



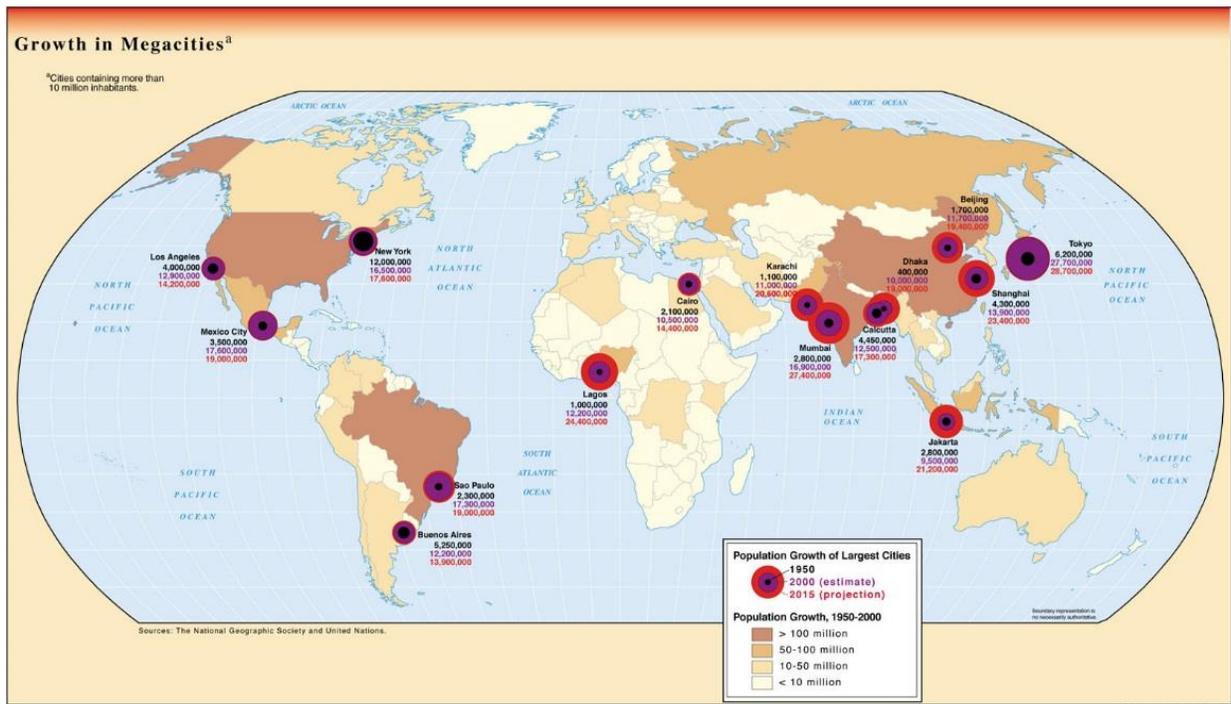
Mayoral Forum On Mobility, Migration & Development Barcelona, 19-20 June 2014

CONTEXT

The City Council of Barcelona has been encouraging innovation, talent and creativity as key elements for local development. It seeks to foster novel solutions that respond to common challenges faced by cities worldwide with the twofold purpose of ensuring economic growth and enhancing coexistence and social cohesion at the same time.

Participation and interaction of people from all around the world is a powerful instrument of creativity and transformation at the local arena. Throughout history, migration flows have shaped diverse cities. Diversity is indeed a distinctive feature shared by the great cities of the world. It is also a challenge for cities and it can be optimized by identifying the most appropriate instruments, actions and policies in each case.

Diversity is associated with international migration, which is a phenomenon that involves the crossing of international borders. Urbanization and cross-border migration are the major challenges of the future. It is estimated that, by 2015, half of the world's population will live in urban areas and the number of megacities will remarkably rise in developing countries.



Migration is also the beginning of a new life project in a new city, metropolitan and urban areas that are key hubs and the economic engines of states.

The contribution of migrants, either internal or external, has been the core element for growth and development of cities and states. International mobility has brought new challenges for local authorities. As recipients, cities have been the main managers of newcomers. Frequently, they have handled without having the power and resources needed. Cities have had to adapt their services to an increasing plural and diverse citizenship. From schools to health care, from welcoming services to the assistance to migrant entrepreneurs, the local administration has experienced an impressive transformation in recent years.

These developments were discussed in "Migration as a Catalytic Enabler for Development and the Role of Local and Regional Government", an event part of the UN General Assembly High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development held in October 2013 in New York. This was an initiative of the World Bank's Global Knowledge Partnership on Migration and Development (KNOMAD), the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the Joint Migration and Development initiative (JMDI), among others. There, the Mayor of Barcelona launched the initiative of the **Mayoral Forum**, aimed to bring together worldwide local leaders to work on the challenges and opportunities that mobility and development mean at the local level, to share a vision for developing a local agenda on human mobility and development, and to channel and enhance the visibility of the role played by local authorities in the management of migration.



GOALS

The high level Mayoral Forum will assemble some fifty mayors from world cities and representatives from international organizations (the World Bank, the International Organization for Migration, UNITAR, KNOMAD, UN-Habitat, and European Commission).

It is a global initiative with the major goals of bringing to the fore the role of cities as managers of international mobility and of highlighting the value of mobility for development.

These objectives embrace the shared conviction that migration is primarily an urban phenomenon. People move towards cities, contributing to their urban growth and human development. Cities, then, are the main attraction pole (and driving force) of states, and migration has been a key factor to their growth and development. At the same time, migration has led to an increase of diversity and has generated new challenges for which cities have provided innovative solutions.

The Forum also aims at strengthening relations among local institutions from over the world and seeks to establish an enduring dialogue among local governments and international and regional organizations and between European local governments and the European Commission.

INSTRUMENTS

To achieve its objectives, the Mayoral Forum will issue a statement –the **Call of Barcelona**- that will emphasize equality of rights, duties and opportunities as core bases for a cohesive society, acknowledge the centrality of local governments on the issues of mobility, migration and development, and reassert the need for its leadership and related support.

The **Call of Barcelona** may lay the foundations to develop a future **local agenda on mobility and development**, an instrument to channel and enhance the visibility of the role played by local authorities in the management of migration.

The local agenda shall be agreed upon, but in general, it may include:

- The role of cities in the management of migration flows;



- The role of cities in the reformulation of national/regional legal frameworks governing the integration of foreigners, and especially their incorporation into the labour market;
- The challenge of building a cohesive society: local management and supramunicipal decisions; services management and elaboration of norms; support to the community of practice.
- The role of cities in assuring coexistence: cities as key to avoid segregation and social inequality, and to fight against xenophobia that threatens peaceful coexistence;
- Cities and new challenges of international mobility: global competition for attracting talent.

WORKING METHODOLOGY

The Mayoral Forum aims to foster open dialogue among local leaders participating in the meeting. The idea is to provide a comfortable place to work following the *Chatham House* rule and allowing mayors to share their experiences, challenges and concerns in managing diversity in their cities.

Discussions will be guided by experts, who will act as rapporteurs and prepare the draft proposal of the Call of Barcelona, collecting recommendations and arguments from the various participants.

Tentative schedule

	19 June 2014	20 June 2014
Morning	Arrival of participants	08.30h Session 1. PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS AND BUILDING A CITY IDENTITY
		10.30h Session 2. FOSTERING ECONOMIC PROSPERITY AND THE VIRTUAL CYCLE OF DEVELOPMENT
		12,30h CONCLUSIONS // “CALL OF BARCELONA”
Afternoon	Arrival of participants	13.00h Lunch / Stand-up reception (Gothic Gallery)
	16.00h Guided tour organised by the Barcelona City Council (optional)	
Evening	20.00h Dinner hosted by the Mayor of Barcelona (Albeniz Palace)	



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the leading migration agency. It is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. IOM acts with its partners in the international community to: assist in meeting the operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants. In 2015, the next edition of IOM's flagship publication: the "World Migration Report" and IOM's next Ministerial Conference will be on the subject of "Migrants and Cities".

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is a training arm of the United Nations System, serving some 25,000 beneficiaries annually by conducting more than 400 capacity development and research activities around the world. In 2012, UNITAR developed the Learning Platform on Human Mobility, the first global platform dedicated to training local and regional authorities on all aspects of migration and human mobility through a blended learning approach.