

January 25, 2023  
2-4 pm (CET)

# Digital Citymakers' Summit

Urban Solutions for  
Global Challenges

hosted by



urban  
sustainability  
exchange

# Program

January 25, 2023  
2-4 pm (CET)

## 2:00 pm Welcome

**Ana-Maria Trăsnea**, Permanent Secretary for Active Citizenship, Democracy Support and International Relations in the Berlin Senate Chancellery

## 2:10 pm Panel Discussion

### Urban Solutions for Global Challenges

Introducing **Metropolis**, the World Association of the Major Metropolises and the **Pact of Free Cities**, an international alliance of cities committed to liberal, democratic and constitutional values.

#### Panelists

**Jordi Vaquer**,  
Secretary General of  
Metropolis, Barcelona

**Benedek Jávor**,  
Head of Representation of  
Budapest in Brussels

#### Moderator

**Prof. Paul James**, Institute  
for Culture and Society,  
Western Sydney University

## 3:00 pm Network Sessions

Learn about inspiring projects, initiatives and knowledge resources and meet key actors in the field of sustainable urban development from around the globe!

**Session A:** hosted by **Metropolis**

**Session B:** hosted by **C40**

**Session C:** hosted by **World Habitat**

**Session D:** hosted by **UCLG Learning &  
Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation**

**Session E:** hosted by **Eurocities**

## 3:45 pm Summary & Feedback

Roundtable of all network sessions

More information and  
registration at

[use.metropolis.org/  
digitalcitymakerssummit](https://use.metropolis.org/digitalcitymakerssummit)

# Welcome & Introduction

**What programmes and policies do cities need to implement to meet their growing responsibilities?**

How can local governments engage in dialogue with national levels of government, and how can city networks and international organisations facilitate this process?

We invite you to discuss and explore these and other questions at the **Digital Citymakers' Summit**.

with



Welcome Address

## Ana-Maria Trăsnea

Ana-Maria Trăsnea was appointed State of Berlin Delegate to the Federation and Permanent Secretary for Active Citizenship, Democracy Support and International Relations in 2021. Before that, she was personal assistant to the Permanent Secretary for Youth and Families and a member of the borough assembly of Berlin-Treptow-Köpenick (2016 – 2021), where she also held the position of deputy chair (2019 – 2021). Ana-Maria Trăsnea studied Cultural and European Studies at the Europa-Universität Viadrina, Frankfurt (Oder).



Introduction and Moderation

## Paul James

Paul James is Professor of Globalization and Cultural Diversity in the Institute for Culture and Society at the Western Sydney University. He is author or editor of over 30 books, including *Globalization Matters: Engaging the Global in Unsettled Times* (with Manfred Steger, Cambridge University Press, 2019). Other books include 16 volumes mapping the field of globalization (Sage). Paul James is academic advisor to the use platform.

# Panel Discussion

## Urban Solutions for Global Challenges

Introducing Metropolis, the World Association of the Major Metropolises and the Pact of Free Cities, an international alliance of cities committed to liberal, democratic and constitutional values.

**Moderator**

**Paul James**

with



Speaker

### Benedek Jávor

Benedek Jávor is a biologist, environmentalist, and politician. After a decade in academia and in the green NGO movement he was one of the founders of the green party LMP in 2009 and the green-left party Párbeszéd in 2013. Member of the Parliament of Hungary and chair of its Sustainable Development Committee in 2010-2014. From 2014 to 2019 he was a member of the European Parliament in the Greens/EFA group, first vice-chair of the Committee for Environment. Since 2020 he is the head of the Representation of the City of Budapest to the EU in Brussels. Special focus on energy, climate and environmental policy, local communities and cities, as well as the rule of law and anti-corruption discourse on the European level.



Speaker

### Jordi Vaquer

Jordi Vaquer is the Secretary General of Metropolis since May 2022. Previously, he worked as Regional Director for Europe and as Director for Global Foresight and Analysis at the Open Society Foundations, a global philanthropic organization working on human rights, civil liberties and democratic practice. Before that, he was the director of the Barcelona Centre for International Affairs, one of Southern Europe's leading international relations think tanks. He holds a PhD in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science, he teaches in a Master in International Relations at the Barcelona Institute for International Studies, and often offers commentary about international affairs in media and public events.

# Network Sessions

## Sessions & Speakers

The following **5 network sessions** further explore innovative urban solutions to global challenges. Hosted by partners of the use platform – Metropolis, C40, World Habitat, UCLG Learning and Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation, and Eurocities – the network sessions present practical examples and successful programmes. The sessions also offer opportunities for **exchange with international experts in the field of sustainable development.**

[use.metropolis.org/  
digitalcitymakerssummit](https://use.metropolis.org/digitalcitymakerssummit)

# Session A

metropolis ●

## Metropolitan Green Infrastructures

hosted by Metropolis

**Green Cities are no longer an exceptional phenomenon:** more and more local and regional governments are aiming at the restoration and creation of green spaces and green infrastructure in their urban development strategies - in order to protect biodiversity, to mitigate climate change, to reduce pollution and heat islands, and to improve public health and the overall quality of life. **But how can the implementation of green infrastructure succeed at the metropolitan scale?** What strategies have proven successful in green urban planning, and what can we learn from them? Are they transferrable across different parts of the world?

[www.metropolis.org](http://www.metropolis.org)

with



Metropolis

## Lia Brum

Research & Policy Officer at Metropolis, Lia Brum is a versatile and multilingual professional with 15 years of experience in international nonprofits. She is an energetic and detail-oriented team player with critical thinking, strategic vision, and flexibility to liaise with diverse stakeholders. Her array of skills encompasses project management, content editing, event organisation, and public speaking. Lia has post-graduate education in International Cooperation and Urban Development, a specialisation in Environmental Management, and undergraduate studies in International Relations and Journalism.



## Sabelo Nkosi

Sabelo B Nkosi is a Senior Environmentalist at eThekweni Municipality in the Biodiversity Management Department. He has been involved in a number of biodiversity offsets within the Municipality. Sabelo's professional experience in the Integrated Environmental Management (IEM) and conservation sectors over the last 15 years ranges from private consulting, construction, research, and local government. Sabelo has a Masters in Environmental Management from the North-West University, and he holds a Bachelor of Science (BSc) Honours degree in Entomology.



## Juan David Palacio Cardona

Juan David Palacio Cardona is Director of the Metropolitan Area of the Aburrá Valley in Colombia. He is a lawyer with specializations in Government and Regional and Municipal Development Management and in Labor Law and Industrial Relations. He holds a Master's degree in Public Management from Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina. He has served as general secretary of the Medellín City Council and has been external legal advisor to different public and private companies in labor, business, traffic and transportation law.



## Maritza Hernández Solís

Maritza Hernández Solís is Director of Green Infrastructure at the Mexico City Ministry of the Environment. She is a Landscape Architect (1990-1996) from UNAM with a Master's Degree in Geography (2000-2002). In her career, she has gathered extensive experience in the coordination of multidisciplinary groups for the realization of landscape and environmental recovery projects of all scales, including the planning of national parks and ecological reserves.

# Session B

## Impact Beyond City Limits: Climate Action on Urban Consumption

hosted by C40

**From markets to restaurants and high streets to households, urban lifestyles create climate impacts around the globe.** C40 will host a discussion about how cities are organising action to reduce consumption-based emissions and increase well-being and explore the challenges and opportunities for cities in driving demand-side change.

C40  
CITIES

[www.c40.org](http://www.c40.org)

with



C40

### Siobhan Foley

Siobhan coordinates with C40 cities, teams, and partners to propel enterprising and expansive climate action on urban consumption. Previously at C40 she provided technical assistance to cities. Siobhan has a wide range of experience working on systems change to address the climate crisis, and has developed and led a variety of initiatives focused on energy efficiency and renewables, mobility, circular economy, urban nature, and low carbon living over the last fifteen years.



# Session C



## **Creating and advocating for the policies we need for people-led housing**

hosted by World Habitat

**In the current climate of rising housing costs in cities across the world,** the persistence of slums in the Global South, and the ever-greater expansion of global finance into housing, community-led approaches enabling people to lead their own housing solutions are emerging as a key pathway towards materialising the right to housing and providing affordable and secure housing for all. Yet, for community-led practice and actors to have significant and sustained impact a supporting policy framework appears fundamental. **How can we re-imagine, create, and advocate for the policies, at local, regional, and national level, that can facilitate housing for and by people?**

[www.world-habitat.org](http://www.world-habitat.org)

with



World Habitat

## Yiorgos Papamanousakis

Trained as an architect and a planner, Yiorgos is working with urban development stakeholders to plan, deliver and advise on community-focused projects. He has directed urban laboratories, workshops, and events, focused on the co-creation of design and policy solutions in different cities in Europe. As Programme Lead for the Community Led Housing programme at World Habitat he works with an international network of partners and initiatives to support community led housing practice.



## Tarcyla Fridalgo

Tarcyla Fidalgo has a Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Planning from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, a Master's degree in Urban Law from the State University of Rio de Janeiro, and a Bachelor of Law from the State University of Rio de Janeiro. She also holds a post-graduate certificate in Urban Sociology from IFCH-UERJ and in Urban Planning and Policy from IPPUR-UFRJ. Her research is focused on land tenure and community development, especially on Community Land Trusts and their potential in the Global South. Currently she coordinates our project for the implementation of a CLT in Rio de Janeiro's favelas.



## Maša Hawlina

Maša Hawlina is a sociologist of culture whose research mainly focuses on housing provision and neoliberalization of the city. She is a cofounder of the Institute for Studies of Housing and Space, active in research and advocacy for better housing conditions, as well as development implementation of improved models of housing provision, especially housing cooperatives. Maša is also one of the founders of the pioneering housing cooperative in Slovenia Zadrugator and a member of the European Cooperative Society MOBA Housing SCE supervisory board.

# Session D

## From local practice to networking and impactful learning

hosted by UCLG Learning and  
Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation

Learning  
UCLG



**Local practices can be an effective means for peer learning and the exchange of knowledge, expertise and experience.** However, certain conditions, such as the way in which local practice is communicated, need to be met. Special attention needs to be paid not only on “what” was achieved, but on “how” the process developed: How was the problem defined and by whom? Who were the champions, what roles did they play and how did they come together? How were the resources and stakeholders mobilised? What were the difficulties encountered and how were they overcome? By addressing these key questions, “local practice” can provide leaders with a deeper understanding of what is needed to initiate change.

[www.guangzhouaward.org](http://www.guangzhouaward.org)

[www.uclg.org/en](http://www.uclg.org/en)

with



UCLG Learning

## Sara Hoeflich

Sara Hoeflich, Dipl. Ing, is an architect and urban planner. She is Director of the Learning Department of UCLG and oversees and develops learning activities and materials for LRG around the globe, with peer learning at the center. She is also spokesperson for strategic and urban planning in international agreements and has developed and piloted key concepts like intermediary cities and triangular cooperation.



Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation

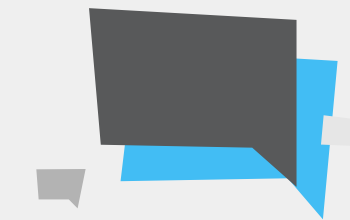
## Nicholas You

Nicholas You is a veteran urban specialist. He served as the senior policy and planning advisor to UN-Habitat and as the manager of the Habitat II Conference held in Istanbul in 1996. He is currently the Executive Director of the Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation and co-Chair of the Open Green City Lab in Shenzhen. He regularly advises central and local governments, technology companies and civil society organisations on urban sustainability, urban governance and urban innovation and has written and co-authored key policy papers for the U20.



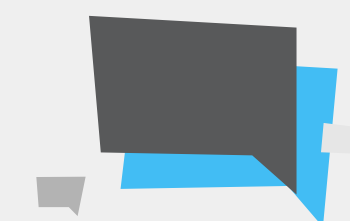
## Ninike Celi

Ninike Celi, Architect (UDLA) and Master in Governance and Public Policy on Urban Planning (PUCE), has been part of the Secretariat of Territory, Habitat and Housing of Quito (STHV) since 2017. Here, she has developed public policy related in sustainability buildings, urban development and land management instruments. Since 2020, she is Head of the STHV Habitat Unit, as part of the team that developed the first Land Use and Management Plan of Quito (PUGS).



Director of the Ibero-American Centre for Urban Strategic Development (CIDEU)

## Rosa Maria Arlene



Coordinator of UCLG Culture

## Jordi Pascual

# Session E

## UserCentriCities and CitiMeasure: Facilitating people-centred digital and green transitions

hosted by Eurocities

**Eurocities flagship projects UserCentriCities and CitiMeasure facilitate the digital and green transitions in cities** by providing tools to foster user-centric public services with citizens at the core, and by creating capacity for cities to involve citizens in creating smart, sustainable and inclusive cities.

[www.eurocities.eu](http://www.eurocities.eu)



with



### Irene Vivas Lalinde

Irene Vivas Lalinde is the project officer of the CitiMeasure project at Eurocities. She has experience on environmental and urban governance. Previously, she has worked in other European and international organisations. She holds a MSc on Public Policy and Human Development (UNU Merit – Maastricht School of Governance) and a bachelor's in law.



### Chrysoula Mitta

Chrysoula Mitta is associate director for operations and community management at the Lisbon Council. She is responsible for the think tank's communications, community relations and daily operations. Ms Mitta is a lawyer and a member of the Kavala (Greece) bar association since 2010. Previously, she worked at Knowledge4Innovation, the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) and the European Public Law Organisation in Athens. She holds an LLM master's degree in European integration law from the Technical University of Dresden and a bachelor's degree in law from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.