

# introduction

## “The city of 2030”

### *Our Manifesto*

A democratic, **self-governing city** with a strategic plan for its future; an **inclusive city** based on the participation of all its inhabitants; a **liveable city** with universal quality public services and infrastructures; a **creative city** which constantly inspires and nurtures creativity and innovation; a secure and peaceful city; a **city for work**; a city without slums; a **cleaner, greener** and more compact city; a city which **shares responsibilities and cooperates** with other municipalities and strengthens its partnership with other levels of government.

Contributing to the post-2015 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda of Habitat III in 2016 is a strategic priority of UCLG. To do this, we have decided to build our own Global Agenda of Local and Regional Governments that reflects the concerns, priorities and vision of sub-national governments.

This manifesto is our starting point for this process.



GOVERNANCE



FINANCING



PLANNING



INCLUSIVE  
CITIES



ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENT



CULTURE

## THE URBAN OPPORTUNITY

*The world has changed radically since Habitat II. Within the next 30 years, two thirds of the global population will be urban.*

### Cities as locus

Cities are the locus of many of the main development challenges. Urbanization in many low-income countries is accompanied by the urbanization of poverty. Nearly one billion urban dwellers live in slums with limited access to basic services. In terms of environmental impact, urban sprawl is an unsustainable model of urban development. Cities consume 60-80% of energy worldwide and account for a roughly equivalent share of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

### Cities as platforms

However, urbanization – and the city itself – is a platform for change. Urban areas are essential to economic growth and development; more than 70 per cent of global GDP is already generated in cities, a share that is only increasing (World Bank, 2013). The density and innovative capacity of cities provide a unique opportunity to stimulate more sustainable consumption and production patterns.

### Cities as drivers of change

City governments have emerged as drivers of change – urban and metropolitan governments across the world are innovating and leading from the bottom up on climate change mitigation, women's empowerment, local economic development, and social and cultural inclusion.

The following papers are the result of the very early stages of UCLG's work in preparation for Habitat III. They are based on ongoing collaborative work between UCLG Committees and Working Groups, academic experts, and sub-national political leaders.