

PRESS RELEASE

PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE AND SAFE MOBILITY: UITP PARTNERS WITH ICLEI



BRUSSELS, 4 MAY 2020

Working alongside other organisations allows UITP to promote sustainable, safe and accessible mobility: the collective aim of our sector.

With this in mind, UITP has formalised **a new partnership** with [ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability](#), under the signing of **a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** to build a long-standing collaboration between cities and the public transport sector.

Working with ICLEI, we will promote **sustainable, accessible, safe and efficient urban and interurban mobility** aligned to the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, the new **Urban Agenda** and **the Paris Agreement**.

What does our new partnership promote?

The agreement opens up opportunities for both UITP and ICLEI to **enhance capacity building opportunities for cities and public transport activities**, as well as the joint **implementation of projects and policies aimed at delivering sustainable urban mobility**.

Working side-by-side is a natural choice for UITP and ICLEI.

"The public transport sector is committed to protecting passengers and employees, while keeping cities moving. Cooperation with all levels of governments will be essential to 'building back better' and public transport can become an important lever in our economic recovery plan, and rebuild trust in public transport in the post-COVID-19 period and, ultimately, help us to come out stronger from this crisis. With this MoU, cities and the public transport sector can ensure that no one is left behind."

Mohamed Mezghani
Secretary General
UITP

By joining forces, both organisations can help to localise and deliver on international agendas.

Making cities sustainable means **creating career and business opportunities; safe and affordable housing**, and **building resilient societies and economies**. This involves investment in public transport and through this partnership UITP and ICLEI are committed to working together to make this happen.

"A sustainable city should promote commuting through integrated, socially inclusive, and environmentally-friendly options without depending on privately-owned vehicles. Public transport is the only transport mode that can provide access for all in a safe, efficient and low-emission manner. Keeping public transport running requires coordinated multi-level governance which cannot be more self-evident than in the COVID-19 period. ICLEI and UITP look forward to strengthening cities' capacity to plan public transport systems that will be resilient to future crises."

Gino Van Begin
Secretary General
ICLEI

As the world lives through the coronavirus pandemic, we see more and more the role essential front line workers play in keeping our cities moving: never before has public transport been so vital for sustainable city life.

We now face the stark reality of how fundamental public transport is to providing safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable urban transport systems for all.

Only when people once again use public at large, can we together advance the SDGs - and both ICLEI and UITP have agreed to enhance mutual cooperation for sustainable mobility in cities to make this happen.

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FOR EDITORS

(UITP) The International Association of Public Transport works to enhance quality of life and economic well-being by supporting and promoting sustainable transport in urban areas worldwide. As a passionate champion of sustainable urban mobility, UITP is internationally recognised for its work to advance the development of this critical policy agenda. With more than **1800 members in 100 countries**, UITP has a long history to its name, and is the only worldwide network to bring together all public transport stakeholders and all sustainable transport modes.

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ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, ICLEI helps to drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development. ICLEIs bring sustainability to a rapidly developing urban world.

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