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STRATEGIC URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN 2040 for sustainable, resilient and inclusive communities in the Mediterranean

Presentation and discussion with Euro-Mediterranean Local Authorities

Venue	Online meeting
Date	29 October 2020 14.00 p.m. – 16.00 p.m. Central European Time

EN, FR and AR simultaneous interpretation

The Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly (ARLEM) have the honour to present the draft UfM Strategic Action Plan and its Housing Action Plan to Euro-Mediterranean local and regional authorities, as well as associations active in the region, within the framework of the ongoing consultation process on the draft texts.

The UfM is an intergovernmental organization, which brings together the EU Member States and other littoral States in the Mediterranean, along with Jordan and Mauritania. The UfM Co-presidency is shared by the European Commission and Jordan since 2012, representing EU and non-EU Member States, respectively.

The UfM Urban Agenda was launched at the Second UfM Ministerial Conference on Sustainable Urban Development, which was held in Cairo in May 2017. Drawing upon all current global and regional policy frameworks, a team of academics from the Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment of the Delft University of Technology (TU Delft) in The Netherlands has devised the UfM Strategic Urban Development Action Plan 2040 as a strategic guidance document for UfM Member States for sustainable, resilient and inclusive urbanisation in the region. The UNESCO World Heritage Centre has contributed to the work on the Strategic Action Plan. A Housing Consultant has assisted the TU Delft team as regards the Housing Action Plan.



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In tandem with the UfM Strategic Action Plan, a pipeline of urban projects for potential labelling by the UfM has been evolving. Notwithstanding adverse effects of the current pandemic on global economy and international credit flows, there seem to be considerable opportunities for the co-financing of ‘quality’ and ‘bankable’ projects by national governments, EC, EIB, other IFIs and donors.

This meeting also launches a process of consultation and cooperation with local authorities in the region in line with the UfM Strategic Urban Development Action Plan. As final recipients of urban projects and policies, local authorities of the region will have a key role in the implementation of the UfM Strategic and Housing Action Plans.

Draft Agenda

- 14.00 p.m. Welcoming**
- **Arianna Censi (IT/PES)**, Deputy Mayor of the Metropolitan Area of Milan, CoR member and co-chair of ARLEM's commission for sustainable territorial development
 - **Ayşe Asya**, Deputy Secretary-General for Transport and Urban Development, Union for the Mediterranean
 - **Wallis Goelen**, Senior Expert to the Deputy Director-General, DG REGIO, European Commission
 - **Jumana Attyat**, Executive Director, Housing and Public Development Corporation, Jordan

- 14.15 p.m. UfM Strategic Urban Development Action Plan: General overview**
- **Roberto Rocco**, TU Delft

- 14.30 p.m. UfM Strategic Urban Development Action Plan: Discussion and presentation of the actions**
Moderated by Roberto Rocco

Action 1: To Coordinate and Enhance Cohesion

To promote the design, regional coordination and cohesion of National Urban Policies and City Development Strategies across the Euro-Mediterranean region

- **Oriol Barba**, Director of MedCities, on the Medinatouna Project and City Development Strategies
- **Khaled Lazzar**, Président de la Commission Stratégie de Ville, Commune de Tunis, on the City Development Strategy as a best practice
- Discussion

Action 2: To Educate and Strengthen Capacity

To promote and support planning and design education and built capacity

- **Jyoti Hosagrahar**, Deputy-Director for the World Heritage Centre at UNESCO, presenting the proposal of the creation of a Mediterranean World Heritage Cities Network
- Discussion

Action 3: To Envision and Govern Together

To promote community and stakeholder engagement and the co-creation of shared visions for the region. To promote cross border cooperation and coordination, as well as knowledge exchange between local and national planning authorities

- **Mohamed Ridouani**, mayor of Leuven, Leuven2030 strategy (recorded intervention)
- Discussion

Action 4: To integrate and protect

To promote the conception and implementation of urban and peri-urban infrastructures that support cross border integration around the region. To improve the region's interoperability for better connectivity as well as resilience in case of natural disaster or conflict.

- **Carola Hein**, TU Delft, Port-cities
- **Laura Hetel**, DG RESEARCH, Horizon 2020 urban-related calls and proposed mission on 100 Climate-neutral Cities
- Discussion

Action 5: To implement and manage

To promote the design of integrative strategic projects for cities in the Euro-Mediterranean region in a set of thematic axes of intervention.

- **David Morgant**, EIB, on examples of EIB urban projects promoted by local authorities in the EU and Neighbourhood countries
- Discussion



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Affordable and Sustainable Housing Axis

- **Julie Lawson**, RMIT University
- **Bernard Massabo**, Réseau des Villes Euromed, Interreg MED Efficient Buildings City Partnerships
- Discussion

16.00 p.m. Conclusion