

METREX

The **network** of
European Metropolitan Regions and Areas



METREX	The Network of European Metropolitan Regions and Areas
27-30 October	METREX Barcelona biennial Conference
Theme	Future Trends in Spatial Planning and Development New methodologies and planning tools
Host	 INSTITUT D'ESTUDIS TERRITORIALS GENERALITAT DE CATALUNYA UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA
Support	 Generalitat de Catalunya Departament de Política Territorial i Obres Públiques
	 European Commission DG Regio

It is our pleasure to invite you to join friends and colleagues at the METREX Barcelona 2004 biennial Conference on the important theme of Future Trends in Spatial Planning and Development. This theme is particularly timely given the extension of the European Union to include 25 countries and with the prospect of a further extension to 27 countries. At the same time the objectives of the Union have been extended to include Territorial Cohesion, in addition to Social and Economic Cohesion. The European Commission has kindly agreed to support the Conference and contribute to the proceedings.

As a consequence of these developments spatial planning and development can be expected to play a significant role in European affairs in the coming years. The function of planning is to exercise foresight and, in particular, to enable the process of strategic metropolitan spatial planning and development to proceed on an informed basis. The Conference will consider the forces that may shape our European future and the influence that the process of spatial planning and development could exercise on these, in the wider metropolitan interest. Professor Sir Peter Hall has kindly agreed to give the Keynote Address on these issues.


In addition, the Conference will consider, particularly, the methodologies and tools that metropolitan bodies, agencies or joint committees may be able to develop to improve their capability to plan strategically. These will be explored through the Workshop programme which will feature exemplars of innovative practice drawn from across Europe.

On the CD attached to this Invitation you will find full details of the Barcelona Conference, the theme, programme and arrangements for booking, in EN|ES|IT|FR|DE. The event will be held in the auditorium of Gaudi's Casa Milà "La Pedrera" and in the Congress centre of the adjacent Hotel Condes de Barcelona, in central Barcelona. Bookings will be managed through the hotel. You will find these details on the METREX web site at www.eurometrex.org together with other information on the Network.

We have enclosed a brochure on METREX which gives you further information on the Network and its activities and events.

We do hope that you will be able to accept this Invitation to attend the METREX Barcelona Conference and can assure you of a warm welcome from colleagues from across the wider Europe.

Yours sincerely,




Prof.ssa Mercedes Bresso,
Presidente, Provincia di Torino,
President of METREX.

Theme

**Future Trends in Spatial Planning and Development
New methodologies and planning tools**

Europe is characterised by metropolitan areas of compact, mixed use, public transport orientated urban form that is inherently more sustainable than car orientated urban sprawl. Barcelona is a recognised exemplar in promoting high quality urban life. The Forum of the Cultures will take place in 2004 and add further impetus to the continuing process of urban renewal and regeneration. The Conference will include an Extension Programme to experience the planned evolution of the Barcelona metropolitan area and region.

The Conference theme will enable delegates to explore future trends in spatial dynamics and the planning goals and tools needed to influence and manage these. The Conference will benefit from the knowledge and experience of Keynote Speakers and draw on exemplars of effective practice from across Europe. Special attention will be given to innovative approaches to metropolitan spatial planning and development.

The *exchange of knowledge* on spatial planning and development issues, between *practitioners* (politicians, officials and their advisers), is one of the two primary objectives of METREX and the biennial Conference is an important means of achieving this. METREX is working through a number of Expert Groups on key issues of common interest to the Network and the Conference will present an opportunity for their findings and conclusions to be disseminated.

The other primary objective of METREX is the contribution of the *metropolitan dimension* to European affairs. It appears that there is a growing recognition across Europe and, in particular, within European institutions, of the key role that metropolitan regions and areas could play in achieving the wider objectives of the EU for economic *competitiveness* built on a more *sustainable and cohesive* approach. The EU's concept of a balanced and polycentric Europe requires a response from metropolitan regions and areas that recognises the scope for *complementarity* between them.

METREX, with Lead Partners from Glasgow and Catalunya, has successfully promoted two major projects under the Interreg IIIC programme of the European Union. InterMETREX aims to assist metropolitan regions and areas to adopt the most effective available spatial planning and development practice *within* their areas of influence. PolyMETREXplus aims to assist with the establishment of effective connections and relationships *between* metropolitan regions and areas.

In this way both projects will support the European Union objective of a better urban balance across the wider Europe. Both projects are directly relevant to the Conference theme in that they are concerned with the future of Europe and the contribution that effective spatial planning and development *practice* can make to this. The interim outcomes and outputs of both projects will be featured at the Conference.

27-30 October	METREX Barcelona biennial Conference
Theme	Future Trends in Spatial Planning and Development New methodologies and planning tools
Wednesday 27 October	METREX pre meetings and Civic Reception
Venue	<i>Hotel Condes de Barcelona</i>
14. 00	Meeting of the METREX Expert Groups
16. 00	Meeting of the PolyMETREXplus Steering Committee
20. 00	Civic Reception
Thursday 28 October	Plenary session
Venue	<i>Auditorium of the Casa Milà "La Pedrera"</i>
8. 00	<i>Registration at the auditorium of the Casa Milà "La Pedrera"</i>
Programme	Opening of the fifth METREX biennial Conference
Opening plenary session	Conference Theme
9. 00	Welcome
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. ssa Mercedes BRESSO, President of METREX
9. 10	Future Directions in Spatial Planning and Development
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pasqual MARAGALL i MIRA, President, Generalitat de Catalunya
9. 40	European Spatial Planning and Development Context
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner for Regional Policy and Institutional Reform, European Commission
<i>10. 15</i>	<i>Questions and discussion</i>
<i>10. 30</i>	<i>Coffee</i>
11. 00	European Spatial Planning and Development Futures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minister for Spatial Planning and Development, Dutch Presidency of the EU
<i>11. 30</i>	European Urban Policy
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paulo COSTA, President of the Committee for Regional Policy, Tourism and Tourism (RETT)
<i>12. 00</i>	ESPON the European Spatial Planning Observatory Network
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter MEHLBYE, Director and colleagues
<i>12. 30</i>	<i>Questions and panel discussion</i>
<i>13. 00</i>	<i>Lunch</i>
14. 30	Keynote address
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professor Sir Peter HALL, the Bartlett, University College, London
<i>15. 10</i>	<i>Questions and discussion</i>
<i>15. 30</i>	<i>Coffee</i>

Thursday 28 October		Workshops 1 and 2	
Workshop session 1		Benchmarking	
16. 00	Workshop 1	Metropolitan spatial planning and development practice	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair and Rapporteur • InterMETREX project Lead Partner and partners (3) 	
		<i>Assessing what to do and how to do it</i> <i>Questions and discussion</i>	
16. 00	Workshop 2	Metropolitan well being and competitiveness	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair and Rapporteur • ESPON, DATAR, CPMR, BAK International Benchmark Club 	
		<i>Assessing strategic strengths and weaknesses</i> <i>Questions and discussion</i>	
17. 30	Workshops end		
18. 00	Evening free		



Friday 29 October		Plenary session	
Plenary session		PolyMETREXplus and Catalunya	
9. 00	Towards European Urban Balance		
	•	Francesc CARBONELL, Director of Programmes, IET, Lead Partner, Generalitat de Catalunya	
9. 45	<i>Questions and discussion</i>		
10. 00	Spatial planning and development in Catalunya		
	•	to be confirmed	
10. 45	<i>Questions and discussion</i>		
11. 00	<i>Coffee</i>		
Workshop session 2		Future trends in spatial planning and development	
11. 30	Workshop 3	METREX exemplars	
	•	Commissioner for Planning, Stockholm	
	•	Workshop speakers (3)	
	<i>Questions and discussion</i>		
11. 30	Workshop 4	METREX Expert Groups	
	•	Dr. Bernd STEINACHER, Director, Verband Region Stuttgart	
	•	Workshop speakers (3)	
	<i>Questions and discussion</i>		
13. 00	<i>Lunch</i>		
Workshop session 3		New methodologies and planning tools	
14. 30	Workshop 5	METREX exemplars	
	•	Chair and Rapporteur	
	•	Workshop speakers (3)	
	<i>Questions and discussion</i>		
14. 30	Workshop 6	METREX Expert Groups	
	•	Chair and Rapporteur	
	•	Workshop speakers (3)	
	<i>Questions and discussion</i>		
16. 00	<i>Coffee</i>		
METREX			
16. 30 - 18. 00	General Assembly	<i>see Agenda published separately</i>	
	•	Prof.ssa Mercedes BRESSO, President	
18. 00	<i>Meeting of the Rapporteur General and the Workshop Rapporteurs</i>		
20. 00	Official Conference Dinner		

Saturday 30 October**Closing plenary session****Outcomes and directions****9. 00****Conference conclusions**

- Rapporteur General and the Workshop Rapporteurs team

10. 30

*Coffee***11. 00****The way forward***Inspirational address*

- **to be confirmed**

11. 45

*Questions and Discussion***12. 00****Views and directions**

12. 00

The view from the EU

- Birger OLOFSSON, Director, Øresund Committee

12. 10

The view from the Accession Countries

- Dr. Milan TURBA, Director for Strategic Planning, City Development Authority of Prague

12. 20

Conference Resolution

- moved by Roger READ, Secretary General of METREX

12. 30

METREX Network development

- President of METREX

13. 00

*Lunch***Extension programme****15.00 - 17. 30****Itinerary to be confirmed**

18. 00

*Evening free***Sunday 31 October****Conference excursion****Extension programme****9. 30 - 14.00****Itinerary to be confirmed**

14. 00

Lunch

16. 00

Return and Delegates disperse

METREX

The Network of European Metropolitan Regions and Areas

27-30 October

METREX Barcelona Conference

Arrangements

Meeting contacts in Barcelona

- **Francesc CARBONELL**

e-mail francesc.carbonell@ietcat.org

Institut d'Estudis Territorials
Passeig Circumval·lació, 8
08003 BARCELONA
Spain

phone + 34 935 422 633
fax + 34 935 422 599

web site www.ietcat.org

Conference venue and hotel in Barcelona

- **Nuria BORRAS**

e-mail convenciones@condesdebarcelona.com

Hotel Condes de Barcelona
Passeig de Gracia, 73-75
08008 BARCELONA
Spain

phone + 34 93 467 47 80
fax + 34 93 467 47 81

web site www.condesdebarcelona.com

Conference venue and hotel location

**Casa Milà "La Pedrera" and
Hotel Condes de Barcelona
on Passeig de Gracia**

