Proceedings from the
Launch of the Inclusive Growth in Cities
Campaign

29 March 2016
The Ford Foundation, New York
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A global coalition of Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth

On 29 March 2016, 21 mayors from around the world, in addition to more than 100 leaders from business, philanthropic organisations, associations of cities, think tanks and international institutions, convened in New York to launch the Inclusive Growth in Cities Campaign.

The event brought together, for the first time, a global coalition of Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth and released a policy roadmap to guide local leaders in addressing urban inequalities – the New York Proposal for Inclusive Growth in Cities.

The Inclusive Growth in Cities Campaign is part of the broader All on Board for Inclusive Growth initiative at the OECD, launched in 2012 in partnership with the Ford Foundation. The Campaign aims to provide mayors with a unique platform in the global debate on inequality, bridging the gap between local and national governments and enabling cities to inform key international agendas, like Habitat III, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and the post-COP21 agenda.

The day’s discussions addressed a range of topics:
- The latest evidence on urban inequalities
- The key role of cities in the fight against inequalities, and the challenges facing city governments to deliver on both growth and equity objectives
- The most effective policies and partnerships to achieve inclusive growth in cities
- The success stories of mayors who have made headway in addressing inequalities, in a range of policy domains
- The importance of leadership and strong political will to overcome these challenges

The Campaign was jointly created by the OECD and the Ford Foundation, with support from the Group of Friends of Inclusive Growth led by the U.S. Ambassador to the OECD. It also counts on the following Supporting Institutions: Cities Alliance, C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), National League of Cities, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), and United Way Worldwide.
Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth

Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth are a global coalition of local leaders who have committed to promoting a more inclusive form of economic growth in cities. At the time of the launch, 45 Mayors from 29 countries had joined the Campaign as Champion Mayors.

OECD, Ford Foundation, Champion Mayors and Supporting Institutions [front to back, from left to right]:

Zachary Tofias, Shannon Lawrence, C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group; David Miller, World Wildlife Fund Canada; Luis Mella, Mayor of Quillota (Chile); Johnson Muyanja, Mayor of Mukono (Uganda); Basilio Horta, Mayor of Sintra (Portugal); Mauricio Vila Dosal, Mayor of Mérida (Mexico); Darren Walker, Ford Foundation; Angel Gurría, OECD; Fatimetou Abdel Malik, Mayor of Tevragh-Zaïna (Mauritania); Esther Alder, Mayor of Geneva (Switzerland); Federico Gutiérrez, Mayor of Medellín (Colombia); Issahaku Nuhu-Putaha, Mayor of Wa Municipal Assembly (Ghana); Angie Fyfe, ICLEI; Clarence Anthony, National League of Cities; Brian Gallagher, United Way Worldwide; Daniel Yohannes, Ambassador of the United States to the OECD, Chair of the Group of Friends of Inclusive Growth; Tony Vazquez, Mayor of Santa Monica (United States); Rui Moreira, Mayor of Porto (Portugal); Jorge Enrique Astiazarán Orcl, Mayor of Tijuana (Mexico); Ibrahim Baidoo, Mayor of Ashaiman Municipal Assembly (Ghana); Karin Wannård, Mayor of Stockholm (Sweden); Carlos Moscoso, Mayor of Cusco (Peru); Patrick Klugman, Deputy Mayor of Paris (France); Khalifa Sall, Mayor of Dakar (Senegal); Edgar Mora Altamirano, Mayor of Curridabat (Costa Rica); Javier Gonzales, Mayor of Santa Fe (United States); Josh Alpert, Representing the Mayor of Portland (United States); Fernando Medina, Mayor of Lisbon (Portugal); Rene Peter Hohmann, Cities Alliance.

Champion Mayors not pictured:

Giorgos Kaminis, Mayor of Athens (Greece); Kasim Reed, Mayor of Atlanta (United States); William A. Bell, Mayor of Birmingham, Alabama (United States); Yvan Mayeur, Mayor of Brussels (Belgium); Patricia de Lille, Mayor of Cape Town (South Africa); Marco Doria, Mayor of Genoa (Italy); David Sheard, Mayor of Kirklees (United Kingdom); Angela Brown Burke, Mayor of Kingston (Jamaica); Burkhard Jung, Mayor of Leipzig (Germany); Luis Casteñeda, Mayor of Lima (Peru); Eric Garcetti, Mayor of Los Angeles (United States); Betsy Hodges, Mayor of Minneapolis (United States); Manuela Carmena, Mayor of Madrid (Spain); Miguel Ángel Mancera, Mayor of Mexico City (Mexico); Denis Coderre, Mayor of Montreal (Canada); Bill de Blasio, Mayor of New York (United States); Naomi Koshi, Mayor of Otsu (Japan); Anne Hidalgo, City of Paris (France); Charlie Hales, Mayor of Portland (United States); Rui Moreira, Mayor of Porto (Portugal); Eduardo Paes, Mayor of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil); Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor of Rotterdam (Netherlands); Carolina Tohá, Mayor of Santiago (Chile); Park Won-Soon, Mayor of Seoul (Korea); Jozias van Aartsen, Mayor of The Hague (The Netherlands); Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, Mayor of Warsaw (Poland); Celia Wade-Brown, Mayor of Wellington (New Zealand); Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of City of Yokohama (Japan).
Setting the scene

What do we know about Inclusive Growth in cities?

Xavier de Souza Briggs
Vice President, Economic Opportunity and Markets, Ford Foundation

Xavier de Souza Briggs stressed that inequality affects everyone, including the one percent. Inequality not only locks potential workers and consumers out of the marketplace or out of their most productive roles in the marketplace. It also corrodes the basic social consensus needed to invest in public goods, whether that means infrastructure, clean air or a fair, transparent and competent tax system.

Promoting spatial justice to ensure that land and community development are sustainable and inclusive, and advocating for high-road business practices that give global workers the opportunities for higher-wage occupations and equitable returns are but two ways that Mayors can deliver more inclusive growth.

“Inclusive economic growth is a stronger, more sustainable, more robust economic growth.”

Gabriela Ramos
Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20, OECD

Gabriela Ramos highlighted the latest OECD evidence on urban equalities:

- Inequality in income is higher, and often rising faster, in urban areas than elsewhere, and increases with city size.
- Inequality has a clear spatial footprint. Larger cities tend to be more spatially segregated by income than smaller cities. Moreover, disadvantaged areas are also often home to poorer housing conditions, lower levels of access to services and lower-quality schools.
- Inequality is not just about money, but is also felt in labour market exclusion, lower social mobility and greater polarisation in educational and health outcomes. Larger cities have greater skill and wage disparities.

“Mounting evidence suggests that poverty and inequality are reproduced across generations.”
Ambassador Yohannes – who launched the Group of Friends of Inclusive Growth with the aim of providing a platform for inter-member discussion and brainstorming on Inclusive Growth – recalled that President Obama considers income inequality the defining challenge of our time. He called on everyone to work together, at every level – cities, national governments, international organisations, businesses and civil society – to tackle inequalities.

“Combatting inequality is every bit as urgent as addressing climate change, countering violent extremism, and promoting democratic societies.”

Nani Coloretti
Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Deputy Secretary Coloretti highlighted that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has adopted a comprehensive approach to achieving more inclusive growth in cities, based on the premise that housing and equitable community development must be central to efforts to make the economy work for everyone. Two key levers include providing low-income families with greater mobility and investing in distressed neighbourhoods. In addition, last year HUD created new data and tools to ensure more comprehensive solutions to improving neighbourhoods, with the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule. This rule requires cities receiving federal funding to assess their housing patterns and to set goals to achieve more racially and ethnically integrated neighbourhoods.

“Inequality isn’t just the job of one country, one sector, or even one generation. It’s really going to require all of us.”
Growing together in cities: Policies and Partnerships

Local authorities have control over a wide spectrum of policy instruments that together can help shape urban growth and foster inclusion – from social welfare to transport, housing, and education, among others. However, such policies can fall short of delivering growth and equity when they are created in silos or fail to give a voice to those most in need.

In this session, participants engaged in small table discussions to exchange practical experiences on the policies and partnerships that can deliver more equitable and prosperous cities.

**Topic 1 | Policies for Inclusive Economic Development: Labour Markets, Education and Skills**

Participants identified a series of common challenges facing their cities:

- **massive migration** resulting from different phenomena (rural-urban, refugee crisis, or cross-country migration)
- **changing demographics**, notably the specific needs of youth and senior citizens
- the **diverse and comprehensive nature** of the challenges facing cities
- the need to consider **infrastructure, housing, civics, and sustainability** amongst myriad other dimensions
In response, three focus areas were proposed as essential for addressing these challenges:

• First, the need for **job creation**, prioritising strategies to boost entrepreneurship and streamline and digitise the process for small start-ups. The potential for public works as a source of job creation – wherein low-skilled populations are trained to carry out necessary public functions, or employed as part of infrastructural projects – was also stressed.

• Second, it was agreed that **vocational training** has become much more important than traditional classroom education and training. In particular, the potential for vocational training to support low-skilled migrants, for instance those from rural areas who may lack formal education but nonetheless be possessed of practical skills, was highlighted.

• Third, participants underscored the importance of approaching cities as **livable communities** and the need for **cities to be places where can people live and work**, with affordable housing for those who need it (such as young people), and infrastructure that keeps pace with urbanisation and urban migration.

**Topic 2 | Policies for inclusive housing, transport and sustainable urban environments**

*Chair: Clarence Anthony*, Executive Director and CEO, National League of Cities  
*Rapporteur: José Viegas*, Secretary-General, International Transport Forum (ITF)

Participants emphasised the need to adopt a **holistic approach**, to consider the **interlinkages of issues, challenges and solutions**, and to focus on a **cluster of priority solutions** to generate the most effective results.

- Housing, the environment and transport systems are important dimensions of inequality – but they can also result in inequality in other dimensions, affecting, for instance, both income and quality of life. In terms of holistic solutions, **collaboration among partners is essential**, including across administrative boundaries and geographical borders, sectors, and stakeholders.
- Solutions exist, but they have to be well conceived and properly managed, with an eye to long-term (and sometimes unintended) consequences. For instance, improving amenities in poor neighbourhoods is important, but can lead to an escalation of housing prices as the area becomes more attractive to wealthier populations. A **more comprehensive housing policy is needed** to prevent poorer residents from being displaced.
Strong parallels between inequality and climate change were underlined: both are now virtually undisputed phenomena, both affect us all, and both must be systematically addressed across sectors and levels of government.

Finally, as part of a systemic perspective on cities, there is a need to ensure that citizens have access to nature. At present, poor citizens tend to lack access to nature in urban environments, which represents another form of multidimensional inequality.

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• Finally, as part of a systemic perspective on cities, there is a need to ensure that citizens have access to nature. At present, poor citizens tend to lack access to nature in urban environments, which represents another form of multidimensional inequality.

Topic 3 | Partnerships and new sources of financing for inclusive growth in cities: Keys to effective implementation

Chair: Brandee McHale, President, Citi Foundation

Rapporteur: Kathryn Wylde, President and CEO, Partnership for New York

Participants agreed that cities are the locus for organising an effective response to rising inequalities, but that city governments often lack the resources to deliver appropriate solutions on their own. As a result, partnerships and community engagement are essential. However, even as cities begin to embrace more diverse partnerships and collaboration, local efforts aren’t scaling in cities and beyond, leading to some real frustration. Several insights as to why this is the case, and how to address it, were made:

• Traditional city financing is often unable to respond to the goals of Inclusive Growth. New platforms are needed, particularly those that draw on new technology and data – for instance, using data to develop pooled structures of municipal finance.

• By extension, traditional policy levers will not be the solution to deliver Inclusive Growth. Rather, there is a need for more innovative procurement and purchasing approaches, and more innovative contracting between government and private non-profit/private sector partners.

• The Inclusive Growth in Cities Campaign is also a good opportunity to take a granular approach to ensure that institutional change at a local level filters up to global platforms – including the Champion Mayors platform – and that ideas are effectively shared.

• Finally, city governments are expected to be facilitators in their communities, creating relevant dynamic institutions, dealing with tough politics, bringing together constituencies, and driving change from a community level.
Conclusions

David Miller closed the session by highlighting a cluster of common messages that emerged from all three thematic discussions:

• The importance of tackling inequalities is no longer disputed.
• Cities have an especially important role in addressing inequalities.
• The issues discussed in all sessions resonate in the developed and the developing world.

As a result, the power of partnerships – like the Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth platform – should be harnessed. In order to address economic exclusion in a way that promotes Inclusive Growth, all people and all populations must be involved in finding the right solutions.
Joining forces for Inclusive Growth in Cities

Launch of the Inclusive Growth in Cities Campaign

Darren Walker
President, Ford Foundation

Inequality is a threat to democracy, to our inclusivity and to growth. We know the trends that drive inequality, namely the lack of access to government decision making. Rules of the economy that in fact magnify unequal opportunities, and a failure to invest in public goods and public infrastructure. In every instance, the work of Champion Mayors to promote inclusiveness disrupts these drivers. Working together, and learning from one another, we can continue to address inequality in all of its forms, and make the world a more inclusive place for all.

“We when you give access, when you invest, when you re-write the rules – it strikes a blow against inequality in your cities.”

Angel Gurría
Secretary-General, OECD

Inequalities are not just about income. They touch every aspect of people’s lives. Across the OECD, your chances of getting a job depend on your zip code! Clearly, we need to take action. If we are to succeed, then we have to ensure that cities are at the heart of the fight. Across the world, Mayors are already flying the flag for inclusive growth. It is in recognition of Mayors’ efforts – and to spur them on further – that we gather here today to launch the Inclusive Growth in Cities Campaign and a global coalition of Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth.

“The New York Proposal for Inclusive Growth in Cities is a call to arms and a roadmap for change. It sets out our common commitment to a policy agenda to ensure that cities work for all of us.”
Cities are where the people are. But they are also where the political will for change is: the ability to respond to the people’s needs, the willingness to take on the status quo and entrenched powers and assumptions, and the possibility of innovation. All of that converges on our cities. We as leaders are the closest to the ground and the closest to the people. And if the people are suffering, we hear their pleas, we live their lives, we see their realities, and we know that these aren’t abstract issues.

“For any one of us who leads a city or all the good people here who work in cities: we know that inequality comes with a very real price, a very real human price. And we’re not ever disconnected from that.”

Bill de Blasio
Mayor of New York (United States)
The New York Proposal for Inclusive Growth in Cities

There is an urgent political and economic imperative to address rising inequalities within our society. In many countries, the gap between rich and poor has widened, with those at the top capturing the lion’s share of growth while many people have not seen their real income rise for several years. But income is just one aspect of life that matters for well-being. In just about every area, whether it be educational attainment, life expectancy or employment prospects, life outcomes are disproportionately determined by socio-economic status, sex, age or the places in which people live. Rising inequality harms economic growth and has the potential to undermine social cohesion and threaten political stability.

We consider that fostering Inclusive Growth calls for a major break with the policy making of the past. This means reassessing the way in which we design our policies to ensure that growth and equity are treated as mutually reinforcing goals, as well as putting well-being and social inclusion at the centre of the debate on economic growth.

Cities have a crucial role to play in making inclusive growth happen. Cities are key actors in many domains that matter for inclusive growth, including education, health care services, social protection, training and employment services, as well as housing, neighbourhood regeneration and transport.

As a symbol of our commitment:

We will champion an Inclusive Growth agenda in our city, our country and across the world, by promoting policies and practices that foster both economic growth and inclusiveness.

We will work together to advance this agenda and share best practices and policy tools to achieve inclusive growth in cities, based on the following premises:

- **An inclusive education system**, which enables people of all ages and backgrounds to develop their human capital, acquire relevant skills and improve their life chances.

- **An inclusive labour market**, which aims to make the most of women, youth, older populations, migrants and immigrants, foreign-born populations, and people of all backgrounds in the labour force. This means policies that promote access to **quality jobs** and **inclusive entrepreneurship**.

- **An inclusive housing market and urban environment**, which provides quality, affordable housing in safe, healthy neighbourhoods for all segments of the population.

- **Inclusive infrastructure and public services**, which consists of a transport system that provides access to jobs, services and consumption opportunities for all, as well as affordable, reliable public services, such as water, energy, and waste management and broadband infrastructure.

We will help shape a policy roadmap for Inclusive Growth in Cities, which will propose concrete measurement and policy tools to advance more inclusive growth in cities, and to measure and monitor progress.

Our efforts will contribute to the **OECD All on Board Inclusive Growth Initiative**, undertaken in partnership with the Ford Foundation, thereby helping to inform the Inclusive Growth debate among national governments.

Our efforts will also inform other global agendas that aim to advance more sustainable, inclusive and resilient cities, including the implementation of the UN-Sustainable Development Goal 11, which calls for inclusive, safe, and resilient cities; the New Urban Agenda that will result from the Habitat III conference; and the post-COP21 agenda.

We, members of the **Inclusive Growth in Cities Campaign**, share the view that Inclusive Growth represents an opportunity to put economic growth on more equitable, sustainable footing for a better future for all.
Signed on 29 March 2016 in New York by:

Angel Gurría, Secretary-General, OECD

Darren Walker, President, Ford Foundation

Champion Mayors

Ibrahim Baidoo, Mayor of Ashaiman (Ghana)
Giorgos Kaminis, Mayor of Athens (Greece)
Kasim Reed, Mayor of Atlanta (United States)
William A. Bell, Mayor of Birmingham, Alabama (United States)
Yvan Mayeur, Mayor of Brussels (Belgium)
Patricia de Lille, Mayor of Cape Town (South Africa)
Edgar Mora Altamirano, Mayor of Curridabat (Costa Rica)
Carlos Moscoso, Mayor of Cusco (Peru)
Khalifa Sall, Mayor of Dakar (Senegal)
Esther Alder, Mayor of Geneva (Switzerland)
Marco Doria, Mayor of Genoa (Italy)
Angela Brown Burke, Mayor of Kingston (Jamaica)
David Sheard, Mayor of Kirklees (United Kingdom)
Burkhard Jung, Mayor of Leipzig (Germany)
Fernando Medina, Mayor of Lisbon (Portugal)
Eric Garcetti, Mayor of Los Angeles (United States)
Manuela Carmena, Mayor of Madrid (Spain)
Federico Gutiérrez, Mayor of Medellín (Colombia)
Mauricio Vila Dosal, Mayor of Mérida (Mexico)
Miguel Ángel Mancera, Mayor of Mexico City (Mexico)
Betsy Hodges, Mayor of Minneapolis (United States)
Denis Coderre, Mayor of Montreal (Canada)

Johnson Muyanja, Mayor of Mukono (Uganda)
Bill de Blasio, Mayor of New York (United States)
Naomi Koshi, Mayor of Otsu (Japan)
Anne Hidalgo, Mayor of Paris (France)
Charlie Hales, Mayor of Portland (United States)
Rui Moreira, Mayor of Porto (Portugal)
Luis Alberto Mella Gajardo, Mayor of Quillota (Chile)
Eduardo Paes, Mayor of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)
Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor of Rotterdam (Netherlands)
Javier Gonzales, Mayor of Santa Fe (United States)
Tony Vazquez, Mayor of Santa Monica (United States)
Carolina Tohá, Mayor of Santiago (Chile)
Park Won-Soon, Mayor of Seoul (Korea)
Basilio Horta, Mayor of Sintra (Portugal)
Karin Wanngård, Mayor of Stockholm (Sweden)
Jozias van Aartsen, Mayor of The Hague (Netherlands)
Fatimetou Abdel Malik, Mayor of Tervragh-Zeina (Mauritania)
Jorge Enrique Astiazarán Orcí, Mayor of Tijuana (Mexico)
Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, Mayor of Warsaw (Poland)
Issahaku Nuhu-Putiaha, Mayor of Wa Municipal Assembly (Ghana)
Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of Yokohama (Japan)

Supporting Institutions

C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group
Cities Alliance
ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability

National League of Cities
United Cities and Local Governments
United Way Worldwide
Discussion on the New York Proposal for Inclusive Growth in Cities

Chair: Darren Walker, President, Ford Foundation

Panellists:
- Karin Wanngård, Mayor of Stockholm (Sweden)
- Edgar Mora Altamirano, Mayor of Curridabat (Costa Rica)
- Javier Gonzales, Mayor of Santa Fe (United States)
- Fatimetou Abdel Malik, Mayor of Tevragh-Zeina (Mauritania)

In this interactive moderated conversation led by Ford Foundation President Darren Walker, Champion Mayors focused on the ways in which the New York Proposal for Inclusive Growth in Cities could be brought to life in cities around the world. Participants shared concrete suggestions for implementing the New York Proposal and charting the road ahead for Champion Mayors.
Mayors began by sharing some of the common challenges in their cities, as well as some of the ways that they have been trying to embed Inclusive Growth into policy making within their cities.

Social inclusion (particularly of children and youth) and environmental equity were raised as key challenges by several Mayors:

- Mayor Gonzales reported that 20% of Santa Fe’s population lived in poverty, and 25% of the city’s children were classified as persistently hungry.

- In Tevragh-Zenia, Mayor Malik identified social exclusion among children as a critical challenge, with poorer children unable to access quality education, perpetuating poverty and exclusion. For Mayor Malik, the response has been to support targeted poor families in sending their children to private schools, where the quality of teaching is considered higher.

- The response to social exclusion in Stockholm has been the establishment of a Social Investment Fund of around USD 40 million which will be used to implement a series of preventative and long term interventions at an individual and societal level.

In Tevragh-Zenia, environmental challenges like the advance of the desert and flooding, disproportionately affect the city’s poorest populations. In Curridabat, the city has developed an award-winning approach to city planning that focuses on integrating biodiversity and nature in the city’s design and promoting inclusion and sustainability of inhabitants. Sustainability is also a top priority for Mayor Wanngård in Stockholm, who has set an ambitious goal for her city to become environmentally, financially, socially sustainable by 2040. The establishment of bold quantitative goals was widely supported by Mayors and by commenters in the session.

Cities are overcoming these challenges in dynamic and innovative ways. In Santa Fe, cultural institutions have played a key role in building a more inclusive city. The city’s Cultural Roadmap encourages Santa Fe’s cultural institutions to seek to connect with all parts of the community and break down barriers. It has led, for instance, to the Santa Fe Opera investing for the first time in early childhood programming.
Mayors emphasised that the New York Proposal for Inclusive Cities will provide a stronger platform from which to tackle inequality in their cities, and will help amplify their voices to reach the national government and inform international agendas. They also voiced broad support for the development of a global knowledge exchange platform that will facilitate rich exchange and dialogue across cities of the world, while leaving space for the specificities of each city.

As Mayor Altamirano of Curridabat summarised: the common thread among Champion Mayors is their love for their cities. These mayors recognise that unless they act and advance effective solutions to address pressing problems, cities will fall behind. Through the Inclusive Growth in Cities platform, cities are opening up their knowledge base and sharing their experiences, ideas, and support with others worldwide.

Delivering a special message on behalf of Mayor Anne Hidalgo of Paris, Deputy Mayor Patrick Klugman reported that the city’s commitment to Inclusive Growth has never been stronger. A vibrant, thriving and international city, Paris is nonetheless vulnerable and confronted with many challenges, including the threat of terrorism. The response of Paris, under Mayor Hidalgo’s leadership, will be to become an even more inclusive city. Mr. Klugman announced that the city of Paris will host the second meeting of Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth on 21 November 2016.

OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría concluded the session by underscoring that the success of the New York Proposal will depend on the input and participation of all Champion Mayors. The Mayors, along with the OECD and the Ford Foundation, must work together to make the initiative a critical building block toward better policies for better lives.
Rising inequality affects cities’ capacity to deliver public services effectively, yet some leaders are making significant headway. In final session, five mayors shared some of the successful initiatives they have launched to level the playing field in their cities.

**Education is a key lever for generating inclusive growth.** In Lisbon, Birmingham and Geneva, Mayors have introduced policies to promote access to high quality education and give young people the skills they need to succeed.

- **In Birmingham,** Mayor Bell initiated the Bell Education Plan to equip poorer areas with the physical infrastructure that schools need to deliver high quality, technologically engaged education programmes.
- **Skills development is a top priority in Lisbon,** where Mayor Medina sees a problematic split between young people with upper secondary education and those without. The Mayor aims to have all citizens complete upper secondary education as a means to prevent a whole segment of a generation from falling behind in terms of skills and prosperity.
- **Dakar** has also focussed on skills building for young people. Under Mayor Sall’s leadership, the city has developed dedicated sites for commerce and sales in which youth from rural areas – accustomed to sales and selling but with few formal skills – can find meaningful employment. Dakar has also been training youth to carry out crucial public improvement works, notably the laying of stones in the city to control the sand that comes from Dakar’s desert origins.
- **Geneva** has made significant headway on preschool education. The city has practically doubled the number of spaces available to children for daycare. Mayor Alder sees this as an investment in children, and also in the economic prosperity of the city – research in Geneva suggested that every franc invested in schools will double its positive economic effects across the city.
The link between transport and social inclusion was raised by the Mayors of Medellin and Lisbon.

- In Medellin, Mayor Gutiérrez sees transport as crucial for improving the well-being of the city’s poor, who are suffering with long and difficult commutes to get to work.

- Difficult commutes and movement around the city are a challenge in Lisbon. Mayor Medina told participants how for decades Lisbon focussed on improving roads and highways to cater to populations leaving the city’s expensive centre for more affordable suburbs. Now, the city is re-orienting its efforts to promote public transport.

Finally, Mayors discussed how the Inclusive Growth in Cities Campaign could support local leaders. Mayor Bell shared his experience as part of national coalitions, notably President Obama’s My Brother’s Keeper. This initiative seeks to help young men and boys of colour overcome barriers to opportunity, through engagement with local services and foundations to connect young people to mentoring, support networks and skills for the future.

He stressed that Mayors could work together, in partnership with the OECD, the Ford Foundation and other institutions, to tap into the expertise from cities across the world as well as draw lessons from the state level. Indeed, the leadership of the OECD on national and international issues like tax evasion, has had clear and compelling resonance with cities, which see their budgets suffer if revenue raising through taxes is ineffective.
From top to bottom, left to right: Javier Gonzales, Mayor of Santa Fe (United States); Ana Marie Argilagos, Ford Foundation; Issahaku Nuhu-Putiaha, Mayor of Wa Municipal Assembly (Ghana); Mauricio Vila Dosal, Mayor of Mérida (Mexico); Brian Gallagher, United Way Worldwide; Patrick Klugman, Deputy Mayor of Paris (France); Johnson Muyanja, Mayor of Mukono (Uganda); Ibrahim Baidoo, Mayor of Ashaiman Municipal Assembly (Ghana); Josep Roig, UCLG; Luis Cuento, General Coordinator, Madrid (Spain); Edgar Mora Altamirano, Mayor of Curridabat (Costa Rica); Bill de Blasio, Mayor of New York (United States); Daniel Yohannes, Ambassador of the United States to the OECD, Chair of the Group of Friends of Inclusive Growth.
From top to bottom, left to right: Carlos Aguilar Ortiz, Cusco (Peru); Carlos Moscoso, Mayor of Cusco (Peru); Hany Fam, MasterCard Enterprise Partnerships; Zachary Toftias, C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group; Tony Vazquez, Mayor of Santa Monica (United States); Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, Chelsea Roberts, Marissa Plouin, Angel Gurría, Suzanna Grant-Kejairi, Caitlin Connelly, OECD; Esther Alder, Mayor of Geneva (Switzerland); Federico Gutiérrez, Mayor of Medellín (Colombia); Bill de Blasio, Mayor of New York (United States); Gabriela Ramos, OECD; Javier Gonzales, Mayor of Santa Fe (United States)
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Hosted by
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Mayor of Paris

21 November 2016
Hotel de Ville – City Hall
Paris, France

The event will take place on the opening day of the three-day global Cities for Life summit on inclusive, smart and resilient cities (21-23 November 2016).
Supporting institutions

www.oecd.org/inclusive-growth/about/inclusive-cities-campaign

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