



The Metropolitan Governance in Africa

4th WEBINAR

Peer Learning from Local Experiences

Thursday 17 February, 2022

From 03:00pm to 05:30pm (Barcelona and Rabat Local Time)

Zoom Link for Registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZMtdOCuqDIoGtGARGNyvg6Hvpd6YjTqqyX9>

«Together For an Effective Local Africa»

CONCEPT NOTE

Context:

There are over 10.000 urban spaces of at least 50 thousand residents across the world, and 2805 of these in Africa. An important feature of African urban areas is the **high level of population growth**. Many more Africans now live in urban areas than at any other point in history. **Africa has increased its urban population from 32.6 million people in 1950 to 491.5 million in 2015¹**. The World Bank predicts that by 2030 Africa will finally be an urban continent, with more than 50% of its population living in cities².

While these areas are characterized by high population densities, increased employment opportunities and larger labor forces, **they must also cater for housing, infrastructure, transportation, energy and employment, as well as for basic services such as education and health care³**.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed new vulnerabilities in social, infrastructure, and governance systems. African cities were particularly vulnerable, with some experts, including the head of WHO, predicting a catastrophe for the continent⁴.

Facing this challenge has required new approaches to planning, administrative coordination, funding and service provision⁵. African cities have been able to defy these predictions and have avoided the exponential death and contamination rates observed in other parts of the world⁶. **African policy makers have implemented many digital solutions to fight the COVID-19 pandemic at local, national, regional and continental levels⁷**.

The COVID-19 crisis has ripened the context for digitalisation to accelerate Africa's productive transformation and make the continent more resilient to future crises⁸. Digital transformation has gone from being an option to becoming a lifeline for using data, consuming content, and engaging in digital applications by individuals, governments, and businesses, in order to ensure continuity of economic and social activities during periods of social distancing and total lockdowns⁹.

¹ Metropolis, World Association of Major Metropolises. (2019, noviembre). African Metropolitan Report. <https://www.metropolis.org/sites/default/files/resources/african-metropolitan-reoprt.pdf>

² Kessides, C. (2006) The Urban Transition in Sub-Saharan Africa: Implications for economic growth and poverty reduction. Washington, DC: World Bank.

³ Metropolis, World Association of Major Metropolises. (2019, noviembre). African Metropolitan Report. <https://www.metropolis.org/sites/default/files/resources/african-metropolitan-reoprt.pdf>

⁴ Maniga, P. (2021, 23 febrero). African Cities in Times of COVID-19: Resilience against all Odds. Africa Portal. <https://www.africaportal.org/publications/african-cities-times-covid-19-resilience-against-all-odds/>

⁵ Metropolis, World Association of Major Metropolises. (2019, noviembre). African Metropolitan Report. <https://www.metropolis.org/sites/default/files/resources/african-metropolitan-reoprt.pdf>

⁶ Maniga, P. (2021, 23 febrero). African Cities in Times of COVID-19: Resilience against all Odds. Africa Portal. <https://www.africaportal.org/publications/african-cities-times-covid-19-resilience-against-all-odds/>

⁷ AUC/OECD (2021), "Overview: Priorities to make digitalisation work for all in Africa", in Africa's Development Dynamics 2021: Digital Transformation for Quality Jobs, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/7b66a37e-en>.

⁸ AUC/OECD (2021), "Overview: Priorities to make digitalisation work for all in Africa", in Africa's Development Dynamics 2021: Digital Transformation for Quality Jobs, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/7b66a37e-en>.

⁹ Maniga, P. (2021, 23 febrero). African Cities in Times of COVID-19: Resilience against all Odds. Africa Portal. <https://www.africaportal.org/publications/african-cities-times-covid-19-resilience-against-all-odds/>

To highlight the challenges that African cities face and how they are overcoming them, Metropolis and UCLG-Africa decided to design the launch of a Learning Program on “**Metropolitan Governance in Africa**”, through the organization of 4 Webinars among which 3 were organized in 2021 et the 4th one is plane don Thursday 17 February, 2022 on “**Peer Learning from Local Experiences**”.

General objective:

Based on a pedagogical content designed by Metropolis, this Learning Program aims to introduce the metropolitan reality and how metropolitan governance with a gender perspective can be the key to face the challenges and threats that surround our metropolises.

During the Session “*Peer Learning From Local Experiences*”, Leaders and city managers of different African cities and metropolises will participate in a **peer review of their local experiences facing the challenges produced by the rapid urban growth and the COVID-19 pandemic, giving a particular mention to the role of digitalization.**

Target audience:

- Representatives of Local and Regional Governments, with a focus on Representatives of Metropolises.
- Representatives of the Associations of Local and Regional Governments.
- Government Representatives.
- Civil servants, especially those of African Local Governments.
- Civil Society Organisations.
- Universities, Schools and Research Centers.
- Network of African Experts and Researchers.

Organizers & Partners:

- Metropolis <https://www.metropolis.org/>
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG Africa) through its African Local Governments Academy (ALGA), www.uclga.org and www.uclgafrica-alga.org

Date and Venue:

Thursday 17 February 2022, from 03:00pm to 5:30pm (Local time in Rabat and Barcelona).
On UCLG-Africa's Zoom Platform.

Link to register:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMtdOCuqDloGtGArGNYvg6Hvpd6YjTqqyX9>

Working Languages:

English, French and Arabic

PROGRAMME

Moderator: Mr. Charles Patsika, Special Advisor for Decentralized Cooperation, UCLG Africa.

TIME	CONTENTS
2:45pm	Welcoming of the Panel and Participants and setting the stage.
3:00pm-3:10pm	Welcome address by Mr. Morris Mbolela , Deputy Secretary General of UCLG Africa.
3:10pm-3:20pm	Welcome address by Mr. Octavi de la Varga , Secretary General of Metropolis.
3:20pm-3:30pm	Mr. Charles Patsika : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Introduction on the Theme of the Webinar. - Introduction of the Political Representatives participating in the Panel.
3:30pm-3:42pm	The experience of Cairo, by His Excellency General Mr. Khaled Abdel Aal , Governor of Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt.
3:42pm-3:54pm	The experience of Abidjan, by His Excellency Mr. Vincent N'Cho , Deputy Governor of Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.
3:54pm-4:06pm	The experience of Tunis, by Hon. Ms Souad Abderrahim , Mayor of Tunis, Tunisia.
4:06pm-4:18pm	The experience of Harare, by Hon. Mr Jacob Mafume , Mayor of Harare, Zimbabwe.
4:18pm-4:30pm	The experience of Rabat, by Hon. Mr Kamal El Amrani , Vice-President of the Communal Council of Rabat, Morocco.
4:30pm-4:42pm	The experience of Kigali, by Hon. Mr Pudence Rubingisa , Mayor of Kigali, Rwanda.
4:42pm-4:54pm	The experience of Teveragh Zeina, Region of Nouakchott, by Hon. Mr Taleb Abderrahmane El Mahjoub , Mayor of Teveragh Zeina, Mauritania.
4:54pm-5:06pm	The experience of Lomé, by Hon. Mr Gomado Koamy Gbloekpo , Mayor of the Commune of Golfe 1, Togo.
5:06pm-5:20pm	Questions from participants.
5:20pm-5:30pm	Closing remarks by Mr. Charles Patsika , Special Advisor for Decentralized Cooperation at UCLG Africa.
	Group Picture.

