

A UN Forum of Mayors side event at WEF



URBAN FUTURES DIALOGUE

Organized by United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), Global Cities Hub, and World Economic Forum



FORUM OF
MAYORS 2025

PROGRAMME

12:30 - 16:00 CET, 8 October 2025

Villa Mundi, located within the World
Economic Forum Head Quarters,

In person only upon invitation



UNECE



Background



In a world defined by disruption—from technological shifts to sustainability challenges—cities have become the proving grounds for global solutions. Hosted by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with the Global Cities Hub, this gathering will bring together prominent voices from government, business, and civil society to explore how cross-sector partnerships can accelerate innovation and sustainability in urban development.

OVERVIEW

Following the UN Forum of Mayors, mayors are invited to an afternoon of dialogue and networking. The exclusive side event – by invitation only – organized by the World Economic Forum focuses on how mission-oriented local governments can collaborate with the private sector to drive innovation and sustainable development at the local level. The discussion will feature leading thinkers alongside mayors and global business leaders and subject-matter experts.

By fostering dialogue on multilateral and multistakeholder cooperation, this event seeks to spotlight the pivotal role of cities in addressing some of today's most pressing global challenges – ranging from climate resilience in the built environment to innovative approaches to construction and engineering.

The sessions will complement the broader agenda of the UN Forum of Mayors, enriching the international experience of participating mayors and reinforcing the strategic connections between cities and global institutions.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM THE EVENT?

Join fellow Mayors, business leaders, and urban innovators at the Urban Futures Dialogue to turn global challenges into actionable local solutions.

From securing smart city infrastructures against cyber threats to driving quality urban development through sustainable built environment, and accelerating energy transitions in industrial cities, engage in strategic discussions designed to deliver sustainable growth, resilience, and lasting community impact.

Participants will have the opportunity to participate in dedicated strategy sessions to discuss these issues in a detailed manner.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

The Urban Futures Dialogue will be launched by Managing Director of WEF Kiva Allgood and President of GCH, Deputy Mayor of Geneva Christina Kitsos.

A diverse lineup of distinguished speakers from the public sector, business, and civil society will share their perspectives on the theme “Driving Public-Private Collaboration for future-ready Cities”.



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Tentative Agenda

[as 04 July 2025]



12:30 - 14:00 **Arrivals & Networking lunch**

14:00-14:15 **Welcome & remarks by World Economic Forum & Global Cities Hub**

14:15 -14:45 **Guest speaker presentations**

14:45 -15:45 **Strategy Sessions**

15:45 - 16:00 **Closing Remarks**

16:00 **Networking and Closing**

PARTICIPATION

This event is by invitation only. To confirm your participation please register through the invitation you receive from the organizers by individual email.