



Invitation for preliminary Expressions of Interest in a METREX study visit

METREX and Latin America

METREX Members are cordially invited to express a provisional interest, for preliminary planning purposes, in participating in a METREX Study Visit to South America in **October (spring) 2009**.

The visit is part on the international dimension to METREX affairs and follows the successful visits to Moscow in 2006 and Shanghai in 2007. Full reports on both these Study Visits can be downloaded from the METREX web site at www.eurometrex.org

Preliminary possibilities have been explored by Albert Leboriero, Coordinador, Programas de Planificación Regional, Comunidad de Madrid and these are set out below. The Planning Minister of Chile has kindly agreed to support the Study Visit and the City of Santiago will participate together with other invited South American metropolitan areas.

Responses are requested by Friday 26 September, so that the Study Visit can be considered in detail at the METREX General Assembly on Saturday 18 October, at the METREX London Conference.

Location

Santiago, Chile

Host

Government of Chile, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, (Vivien Villagrán, Minister of Civil Works)

Dates

October (spring) 2009

Participants

METREX and colleagues from the Chilean Government, Santiago and other major South American cities, such as Buenos Aires and Bogota

Possible Programme (5 days)

Weekend travel to Santiago

Monday

Orientation study visit to Santiago

Tuesday agenda

South American context

Santiago metropolitan issues and responses

Wednesday agenda

European context

European metropolitan issues and responses - perhaps 4 sessions (morning and afternoon) with 2 Case Studies in each. Total 8 Case Studies

Thursday agenda

South American metropolitan issues and responses - perhaps 4 sessions with 1 Case Study in each. Total 4 case Studies

Friday agenda

Concluding comparison of experience in Europe and South America. Findings and conclusions and possible areas for continued exchange

Weekend travel to Europe or extended stays

Costs

Hospitality will be provided by colleagues from Chile, including meals and local travel. METREX delegates will be responsible for their own travel and hotel costs. METREX will be responsible for the provision of language services (EN|ES but also other European languages as required).

For budgetary purposes, travel costs are likely to be in the following range.

- Group travel from Madrid, possibly €1-1200. 13 hour direct flight
- Hotel costs, possibly €1-150 a night.. Total cost for 6 nights (Sunday to Saturday) €6-900
- Total estimated cost range €1600-2100

Group travel and group hotel packages have not yet been investigated and it may be possible to arrange the Study Visit for a travel and hotel cost, per head of **€1500**. However, air travel costs next year may be higher, depending on fuel costs.

Key issues for exchange

- South American socio-economic context
- Climate change context - national and metropolitan responses
- Metropolitan structures - drivers of change
- Metropolitan strategies - key issues and planning responses
- Transportation
- Housing
- City centres - heritage and key functions
- Environmental issues - waste, water and ecology

Contact details for further clarification or discussion

Alberto LEBORIERO
E mail - alberto.leboreiro@madrid.org
Phone +34 91 580 3191

Roger READ
E mail - roger.read@eurometrex.org
Phone + 4 (0)1292 317074

Responses by e-mail to Roger Read and Albert Leboriero by Friday 26 September 2008

Roger Read
Secretary General,
METREX

Glasgow July 2008