



International Urban and Regional Cooperation to rethink sustainable urban and innovative models for a greener and better future

WUF11 Dialogue: Greener Urban Futures

Since 2016, the IURC programme (previously IUC) financed under the Foreign Partnership Instrument (FPI) and the strategic support from the Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy (DG-REGIO) of the European Commission, has contributed to bring together cities and regions from across the globe to work jointly towards achieving the sustainable development goals (SDGs), the European Cohesion Policy, the New Urban Agenda or the Urban Agenda for the EU objectives. In 2022, when thematic clustering will increase the possibilities for cities and regions to enlarge their networking scope, we plan to use this event at WUF as an opportunity to showcase success stories that can be transferred and replicated by other cities as well as a chance to connect emerging pilot projects with financial institutions representatives and spur future investments in sustainable urban development.

PART 1: IURC members will answer to the following question presenting a success story/relevant Case Study How can cities be designed/rethought/co-created to contribute to the transition to net-zero emissions through attractive and financeable pilot projects?

-**Madrid** Urban Forest: a 75 km. ring greening of public space restoring the land and its ecosystems, improving air quality, health, ecological and landscape recovery, and access to green areas for all, increasing pedestrian and bicycle paths.

Nicolas Gharbi, Principal Advisor, City Diplomacy and International affairs, Madrid City Council, Spain.

-**Manheim's** initiative on climate-neutral building stock by 2045, the Mannheim strategy to increase renovation rate, replace fossil-based heating, decentralize electricity production (photovoltaic), and increase greening of roofs & facades.

Christian Specht, First Deputy Mayor - Mannheim City Council, Germany

-**Valle del Cauca Region** Green infrastructure project - Ruta Verde - to boost daily trips by bicycle and compatible modes contributing to air quality improvement while increasing road safety, reducing social inequality and spatial segregation in the Cali Metro Area (Colombia).

Sandra Susana Montoya Ramírez, Analyst for International Relations, Propacífico

PART 2: Two financial stakeholders, the European Investment Bank (EIB) and The Urban Resilience Fund (TURF), MERIDIAM will provide feedback on the case studies exposed, providing opportunities and areas of improvement in order to make these projects eligible to receive funding from an investor perspective.

Wojciech Deska, Senior Urban Sector Specialist, Urban Advisory Division, Projects Directorate, – European Investment Bank (EIB), Luxembourg.

Salim Bensmail, Executive Director of The Urban Resilience Fund (TURF), MERIDIAM, France.

PART 3: Let's walk the WUF together! A speed networking session will be open after the closing remarks to let the audience initiate new contacts and walk through the WUF together, establishing their future pathways in sustainable urban development.

EVENT PRESENTED by the European Commission Service For Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI)

MODERATOR: Dr. Roland Hall, Senior Advisor to the Directorate General for Regional and Urban Policy of the European Commission, Belgium

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