



A Metropolitan Vision for Europe 2050 - Resilient urban and rural transformation for a climate neutral future

21 January 2022, 09:00-11:00 CET, Online

METREX and the URBAN Intergroup at the European Parliament invite you to a forthcoming event to explore the formation of a Metropolitan Vision for Europe 2050.

At the European Metropolitan Authorities (EMA) conference in Porto, last November, EU Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, Elisa Ferreira, called upon Metropolitan Regions and Cities to come forward with proposals to address the urgent challenge of establishing a resilient and climate neutral Europe by 2050.

Just a month prior to this, during the EU Week of Regions, METREX members shared exemplar projects that are already beginning to address this challenge.

To further showcase the important role of Metropolitan Regions and Cities, METREX has taken the initiative to answer Mrs Ferreira's call by proposing a ***common Metropolitan Vision for Europe 2050***, including investment propositions, together with all relevant stakeholders in the field. And we see the URBAN Intergroup at the European Parliament as an essential partner to establish the vision.

What is the situation?

Metropolitan Regions are at the centre of complex integrated systems including energy networks, transport and mobility, land use, construction and renovation, the circular economy, education and healthcare, production and consumption, and many more. For a successful and balanced green transition, these systems must change simultaneously.

Mrs. Ferreira has highlighted mechanisms that can support Metropolitan Regions and Cities to achieve the necessary change:

- Using the Post-Pandemic recovery funds to improve the resilience of metropolitan areas.
- The new Cohesion programmes.
- The New European Bauhaus.
- The European Urban Initiative funding innovative actions.

And besides these mechanisms, the continuation of the Urban Agenda (multilevel governance cooperation) with a focus on the green and digital transition will also help to learn from each other.

With their oversight of these complex integrated systems, Metropolitan Regions and Cities can become situational leaders that inspire and help accelerate a green transition that is synchronised across Europe. The Metropolitan level interventions in these areas can be more efficient and effective, and hence have a much greater net impact, than either national or municipal interventions. In short, Metropolitan regions and Areas are best in place to make the necessary change happen.

This is our first step towards a Metropolitan Vision for Europe 2050 that will help realise the transition to a climate neutral future. It will build on a workshop hosted during the European Week of Regions and Cities and, we hope, mark the start of a continuing collaboration between METREX and the URBAN Intergroup.