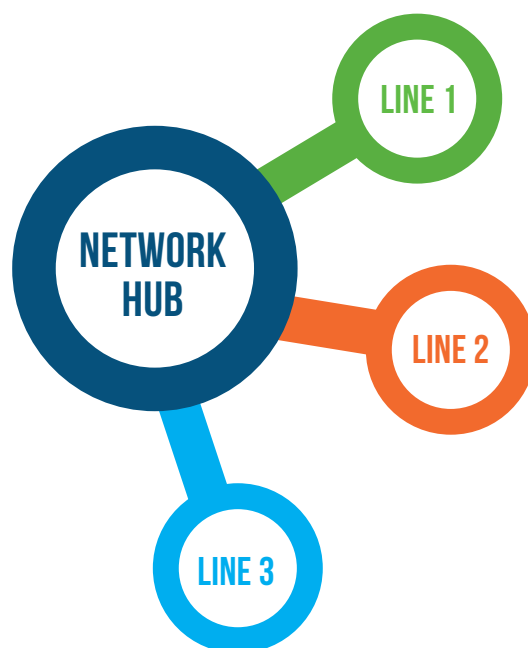


COMMUNITY FORUMS

Constituencies: Metropolitan and Peripheral Cities; Intermediary Cities; Territories (small municipalities and rural areas); Locally Elected Women.

Local Government Associations
Regional Governments

THE PROGRAMME: 3 "METRO LINES" AND THE NETWORK HUB



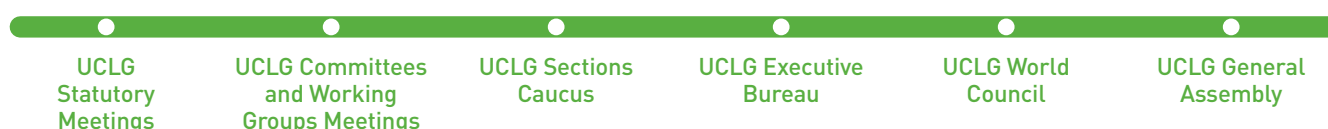
The Summit programme has been structured around 3 “metro lines”. These 3 metro lines will meet symbolically, physically and digitally at the Network Hub.

The Network Hub will offer different spaces for both informal, face-to-face exchange and digital communication to connect and amplify the conversations taking place throughout the rest of the Congress, and to communicate them around the world. The Network Hub will include a press centre, spaces for interviews, photos, videos, social media, debates and workshops.

This approach aims to introduce innovative interaction formats, harness the opportunities for exchange enabled by digital technology, and involve members, partners, civil society and local stakeholders as co-creators of the Summit.

LINE 1 [FOR UCLG MEMBERS ONLY]

Line 1 represents the UCLG Congress. The meetings of the statutory bodies of UCLG will have additional relevance this year, with the election of a new Presidency for the 2016-2019 period and the discussion of the organization's new Strategic Priorities.



LINE 2 [FOR ALL SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS]

Line 2 represents policy and international advocacy. It will have a strong link with the definition and promotion of the Global Agenda of Local and Regional Governments for the 21st Century and for our work beyond Habitat III.



LINE 3 [FOR ACTIVE NETWORKERS]

Line 3 represents networking. It will introduce innovative formats that give all participants the chance to actively participate in the Summit, as well as to explore the host city.



THE KEY MOMENTS OF THE PROGRAM WILL BE THE FOLLOWING:

Wednesday
12 October

Opening Plenary

Thursday
13 October

Plenary
UCLG Executive Bureau

Friday
14 October

2nd World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments
UCLG General Assembly

Saturday
15 October

UCLG World Council
Closing Plenary

SECOND WORLD ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS

The 2016 World Summit will also see the celebration of the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments.

The Second World Assembly is an initiative of the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments (GTF), facilitated by UCLG. It is the inheritor of the First World Assembly of Cities and Local Authorities, which took place in Istanbul just before Habitat II in 1996.

It has been officially recognized by the United Nations General Assembly in recognition of the role local authorities and communities play in sustainable urban development and in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

The Second World Assembly is the mechanism through which the local and regional government constituency will make its joint inputs to the Habitat III process.

2nd
**WORLD
ASSEMBLY**
of local and regional
governments



2016 WORLD SUMMIT DELIVERABLES

The 2016 World Summit will produce four major outputs:

The Global Agenda of Local and Regional Governments for the 21st Century

The Global Agenda of Local and Regional Governments for the 21st Century will reflect the vision and legacy of local and regional authorities on the main challenges of the global development agendas (SDGs, Habitat III) and voice priorities that are not currently included in the global negotiations.

The 4th Global Report on Local Democracy and Decentralization (GOLD IV)

The Global Agenda will be accompanied by the 4th Global Report on Local Democracy and Decentralization (GOLD IV). This report will provide analysis, examples of local government innovation, and case studies from across the world to support the recommendations of the Global Agenda.

The Bogota Statements

The Bogota Statements, concise and politically-driven, will reflect the major challenges that local and regional governments have identified over the course of the Summit, as well as its major outcomes.

The Key Recommendations of Local and Regional Governments to Habitat III

The Key Recommendations, based on the outcomes of the Second World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments, are the main proposals that the constituency will take from Bogotá to the Habitat III Conference in Quito.





UCLG

United Cities
and Local Governments

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Africa



Asia-Pacific



Euro-Asia



Europe



Latin America



Middle East-
West Asia



North America



Metropolitan Section



Forum of Regions

