GLOBAL STATE OF METROPOLIS 2020

Experts Group Meeting Report.

Abu Dhabi-UAE, February 8th, 2020.

MetroHUB | UN@HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE | Policy, Legislation and Governance Section - PLGS

1. EGM OVERVIEW

Abu Dhabi's Experts Group Meeting on the Global State of Metropolis followed the international dialogue settled in Medellin in October 2019 between development actors to propose and define conceptual approaches, methodologies, contents, case studies and inspiring experiences for structuring a global report on metropolitan management and development.

EGM Key Expectations

- Present and validate the structure and outline of the Global State of Metropolis Report, as well as to receive last proposals and inputs for the outline's final draft.

- Present and validate the sample of metropolises for the case studies that will be included within the Global State of Metropolis Report. Also, propose new metropolises to be included in the sample and a series of criteria to classify them.

- Showcase and identify inspiring experiences on metropolitan management to be included in the Global State of Metropolis Report.

- Present the alliance between UN-Habitat and Metropolis as well as a jointly workplan for the preparation of the Global State of Metropolis Report.

MetroHUB | UN@HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE | Policy, Legislation and Governance Section - PLGS

2. EGM SESSIONS' AND DIALOGS' HIGHLIGHTS

Session 1. Opening session

The first session of the Experts Group Meeting (EGM) updated participants on the outcomes of the first EGM held in Medellin in October 2019 in where the Global State of Metropolis Report was introduced. Report's main purposes and roadmap were explained in detail as well as the advances on defining information sources for the different analyses to be included within the Report.

On other hand, it was clarified the UN-Habitat's role in producing urban data as input for monitoring the implementation of global agendas, specially, those commitments and goals related with sustainable urban development such as the

SDG11, the New Urban Agenda, the Montreal Declaration on Metropolitan Areas, the Paris Agreement, among others.

It was highlighted that cities do not exist in statistical and political global concerts, and in that regard, it is fundamental to make metropolises an actor of that picture.

As an insight for the Global Report, it was stated that according to the UN-Habitat's Cities Prosperity Index (CPI), the most prosperous cities are those which have been becoming in metropolises and, in some way, managing like that, instead from those cities which are growing on an isolated way.

At the end of the session, participants were invited to present their insights for the preparation process of the Global State of Metropolis Report. Below are listed some of the ideas mentioned by the experts:

- The Global Report must evolve into a system of data on worldwide metropolitan development and use data trends in order to make the publication periodic.
- The Global Report should combine qualitative and quantitative analyses, in that sense, it is recommendable to compare data with policy analysis.

- It is fundamental to have a wide Global Database of Metropolises to have a good report.
- The messages and findings of the Report must come from data and information (the messages must be proved).
- Consider comparing different samples of cities/metropolises, for instance, databases from OECD, World Bank, Metropolis, among others.
- The Global Report is useful to make metropolises a fundamental actor in statistical and political global concerts.

Session 2. Structuring the Global State of Metropolis Report

The purpose of this EGM session was to present and validate the contents and outline proposed for the Global State of Metropolis Report.

The different chapters and sections of the Report as well as the analysis categories for the case studies were complemented by experts. Final draft of the outline incorporating the inputs from the EGM is available in Annex A of this document which incorporate a detailed description for the final analysis categories.

Participants advised on having simple concepts and typologies for defining metropolises, the necessity of include both qualitative and quantitative data within the analyses and to include practices as solutions, as described below:

- Do not spend much time trying to define what a metropolis is neither describing the typologies of metropolises because mostly of the metropolitan realities are very different.
- Do not focus much in definitions. Do it on the challenges and opportunities of metropolitan management.
- Try to have the definitions of metropolis as simple as possible.
- It is important to include data bases but also policy and qualitative analyses.
- Try to connect the analyses to show how metropolises respond to the challenges

(solutions). Organize the narrative to show the practices as solutions.

- This Report has to show something different from the other reports in the sense of being a tool for practitioners.
- If the objective of the Report is to be read by high level officers then it has to include several best practices and solutions.
- It is fundamental to take into account small spaces because there are mostly of the challenges to solve.
- Try to connect different analyses to show, for instance, how the Drivers contribute to the Domains of Change proposed by UN-Habitat.
- It is important to be careful on the indicators to be included since it is difficult to find indicators at the metropolitan level and not all the city indicators fit with the metropolitan spaces.
- Within the analyses it is important to separate the ones on the legal frameworks from the ones on institutional solutions.
- Include mechanisms for collaborative and participatory planning within the metropolitan planning chapter.

- Take into account the physical consistency of the metropolises. The geographic dimension and its relation with the metropolitan identity.

- Look at the international literature to identify possible inputs for the Report. Some examples could be those from Metropolis, Isocarp, MTPA, World Bank, OECD, among others.

Session 3. Defining a Global Sample of Metropolises

This EGM session was important to refine the sample of metropolises for the case studies to be included in the Global Report. It was clarified that the cases will be the main source of qualitative information to distil trends on policies and legislation, planning, governance, and finance and economics in worldwide metropolises[1].

Participants proposed new metropolises to complement the sample and several ways to classify them, not only based on population numbers but also on criteria such as economic performance, regional balance, political-administrative boundaries, among others. The sample adjusted according with the inputs from the EGM is available in

[1] Qualitative information provided by the cases will be a complement for the quantitative information distilled from a Global Database of Metropolises (as proposed by experts and explained in previous sections of this document). Both qualitative and quantitative information are fundamental for the analyses to be made within the Global State of Metropolis Report.

Annex B of this document and the principal insights mentioned during this session are listed below:

- It is important to correctly select the cases based on its value. In that sense, it is important to include cases of national policies as well as cases of megalopolis and supra-metropolises.
- It is important that the sample include small metropolises but they should have some kind of metropolitan management practices or instruments.
- Look for a proper extension when drafting the cases, for instance, maybe is

more significant to have less cases within the Report but with a more detailed description.

- Try to define sub-categories within the sample and to link them with institutional functions.
- Take into account the political-administrative dimension and consider including new dynamics and not only consolidated cases.
- Try to include much information as possible in order to bring more tools to metropolitan institutions.
- Be careful in selecting who will collect the information and draft the cases.

Session 4. Closing session

To close the EGM, participants made some commitments to contribute in different

ways with the preparation of the Global Report and the Metropolitan Area of

Barcelona (AMB) announced that they will host the next EGM. Finally, UN-Habitat and Metropolis announced their alliance for the Global Report and presented some specific activities to be developed during the next months as listed below:

- *1. Technical support to identify, through a jointly Call for Proposals, inspiring and innovative practices on metropolitan management.*
- *2. Use the system of metropolitan indicators as an input for the Global Report.*
- *3. Advocacy and communication support to the Metropolitan Day campaign (October 7th) to promote the strengthening of metropolitan management and development worldwide.*
- *4. Launching and promotion activities of the Global Report during the Metropolis World Congress to be held in Guangzhou-China on late October 2020.*

3. EGM OUTPUTS

The EGM sessions allowed UN-Habitat to consolidate the structure and outline of the Global State of Metropolis Report, refine the Global Sample of Metropolises for the case studies and identify the need to have a Global Database of Metropolises to complement the qualitative analyses from the case studies with quantitative data. These three elements are described below.

Global Report Outline:

The Global State of Metropolis Report will be structured according with the four dimensions defined to assess metropolitan management and which correspond with the Drivers of Change for Sustainable Urbanisation defined by UN-Habitat. Also, it will include a couple of conceptual sections, general numbers and figures on the global state of metropolisation processes and some of the case studies selected from the sample.

The annotated outline final draft of the Global Report is available in Annex A of this document and below it is a glance of the contents:

PART 1: Global State of Metropolis:

- Chapter 1: Fundamentals of Metropolisation.
- Chapter 2: Metropolitan Policies and Legislation.
- Chapter 3: Metropolitan Planning.
- Chapter 4: Metropolitan Governance.
- Chapter 5: Metropolitan Finance and Economics.

PART 2: Case Studies and Regional Trends:

- Chapter 6: Case Studies and Regional Trends.

Statistical Annex.

Global Sample of Metropolises for the Case Studies:

Cases studies are the main source of qualitative information to distil global and regional trends on policies and legislation, planning, governance, and finance and economics in worldwide metropolises. Therefore, the sample for the cases studies is representative enough in terms of

economic, population and geographical criteria as listed below:

- **Economic criteria:** Metropolises from low, middle and high income countries.
- **Population criteria:** Small (<1million people), medium (1-10million people) and large metropolises (>10million people [including some megacities of >20million]).
- **Geographic criteria:** Metropolises from 5 continents/5 UN Regional Groups: Latin America and the Caribbean, Western Europe and other States, Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia-Pacific.

The Global Sample of Metropolises is available in Annex B of this document. That sample could be adjusted depending on the data available at the moment of developing the case studies in order to guarantee the reliability of the qualitative analyses to be included in the Global Report.

Global Database of Metropolises:

As one of the principal outcomes of the Abu Dhabi's EGM it was stablished the necessity of complement the case studies with quantitative data provided by a Global Database of Metropolises. This database will be composed by world's urban agglomerations with more than 300.000 inhabitants and that comply, with at least, one of the following conditions:

- **United Nations typologies:** Cities recognised as Urban Agglomerations or Metropolitan Areas by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (UN DESA).
- **Other international organisations typologies:** Cities recognised as metropolises by international organisations such as OECD, EU, among others, and not included in the UN DESA Urban Agglomerations and Metropolitan Areas groups.
- **Legal framework:** Cities which are recognised for their national/local legal frameworks as metropolises and not included in the previous groups.
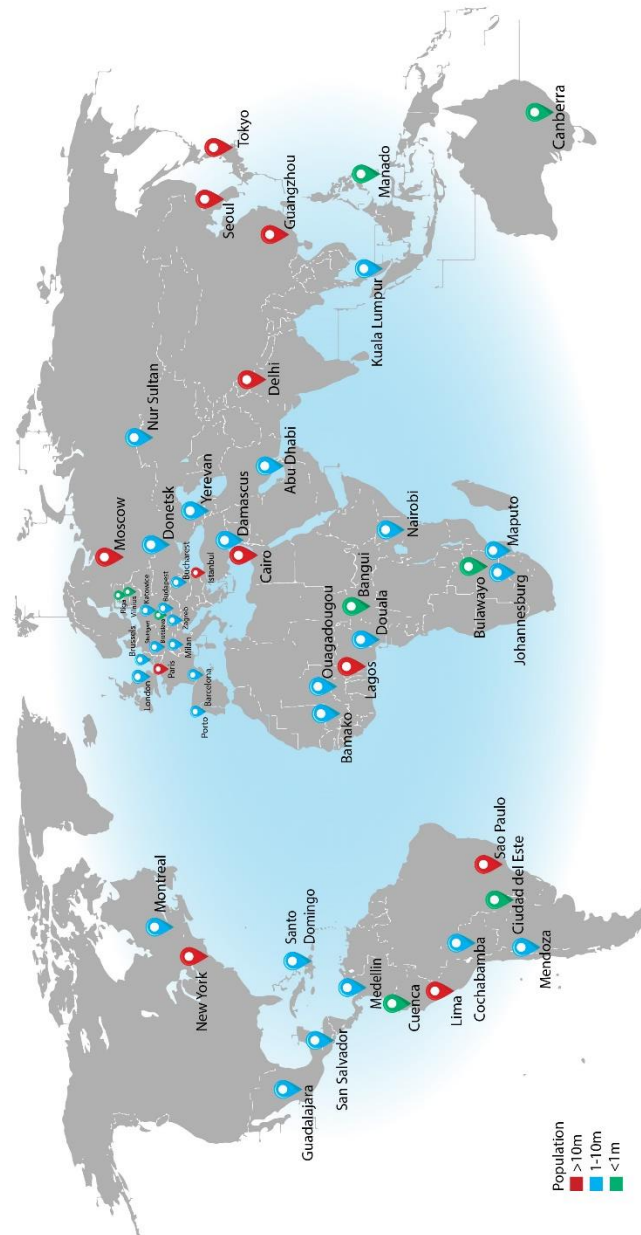
4. GLOBAL REPORT ROADMAP

Timeline 2020

January .... **March** .... **June**

Data analysis and drafting

Metropolitan Peer to Peer Global Expo
+
Experts Group Meeting Abu Dhabi (WUF 10)

Data analysis and drafting

Validation of the cases, practices and data
+
Experts Group Meeting Barcelona

Data analysis and drafting

Validation of the cases, practices and data
+
Experts Group Meeting Africa (City TBC)

July .... **October** .... **December**

Data analysis and drafting

Validation of the cases, practices and data
+
Experts Group Meeting Guadalajara

Drafting and compilation of the Report

Global Report Presentation
+
Political Statement of Metropolises

Translation of the Report and preparation of policy briefs

International launches and promotion activities

Annex A. Global Report Outline's Final Draft

Document available in

Annex B. Global Sample of Metropolises for Case Studies

Global Sample of Metropolises

Global State of Metropolis

Population
- >10m
- 1-10m
- <1m

MetroHUB | UN HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE | Policy, Legislation and Governance Section - PLGS

* This sample could be adjusted depending on the data available at the moment of developing the case studies in order to guarantee the reliability of the qualitative analyses to be included in the Global Report. However, the sample will always represent a balance between the different continents and United Nations Regional Groups.

MetroHUB | UN HABITAT FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE | Policy, Legislation and Governance Section - PLGS

Annex C. Detailed Programme of the EGM

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH	
<u>Session 1. Opening session</u>	
14:00 – 14:15 h.	**Welcoming words to participants and updates from Medellin's EGM**
	- Policy, Legislation and Governance Section of UN-Habitat.
14:15 – 14:30 h.	**Introductions from participants**
	- Dialog between experts.
14:30 – 14:45 h.	**UN-Habitat's Flagship Reports**
	- Knowledge and Innovation Branch of UN-Habitat.
<u>Session 2. Structuring the Global State of Metropolis Report</u>	
14:45 – 15:30 h.	**The Global State of Metropolises: Structure and outline**
	- Policy, Legislation and Governance Section of UN-Habitat.
	- Dialog between experts.
15:30 – 15:45 h.	**Break.**
<u>Session 3. Defining a Global Sample of Metropolis</u>	
15:45 – 16:30 h.	**The Global State of Metropolises: Sample for the case studies**
	- Policy, Legislation and Governance Section of UN-Habitat.
	- Dialog between experts.
<u>Session 4. Closing session</u>	
16:30 – 16:45 h.	**Alliances for the Global State of Metropolis Report**
	- Policy, Legislation and Governance Section of UN-Habitat.
	- Metropolis.
16:45 – 17:00 a.m.	**Final remarks and next steps**
	- Policy, Legislation and Governance Section of UN-Habitat.

Annex D. List of Participants

Organization	Name	Position	Email
UN-Habitat	Remy Sietchiping	Leader of the Regional and Metropolitan Planning Unit	remy.sietchiping@un.org
UN-Habitat	Rafael H. Forero H.	Urban Policy and Metropolitan Expert	rafael.forero@un.org
UN-Habitat	Maria del Pilar Tellez	Metropolitan Development Expert	maria.tellezsoler@un.org
UN-Habitat	Eduardo Lopez Moreno	Director of Reseach and Capacity Development	eduardo.moreno@un.org
UN-Habitat	Elkin Velasquez	Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean	elkin.velasquez@un.org
UN-Habitat	Bruno Dercon	Senior Human Settlements Officer for Asia-Pacific	bruno.dercon@un.org
UN-Habitat	Monica Quintana	Specialist for Andean Countries	monica.quintana@onuhabitat.org
OECD	Tadashi Matsumoto	Head of Unit, Sustainable Development and Global Relations	tadashi.matsumoto@oecd.org
World Bank	Ellen Hamilton	Lead Urban Specialist Middle East & North Africa Region	ehamilton@worldbank.org
Metropolis	Octavi de la Varga	Secretary General	odelavarga@metropolis.org
Metropolis	Lia Brum	Metropolis Observatory Officer	lbrum@metropolis.org
International Association of Public Transport (UITP)	Dionisio Gonzalez	Advocacy & Outreach Director	dionisio.gonzalez@uitp.org
International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP)	Frank D'hondt	Secretary General	secretarygeneral@isocarp.org
Metropolitan Area of San Salvador (El Salvador)	Yolanda Bichara	Executive Director of the Metropolitan Planning Office (OPAMSS)	coamss@opamss.org.sv
Metropolitan Area of Barcelona (Spain)	Xavier Tiana	Head of International Relations (AMB)	xtiana@amb.cat
Paris Region (France)	Eric Huybrechts	Head of International Relations (IAU)	Eric.Huybrechts@institutparisregion.fr
Metropolitan Area of Cairo (Egypt)	Eng. Hadia Gad Masoud	Assistant Manager of the National Urban Observatory of GOOP	alaaaly80@gmail.com Hadiagad@yahoo.com Hadia.gad@gopp.gov.eg
Grand Bamako (Mali)	Ousmane Sow	Director of the Urbanism Agency of Grand Bamako	osow@netcourrier.com
Milano Politecnico (Italy)	Antonella Contin	Metropolitan Architecture Professor	antonella.contin@polimi.it
University of Guadalajara (Mexico)	David Gomez	Public Policies Professor	gomezalvarezd@gmail.com