

News from the OECD Champion Mayors

Fall 2021

How Can the COVID-19 Experience Help Build Inclusive Cities for the Future?

At the 13th [Asian Pacific Cities Summit](#), organised by Fukuoka (Japan), the OECD Champion Mayors for Inclusive Growth hosted an online knowledge sharing session on how cities are building resilience planning into their COVID-19 recovery strategies. On that occasion, Mayor of [Fukuoka](#), Soichiro Takashima stressed the value of international exchange in tackling the globally shared COVID-19 crisis, Mayor of [Bratislava](#) (Slovakia), Matúš Vallo, introduced the city's urban development plan and measures for vulnerable populations, Deputy Mayor of [Florence](#) (Italy), Sara Funaro, spoke about food vouchers provided to 7,000 families and financial aid to pay rent and utilities, and [Bilbao](#) (Spain) Estibaliz Luengo, introduced *Bilbao Aurrera*, the city's 585.5 million euro COVID-19 recovery plan. [Watch the recording](#).

Reshaping, Recovering, Resilience:
How the COVID-19 Experience Can Help
Build Inclusive Cities for the Future



Victoria's Youth Strategy Supports and Empowers Local Young People Mayor of the Moment – Lisa Helps, Victoria, Canada



"Cities have the capacity to deliver the future the world needs. The knowledge to tackle inequality and exclusion, is already available; the strength is in cities sharing that knowledge and learning from each other, so we can accelerate the changes needed."

Lisa Helps
Mayor of Victoria



The City of **Victoria (Canada)** is using a dedicated strategy to empower young people through the pandemic. Priorities include connecting young people to employment opportunities, the development of a COVID-19 Youth Mental Health Toolkit, and free transport access for residents under 19. Victoria has also developed a regional program using cross-government investment to provide affordable housing, and is using the Climate Leadership, Zero Waste Victoria, and GO Victoria plans, to deliver inclusive, low-carbon prosperity. [Read the interview](#).

City to City Cooperation at the G20 and Global Parliament of Mayors Conference



Under the G20 Italian Presidency, world leaders endorsed the [G20 High-level Principles on City-to-City partnerships](#) and a new G20 Platform to unlock the potential of intermediary cities to contribute to regional and national development efforts. Read more [here](#). At the Global Parliament of Mayors (GPM) meeting hosted by Mayor of Palma (Italy), Leoluca Orlando, with the participation of Mayor of Mannheim (Germany), Peter Kurz, Chair of the GPM, Mayors called for the expansion of city-to-city cooperation to address urgent needs of cities in the Global South, and discussed climate-forced displacement. The Champion Mayors initiative contributed to a position paper on global governance. Read the paper [here](#).

5th Anniversary Year of Champion Mayors



At the 5th Champion Mayors meeting our members committed to support and empower young people in city COVID-19 recoveries, and shared valuable experiences relating to promoting inclusive economic growth made both at the meeting and during the three webinars held as part of [Champion Mayors Week](#). Read and disseminate the Champion Mayors 5th Meeting [Highlights brochure](#), the Mayors' [Youth Pledge](#) and the stock-taking of [5 Years of Inclusive Growth](#).

Mayors Promote Climate Action And Sustainable Initiatives Post-COP26

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. The Champion Mayors of [Bristol](#) (UK), [Greater Manchester](#) (UK), [Greater Liverpool](#) (UK), [Los Angeles](#) (USA), [Mannheim](#) (Germany), and [Paris](#) (France) attended COP26, held in the Champion Mayor city [Glasgow](#) (UK). Following the event, we look at the actions city leaders are taking to enhance sustainability in cities.



Thanks to the consistent use of renewables, [Braga](#) (Portugal) earned itself a spot in the top 100 greenest cities list on a worldwide scale made by Carbon Disclosure Project – a non-profit organisation that collects global environmental data. 80% of the city's electricity comes from renewable sources, compared to around 56% across the country. Braga is one of 13 European cities to sign the Green Accord, committing to safeguard the environment. The city's green policies include installation of solar panels on the roofs of all the city's primary schools, the replacement of city buses with electric vehicles, and investment in improving the sustainability and energy efficiency of social housing.

[Freetown](#) (Sierra Leone) has made serious commitments to tackle climate change and improve resilience through the implementation of the community-informed [Transform Freetown Plan](#). The city is working on flood mitigation, urban planning and the introduction of building regulations to slow deforestation, as well as waste management plans and targets such as recycling 40% of Freetown's plastic waste by 2022. Freetown also committed to plant a million trees in two years and increase vegetation cover by 50% by 2022.



[Paris](#) (France) is promoting the concept of the [15-minute city](#), where essential services are within quickly accessible by foot or cycling from residents' doorsteps. The plan aims to enlarge green spaces and playgrounds by rethinking the use of existing facilities such as schoolyards and imagining new spaces. The plan aims to lower pollution by reducing road space available to private vehicles. Paris is also transforming 60km of temporary cycle lanes opened during the COVID-19 pandemic into [permanent cycling infrastructure](#), adding to the Paris region's existing 1000km of cycle lanes.

EU Regional Capital 2023, [Tallinn](#) (Estonia) has outlined sustainability priorities in [Tallinn's development strategy](#), in co-operation with residents. Projects include redesigning the waterfront, connecting green areas, transitioning to a circular economy, and protecting biodiversity. Tallinn also aims to increase the share of journeys made by public transport, on foot or by bicycle to at least 50% by 2025 and 70% by 2035. Public transport in Tallinn has been free since 2013 and the city recently introduced [biofuel-powered buses](#).





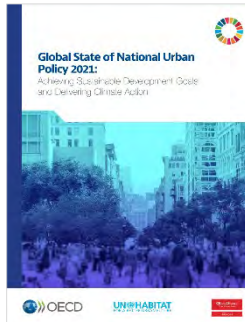
[Tbilisi](#) (Georgia) has developed the [Tbilisi Green Action City Plan](#), that combines strategic actions and priorities to reduce CO2 emissions by 450,000 tonnes per year and save around 55 million m3 of water through waste management, energy efficiency and transport measures. The city is also increasing vegetation by planting trees, bushes, flowers, and grassy areas as part of the [Care About the City](#) campaign. Continuing development of infrastructure and green spaces aims to improve sustainable mobility with the introduction of new cycling infrastructure and bus lanes.

For more information on OECD Work on climate change, view the CFE [Climate Brochure](#).

New Reports



[The Circular Economy in Glasgow, UK](#)

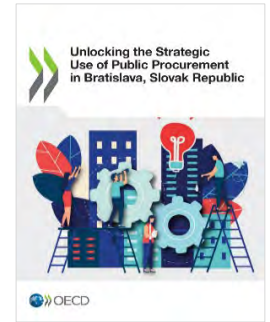


[Global State of National Urban Policy 2021](#)



A Territorial Approach to the SDGs in:

- [Córdoba](#)
- [Moscow](#)
- [Kitakyushu](#)
- [Paraná](#)



[Unlocking The Strategic Use of Public Procurement in Bratislava, Slovak Republic](#)

New Blog Posts



[Can Office Conversion Help Solve the Housing Crisis in Cities?](#)



[Old Tool For the New School: The Return of Social Housing in Cities](#)



[Can the Circular Economy Become the New Normal in Cities?](#)

Healthy, Happy New Year!



Thank you for all your contributions in 2021, we look forward to continuing our work together next year.

Read more on the [COGITO blog](#)



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](#)

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