

# UNESCO Cities Platform

## AGENDA

### Adapting Cities for Climate Resilience



**World Cities Day 2021** revolves around the global theme of '**Adapting cities for climate resilience**', which aims to address a wide range of linked issues from management of ecosystems to poverty eradication. Climate resilience and action has become an increasingly important and integral part in UNESCO's programmes and activities, recognized by all stakeholders including countries, cities and the general public as an essential crosscutting theme for advancing sustainable development worldwide.

Every year from 2019, UNESCO celebrates World Cities Day, based on the coordination ensured by the **UNESCO Cities Platform (UCP)**, which is comprised of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN), UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC), International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities (ICCAR), Media and Information Literacy Cities (MIL), Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate, World Heritage Cities Programme, Disaster Risk Reduction Programme (DDR), and UNESCO/Netexplo Observatory. For this year's Celebration, in addition to the UCP Urban Solutions, member networks and programmes of the Platform will organize a variety of cities-themed flagship events during the World Cities Day period to further highlight cities' essential role in advancing sustainable development, especially towards climate resilience and action.

#### UNESCO Global Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Dialogue on Disaster Risk Reduction



22 October

Organized by **Disaster Risk Reduction Programme (DRR)**

**Disaster Risk Reduction Programme** presents its first edition of the UNESCO Global SIDS Dialogue series to discuss urgent DRR issues with countries, regional and international organizations, including the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), regional development banks and prominent experts. The dialogue will narrate a discussion on potential solutions and responses towards reducing national and local vulnerabilities. The discussion is aimed for better joint understanding of the current status and needs for DRR, strengthening and pledging potential support towards increasing SIDS resilience to natural hazards.

**More information:** <https://events.unesco.org/event?id=2995441222&lang=1033>

#### 5<sup>th</sup> International conference on Learning Cities



27 - 30 October

Organized by **UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC)**

**UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities** in cooperation with the UNESCO Learning City of Yeosu, Republic of Korea is hosting the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Learning Cities. The event will include a discussion amongst mayors and other representatives of UNESCO Learning Cities as well as experts on how to build healthy and resilient cities through learning, with the theme '*From emergency to resilience: building healthy and resilient cities through learning*'. The stories of the ten UNESCO Learning City Awardees 2021 and a series of expert papers on '*Learning for Health, Resilience, Transforming Cities into Spaces for Health and Wellbeing*' will be presented. Furthermore, this event will set forth the adoption of the '*Yeosu Declaration*' on healthy and resilient cities.

**Online registration:** <https://www.learningcities2021.org/join>

**Livestream:** <https://uil.unesco.org/lifelong-learning/learning-cities/watch-fifth-international-conference-learning-cities-live>

## World Heritage City Dialogues



28, 29 October  
and 2 November

### Organized by **World Heritage Cities Programme**

On the occasion of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape (HUL Recommendation), **World Heritage Cities Programme** will organize a series of dialogues with site managers revolving around the implementation of the 2011 Recommendation as a tool for resilience and recovery in historic cities. This celebration will serve as a platform for international experts, managers and practitioners to share lessons learned from COVID-19 as well as strategies to address the impacts of climate change on the future of urban management.

**Online registration:** <https://rb.gy/jn3ig3>

## Message on World Cities Day



29 October

### Launch of the video message on WCD 2021 by Mr Ernesto Ottone R., Assistant Director-General for Culture, UNESCO

**More information:** <https://en.unesco.org/unesco-for-sustainable-cities>

## Launching of Urban Solutions



29 October

### Organized by **UNESCO Cities Platform (UCP)**

Global challenges need to be addressed in a holistic way. Integrated climate resilience policies and action plans can greatly address climate change and related risks for the world population, over half of which now live in cities. In light of this recognition, the **UNESCO Cities Platform** will propose a number of pragmatic urban solutions to countries, cities, partners, and also the general public around the world, with a view to contributing to our collective actions towards adapting cities and their dwellers for climate transition as well as encouraging international collaboration among all stakeholders.

**More information:** <https://en.unesco.org/unesco-for-sustainable-cities>

## Urban Talks with UNESCO Chairs



29 October

### Organized by **International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities (ICCAR)**

**The International Coalition of Inclusive and Sustainable Cities** will organize a discussion among UNESCO Chairs working on inclusive urban development to build strategies for cooperation, especially within the framework of addressing the Global Call against Racism and the development of the Roadmap.

**More information:** <https://en.unesco.org/themes/fostering-rights-inclusion/iccar>

## Global Media and Information Literacy Week



29 October

### Organized by **Media and Information Literacy Cities (MIL)**

During the MIL Week, **Media and Information Literacy Cities** will be mobilized to address climate disinformation and misinformation. The sessions will explore the actions being taken by cities to address climate related disinformation and misinformation at the community level. The sessions will aim to discover new and creative media and information literacy related actions, the actors who should be taken into consideration, as well as the policies, resource allocation and partnerships that could sustain these efforts.

**More information:** <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/globalmilweek>

## Multimedia Story about the UNESCO Learning City of Hamburg



31 October

### Organized by **UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities (GNLC)**

In line with the global theme of “Adapting cities for climate resilience”, **UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities** will broadcast Hamburg’s Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) activities with a focus on climate change education in a multimedia story. In light of the story, UNESCO Learning City of Hamburg, Germany, will highlight Education for Sustainable Development as a city priority illustrated by its recent adoption of a Master Plan, which places ESD as a central strategy for the upcoming decade.

**More information:** <https://unesco-uil.pageflow.io/unesco-learning-city-hamburg>

## Designation of new UNESCO Creative Cities



3 November  
(provisional)

### Organized by **UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)**

The **UNESCO Creative Cities Network** will announce the newly designated Creative Cities following the 2021 edition of the UCCN Call for Applications, which takes place every two years. Across seven creative fields, namely crafts and folk art, design, film, gastronomy, literature, media arts or music, the Network brings together cities that are committed to placing culture and creativity at the heart of their local development policies, strategies and plans, as well as sharing their knowledge and good practices at the international level.

**More information (coming soon):** <https://en.unesco.org/creative-cities/home>

## Launch of the second UCCN Publication on Creative Cities' response to COVID-19



15 November  
(provisional)

### Organized by **UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN)**

As a part of UNESCO’s global response to the pandemic, in 2020 the **UNESCO Creative Cities Network** developed a publication dedicated to UNESCO Creative Cities’ response to COVID-19. As a continuation of its efforts to further support cities’ recovery from the pandemic, this year a second call was launched to collect and disseminate culture and creativity leveraged responses to the pandemic from the Network. Good urban policies, strategies, and practices from about 90 Creative Cities worldwide will be presented in this second publication.

**More information (coming soon):** <https://en.unesco.org/creative-cities/home>