



Union for the Mediterranean  
Union pour la Méditerranée  
الاتحاد من أجل المتوسط



Mission Innovation's Urban Transitions Mission (UTM) and  
Urban Transitions Mission Centre (UTMC)  
are joining the Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC)

9 November 2023 in Barcelona

### Regional event targeting cities in Mediterranean countries

The regional event on the 9 November 2023, organised by UTMC, will introduce and explain the possibilities and services offered for cities, policymakers, and governments worldwide, to join forces and find solutions for their urban transitions. It is targeting the Mediterranean region, Western Balkans and Türkiye, as a side event to SCEWC. In cooperation with the Union of the Mediterranean (UfM) and MedCités, it is bringing together national and local policy makers, municipalities and urban actors from European Union Member States and countries around the Mediterranean, to promote dialogue and cooperation.

**This regional event follows the briefing of the UfM Urban Development Ministers by the Urban Transition Mission on 4 May 2023 in Zagreb, Croatia, and the UfM information webinar on 4 July 2023.**

In order to align with the European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) of the European Union and drive the global effort towards reaching climate neutrality goals, UTMC is targeting the Mediterranean region, Western Balkans and Türkiye in order to:

- Strengthen international cooperation on climate neutrality and net-zero transitions,
- Support the Urban Transitions Mission (UTM) in mobilising cities in new countries, and
- Ensure a much stronger global coverage towards climate neutrality.

<https://www.smartcityexpo.com/>

<https://urbantransitionsmission.org/centre/>

<https://ufmsecretariat.org/>

<https://medcities.org/>



Funded by the  
European Union

## Field visit

Date: 8 NOV 2023 afternoon field visit to Barcelona Superblock project in Consell de Cent (TBC)

## Draft Agenda

Date: 9 NOV 2023 Venue: Barcelona, Gran Via, CC1, Room 1.5

Time and content	Session	Speakers
09.30-10.00	Get together	
<b>10.00 - 11.00 Session I</b> Moderation: UfM The Urban Transition Mission (UTM) and the relevance of the Mediterranean region (international-transnational level) ➤ How can cities in the Mediterranean region, Western Balkans and Türkiye be mobilised and supported in their urban transitions towards holistic, people-centred urban transitions built around clean energy and innovative net-zero carbon solutions?	Welcome and Opening	<b>Ms Barbara Pons Giner</b> Commissioner for Strategic Projects and the 2030 Agenda, Barcelona City Council
	Opening by UTMC	<b>Ms Elli Tzatzanis Stepanovic</b> UTMC Coordinator, Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)
	Opening by MedCities	Mr Oriol Barba MedCities (TBC)
	Cities on a Mission: EU and global approaches UTM goals and activities	<b>Mr Philippe Froissard</b> Head of Unit, DG RTD, European Commission  <b>Ms Miriam Badino</b> Mission Innovation - Urban Transitions Mission Coordinator, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
11.00-11.15	Coffee/café/qahwa	
<b>11.15 - 13.00 Session II</b> Moderation: Ms Elli Tzatzanis-Stepanovic, UTMC Exploring Urban Transitions in the Mediterranean: Common challenges in the Mediterranean region and best practice examples of urban transition approaches (transnational-national level) <u>Panel 1</u> ➤ Which are common trends, peculiarities and challenges in the Mediterranean region? ➤ How can cities join forces in their urban transitions? <u>Panel 2</u> ➤ What can be learned from the first Mediterranean UTM cities? ➤ Which recommendations can be shared with other cities in the region of the Mediterranean, Western Balkans and Türkiye?	Panel discussion 1 1) Mobility 2) Urban Planning 3) Urban Health 4) Energy Transition	1) <b>Mr Lluís Puerto</b> Market Development Director, EIT Urban Mobility 2) <b>Ms Hristina Odjaklieska</b> Deputy Minister of Environment and Physical Planning, Republic of North Macedonia 3) <b>Mr Mark Nieuwenhuijsen</b> Director of Urban Planning, Environment and Health Initiative at ISGlobal, Spain 4) <b>Ms Sarah El-Shaarawi</b> Editor at Large of Arab Media & Society, Climate communication and the politics of energy transition, Egypt
	Panel discussion 2 1) UTM cities representatives Casablanca, Vitoria-Gasteiz (TBC)	<b>Mr Mohamed Sefiani</b> Honorable Mayor of Chefchaouen, Morocco  Mr Robert Galea, Senior Planning Officer, PA, Valletta, Malta (TBC)
	2) MedCities representatives Irbid (Jordan), Dubrovnik (Croatia), Antalya (Türkiye)	<b>Ms Leila Adel Youssef</b> Engineer at Development project department of Greater Irbid Municipality, Jordan <b>Ms Krile Prkoča</b> Head of office for traffic and communal affairs of Dubrovnik city council, Croatia <b>Mr Nurettin Şengül</b> Head of Transportation Planning and Rail System Department, Antalya Metropolitan Municipality, Türkiye

13.00-14.00	Lunch break	
<b>14.00 - 15.30 Session III</b> Moderation: TBC  Policy panel on stakeholder engagement (national-regional level) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ How can policy-making and stakeholder engagement be synergistic and fruitful?</li> <li>➤ Which joint discussions and actions will be indispensable for complementary solutions in urban transitions?</li> <li>➤ The role of living labs in supporting innovative economic policies for climate change mitigation towards zero pollution</li> <li>➤ Examine the practical dimensions of stakeholder engagement in driving innovation through a specific case study from the Mediterranean region</li> </ul>	Defining stakeholder engagement in fostering co-creation and open innovation in urban transitions	European Network of Living Labs (ENoLL)
	Gender Equality and Social Equity in urban policymaking: A Stakeholder-centric approach	<b>Ms Laura Valdès</b> Metropolis, Head of Policy, Secretariat General World Association of the Major Metropolises
	ENoLL's model of citizen-centric policymaking	<b>Ms Georgia Aifandopoulou</b> Deputy Director Hellenic Institute of Transport, Head of Department Infrastructure, Networks, Mobility and Logistics, CERTH, Greece  <b>Mr Josep Salanova</b> Senior Researcher, Hellenic Institute of Transport, CERTH, Greece
	Living Labs as a social technology: A global approach	Mr Artur Serra I2CAT (TBC)
	Case Study from the Mediterranean region	Mr Alejandro Marti CEO at Mitiga Solutions, Climate advocate, DeepTech, Impact100 (TBC)
	Round Table Discussion, Conclusions	All
15.30-15.45	Tea/te/shay	
<b>15.45 - 16.30 Session IV</b> Moderation: Ms Elli Tzatzanis-Stepanovic, UTMC  Relevant initiatives, partners and organisations in the region to support urban transitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Which initiatives, projects and organisations offer services, expertise and funding for urban transitions?</li> <li>➤ What does it mean to think globally and to act locally?</li> <li>➤ Wrap-up and Closing</li> </ul>	Supporting initiatives	MedCities, Metropolis, NetZeroCities, UfM, UTMC, CapaCITIES <b>Mr Karel Van Oordt</b> , Eurocities, UTMC partner
	Roundtable on partner initiatives	<b>Ms Miriam Badino</b> Mission Innovation - Urban Transitions Mission Coordinator, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (TBC)  UfM (TBC) NZC (TBC)  <b>Mr Karel Van Oordt</b> , Eurocities, UTMC partner
	Recommendations, next steps. Closing	<b>Ms Elli Tzatzanis Stepanovic</b> , FFG, UTMC coordinator

In support of

## Background

[Mission Innovation](#) is a global initiative catalysing a decade of action and investment in research, development, and demonstration to make clean energy affordable, attractive, and accessible for all. This will accelerate progress towards the Paris Agreement goals and pathways to net zero.

The [Urban Transitions Mission](#), one of the seven missions of Mission Innovation, mobilises a Global Innovation Alliance of partners, and national governments, to support cities globally to develop, pilot, and scale innovative solutions and approaches prioritizing climate-neutral and net-zero pathways. The Urban Transitions Mission is co-led by the European Commission, the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy, and JPI Urban Europe.

A first cohort of 50 cities is already engaging with the Urban Transition Mission, which invites pioneering cities worldwide to join.

The [Urban Transitions Mission Centre](#) is supporting the activities of the Urban Transitions Mission, enabling a wide international knowledge and practice network of cities and urban stakeholders and driving urban transitions globally. It offers a global platform that promotes urban sustainability strengthening links among policy, implementation, and funding via exchanges that transcend national and world regions' borders.

Frequently asked questions (FAQ) regarding the Urban Transitions Mission by and for cities [here!](#)