

News from the OECD Champion Mayors

Q3 2022

New Champion Mayors Chair develops his vision for the initiative



Mayor of Reykjavik (Iceland) [Dagur Eggertsson](#) joined us at the OECD on 8-9 September to launch his Chairmanship of the *OECD Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth Initiative*. During our lively exchange on the future of the Initiative, we discussed the Initiative's achievements over the first six years and explored possible areas to focus on during the next phase. In his vision for the future direction of the Initiative, Mayor Eggertsson emphasised the need to accelerate the green transition while protecting the vulnerable from global shocks such as the current energy crisis. Mayor Eggertsson also met the former Chair of the Initiative [Anne Hidalgo](#), Mayor of Paris, and OECD Secretary-General Mathias Cormann, and Iceland's Ambassador to the OECD, Unnur Orradóttir-Ramette. [Read about the visit.](#)

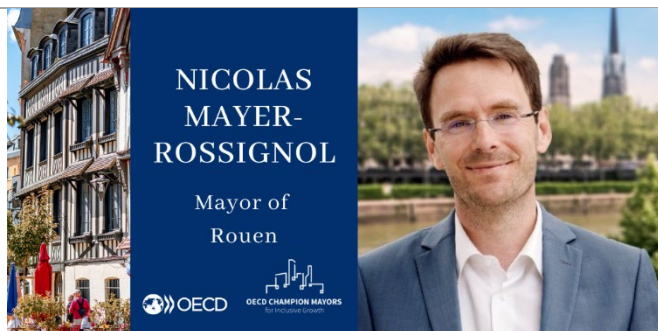
Welcome to our new Champion Mayors

Mayor of Chicago (USA) [Lori E. Lightfoot](#) is using the 'We Will Chicago' citywide plan to target inequality, and make Chicago an inclusive and resilient city. Focus areas include culture, economic development, housing, health and safety, transport and climate. Investment is being made in neighbourhoods to revitalise disinvested commercial corridors, improve public infrastructure and support small businesses. *Chicago's Recovery Plan* has boosted COVID-19 recovery efforts for those most impacted by the crisis.



Mayor of Cleveland (USA) [Justin Bibb](#) is fighting climate change by improving the energy efficiency of city facility buildings, offering incentives to residents greening buildings, and making city streets greener and safer for all users. The city is targeting 100% of electricity from renewable energy sources by 2050. The city is also tackling gender inequality. Cleveland's Black Women and Girls Commission aims to create opportunities and improve quality of life for Black women and girls across the city.

Mayor of Rouen (France) [Nicolas Mayer-Rossignol](#) is improving the resilience of the city by using Rouen's Nature Restoration Plan to restore green areas within the city. Projects include creating ecological corridors, developing urban agriculture, greening public spaces and improving water flow. To raise awareness of the equal role women have played in the development of Rouen, the city held an exhibition '*Femmes rouennaises inspirantes*', and is prioritising women's names when naming or renaming streets and public spaces.



Braga helps youth develop skills and fosters employment opportunities **Mayor of the Moment – Ricardo Rio, Braga, Portugal**



"We are always trying to develop new programmes to foster youth, especially the underprivileged."

Ricardo Rio
Mayor of Braga



The City of [Braga](#) (Portugal) is working with educational facilities to boost skills among youth and collaborates with local companies to help young people into employment. Home to more than 100 different nationalities, Braga has dedicated support to help migrants, including those from Ukraine, integrate into city life. The city is also committed to decarbonisation of transport. It is renewing its public transport vehicles, introducing electric vehicles, and has put in place a reward scheme to encourage cycling.

[Read the interview.](#)

Champion Mayors meet new Chair at Citylab - 11 October



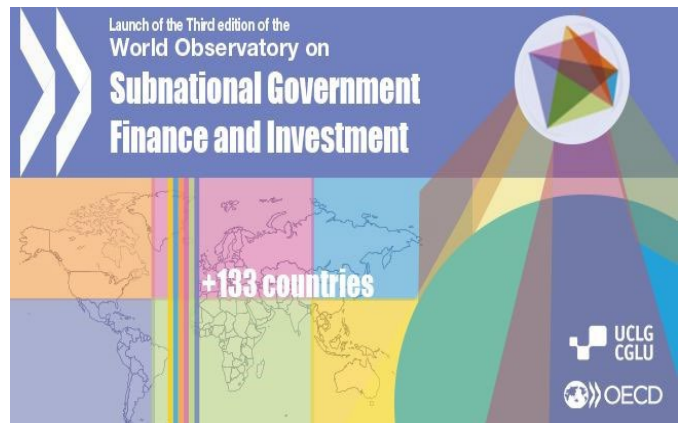
Champion Mayors attended a breakfast hosted by Champion Mayor Chair and Mayor of Reykjavik (Iceland) [Dagur Eggertsson](#) during Citylab in Amsterdam. Mayors of Bristol (UK) [Marvin Rees](#), Porto (Portugal) [Rui Moreira](#), Renca (Chile) [Claudio Castro Salas](#), and San Jose (US) [Sam Liccardo](#), together with Director of the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, were joined by Deputy Mayor of Bologna (Italy) Anna Lisa Boni, the Mayors of Riga (Latvia) Mārtiņš Staķis, and Vilnius (Lithuania) Remigijus Šimašius, and Bloomberg Philanthropies Government Innovation Lead Andrea Coleman to share views and experiences on key issues driving inclusive growth. There was also substantial interest from Mayors to engage at city level to aid in reconstruction in Ukraine and support Ukrainian mayors. **Is your city twinned with, or has an accord with, a city in Ukraine? If so, and your city has taken action such as collecting donations, or dedicating**



city staff time to providing support, email championmayors@oecd.org.

World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment

The third edition of the OECD-UCLG World Observatory on Subnational Government Finance and Investment (SNG-WOFI) launched 24 October. Featuring presentations and roundtable discussions on the key findings of the SNG-WOFI, covering **135 countries**, the event gathered co-founders and partners, international organisations and representatives from governments at all levels. Participants discussed challenges related to subnational finance and multi-level governance, and focused on how subnational government finances can be made more resilient to external shocks, how to optimise property tax revenue and how to leverage external financing solutions to finance infrastructure investment. [Read more.](#)



Champion Mayors tackle climate change and drive sustainable initiatives

Cities account for more than 70% of global energy-related CO2 emissions and an estimated 50% of global waste. City leaders have a significant role to play in tackling climate change and, in turn, reducing the inequalities caused by the impacts of climate change on vulnerable populations. As world leaders gather at COP27 this week, we look at the actions city leaders are taking to enhance sustainability in cities.

The city of **Bogota** (Colombia) aims to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and achieve full decarbonisation by 2050. To start, transport-generated particulate matter in Bogotá is to be reduced by 10%, by adding bus lines, building a subway network, cable cars, and updating and expanding (by 226km) cycling routes. Bogotá's Development Plan provides a new framework for a 30-minute city, green corridors and green districts. It is also prioritising green job creation, the transition to a circular economy and sustainable food supply.



The City of **Madison** (USA) is using the 100% Renewable Madison plan to guide investment in renewable energy. The city is investing in an electric bus rapid transit system that will improve mobility, lower emissions and take thousands of cars off the roads. Madison is also encouraging sustainability in affordable housing to lower bills for residents. The city is switching streetlights to LED lights, and supporting green infrastructure for stormwater management.

Toulouse (France) is re-greening a 13-acre green space to improve air quality and tackle rising urban temperatures. Toulouse is home to France's largest urban solar plant, which produces enough energy to power 4,000 households per year. The city provides financial grants to individuals installing solar panels. Toulouse has also inaugurated an urban logistics area so deliveries can be completed by electric vehicles and cargo bikes.



Upcoming Events



COP27 (6-18 Nov)

As the world faces the urgent need to raise ambitions – and turn those ambitions into concrete action - the **OECD COP27 Virtual Pavilion** brings together leading actors and experts to discuss and share insights in the global effort to combat climate change. [Register for online events.](#)

Are you travelling to COP27? If so, join us at our in-person events. Be among the first to hear initial findings from our work on [A Territorial Approach to Climate Action and Resilience](#) (TACAR), join a workshop on Subnational Climate Action or our OECD – Japan side event: [Leading Actions towards Zero Carbon Cities](#), and much more!

LAUNCH: Regions and Cities at a Glance 2022 (15 Nov)

How prepared are regions and cities in OECD countries to face the challenges of a strong recovery, increasing pressure for energy transition and raising costs of living? Between 2019 and 2020, the median region in the OECD saw a 5% decline in GDP per capita, but one-fifth of regions experienced declines of 10% or more. By combining official statistics with indicators from less conventional data sources, the report highlights territorial differences in economic growth and environmental progress along with social trends such as income inequality, housing affordability and demographic change at detailed geographical breakdowns. OECD Regions and Cities at a Glance 2022 focuses on the spatially heterogeneous effects of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as of those triggered by on-going megatrends, such as urbanisation, digitalisation and demographic change. Mayor of Bogota, Claudia Lopez joins the panel to discuss the launch of this report. [Register.](#)

LAUNCH: Tourism Trends and Policies 2022 (TBC Dec)

The tourism industry has faced unprecedented shocks as a result of COVID-19, then Russia's large scale aggression against Ukraine. What's next for the tourism industry? Contact cfe.contact@oecd.org for more information..

New blog posts



[How can cities power up energy efficiency in buildings?](#)

Did you know? A suite of technologies to decarbonise buildings are available, and yet only around 1% of the EU's building stock gets renovated every year.

[Land Value Capture: Creating the Financial Means for Affordable Cities](#)

Did you know? In OECD countries, land and property constitute 86 per cent of capital stock and are valued at 249 trillion US dollars.

[Walking the talk: can the SDGs help support the COVID-19 recovery in cities and regions?](#)

Did you know? 40% of subnational governments are using the SDGs as part of their recovery strategies. Another 44% plan to do so.

Sena Segbedzi, Coordinator, Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth, [OECD CFE](#) sena.segbedzi@oecd.org



The OECD Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth is a coalition of leaders committed to tackling inequalities and promoting inclusive economic growth in cities. The initiative helps governments analyse inequalities, monitor material living standards and broader well-being, and design policy packages that promote equity and growth. It takes a multidimensional approach to Inclusive Growth, going beyond income to see how people are faring in other areas of life, like jobs and health.

www.oecd-inclusive.com/champion-mayors/
[CFE Newsletter](#)