

WUF11 SESSION CONCEPT NOTE

THE CITY WE NEED NOW!

The World Urban Campaign in action towards the implementation of the New Urban Agenda

1. List of Partners Contributing to the Session:

- All World Urban Campaign partners present at WUF11.

2. Key Words:

- New Urban Agenda, SDGs, Urban Thinkers Campus,

3. Objectives of the Session:

The session will present *The City We Need Now!*, an action oriented agenda prepared by the World Urban Campaign, a UN-Habitat driven coalition of +200 partner organizations representing 16 constituencies. The session will present action areas, solutions and game changers meant to accelerate the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs, based on the results of Urban Thinkers Campus 2021-22 and regional advocacy and engagement campaigns on *The City We Need Now!*

4. Summary:

Background

[The City We Need Now!](#) is an advocacy campaign led by UN-Habitat and the +220 partner organizations of the [World Urban Campaign](#) to call for urgent action as the world is off-track to achieve the SDGs by 2030. Today's reality of climate change, pandemic risks and wars destroying cities, reinforces the coalition's drive for correcting actions and urgently put cities on track to build a better urban life for future generations.

The campaign helps demonstrate how cities can become accelerators of the New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Development Agenda. It does so in [six regions](#): Africa, the Middle East and Arab States, Asia-Pacific, Europe and the CIS, North America, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The campaign focuses on [ten action areas](#) to accelerate change to yield big results through effective partnerships and innovation. It is an opportunity to engage a variety of stakeholders from civil society and grassroots organizations, local and regional governments, urban professionals, researchers and academics, youth and women groups, businesses and industries, to review the priorities of the New Urban Agenda.

The [Urban Thinkers Campus](#) (UTC) constitutes the main platform for partners to exchange during the campaign. More than 40 UTC sessions are planned in 2022, expected to attract more than 5,000 people.

What will happen during the session?

The session will call upon key partners of The City We Need Now! to explain actions areas towards the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and address gaps in SDGs achievements. Participants in the room will be encouraged to share their views in the ten action areas of The City We Need Now!: health and well-being; peace and safety; climate adaptation and resilience; inclusion and gender equality; economic opportunities for all; culture and identity; local governance; urban planning and design; housing, services and mobility, and; leaning and innovation.

5. Guiding Questions for Discussions:

- What is the city we need now to address today's reality of climate change, pandemic risks and wars destroying cities?
- What are the most effective solutions and game changers for the city we need now?
- How can we harness commitments and ensure key deliverables on a comprehensive road map of all players of the city we need now?

6. Expected Outcomes and Impact:

- A series of commitments by partner organizations and constituencies.
- A road map for implementation of The City We Need Now! by the partners engaged in all regions.

7. Session Format:

Three parts:

1. 16:00-16:20 Welcome. Presentation of 'The City We Need Now!' Manifesto by the World Urban Campaign elected chairs in the Partners Constituencies: Local and subnational authorities, Research and Academia, Civil Society and Grassroots organizations, Women, Parliamentarians, Children and Youth, Business and Industries, Foundations and Philanthropies, Professionals, Trade Unions and Workers, Older Persons, Farmers, Indigenous People and the Media.
2. 16:20-17:00 Conversation 1: The City We Need FOR ALL - Moderated debate to present and discuss key solutions and initiatives by the World Urban Campaign Partners. Followed by Q&A.
3. 17:00-17:45 Conversation 2: The RESILIENT City We Need - Moderated debate to present and discuss key solutions and initiatives by the World Urban Campaign Partners. Followed by Q&A.
4. 17:45-18:00 Conclusion and Way Forward