

METREX

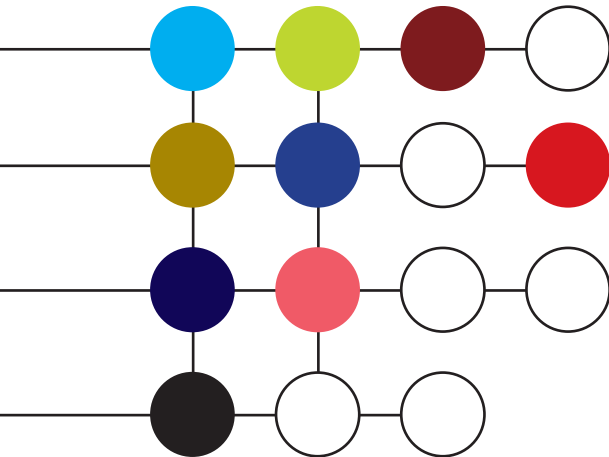
the network of European
Metropolitan Regions and Areas

20 YEARS OF EXCHANGE
THE ADDED VALUE OF NETWORKING

20TH ANNIVERSARY 1996–2016

“Our aim as a network is
to become the first port
of call for all practical
questions of regional
development in Europe.”

Dr. Nicola Schelling
Regionaldirektorin
Verband Region Stuttgart
President of METREX
2014–Present



First published in 2006
as 'Impressions' now
updated for the 20th
Anniversary of the
network

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HAPPY 20TH ANNIVERSARY



FOREWORD

METREX has now been networking for 20 years and its biannual Conferences have been the foundations on which its activities have been built.

The Network is unique in meeting twice a year, hosted by a Member. This support is invaluable and is indicative of the goodwill and mutual support that is fundamental to the way METREX works. The Network seeks to be professional, offer high value benefits and provide a friendly forum for the exchange of information, knowledge and experience.

This Anniversary booklet contains short summaries of the 40 Conferences that have been held since 1996. Some 300 presentations have been made and over the last 10 years these have been published as Conference Proceedings. They illustrate the wide range of issues that are of interest to Members and the depth of knowledge and experience that has been exchanged.

Exchange will continue to be at the heart of METREX activities in the future. With Members and Observers from some 50 of the major metropolitan regions and areas of Europe, METREX offers access to a unique body of insight into metropolitan affairs.

Exchange will continue to be at the heart of METREX activities in the future



May the next 20 years be as productive and valuable!

HAPPY 20th ANNIVERSARY



Gerald McGrath was instrumental in founding METREX, he was a man interested in people and a strong believer in the exchange of ideas expanding horizons.

Dr. Gerald McGrath
Chair of the International Committee
Strathclyde Regional Council
President of METREX
1996–2000
Honorary President
2000_2013

Gerald McGrath was instrumental in founding METREX. He was its first President and later its lifetime Honorary President. It is remarkable that METREX has continued to flourish during all the ups and downs in Europe over the last 20 years. This was largely due to the leadership that Gerald brought to the Network in its early stages. He set the standards and led by example in generating the goodwill and professional cooperation on which METREX is based. He was held in the highest regard by his many European friends and colleagues. Bernd Steinacher referred to him, fondly, as “**The Great Scotsman**”. To many in METREX this is exactly what he was. And a great European.

Gerald McGrath 1927–2013



IMPRESSIONS

METREX produced **Impressions** as a commemorative publication in 2006 to mark the 10th Anniversary of METREX.

Impressions can be downloaded from the METREX website.

This present publication extends and updates Impressions to reflect the activities of the Network over the period from 2007 to 2016.

20 YEARS OF EXCHANGE

METREX was conceived, promoted and established by Strathclyde Regional Council, in Scotland, in the last days before it was disbanded in 1996 after 20 years of productive life. Roger Read put the idea of Metropolitan Exchange to Dr. Gerald McGrath, then Chair of the International Affairs Committee, the start up funding of £100,000 was secured and the founding Conference arranged in Glasgow in Spring 1996.

From a founding membership of 15 authorities METREX has now grown to some 50 authorities representing over 50 individual metropolitan regions and areas from 22 countries.

Knowledge, understanding and insight

Remarkably, and due to the power of the idea of Metropolitan Exchange and the commitment with which it has been sustained by numerous colleagues over the last 20 years, METREX has now held some 40 biannual Conferences.

There have been over 500 presentations to provide knowledge and understanding to Members on metropolitan affairs and key issues and insight into the planning position in most of Europe's major metropolitan regions and areas.

THE ADDED VALUE OF NETWORKING

Since the METREX website was set up over 10 years ago, Conference presentations have been made available for downloading. Over 300 presentations are now available on our website (see page 59).

Since the second Glasgow Conference in 2013, Conference Proceedings, integrating transcribed presentations and Powerpoints, have been published on the website in full.

There are no other European Networks that have held comparable biannual Conferences over such an extended period of time or made available such an extensive archive of informative presentations.

This illustrates the added VALUE of NETWORKING

These core Conference activities have been complemented by a limited number of major funded Projects, the work of numerous Expert Groups and by networking based on the many personal friendships and organisational relationships that have grown and flourished over the years.

This is the SOCIAL CAPITAL of the Network that has sustained and enriched its development.

METROPOLITAN DIMENSION

There are 227* recognised metropolitan regions and areas in the wider Europe of the European Union of 28 Member States plus Switzerland and Norway (EU+2).

These are the metropolitan regions and areas with populations of half a million or more, and they contain 290m of the 500m+ in the EU+2.

This is a measure of the importance of METROPOLITAN competitiveness and wellbeing to the prosperity and cohesion of Europe.

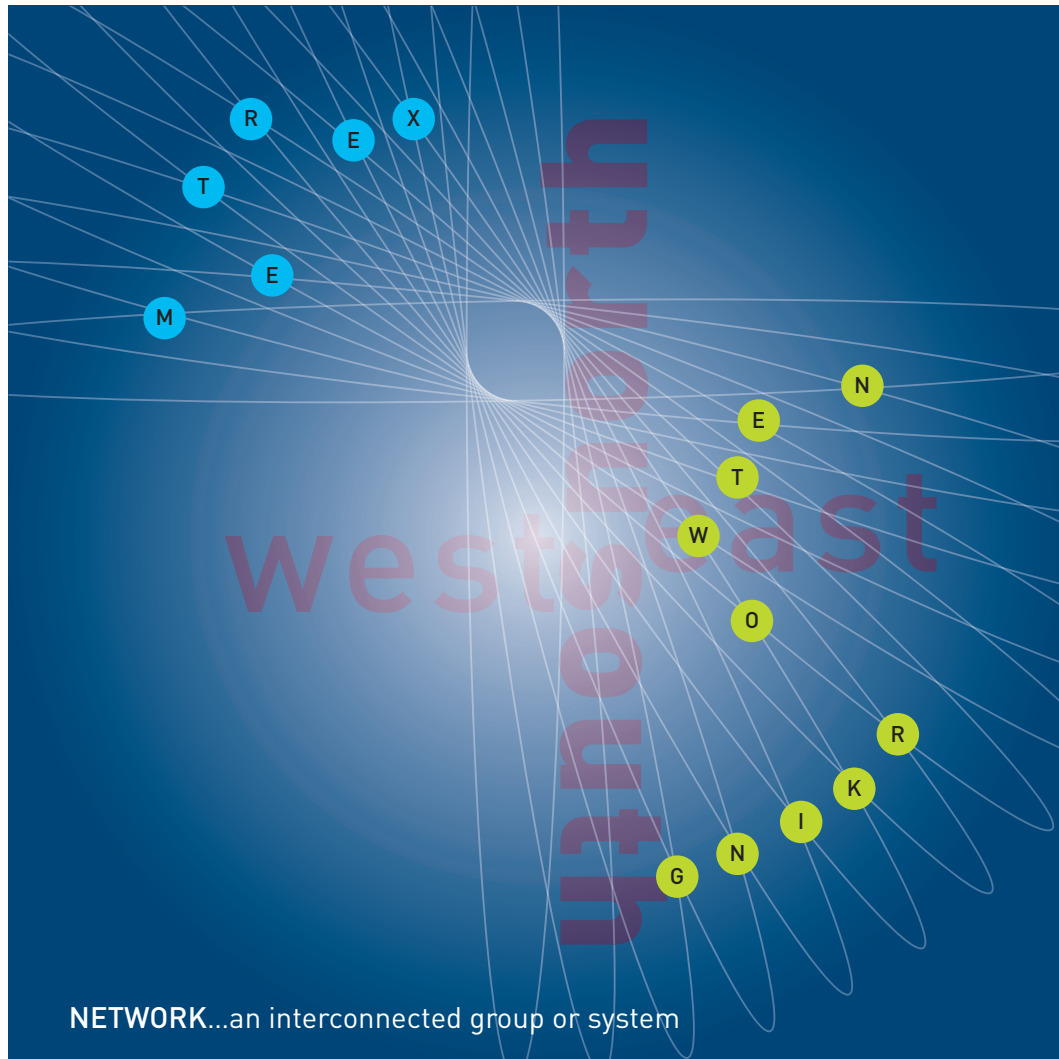
If anything, the value and importance of a METROPOLITAN Dimension to European affairs has grown over the years.

It remains true that there is a range of key issues that can only be addressed effectively at the level of Europe's METROPOLITAN areas and their areas of influence, or regions.

METREX has published a Position Statement to substantiate this view and it was presented to the Brussels Conference in 2014.

* Urban Audit and Eurostat Larger Urban Zones – LUZ

what is a NETWORK?



NETWORK...an interconnected group or system

A NETWORK is described by nodes and connections.

It only is as strong as the nodes and the interaction between them.

In this sense, METREX as the Network of European Metropolitan Regions and Areas is a strong network.

*Dr. Bernd Steinacher
Regionaldirektor
Verband Region Stuttgart
President of METREX
2004–2007*

METREX

METREX is the Network of European Metropolitan Regions and Areas. It is a network of practitioners, that is, politicians, officials and their advisers, concerned with strategic planning and development at the metropolitan level. It is essentially a network through which key European metropolitan decision makers can share their knowledge, experience and expertise.

METREX was founded in 1996 at the Metropolitan Regions Conference in Glasgow, with the support of the European Commission, to provide a means of promoting effective metropolitan governance to manage change at the metropolitan level, and contribute a metropolitan dimension to key European issues, such as competitiveness, cohesion and sustainability.

From a founding membership of 15 authorities METREX has now grown to some 50 authorities representing over 50 individual metropolitan regions and areas from 22 countries. In order to promote and foster networking, METREX holds Conferences twice a year, in the spring and autumn, and holds a General Assembly every two years.

The METREX website at www.eurometrex.org provides the portal through which Network Members and colleagues with an interest in metropolitan affairs can access information on the Network and its activities.

“More than two thirds of OECD metropolitan areas have established a governance body in charge of organising responsibilities among public authorities for metropolitan-wide development. Most of these bodies have been created in the past 20 years”.

Governing the City
OECD, Paris 2015



METREX meetings
and Conferences
are at the heart
of networking

The founding
Conference
Glasgow 1996

THE INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION

At the METREX Madrid International Congress in May 2006, held as part of the METREX 10th Anniversary programme, it became apparent that it would be appropriate to develop an international dimension to the activities of the Network.

The membership is now almost fully representative of all the varied social, economic, physical and environmental circumstances of European metropolitan regions and areas. The Madrid International Congress demonstrated that this body of experience, knowledge and expertise is of interest to international colleagues, and that there is value to be gained for METREX from selective and relevant international contacts and exchanges.

In July 2006 METREX was invited by the Government of Moscow to bring a delegation to Moscow metropolitan region and area for a bilateral International Seminar on Moscow and European Megapolises – Experience of Planning for Sustainable Development. The International Seminar was significant because it was the first such exchange between Moscow and other European metropolitan spatial planners. A Protocol of Intent has been agreed between the Institute for the Master Plan of Moscow and METREX to promote and guide future cooperation.

Moscow

The Institute for the Master Plan of Moscow has since become a Member of METREX.

Shanghai

In November 2007 METREX arranged a Study Visit to Shanghai, in partnership with the Shanghai Urban Planning Bureau (SUPB), on the theme of Globalisation, Urban Development and Sustainability. The delegation was led by the President of METREX and included 16 delegates from 7 European metropolitan regions and areas.

Vincent Goodstadt, of the METREX Secretariat, produced a full, downloadable, Report on the Study Visit. The Study Visit identified a number of common issues being faced in Europe and in China, which provide a fruitful basis for continuing exchange.

The SUPB has since become an Observer in METREX.

Santiago, Chile

In October 2009 METREX arranged an International Congress to Santiago, Chile, in partnership with the Planning Department, Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning and the Directorate of Urban Development of the Metropolitan Regional Government of Santiago. The Congress was held within the context of the Vision for National Development 2020.

The delegation was led by the President of METREX and included delegates from 7 European metropolitan regions and areas. A full downloadable Report on the Congress was prepared by Markus Egermann, Researcher at the Leibniz Institute of Ecological and Regional Development, Germany, for METREX.

Northern Virginia

METREX has also developed a working relationship with the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC), through former President Berd Steinacher.

The NVRC has since become an Observer in METREX.

Istanbul

In February 2012 METREX arranged a Study Visit to Istanbul, in association with the Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality. The Visit also included the normal Meeting of the METREX Managing Committee.

The Study Visit was held in the Tarik Zafer Tunaya Cultural Centre. It included very complete and informative presentations on all aspects of planning in Istanbul, including the Transportation Vision, Environmental Management, Water Management and Conservation Studies.

THE EUROPEAN DIMENSION

The European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP) 1999

One of the founding objectives of the European Union was social cohesion, meaning the reduction of social and economic disparities between Member States. Regional Policy has been implemented with this objective in mind. The Lisbon Strategy, formulated in 2000, aimed to make the EU the most dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world, capable of sustainable economic growth with more and better jobs, greater social cohesion and respect for the environment.

With the expansion of the EU to 28 Member States, Territorial Cohesion has become an EU objective.

METREX made a metropolitan contribution to the social, economic and territorial cohesion of the wider Europe through the InterMETREX and PolyMETREXplus projects.

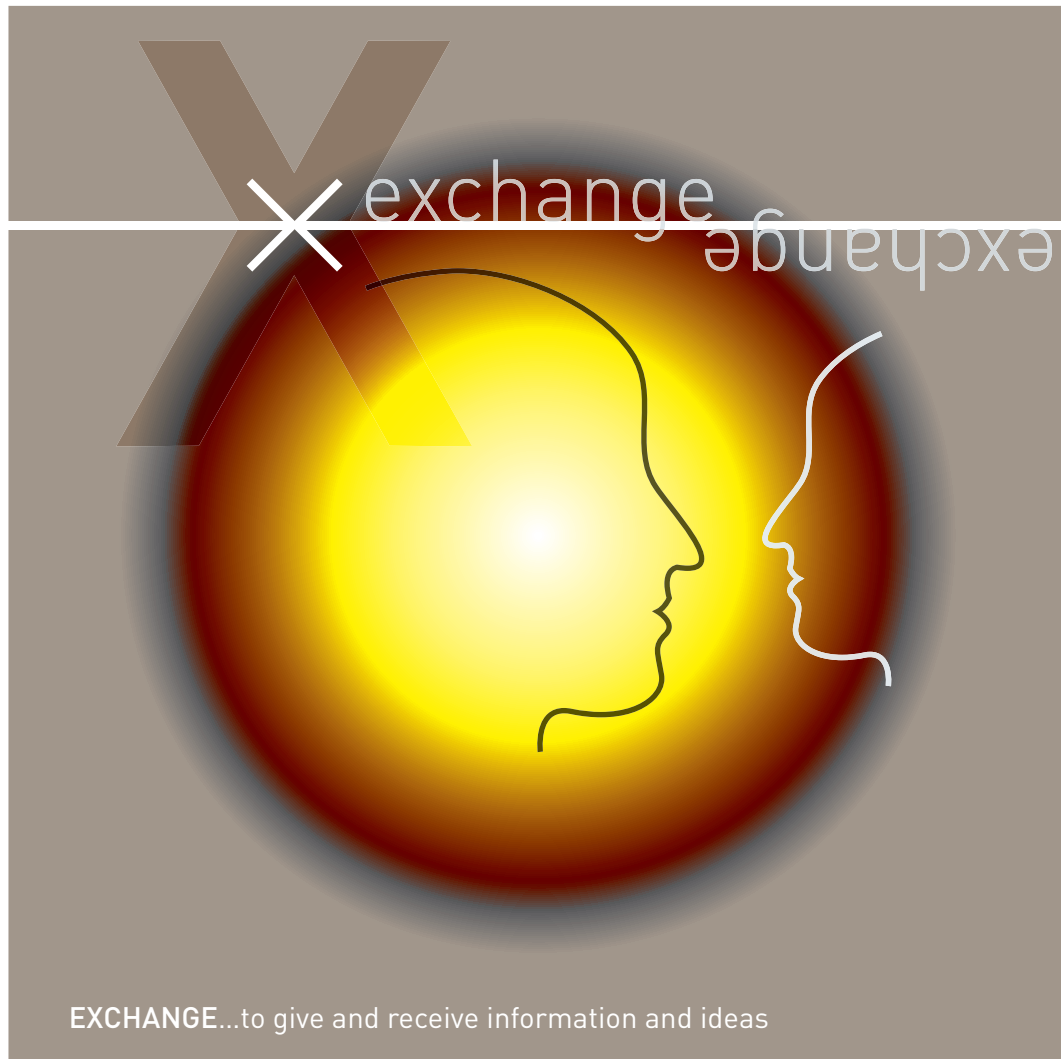
It has continued this commitment through the Urban Rural relationships in Metropolitan Areas – URMA project and the Territorial Cohesion – TERRACOTTA project.

The European Spatial Development Perspective (ESDP), published in 1999, provides a context for METREX activities and initiatives. It is concerned that, to remain competitive in a global economy, Europe needs to achieve a better urban balance.

It foresaw the need for polycentric groupings of metropolitan regions and areas beyond the core London/Paris/ Rhine/Ruhr economic area.

The European Observation Network for Territorial Development and Cohesion, ESPON, has produced a Territorial Vision for Europe to 2050 – ET 2050. METREX has responded to the Vision through the ongoing Territorial Cohesion – TERRACOTTA project, which updates and develops the Framework that was an outcome of PolyMETREXplus (see page 19). TERRACOTTA provides a metropolitan interpretation of ET 2050.

EXCHANGE



Mercedes Bresso introduced
a European Dimension
to METREX affairs, enhancing the
network's ability for exchange.

Prof.ssa Mercedes Bresso
Presidente of the
Provincia di Torino
President of METREX
2000-2004

THE METROPOLITAN DIMENSION

Key metropolitan issues

Many of the key issues that affect the competitiveness, cohesion and sustainability of European urban life can only be addressed effectively at the metropolitan level.

These include –

Balancing

urban redevelopment with urban expansion

Integrating

land use, transportation and infrastructure

Sustaining

the vitality and viability of city and town centres

Enabling

economic competitiveness

Promoting

social inclusion

Assessing

the environmental impact of development

Safeguarding

natural and urban heritage resources

Responding

to the key issue of urban generated greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

Metropolitan governance

The concept of subsidiarity means that metropolitan areas are now the level at which many wider European urban objectives can be realised most effectively. Without effective metropolitan governance the populations of metropolitan areas are unable to influence many of the key issues affecting their future and its sustainability.

Metropolitan visions

Metropolitan regions and areas need to have a clear view of their future and what they want to become, in order to unite and inspire all stakeholders and citizens in the realisation of this. Such a Vision is essentially about the unrealised and unimagined potential of the wider metropolitan area. It is about realising immediate possibilities but also about longer-term transformations. Urban Europe is clearly changing fast, and the task for the future is to unite and direct the forces for change to achieve a transformation that is inspirational.

Integrated Metropolitan strategies

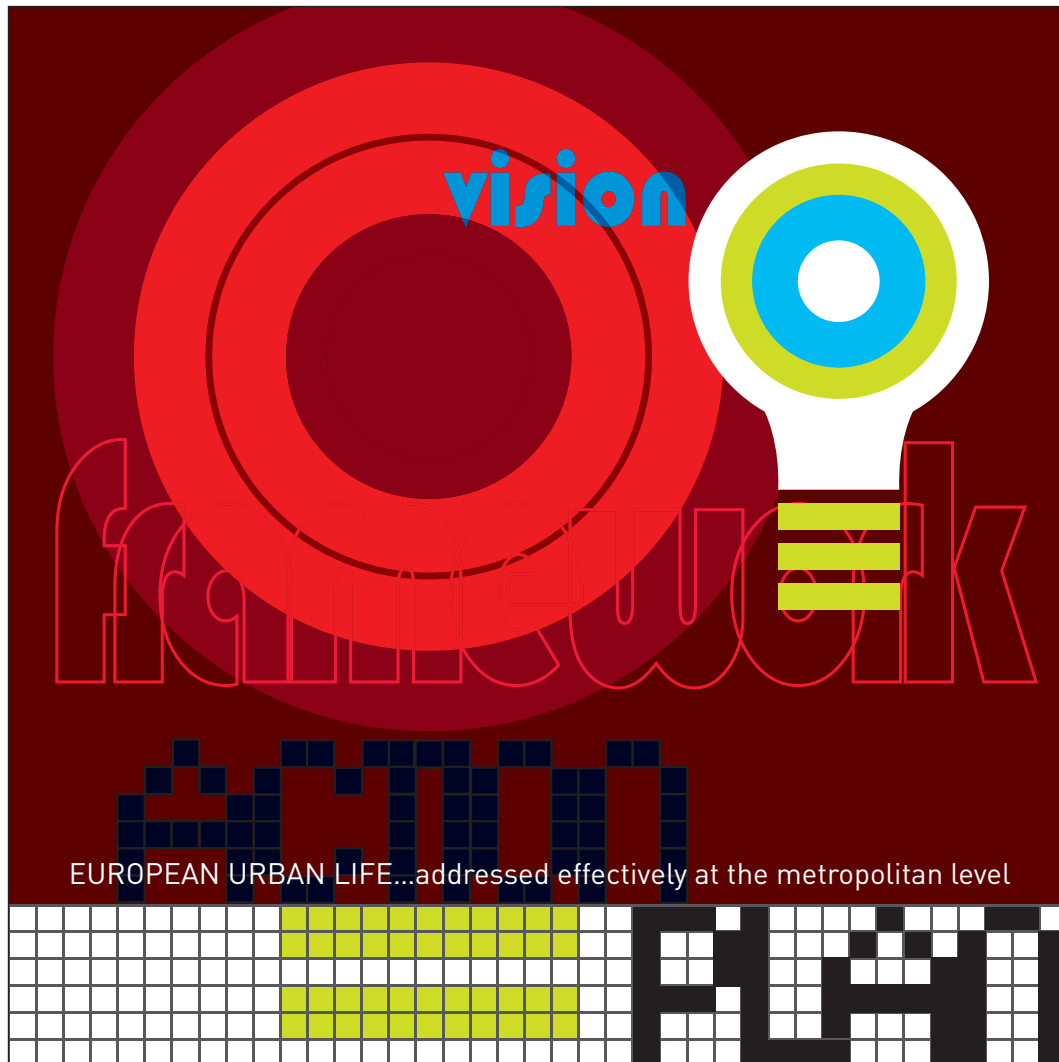
A sustainable approach to European metropolitan strategies will involve compact urban forms and mixed use, public transport orientated development, focused on city and town centres. A polycentric approach of this kind within metropolitan areas will require effective metropolitan governance.

A sustainable approach to improving the quality of urban life also requires an integrated social, economic, environmental and spatial strategy at the metropolitan level.

“Better integrating the governance of transport and the governance of spatial planning – which are, respectively, the main fields of work for 70% and 60% of OECD metropolitan governance bodies – would contribute significantly to higher growth and well-being”.

Governing the City
OECD, Paris 2015

KEY ISSUES



"The guiding principle of this paper is that the organization of space is inseparable from the quest for sustainable development".

"This paper argues that this goal... can only be reached by vigorous and visionary "urban spatial strategies". They will have to be vigorous because the forces at play are powerful and interested in maintaining the status quo.

And they will have to be visionary because the participation and support of people and actors committed to an equitable and just future for all will need a bold and inspiring blueprint of how the city will be structured and organised".

Habitat III – Policy Paper 6 – Urban Spatial Strategies – UN 2016

THE PORTO CONVOCATION

METREX promoted the Porto Convocation in 1999, on the initiative of the Área Metropolitana do Porto and with the support of the European Commission.

It resulted in 40 signatories to the Porto Metropolitan Magna Carta and its related Practice Benchmark, thereby providing a foundation for METREX activities and initiatives over the last two decades.

They continue to reflect the core values of the Network.

The Porto Declaration

Having regard to all the considerations set out in the Metropolitan Magna Carta, the undersigned representative of Europe's metropolitan regions and areas, attending the Convocation in Porto in November 1999 supports the common intention to –

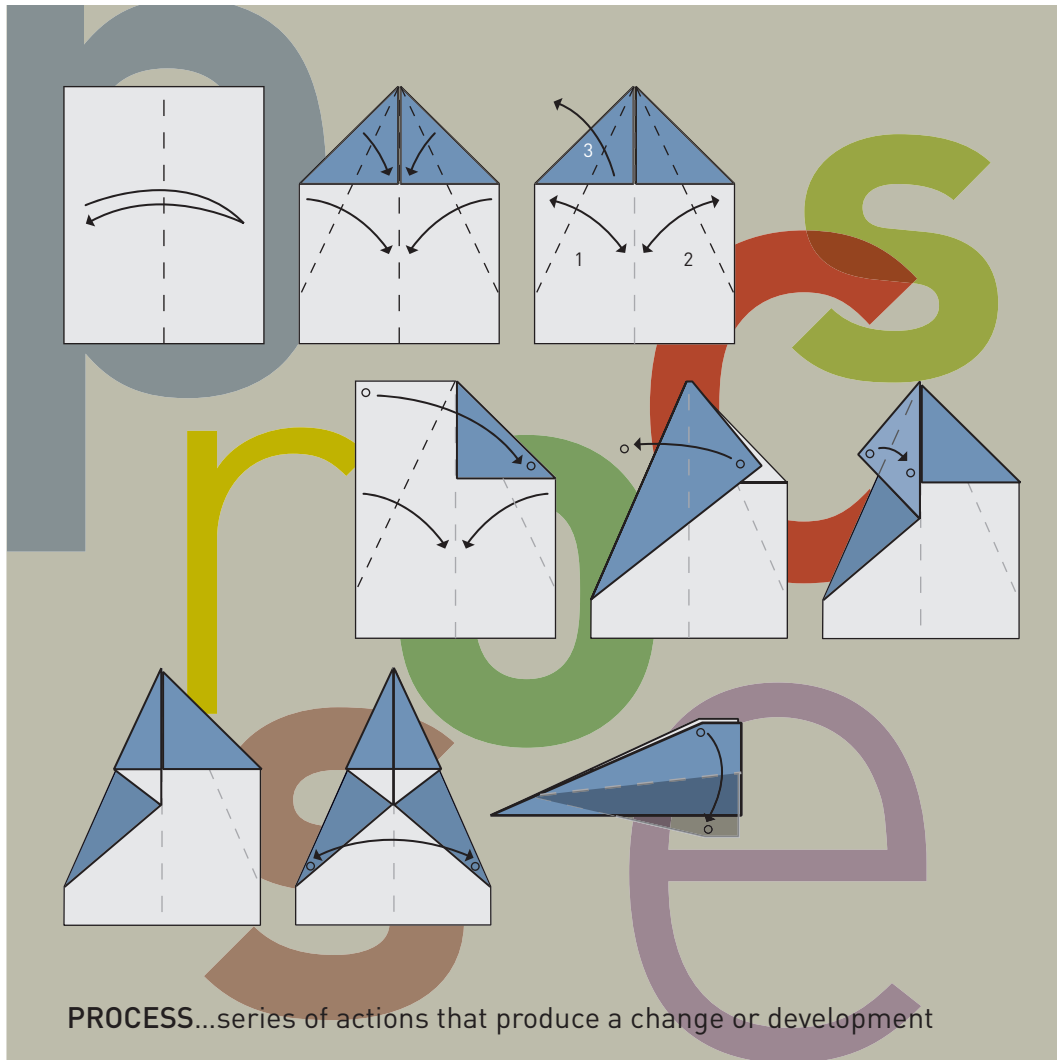
- pursue the aim of effective spatial planning and development at the metropolitan level in Europe, by promoting the necessary competence, capability and process

having regard to the aims and objectives of the European Spatial Development Perspective, its related transnational Spatial Visions

the urban policy set out in the European Commission's 'Sustainable urban development in the European Union: a framework for action'

- cooperate in the exchange of spatial planning and development knowledge, understanding and experience, including the establishment and adoption of good practice
- contribute the metropolitan dimension to spatial planning and development at the European level
- continue to associate through the METREX Network in order to achieve these common purposes.

PROCESS of change



Hannu Penttilä reformed the Managing Committee to an elected body with a President, 2 Vice Presidents and 7 Members.

Hannu Penttilä
Deputy Mayor
Helsinki City Council
President of METREX
2008-2012

INTERMETREX

METREX developed the Porto Practice Benchmark through a pilot project under the INTERREG IIC programme of the European Commission.

The purpose of the InterMETREXplus project, under the INTERREG IIIC programme, was to apply and develop the Practice Benchmark across the wider Europe. It was led by Glasgow and the Clyde Valley and ran from 2003–2006 with 32 metropolitan partners and a budget of €1.16m.

It now contains 28* Benchmarks of effective metropolitan spatial planning and development practice covering all aspects of competence, capability and process.

Its purpose is to assist the function of spatial planning and development to become as effective as possible within metropolitan areas.

Benchmark additions

The EUCO2 80/50 Project (see later) included detailed consideration of Climate change/Urban change, and how European metropolitan regions and areas can make major reductions in their emissions of greenhouse gases and become carbon light.

The Urban Rural partnerships in Metropolitan Areas (URMA) Project began as a METREX Expert Group and developed into an INTERREG IVC project led by HafenCity University, Hamburg. This had 9 partners from 5 Member States and a budget of €1.7m. The overall objective of the URMA Project was to promote urban-rural partnerships as a tool to strengthen the potential for innovation in European metropolitan areas.

** EUCO2 80/50 and URMA Project both resulted in Benchmark additions.*

METREX has also developed planning tools for housing and retailing. Planning for Housing in Metropolitan Areas – PHIMA and Planning for Retailing in Metropolitan Areas – PRIMA.

POLYMETREXPLUS

The purpose of the PolyMETREXplus project, also under the INTERREG IIIC programme, was to respond the challenge in the ESDP to develop a better urban balance across Europe through the promotion of polycentric relationships, including social, economic, transportation and environmental linkages. It was led by the Generalitat de Catalunya and ran from 2004–2007 with 19 metropolitan partners and a budget of €1.84m.

The project led to the production of a Framework for a Polycentric Metropolitan Europe, a Vision and related Action Plan, a programme of representative interregional networking activities (RINA's) and a Polycentric Practice Benchmark.

The Framework is summarised in the METREX publication **This is not a Plan**.

EUCO2 80/50

The EUCO2 project was conceived at the METREX Granada Autumn Meeting in 2005, where the Network was first introduced to the issue of climate change.

Subsequently, the EUCO2 80/50 project was promoted to explore metropolitan options for greenhouse gas mitigation, within the framework of an EU mitigation target of 80%. It was funded by General Electric (GE) with support of €250,000 and included 15 METREX Members, led by the Metropolregion Hamburg. It used the Greenhouse Gas Regional Inventory Protocol (GRIP), devised and applied through the project by Dr. Sebastian Carney, of Manchester University. The Report of the project can be downloaded from the METREX website.

ENHANCE

Subsequently, and in response to revised EU targets of an 80-95% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 (up from earlier targets of 60% and 80%, hence EUCO2 80/50), METREX developed the ENHANCE tool to enable metropolitan areas to devise effective routes to decarbonisation.

ENHANCE can be seen at –
www.enhance-project.eu

SOCIOMETREX

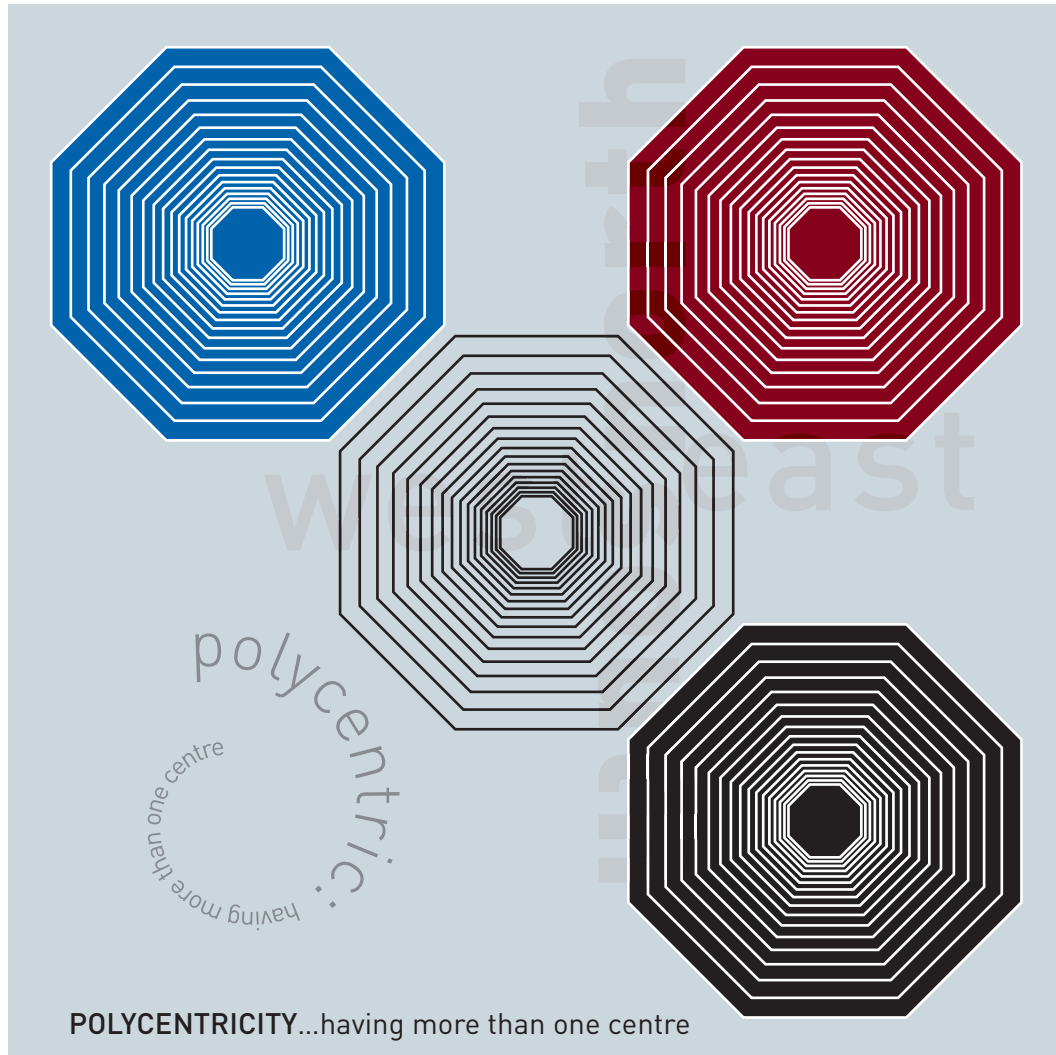
The SocioMETREX Project was conceived by the two Organisations for the Master Plan and Environmental Protection of Athens and Thessaloniki. The intention was to provide an input into the METREX 2002 biennial Conference in Thessaloniki on the theme of The Social Face of Sustainability, and also to investigate and consider the issue as a METREX Expert Group.

The project was carried out by a partnership of 12 European metropolitan regions and areas.

The objective was to bring together practitioners in metropolitan spatial planning and development in a series of workshops to identify, through case study experience, the specific ways in which the strategic planning process can contribute to social sustainability and integrated social, economic and environmental sustainability.

The project resulted in additions to the METREX Practice Benchmark (see InterMETREX), including a 20 point Sustainability Checklist, to assist the process of spatial planning and development to achieve greater social sustainability and to foster the transfer and application of good practice.

POLYCENTRICITY



We need to recognise that the urban reality of Europe is metropolitan. Europe's metropolitan regions and areas and their good governance are crucial to the future wellbeing and prosperity of Europe.

Alberto Leboeiro Amaro
Subdirector General
de Planificación Regional
Comunidad de Madrid
President of METREX
2012-2014

METREX EXPERT GROUPS

Sustainability and the metropolitan planning process

led by the Organisation of Athens

Planning for economic change at the Metropolitan level

led by the City of Rotterdam

Integrated land-use planning and transportation

led by Stockholm County Council

Planning for Major Events

led by the Provincia di Torino

Major Urban Restructuring

led by the City of Rotterdam in association with Rotterdam Stadshaven

Urban Re-qualification

led by the Regione Emilia-Romagna

Strategic Planning for Retailing

led by the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Structure Plan Joint Committee

Agriculture in the Hinterlands of Metropolitan Areas

led by the Verband Region Stuttgart

Metropolitan Governance

led by the President of METREX 2000–2004
now led by Emilia Romagna and Lombardia

Intra-Metropolitan Polycentricity

led by Stockholm County Council

Urban/Rural relationships in Metropolitan Areas: URMA

led by the Metropolregion Hamburg

Affordable Housing

led by the METREX Secretariat

InfraMETREX – Planning for Infrastructure in Metropolitan Areas

led by the Joint Spatial Planning Department of Berlin-Brandenburg

EconoMETREX – Employment Location within Metropolitan Areas

led by IAU-Idf

Large scale retail development

led by the Verband Region Stuttgart

Futures

led by the METREX Secretariat

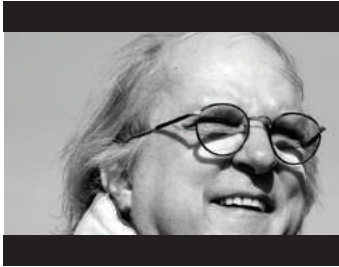
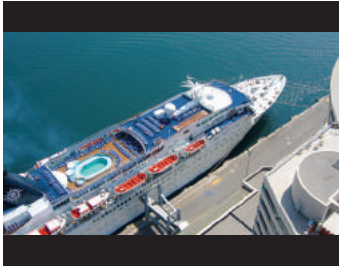
TERRACOTTA – Baltic Space

led by Helsinki.



BEING THERE / 1996-2006





METREX MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- 1996 Founding Glasgow Metropolitan Regions Conference
Brussels Inauguration Meeting
Nice Autumn Meeting
- 1997 Lisbon Spring Meeting
Krakow Autumn Meeting
- 1998 Nice Spring Conference
Zaragoza Autumn Meeting
- 1999 Bologna Spring Meeting
Helsinki Autumn Meeting
Middle East Urban Development Congress – Dubai
The Porto Convocation
- 2000 Torino Spring Conference
Sevilla Autumn Meeting
- 2001 Rotterdam Spring Meeting
Copenhagen Autumn Meeting
- 2002 Thessaloniki Spring Conference
Genova Autumn Meeting
- 2003 Stuttgart Spring meeting
Stockholm Autumn Meeting
- 2004 San Sebastian/Bayonne (Eurocity Basque) Spring Meeting
Barcelona Autumn Conference
- 2005 Nürnberg Spring Meeting
Granada Autumn Meeting
- 2006 Madrid International Congress
Moscow International Seminar
Szczecin 10th Anniversary Conference

**Founding Glasgow
Metropolitan Regions
Conference**

10–13 April 1996 at the Hilton Hotel, Glasgow. The event was sponsored by Strathclyde Regional Council, with co-funding from the European Commission (DGXVI) and support from City of Glasgow Council and Glasgow Development Agency.

The 4 Conference themes were –

- Integrated strategies for sustainable development
- Integrated metropolitan land use and transportation strategies
- Strategies for urban growth, renewal and regeneration
- Strategies for environmental renewal.

The Rapporteur General, Vincent Goodstadt, identified a number of key issues emerging from the Conference, including the definition and governance of metropolitan areas, their economic competitiveness, social cohesion and sustainability, mobility and accessibility, urban sprawl, quality of life and the relationship between European and metropolitan spatial planning policy. These have proved to be enduring issues.

Some 230 delegates from across the wider Europe of the then European Union and its neighbours attended the Conference. A METREX Founders Dinner was held on 12 April, attended by some 70 Conference delegates, and an Interim Managing Committee was formed to progress the founding of the Network.

**Inaugural Brussels Meeting
of the Interim Managing
Committee (IMC)**

12 June 1996 hosted by METREX at the offices of Scotland Europa.

The inaugural Brussels Meeting of the IMC was essentially concerned with the administrative foundation of the Network. The Founding Members agreed the Constitution, budget, appointment of the Secretariat and the initial METREX Programme of events and activities to 1998. The first Convener (President), Dr. Gerald McGrath, was elected to serve until the 1998 METREX Nice Conference. The aim of 30–35 METREX Members within two years was established.

1996–97

Initial Nice Meeting of the METREX Technical Group (TG)	Second Nice Meeting of the Interim Managing Committee (IMC)	Lisbon Spring Meeting
<p>17 October 1996 hosted by the Conseil Général des Alpes-Maritimes.</p>	<p>18 October 1996 hosted by the Conseil Général de Alpes-Maritimes.</p>	<p>17–18 April 1997 hosted by the Junta Metropolitana de Lisboa at the Belem Cultural Centre.</p>
<p>The Technical Group developed the form and content of the three initial METREX Working Groups –</p>	<p>Purpose – to agree a common approach and process.</p>	<p><i>The European Spatial Planning Perspective (ESDP) was about to be published, and the Meeting initiated METREX involvement with European affairs.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability and the Metropolitan planning process, led by the Organisation of Athens • Planning for economic change at the Metropolitan level, led by Rotterdam • Integrated land use and transportation planning, led by Stockholm. 	<p>The Nice Meeting of the IMC was essentially concerned with clarifying and establishing the METREX programme of networking events and activities in the period up to the Nice Conference in 1998.</p>	<p>There were presentations on the strategic planning of Lisboa and Berlin. The first METREX open dialogue was held on Restructuring Metropolitan Areas for the 21st century.</p>
<p>The Chairs of the three initial METREX Working Groups met in Rotterdam in December 1996 to agree a common approach and process.</p>	<p>A study visit to the technopol Sophia Antipolis initiated METREX interest in planning for economic change.</p>	<p>A study visit to the site of the World Expo 98 (to be held from May to October 1998) initiated the METREX interest in planning for major events.</p>
	<p>The METREX Atlas and Directory, later to become the e-Atlas under the InterMETREX project, was also begun under the leadership of Rotterdam.</p>	<p>The Expo covered 600ha and was the largest construction site in Europe at the time. Long-term facilities included a multi-modal transport interchange, an Oceanarium, a multi-purpose event venue, an Exhibition Centre and a Museum. The Expo organisation remained in being until 2005 to ensure the after-use of the site.</p>

Krakow Autumn Meeting

25–26 September 1997
hosted by and held at the
Urząd Miasta Krakowa.

Krakow was a former capital of Poland and the city retains a rich cultural heritage. The Meeting included a study visit to Nowa Huta, a huge industrial legacy from the times of the Soviet Union based around the Sendzimira steelworks.

The study visit continued the METREX interest in Planning for economic change, with a particular focus on regeneration.

The second METREX open dialogue was held to brainstorm options to the future of Nowa Huta and, subsequently, a Case Study report was presented to the Urząd Miasta Krakowa.

There were METREX Working Group presentations by Athens, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Regione Lazio, the Provincia di Torino and Regione Lombardia.

Nice Spring Conference

26–28 March 1998, hosted by the Conseil Général des Alpes-Maritimes and held in the Salon des Muses, Acropolis Palais des Congrès.

The Nice Conference was on the theme of Spatial planning and development in Europe and its implications for metropolitan regions, and was attended by some 140 delegates. There were over 40 speakers in the 7 Plenary and 9 Workshop sessions.

The Conference adopted a 10 point Resolution covering – European, national and metropolitan spatial planning, Administration, Sustainability, Metropolitan roles and visions, Common issues, Networking, Cohesion, European recognition, European support and Action.

At the General Assembly of the Network the process of becoming registered with the Belgian Government as an Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif (AISBL) was initiated. Dr. Gerald McGrath was elected as President for a second term, and colleagues Roger Duhalde, José Luis Pereira and Klito Gerardi accepted the roles of Honorary Vice Presidents.

The membership of METREX then comprised the 17 metropolitan regions and areas of Alpes-Maritimes, Athens, Emilia-Romagna, Genova, Glasgow and the Clyde Valley, Helsinki, Krakow, Lazio, Lisboa, Lombardia, München, Riga, Rotterdam, Sevilla, Stockholm, Thessaloniki, Torino and Zaragoza.

1997–98

Brussels Meeting of the Managing Committee

25–26 June 1998, hosted by METREX and held in the offices of Scotland Europa, Brussels.

The meeting reviewed the first two years of METREX and set directions in response to the Nice Conference Resolution.

12 issues of common interest were considered and 3 were selected for Expert (Working) Group consideration, including Sustainability and the metropolitan spatial planning process, Planning for emerging markets for economic development and Land-use and transportation planning.

Zaragoza Autumn Meeting

22–24 October 1998, hosted by and held in the offices of the Diputación Provincial de Zaragoza.

The Zaragoza Meeting welcomed the proposal by colleagues from the Junta Metropolitana do Porto to hold a Convocation in Porto to recognise and obtain commitment to the objective of European metropolitan spatial planning and development competence, capability and process.

At the Zaragoza Meeting the Network decided to undertake Commissions, on subjects chosen by the hosts of forthcoming Meetings, the findings and conclusions of which would then provide a basis for discussion.

The Meeting included a study visit to the Opel car factory and a presentation on the just-in-time supplier network that has been developed in the wider Aragon region.

The Meeting also considered the inter-modal logistical opportunities in Zaragoza, having regard to the high-speed rail connections in prospect and planned.

Bologna Spring Meeting

25–27 March 1999, hosted by the Regione Emilia-Romagna in the offices of the Regione.

The Meeting included a presentation on the Regional Development Plan [RDP] on the theme of The Region going global. Assessore Renato Cocchi concluded by emphasising the importance of the concept of subsidiarity, the need for cooperation at all levels, the importance of social solidarity and equity, the need for environmental protection and quality and for action that is feasible and effective.

The Bologna Meeting was attended by over 160 Members and guests. It considered the outcome of Commissions on Polycentric Metropolitan Strategies and Urban Heritage Strategies. A presentation was made by Athens on the planning for the Athens 2004 Olympic Games.

This continued METREX interest in Planning for major events and their legacy for metropolitan areas.

Arrangements were made for the two Helsinki Commissions on Metropolitan Governance and Port and Airport Development and Integrated Transportation Strategies.

Helsinki Autumn Meeting

09–11 September 1999, hosted by the City of Helsinki and supported by Uusimaa Regional Council and YTV Helsinki Metropolitan Area Council.

The Meeting initiated the process of applying for EU support for the InterMETREX project under the INTERREG IIC programme –

to pilot the application and development of the METREX Practice Benchmark, which was developed from the initial Porto Practice Benchmark. The EconoMETREX project, which had been pursued under the Ecos-Ouverture programme, was also considered as an INTERREG IIC project.

The Meeting elected Prof.ssa Mercedes Bresso, Presidente of the Provincia di Torino, as METREX President, following the demitting of office of Dr. Gerald McGrath from Glasgow City Council, who became Honorary President.

1999

1st Middle East Urban Development Congress – Dubai

27–29 September 1999,
hosted by the Arab Urban
Development Institute.

METREX was invited by the
Arab Urban Development
Institute to provide a
European comparison
component to the 1st Middle
East Urban Development
Congress. Keynote Addresses
on the Middle East Spatial
Planning Perspective;
Tradition, Continuity and
Change in the Arab-Muslim
City; and Urban Development
in Saudi Arabia were
illustrated by case studies on
Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Oman and
Riyadh.

*The METREX contribution
balanced the Middle East
agenda with a Keynote
Address on Transnational
Spatial Planning and
Development in Europe –*

illustrated by case studies
from London, East Midlands,
Stockholm, Porto and Athens.
Based on the presentations,
the Congress discussed its
themes of Governance and
Administration Systems
for Strategic Planning;
National, Regional and
Local Relationships, Private/
Public Sector Partnerships;
Urban Land-Use Planning;
and Sustainable Economic
Development.

The Porto Convocation

Porto Metropolitan Magna Carta

Forty representatives of Europe's metropolitan regions and areas attended the Convocation and recognised the need for a spatial planning and development capability at the metropolitan level.

- Contribute a metropolitan dimension to spatial planning and development at the European level
- Continue to associate through the METREX Network in order to achieve these common purposes.

They supported a Declaration of Intent to –

- Pursue the aim of effective spatial planning and development at the metropolitan level in Europe by promoting the necessary competence, capability and process
- Co-operate in the exchange of spatial planning and development knowledge, understanding and experience, including the establishment and adoption of good practice

The Porto Declaration was supported by a Practice Benchmark identifying 4 Benchmarks and 13 Indicators of effective spatial planning and development practice.

The Magna Carta has provided the foundation on which METREX has based its activities over the past 10 years.

1999–2000

Torino Spring Conference

11–14 May 2000, hosted by the Provincia di Torino and held in the Torino Conference Centre and the Palazzo Cisterna.

Theme – Quality of Metropolitan Regions in the new Millennium.

The PolyMETREX project concept, comprising 7 broad inter-regional balancing zones, was established from a suggestion by our President Prof.ssa Mercedes Bresso.

- A Northern Parallel running from London and Paris to Berlin and including the Rhine-Ruhr area
- A Rhine corridor running south west from the Randstad to Zurich and München
- A Southern Parallel stretching from Lisbon through Barcelona, Marseille and Milano to Budapest

- An Elbe-Danube Corridor running south west from Berlin to Budapest
- A Northern Isles area covering the UK and Ireland
- The Baltic Palette covering the metropolitan areas of the Baltic sea
- The Archimed area covering the metropolitan areas of the southern Adriatic, Ionian, Tyrrhenian and Aegean seas.

The membership of METREX had risen to 27 metropolitan regions and areas at the time of the Torino Conference.

Sevilla Autumn Meeting

25–28 October 2000, hosted by the Ayuntamiento de Sevilla and held in the Convento Nuestra, Sevilla.

Themes included – Inner historic areas, access and transportation; and the Implications of holding World or European events such as World Fairs, the Olympics, European Games or Fairs (Sevilla, Lisbon, Barcelona, Athens, München, Hannover etc).

The process of gaining recognition by the Belgian Government as an Association Sans But Lucratif was completed on 16 August 2000, and was reported to the Sevilla Meeting.

The Expert Group on Planning for Major Events was set up in response to representations for support from Wrocław for a World Expo 2010 bid. The Meeting looked in detail at the legacy of the Sevilla World Expo.

Rotterdam Spring Meeting

09–12 May 2001, hosted by the City of Rotterdam and held in the City of Rotterdam Museum and the Tulip Hotel.

Themes included – Urban renewal (social, economic and environmental aspects); the Delta Metropolis (Amsterdam, den Haag, Rotterdam, Utrecht); and Harbour development.

The Expert Group on Planning for Major Events, which met in March 2001 after the Hannover World Expo, reported after its visit to the Hannover World Expo in 2001.

The SocioMETREX project, on the Social face of sustainability, was initiated to provide the foundation for the forthcoming METREX Thessaloniki 2002 Conference.

The SocioMETREX project dealt with the 4 key issues of –

- Urban migration and social sustainability, including issues of housing need and provision and community development
- Urban deprivation, including issues of urban renewal and regeneration priorities and action
- Economic inclusion, including issues of education, skills and economic development
- Inclusive accessibility, including issues of urban form and public transport.

The Rotterdam Meeting celebrated the first five years of METREX, and the City of Rotterdam prepared an Abstracts and Reports document containing all presentations. The METREX membership reached 34, and had doubled within the first five years.

2000–2001

Copenhagen Autumn Meeting

04–06 October 2001, hosted by the Øresund Committee and held in the Royal School of Architecture.

The InterMETREX pilot project reached its conclusion –

and introduced the concept of ladders of effectiveness, comprising a range of steps leading from minimum to best practice in metropolitan spatial planning and development, under the headings of Competence, Capability and Process.

The Prospectus for the InterMETREX and PolyMETREX projects under INTERREG IIIC was considered.

The InterMETREX project is essentially about making spatial planning and development practice within metropolitan regions and areas as effective as possible, whereas PolyMETREX is concerned with the development of beneficial relationships between the metropolitan areas of Europe.

A second meeting of the Expert Group on Planning for Major Events considered the preparations for the Zaragoza International Expo bid for 2008 and the Athens 2004 Summer Olympics and also the Torino 2006 Winter Olympics.

Helsinki City Council took up the function of METREX Treasurer.

Schiphol Meeting for prospective METREX INTERREG IIIC partners

15 March 2002, hosted by METREX at the Sheraton Hotel at Schiphol Airport, Amsterdam.

InterMETREX and PolyMETREX projects publicised and promoted at a meeting of prospective METREX INTERREG IIIC project partners to establish the feasibility of the projects.

Thessaloniki Spring Conference INTERREG IIIC partners

16–20 May 2002, hosted by the Organisation for the Masterplan and Environmental Protection of Thessaloniki and held in the Thessaloniki Port Authority SA Conference Centre.

Theme – the Social face of sustainability.

Professor Anne Power, CBE, Professor of Social Policy at the London School of Economics and facilitator of the SocioMETREX project, gave the Keynote Address around the 3 themes of –

- Recycle
- Repopulate
- Revitalise.

The Conference took note of the UK sustainable development indicators –

- Maintaining high and stable levels of economic growth and development
- Social progress, which recognises the needs of everyone
- Effective protection of the environment
- Prudent use of natural resources.

These and other Conference outcomes gave a basis for the Sustainability Checklist incorporated into the METREX Practice Benchmark.

Prof.ssa Mercedes Bresso was elected as METREX President for a second term.

2002–2003

Genova Autumn Meeting

23–26 October 2002, hosted by the Provincia di Genova and held at the offices of the Provincia.

Themes – Waterfront renewal, Metropolitan governance and Relations with ESPON [the European Spatial Planning Observation Network].

The Genova Meeting established the basis for future METREX advocacy of a Metropolitan dimension to European affairs and for effective metropolitan governance.

These outcomes were also reflected in the developing METREX Practice Benchmark.

Stuttgart Spring meeting

02–05 April 2003, hosted by the Verband Region Stuttgart and held in the Haus der Wirtschaft.

Having only joined METREX in 2002, Verband Region Stuttgart hosted the Spring METREX Meeting in 2003 on the theme Metropolitan Governance.

An outcome of the Conference was the adoption of a Strategy Statement by the Network of German Metropolitan Regions –

- Policies in all spheres and at all levels must be increasingly geared towards meeting the needs of metropolitan regions
 - Efficient forms of regional co-operation must have political legitimacy and secure funding
 - The most important tasks of the metropolitan regions are connected with supra-local planning, provision of infrastructure and regional promotion of economic development
- Metropolitan regions must co-operate more closely both at national and international level in order to enhance their efficiency and advance their common interests
 - Each metropolitan region must consistently develop its specific profile as a business location
 - The metropolitan regions must aim at a division of labour and tasks
 - The metropolitan regions must develop a sense of identity and encourage active participation of their citizens
 - The German metropolitan regions must intensify and co-ordinate their Europe-related activities.

Stockholm Autumn Meeting

17–20 September 2003, hosted by Stockholm City Council and Stockholm County Council and held in the Ersta Conference Centre, Stockholm.

Themes – Traffic growth and congestion, Polycentricity taking examples from the Baltic Sea area and northern Italy, and the work of the ESPON's focal point in Sweden, Nordregio.

The Meeting considered the new regional development plan for Stockholm Region and Case Studies of the Stockholm and London approaches to congestion charging. Aspects of polycentricity were considered in relation to Emilia-Romagna. Presentations were contributed from St.Petersburg and the Baltic Palette.

Stuttgart reported back on a survey that had been conducted, through the METREX Network, of practice in the acquisition of sites for Trade Fairs as public infrastructure. Stuttgart had faced difficulties in establishing that Trade Fairs meet a public need that may necessitate the acquisition of sites in the public interest. The survey supported the Stuttgart case, which was successfully pursued through the Courts.

2003–2004

San Sebastián/Bayonne (Eurocity Basque) Spring Meeting

05–08 May 2004, hosted by Eurocity Basque/Eurociudad Vasca Bayonne-San Sebastián and held in the Palacio Miramar.

Theme – Cross-border areas.

The meeting focused on issues of polycentric and cross border metropolitan planning and governance.

Pais Vasco/Eurocity Basque provided a model case study, and the spatial plan for Napoli was presented. Colleagues from the European Commission (DG Regio), the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), Council for Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), the Association des Communautés Urbaines de France and the UK Core Cities group, which share these interests, contributed their views. The Meeting provided helpful inputs to the PolyMETREXplus project.

The EESC Own Opinion on European Metropolitan areas, which shares many of the objectives of METREX, was presented and discussed, and Stuttgart undertook to progress a joint initiative to promote the metropolitan dimension in Europe.

Barcelona Autumn Conference

27–30 October 2004,
hosted by the Generalitat
de Catalunya and held in
Auditorium of the Casa Milà
La Pedrera and the Hotel
Condes de Barcelona.

Theme – Future trends
in spatial planning and
development. New
methodologies and planning
tools.

*The Conference offered
METREX a major opportunity
to consider current European
and metropolitan spatial
planning policies and
positions.*

Contributions were received
from the Dutch Presidency
of the EU, the European
Commission (DG Regio), the
European Economic and
Social Committee (EESC), the
Committee of the Regions
(CoR) and the European
Spatial Planning Observation
Network (ESPON).

The Keynote Address, on the
Conference theme, was given
by Professor Sir Peter Hall.

Conference Workshops
were held on Metropolitan
spatial planning and
development practice,
Metropolitan wellbeing
and competitiveness and
METREX exemplars (Madrid,
Frankfurt, Veneto, Sofia,
Stockholm, Hamburg, Oslo,
Stuttgart, Saxon Triangle,
Hannover and Torino). The
Conference Proceedings
were published by METREX
on a CD.

*The METREX General
Assembly adopted a METREX
Position Paper on the future
of the Structural Funds, From
Cities to Metropolitan Regions
– the need for an enlarged
perspective.*

Dr. Bernd Steinacher,
Regionaldirektor of the
Verband Region Stuttgart,
was elected as METREX
President for the period
2004–2006 and set out 6
key directions for METREX
in an Presidential Electoral
Statement –

- Membership and Member services
- Better involvement in Brussels
- Projects (involving EU programmes such as INTERREG and its successors)
- Expert Groups
- International co-operation (USA and Asia)
- Topics (economic development, infrastructure, transportation).

2004–2005

Nürnberg Spring Meeting

15–18 June 2005, hosted by the Metropolitan Region Nürnberg, Planungsverband Industrieregion Mittelfranken, Planungsverband Westmittelfranken and Die Region Nürnberg e.V. and held in the Congress Center Nürnberg.

Theme – The Lisbon Agenda and the EU27+

Nürnberg Metropolitan region was taken as a case study of a metropolitan response to the Lisbon Agenda.

The position of the European Parliament, the European Commission (DG Regio), the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC), Committee of the Regions (CoR) and the European Spatial Planning Observation Network (ESPON) was presented. Case studies from the new EU Member States, Accession Countries and linking metropolitan regions and areas were contributed.

A key aspect of the implementation of the Lisbon Strategy at the metropolitan level will be effective governance. The Lisbon Strategy recognises the need to integrate economic, social and environmental considerations, which are inter-related components of a competitive and sustainable future.

The President of METREX called for –

- Recognition of metropolitan regions and areas by EU institutions, Member State governments and the legislative regions, as a spatial category with problems and opportunities that extend way beyond the core cities
- Metropolitan regions and areas having the potential to achieve the Lisbon objectives
- Partners in shaping the Lisbon Agenda and putting it into action

- the support and assistance of the EU and Member State governments to realise the potential of metropolitan regions and areas.

In particular, this support relates to –

- Investing in network infrastructure
- Implementing strategic projects
- Interlinking industry and research
- Social integration
- Safeguarding natural resources.

This entails the co-ordination of the Lisbon Agenda and the Structural Funds. It also requires recognition of the potential metropolitan contribution to the Lisbon Strategy in the policies and programmes of the EU and the Member States.

Granada Autumn Meeting

26–29 October 2005, hosted by the Ayuntamiento de Granada and held in the Hotel Nazariés.

Theme – Climate Change/ Urban Change.

The Granada Meeting was important in providing the basis of knowledge and understanding on the issue of climate change that was required to enable METREX to consider a metropolitan response.

It is clear that Europe's urban areas are amongst the major generators of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, that are affecting the global climate. Europe's metropolitan areas must consider ways in which they can make major reductions in their greenhouse gas emissions, perhaps up to 80%.

Presentations were received from the European Environmental Agency (EEA) and the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Management (UK). Case studies were received from London, Helsinki, Rotterdam and the ESPACE project. The Granada metropolitan area also provided a case study in which climate change was an issue.

The InterMETREX project offers one means through which this can be achieved, and an extension to the project will be sought to enable this to happen. The METREX Practice Benchmark can be extended to provide guidance on effective practice through which metropolitan areas can become carbon light.

METREX also participated for the first time in the Brussels Open Days, held from 10–13 October 2005, and contributed on the Metropolitan Dimension.

Talents, Tolerance, Technology: The Metropolitan future of Europe

METREX, through the President, the Verband Region Stuttgart and Hamburg Metropolitan Region held a joint event on 7 March 2006 at the offices of the Committee of the Regions in Brussels to highlight the role of metropolitan regions in the Lisbon Process and the need to focus on them as drivers of growth and innovation in Europe.

The event also explored the opportunities available to realise the potential of metropolitan Europe.

2005–2006

Madrid International Congress

02–06 May 2006, hosted by the Comunidad de Madrid and held in the Palacio Municipal de Congresos.

Theme – Planning and development of Metropolitan Capital Regions – to define, by means of a series of keynote addresses by international leaders in the field and through comparative studies of examples of good practice, the current status of the Spatial Planning of Metropolitan Capital Regions, as well as to inspire and further its progress.

The aim of the Congress was to provide a unique opportunity for the exchange of knowledge and experience on a subject that affects metropolitan regions and areas all over the world, as well as to guide the decision-making process and the implementation of strategies on an effective basis.

The Congress was conceived and promoted by the Comunidad de Madrid, in association with METREX, and formed part of the METREX 10th Anniversary programme. It was attended by over 700 delegates from across the world and was described by Professor Sir Peter Hall, the Congress Patron, as the most significant event of its kind that he had been associated with.

Over 20 practitioners of international standing, from representative global Metropolitan Capital Regions and Cities, gathered in Madrid for a high level comparative analysis and assessment of the problems and opportunities of present-day metropolitan areas from the perspective of the environment, the economy and society.

The three days of the Congress featured addresses on the state of the art, with each one being followed by two relevant practical case studies and, subsequently, by moderated forums to clarify and explore issues of interest. Case studies included the European Union, Paris, London, Øresund, Milan, Vancouver, Seoul, San Francisco, Bogota, Curitiba and Madrid.

The Conference Patron, Professor Sir Peter Hall, gave the opening and closing keynote addresses to set the context for the Congress and also to summarise its outcomes. The Congress Proceedings have been published by the Comunidad de Madrid in book form and as a DVD.

Szczecin 10th Anniversary Conference

27–30 September 2006, hosted by the Municipality of Szczecin and held in the SAS Radisson hotel.

Theme – The State of Practice: the body of knowledge. Looking back: Looking forward.

METREX and the Municipality of Szczecin, in association with the European Commission (DG Regio) invited practitioners in European spatial planning and development (politicians, officials and their advisers) to Szczecin to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of METREX through a review of the State of Practice: the body of knowledge: Looking back: Looking forward.

The objective was to exchange experience, information, knowledge, expertise and understanding on the key issues facing European metropolitan regions and areas today and in the future. The Conference drew on the body of knowledge within METREX and reflected on the achievements of the Network over the past decade: Looking back: and the challenges for the coming decade: looking forward.

The intention was to provide a milestone event at which practitioners could draw on the wider European State of Practice to improve the effectiveness of the practice in their own metropolitan regions and areas. The Conference enabled METREX to formulate its programme for the coming decade on a well-informed basis.

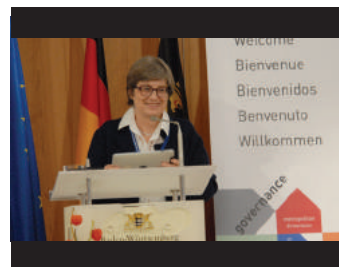
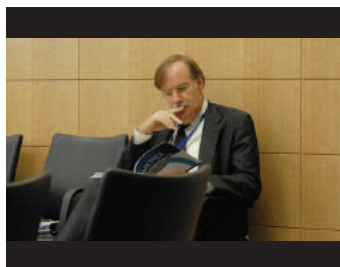
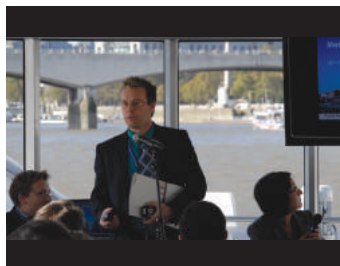
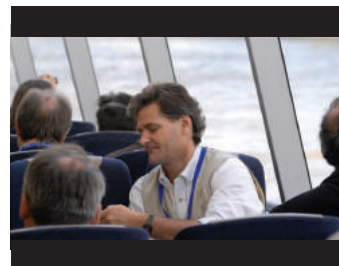
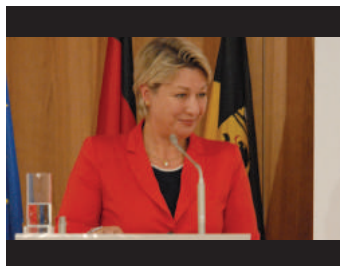
The METREX 10th Anniversary Conference was something of an experiment, with two Open Space sessions on the Thursday and Friday afternoons. Open Space is a means of enabling productive conversations between colleagues to explore and develop collective thinking about issues of common interest.

The Conference Proceedings have been published by METREX on a CD.

2006



BEING THERE / 2007-2016





METREX MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

- 2007 Veneto (Vicenza) Spring Meeting
 Zaragoza Autumn Meeting
- 2008 Amsterdam Spring Meeting
 London Autumn Conference and General Assembly
- 2009 Paris Spring Meeting
 Wroclaw Autumn Meeting
- 2010 Vilnius/Riga Spring Meeting
 Berlin Autumn Conference and General Assembly
- 2011 Athens Spring Conference*
 Hamburg Autumn Conference
- 2012 Marseille Spring Conference
 Vienna Autumn Conference and General Assembly
- 2013 Glasgow Spring Conference
 Oslo Autumn Conference
- 2014 Mitteldeutschland Spring Conference
 Brussels Autumn Conference and General Assembly
- 2015 Lombardia Spring Conference
 Świnoujście City Autumn Conference
- 2016 Rotterdam den Haag Spring 20th Anniversary Conference
 Sofia Autumn Conference and General Assembly

* All Meetings became Conferences from this date

Veneto (Vicenza) Spring Meeting

23–16 May 2007, hosted by the Regione del Veneto and the Comune di Vicenza and held at the Villa Contarini.

Themes included the Territorial Regional Plan as a landscape project – integration between environment and culture and Experience of Vicenza as a European City – World Heritage in relation to the Palladian Ville. There were moderated forums on the issues arising.

The outcomes and outputs of the PolyMETREXplus Project were disseminated. EU Neighbourhood Policy was presented, with contributions from colleagues from Alexandria and Istanbul. The extension of the InterMETREX project, to include consideration of the issue of Climate Change/Urban Change, was presented.

Zaragoza Autumn Meeting

24–27 October 2007, hosted by the Ayuntamiento de Zaragoza and the Diputacion Provincial de Zaragoza and held at the Teatro Romano.

The theme was the Zaragoza International Expo 2008 H2O – Water and Sustainable Development.

The objectives of the Expo were presented together with aspects of the theme, including the sustainable administration of water.

There were related presentations on climate change mitigation and adaptation and the METREX EUCO2 80/50 project on metropolitan mitigation (using GRIP – the Greenhouse Gas Regional Inventory Protocol).

2007–2008

Amsterdam Spring Meeting

14–17 May 2008, hosted by the City of Amsterdam and held at Pakhuis De Zwijger, warehouse for media and culture.

There were 4 related themes, Innovative Metropolitan Strategies, Governance, Public Participation and Consultation and Accessibility.

The Conference was run on a novel interactive basis, moderated by Fred Schoorl, Director of NIROV. Following each presentation, the opinion of participants was gauged by the votes they cast in response to statements or propositions, and the discussion was then opened to the floor.

The theme of innovation was reflected in presentations on Metropolitan Amsterdam, its Food Strategy, the Rotterdam Water Plan, PlaNYC (New York City), the London strategy and challenges for Warsaw City Region.

Governing polycentricity was also explored through the example of metropolitan Amsterdam.

The accessibility theme was reflected in presentations on the Regional Metro System (RMS) for Napoli and Campania and on the Oslo Investment Strategy.

There was feedback on the METREX Shanghai Study Visit.

London Autumn Conference and General Assembly

15–18 October 2008, hosted by the Greater London Authority (GLA) and held in City Hall.

The theme was Climate Change/Urban Change.

The GLA hosted an opening session on a Thames Clipper, which offered a unique view of London whilst delegates considered the key strategic issues in London. The Conference was, as in Amsterdam, moderated by Fred Schloor.

Presentations and discussion of the theme was preceded by an introduction to EU Cohesion Policy and an address by Professor Norman Davies on the history of Europe.

The theme was given an authoritative introduction by Professor Sir David King, on The Hot Topic, and followed by Dr. Mayer Hillman on, How we can save the planet.

A climate change study of London was followed by an introduction to the key EUCO2 8/50 METREX Project on metropolitan climate change mitigation.

Paris Spring Meeting

12–17 May 2009, hosted by the Institut d'Aménagement et d'Urbanisme - Ile de France (IAU-Idf) and held at IAU-Idf and the OECD Conference Centre.

The theme was – The new meaning of planning – Sustainable development and metropolitan regions and areas.

Presentations by IAU-Idf, on the theme, began the proceedings and included Climate Plans and Agenda 21 in the region, Ville de Paris and local governments.

At the OECD there were presentations by world and European figures followed by panel discussions. As in Amsterdam, the sessions were moderated, interactively.

Wroclaw Autumn Meeting

16–19 September 2009, hosted by the Municipality of Wroclaw and held at the University of Wroclaw.

The theme was – The Multigenerational Metropolis.

The issues in Wroclaw were presented by a range of speakers from the Municipality and the University. They were also illustrated by a moderated session on the Saxon Triangle (Leipzig, Dresden, Halle Chemnitz). The Saxon Triangle is now the Metropolregion Mitteldeutschland (Central Germany), which has become a Member of METREX.

The Conference included moderated exchange sessions between colleagues from Spain (Sevilla and Barcelona) and Portugal (Lisboa and Porto), Switzerland (Zurich) and Austria (Wien) and Denmark (Copenhagen) and The Netherlands (Rotterdam/den Haag).

2009–2010

Vilnius/Riga Spring Meeting

26–29 May 2010, hosted jointly by Vilnius City Municipal Council and Riga City Council.

The theme was – The Baltic Strategy – the view from Vilnius and Riga.

This Conference was unique in being held in two cities, Vilnius and Riga. Delegates travelled in the evening, by coach, with a picnic.

Presentations in both cities included the Baltic Spatial Strategy, in Vilnius, and the Baltic Sea Region Strategy, in Riga.

“Since the EU enlargement of 2004, challenges facing the Region have increased. Escalating environmental threats, gaps in economic development and poor transport accessibility are issues, which need to be tackled urgently. Many of these problems can only be addressed through better coordination and joint action.”

The presentations from both cities reflected these issues.

Berlin Autumn Conference and General Assembly

15–17 September 2010, held at the Radialsystem V conference space.

This Conference was held jointly with the Scandria project and hosted by the City of Berlin and the Land of Brandenburg.

The theme was – Metropolitan Futures – Living, Learning, Creating, Moving – METREX meets Scandria.

It covered three days with a joint first day setting the scene for the 20 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall and including a Prime Speaker on The Creative City – Towards the Creative Region and six Keynote speakers on aspects of the theme. These covered Improving Accessibility, Greening Transport, Motivating Creativity and Economic Resources.

METREX days followed with more specific presentations on Quality of Life in Metropolitan Regions. These began with Berlin-Brandenburg, where there is a Joint Spatial Planning Department. There were Keynote addresses with a focus on climate change and on transportation.

Athens Spring Conference*

11–13 May 2011, hosted by the Organisation for the Planning and Environmental Protection of Athens and held at the Novotel hotel.

*The theme was –
Ways Forward in the Crisis.*

The financial crisis hit all of Europe because of the globalised nature of the financial services sector. Many countries were in the process of trying to develop their economies through borrowing and investment and this approach came to a dramatic halt. Economic growth and urban development were curtailed.

At the same time public sector revenue, particularly that based on property and development taxes, was also severely reduced. A period of austerity was in prospect across Europe.

In these circumstances all European metropolitan areas took the opportunity to reappraise their way forward. They considered the fundamentals of their competitive positions and the basis on which their future economies might be developed.

Planning always has a positive role to play in such difficult circumstances.

METREX drew on the experience of colleagues to devise an innovative and interactive approach to the workshops through which the key issues were explored.

They were based on 9 small conversational groups of 5–10 colleagues, accompanied by some 20 colleagues as observers, in three parallel sessions. The Athens Meeting gave the opportunity to make short, up to five minutes, contributions within a conversational group and to participate as an active observer in two other group sessions.

The Conference included presentations by colleagues on the Masterplan for Athens and aspects of implementation and environmental and heritage safeguarding.

* All Meetings became Conferences from this date

2011–2012

Hamburg Autumn Conference

5–7 October 2011, hosted by the Hamburg Metropolitan Region and held in the Behörde für Wirtschaft, Verkehr und Innovation.

The theme was Metropolitan regions Coping with Climate Change.

Plenary sessions included Keynote addresses on Adaptation to Climate Change, Offshore Wind and Green Infrastructure. Hamburg was, at the time, Green Capital of Europe.

Further sessions included a presentation on outcomes of the EUCO2 80/50 project, a major METREX initiative to explore metropolitan greenhouse gas mitigation measures that was led by the Metropolregion Hamburg. Outcomes of the URMA (Urban and Rural relationships in Metropolitan Areas) project, also led by the Metropolregion Hamburg, were also presented.

Marseille Spring Conference

30 May–1 June 2012, hosted by agAM Marseille Urban Area Town Planning Agency, Marseille Provence Chamber of Industry and Commerce (CCIMP), City of Marseille, Marseille Provence Metropole (Marseille Provence Collectivity), Marseille Fos Port Authority and Euromediterranee Urban Development Agency. Held at the Marseille Provence Metropole – Le Pharo.

Theme – Renewal and Regeneration – The Marseille/ Provence Territory.

The Conference began with an overview of the metropolitan area – a multipolar territory and its governance. Three flagship projects reflected the renewal dynamics in Marseille. A presentation of the wider Mediterranean dimension was followed by Knowledge Day Workshops, on the 2011 Athens Conference model, on Urban Regeneration and Realising the potential of Culture and Tourism.

Vienna Autumn Conference and General Assembly

17–19 October 2012, hosted by the City of Vienna and held in Vienna City Hall.

The theme was Development Strategies for Metropolitan Regions and Areas.

Vienna is playing a major role in the integration of Central Europe and in the strategic development of the Danube Area. It is involved in a number of major related projects and initiatives as well as exploring aspects of cooperation, the role of the public sector in providing a high quality of life and the understanding of market forces.

In this context the Conference opened with presentations on the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and included presentations on Development Strategies for Smart Metropolitan Regions, including Vienna.

This was followed by a series of METREX moderated debates on Affordable Housing and Business Location Development Strategies.

Glasgow Spring Conference

24–26 April 2013, hosted by Glasgow City Council and the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development and Planning Authority and held at the Burrell Collection.

Theme – The Metropolitan Dimension – The state of the Union.

The Conference opened with a full presentation of planning in Scotland, from the National, metropolitan (5 Scottish city regions) and local levels (Glasgow City Council). These were followed by a moderated Open Forum.

The Keynote Address was given by Professor Klaus Kunzmann on the Metropolitan Dimension in Europe.

It was followed by presentations from the exemplars of the Metropolitan Dimension in Germany, Ile-de-France, Berlin-Brandenburg, Amsterdam and Moscow.

The METREX publication The Metropolitan Dimension to European Affairs was a companion to the Conference. The published Conference Proceedings set a new direction for METREX in integrating presentation transcriptions and Powerpoints.

Oslo Autumn Conference

18–20 September 2013, hosted by the City of Oslo and Akershus County Council and held at the Gamle Logen (The Old Lodge).

Themes – Day 1 – Regional planning goals, policy and reality and Day 2 – Sustainability.

Within the theme for Day 1, the Conference opened with a presentation of the EU 2020 goals and continued with a national perspective on Oslo and Akershus, a presentation on regional planning cooperation in Oslo/Akershus and a Forum for comments by three European municipalities.

Within the theme for Day 2, the Conference continued with presentations on aspects of sustainability, observations on the European metropolis and the development of towns at a secondary level.

On the theme of Future Directions ESPON presented the state of play in the understanding of challenges and solutions in European city regions.

2013–2014

Leipzig Spring Conference

14–16 May 2014 hosted by the Metropolregion of Central Germany and held in the Neues Rathaus in Leipzig. Theme – Cooperation between Metropolitan regions and the economic sector.

The Central Germany day focused on the Theme with exemplar presentations from Central Germany, Rhine-Neckar, Nuremberg and Amsterdam. An orientation visit included changing landscapes after brown coal mining (Leipzig New Lakeland) and the BMW plant.

Theme – Territorial Scenarios and Visions for Europe and Planning for sustainability in the time of financial crisis.

The METREX day opened with a presentation on the ESPON Territorial Vision for Europe towards 2050. It included an address on the Metropolitan Dimension in the USA and a Keynote Address on the meaning of a green economy.

The Conference concluded with an innovative World Café for the informal exchange of views between colleagues on current affairs.

Brussels Autumn Conference

6–8 October 2014 hosted by METREX at the Representation of the State of Baden-Württemberg to the European Union.

Theme – METROPOLITAN DIMENSION to European Affairs.

The Brussels day included explanatory presentations on the complex governance and spatial planning arrangements for the Brussels Capital Region and the Flanders Region. There was structured comment from METREX discussants and an open debate.

An orientation visit included the Canal area of Brussels with a focus on renewal projects supported by the ERDF.

The METREX day opened with an introduction to the METREX METROPOLITAN DIMENSION Position Statement.

This was followed by Keynote addresses from the European Commission, moderated discussion with METREX exemplars and an evening Reception to launch the Position Statement.

Lombardia Spring Conference

6–8 May 2015 hosted by the Regione Lombardia and held at the Piazza Citta' di Lombardia in Milano.

Theme – Feeding the planet – Energy for Life – Milano Expo 2015.

METREX Day themes – METREX Expo exemplars and the Urban Game.

The METREX day opened with a panel discussion between the long established German Metropolregions and the newly established (from January 2014) Italian Citta Metropolitana. The discussion centred on comparative governance structures, responsibilities and powers.

The METREX day continued with sessions on Planning Europe at the European, Macro Region, National, and polycentric Clusters and Corridors and Metropolitan levels.

The day concluded with a participative session of the innovative Urban Game, devised and facilitated by colleagues from Stockholm County Council.

The Lombardia Day explored the Expo 2015 and its legacy and considered other regeneration and renewal exemplars from Berlin, Aix-Marseille – Provence and London. It included a Study Visit to the Expo.

2015–2016

**Szczecin-Świnoujście City
Autumn Conference**

9–11 September 2015 hosted by West Pomerania Region, with support from METREX, the City of Szczecin and the City of Świnoujście. Held at the Stara Rzeźnia [Cultural Center Euroregion The Old Slaughterhouse].

Theme – Metropolis for people – people for metropolis.

The West Pomerania Day opened with detailed presentations on the positioning of the Szczecin Metropolitan Area in the European metropolitan network. It continued with consideration of functional areas within the West Pomeranian Region.

The afternoon included a walking tour around Lasztownia (the islands in central Szczecin, between the West and East Oder river) and a study visit to the natural and cultural environment of Szczecin, as seen from the waterside.

The METREX Day opened with an extended discussion on the Sociology of Metropolis including the quality of life in European metropolitan areas and regions, actual trends, threats and challenges and a diagnosis.

A World Café, with four Panels on The Quality of Life in Metropolis, Social Engagement, Metropolis game and its actors and Local governments' cooperation concluded the morning session.

In the afternoon there was an open Debate on key questions for Metropolis with a panel of invited guests.

**Rotterdam den Haag
20th Anniversary Spring
Conference**

18–19 May 2016, hosted by the Metropoolregio Rotterdam den Haag.

Theme - CHALLENGING THE FUTURE - How metropolitan areas must act to create jobs and a meaningful life in the next era.

	Metropolitan area		Member
1	Amsterdam	1	Stad Amsterdam
2	Athens	2	Oranisation of Athens
3	Barcelona	3	Prefecture of Catalunya
4	Berlin	4	Joint Spatial Planning Department of Berlin and Brandenburg
5	Bilbao	5	Gobierno del Pais-Vasco
6	Bologna	6	Regione Emilia-Romagna
7	Bucharest	7	Muncipality of Bucarest (UMPCB)
8	Frankfurt	8	Planungsverband Frankfurt
9	Glasgow	9	Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development and Planning Authority
10	Hamburg	10	Hamburg Metropolitan Region
11	Helsinki	11	HSY
12	Köln/Bonn	12	Uusimaa Regional Council
13	Lisboa	13	Metropolregion Köln/Bonn
14	Marseille	14	Area Metropolitana de Lisboa
15	Milano	15	agAM
16	Moscow	16	Regione Lombardia
17	Mitteldeutschland	17	Institute for the General Plan of Moscow
18	Napoli	18	Megacities
19	Nürnberg	19	Metropolregion Mitteldeutschland
20	Oradea	20	Provincia di Napoli
21	Oslo	21	Verien die Region Nürnberg
22	Ile-de-France	22	Oradea Metropolitan Area Association
23	Porto	23	Oslo City/Askerhus
24	Rhein-Neckar	24	IAU-Idf
25	Riga	25	Area Metropolitana do Porto
26	Rotterdam/den Haag	26	Verband Region Rhein-Neckar
27	Metropolitan Area	27	City of Riga Council
28	Sofia	28	Rotterdam City Council
29	Stockholm	29	Municipality of The Hague
30	Stuttgart	30	Municiplaity of Sofia
31	Szczecin	31	Stockholm County Council
32	Region of West Pomerania	32	Verband Region Stuttgart
33	Thessaloniki	33	Municipality of Szczecin
34	Torino	34	Region of West Pomerania
35	Veneto	35	Organisation of Thessaloniki
36	Vilnius	36	Provincia di Torino
37	Mazovia Regional Council	37	Regione del Veneto
38	Wien	38	Vilnius City Municipal Government
39	Wroclaw	39	Mazovia Regional Council
40	Region of Lower Silesia	40	Stadt Wien
41	Zagreb	41	Municipality of Wroclaw
	Zurich	42	Region of Lower Silesia
		43	City of Zagreb
		44	RZU

Metropolitan area	European Observers
Krakow	45 Municipality of Krakow
Budapest	46 Central Hungarian Development Agency
München	47 Regionaler Planungsverband München
Granada	48 Centro Internacional de Estudios Urbanos

METREX Conference Presentations 2006–2016

2016 - Metropoolregion Rotterdam den Haag (MRDH)

306	ESPOH METREX	Peter MEHLBYE - Director, ESPON - Looking back Looking Forward
305	MRDH	Annet BERTRAM - Secretary General MRDH - Presentation
304	Governance	Gideon BOLT - Governing Urban Diversity
303	Governance	Otto RASPE - The Divided Triumph
302	MRDH	Rudiger AHREND - OECD - MRDH OECD Territorial Review
301	MRDH	Paul GERRETSEN, - Agent of the Deltametropolis Association
300	Urban/rural	Jan Willem VAN DER SCHANS -The Edible City - Urban farming in Rotterdam
299	Economics	Maarten HAJER - IABR - The Next Economy
298	Economics	Jan ROTMANS- Professor - Roadmap to the Next Economy, MRDH
297	Economics	Nico TILLIE - TU Delft - Open Data and City Management
296	Economics	Hans SCHEEPMACKERS - Next Economy - A European Perspective
295	Urban Policy	Nicolaas BEETS - (Special) urban envoy for the EU Urban Agenda - Urban Agenda
294	METREX	Roger READ - Secretary General - METREX 20th Anniversary

2015 - Szczecin

293	Planning	Piotr MYNC - City of Szczecin - Vision of development of Szczecin in a metropolitan context
292	Planning	Jaroslav BONDAR - City of Szczecin - Spatial development of the water front center
291	Planning	Barbara MICHALSKA - City of Swinoujscie - Development of Swinoujscie
290	Ports	Witold RATAJCZAK - Szczecin and Swinoujscie Seaports Authority - Ports development
289	Planning	Stanislaw DENEWICZ - RBGP WZ - Large-scale international initiatives on the borderland
288	Planning	Marek DUTKOWSKI - University of Szczecin - Scale diversification of functional areas
287	Planning	Tomasz CZUCZAK - Koszalin - Koszalin-Kolobrzeg-Bialogard Functional Zone
286	Planning	Stanislaw DENEWICZ - RBGP WZ - Central Functional Zone of Westpomeranian Voivodeship
285	Sociology	Tomasz SZLENDAK - University of Torun - Citizens of modern metropolises
284	Economics	Jacek SZLACHTA - Warsaw School of Economics - Economic conditions of the metropolitan society
283	Sociology	Jose Maria Ordeig CORSINI - Universidad de Navarra - People and space
282	Sociology	Maria MENDELL - University of Gdansk - Residents and (their) metropolises
281	Sociology	Alberto Lozano PLATONOFF - University of Szczecin - The impact of social changes

2015 - Lombardia

280	Planning	Roger READ - METREX - Introduction
279	Governance	Thomas KWITT - Verband Region Stuttgart - Germany's Metropolitan Regions
278	Governance	Gianfranco FIORA - Citta Metropolitana di Torino - Process of Territorial Reform in Italy
277	Planning	Andrea PASETTI - Citta Metropolitana di Genova - Territorial Plan of the Metropolitan City of Genoa
275	Transportation	Gudrun SCHULZE - DG Move - The new Trans-European Transport Network Policy
274	Planning	Vesselina TROEVA - National Concept for Spatial Development 2013-2025
273	Transportation	Christoph TRINEMEIER - Verband Region Rhein-Neckar - CODE 24
272	Planning	Dr. Milan TURBA - Prague Metropolitan Region
271	Sustainability	Mark GIBB - NVRC - Northern Virginia's Sustainable Future
270	Regeneration	Maurizio FEDERICI - Regione Lombardia - Milano Urban Regeneration Projects
269	Regeneration	Thorsten TONNDORF - City of Berlin - Urban Development and Regeneration Projects in Berlin
268	Regeneration	Vincent FOUCHIER - Euroméditerranée
267	Planning	Oriol RIBEA - AMB - Metropolitan Area of Barcelona
266	Major Events	Roger READ - METREX - London Olympics Legacy
265	Macro Regions	Vincente RODRIGUEZ SAEZ - DG Regio - EU Strategies (EUSAIR) and (EUSALP)

2014 - Brussels

264	Planning	Alfredo CORBALAN - ADT - 10 keys to understand Brussels
263	Planning	Freek PERSYN - Brussel 2040 - A design exercise to prepare policy
262	Sustainability	Sven De BRUYCKER - Brussels Urban development - Regional Plan for Sustainable Development
261	Governance	Dirk Van de PUTTE - ADT - Governance structures and examples of concrete cooperation
260	Planning	Stefan DEVOLDERE - Flemish Government - Metropolitan landscapes
259	Governance	Reinhard HENKE - Frankfurt RM - Reflecting the Brussels Structures
258	Governance	Alessandro MARIONI - Regione Toscana - City-region governance and spatial planning in Tuscany
257	Planning	Douglas GORDON et al - Helsinki/Uusimaa - European City Region Development - Brussels Region
256	Governance	Rudiger AHREND - OECD - Urban productivity and governance
255	Planning	Jorg KNIELING - HafenCity University, Hamburg - The Jutland corridor
254	Planning	Kurt PUCHINGER - City of Vienna - 10 year Strategy for Danube Region Vienna
253	Sustainability	Gunter SCHAFER - Eurostat - Low Carbon, Climate Smart & Sustainable Europe
252	Climate change	Akshay PATKI - DG Clima - 2030 framework for climate and energy
251	Planning	Ulrika PALM - Stockholm County Council - Examples from Stockholm region
250	Energy	Pelle SCHLICHTING - OrangeGas
249	Transportation	Mark MAJOR - DG Move - New concepts for Metropolitan Mobility
248	Transportation	Dany NGUY-LUONG - IAU-Idf - Paris Ile-de-France Region after the peak car
247	Transportation	Thomas KIWITT - Verband Region Stuttgart - New concepts for Metropolitan Mobility
246	Transportation	Mirosław GROCHOWSKI - MBPR - Development of bikepaths in Warsaw Metropolitan Area
245	Macro Regions	Claudio TOLOMELLI - Emilia Romagna - Metropolitan governance issues and opportunities

2014 - Leipzig

244	Governance	Reinhard WOLPERT - Mitteldeutschland - City Regions Project
243	Governance	Ralph SCHLUSCHE - Rhine-Neckar MR - Rhine-Neckar Public-Private Partnership
242	Governance	Christa STANDECKER - Nuremberg MR - Nuremberg Metropolitan Region and the economy
241	Governance	Ton JONKER - Amsterdam Economic Board - Triple Helix Cooperation for Economic Growth
240	Planning	Andreu ULIED - MCRIT - ET2050 Making Europe Open & Polycentric
239	Governance	Jan VOGELIJ - ECTP-CEU - Consensus Building in Strategic Planning
238	Planning	Roger READ - METREX - ET2050 Territorial Vision & Scenarios for Europe
237	Governance	Penny GROSS - NVRC -The Metropolitan Dimension in the United States

2013 - Oslo

236	Planning	Alberto LEBOREIRO AMARO - Comunidad de Madrid - Welcome & Introduction
235	Governance	Nils Aage JEGSTAD & Ola ELVESTUEN - Oslo and Akershus - Welcome & Introduction
234	Planning	Hallgeir AALBU - Norwegian Ministry - National Perspective on Oslo & Akershus
233	Planning	Marit Ohrn LANGSLET - Plansamarbeidet - Joint Regional Plan for Oslo & Akershus
232	Planning	Arthur WOHNl - Municipality of Baerum - View of regional planning
231	Planning	Bard Folke FREDRIKSEN - City of Oslo - Comments - Joint Regional Plan for Oslo & Akershus
230	Sustainability	Alberto LEBOREIRO AMARO - Comunidad de Madrid - Sustainable Cities in the Crisis
229	Urban/rural	Betty-Ann BRYCE - OECD - Making rural-urban partnerships sustainable
228	Planning	Ivan TOSICS - Metropolitan Research Institute, Budapest- Metropolitan Challenges & Innovations
227	Electromobility	Marieke REIJALT - HYER - Hydrogen, Fuel Cells & Electro-mobility
226	Planning	Peter MEHLBYE - ESPON - European City Regions - Challenges & Solutions
225	Economics	Per RIISOM - Nordic City Network - Work and the City
224	Transportation	Terje ROGNLI - Oslo Package 3 - Oslo Transport Investment Packages

2013 - Glasgow

223	Planning	Graeme PURVES - Scottish Government - National Planning Framework - Scottish Planning Policy
222	Planning	Stuart TAIT - GCVSDPA - Strategic Development Planning in Scotland
221	Planning	Ian ANGUS - SESplan - South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan
220	Planning	Pam EWEN - TAYplan SDPA - Tayplan
219	Planning	Forbes BARRON - City of Glasgow - Local Development Plan for Glasgow
218	Planning	Klaus KUNZMANN - TU Dortmund - The Metropolitan Dimension of Europe
217	Governance	Jakob RICHTER - Metropolregion Hamaburg - Metropolitan Dimension in Germany
216	Sustainability	Maximilian MARTIN - Impact Economy - Impact Investing & Sustainable Cities
215	Planning	Peter AUSTIN - City of Oslo - Welcome to METREX Oslo Conferce September 2013
214	Planning	Martine LIOTARD - IAU-Idf - The metropolitan dimension/best practices
213	Planning	Eric van der KOIJ - Amsterdam - A Cooperative Metropolitan Area
212	Governance	Jan DREWS - Berlin-Brandburg - A Joint Metropolitan Authority

2012 - Vienna

211	Macro Region	Kurt PUCHINGER - City of Vienna - EUSDR Priority 10 Coordinator
210	Macro Region	Johannes LUTTER - Europaforum Wien - Centropo Region
209	Transportation	Frank SEFEBADE - Berlin-Brandenburg - Catch-MR Experience
208	Transportation	Angelika WINKLER - City of Vienna - Catch-MR Smart Mobility
207	Planning	Kurt MITTRINGER - City of Vienna - Urban Development Plan Vienna 2014
206	Planning	Thomas MADREITER - City of Vienna - Smart City Wien
205	Housing	Hugo PRIEMUS - Delft University of Technology - Affordable Housing Strategies
204	Economics	Gildo SEISDEDOS - mercoCIUDAD - Business Location Development Strategies
203	Energy	Albert SCHETT - Metropolregion Hamburg - CoolBricks
202	Planning	Judith BORNHORST - HafenCity University, Hamburg - Bernd Steinacher Fellowship

2012 - Marseille

201	Planning	Franck GEILING -Euromediterranee - Euromed
200	Planning	Francois LECLERCQ - Agence TER, SETEC - Euromed II
199	University	Herve ISAR - AMU - AIX Marseille University
198	Sustainability	Loic GIRAUDON & Hele BALU - City of Marseille - CAT-MED Project
197	Planning	Reiner NAGEL - City of Berlin - Changing Metropolitan Sites - Berlin
196	Planning	Roger READ - METREX - Istanbul Feedback Report
195	Planning	Marseille Conference Workshop Feedback Session

2011 - Hamburg

194	Climate change	Kai JENSEN- University of Hamburg - Klimzug Nord Project
193	Climate change	Brigitte FRONZEK - Elmshorn - Metropolitan regions coping with Climate Change
192	Energy	Jan RISPENS - International Center for RE - Hamburg Renewable Energy
191	Energy	Hans-Joachim STIETZEL- CuxHafEn - Offshore Base Cuxhaven
190	Nature	Marita BOETTCHER- BfN - Role of Natural Areas
189	Nature	Karst RORGGRAFE - Blue Metropolitan Area Network - Protection of the European Otter
188	Sustainability	Klaus de BUHR - City of Hamburg - Hamburg Green Capital
187	Sustainability	Michael KEITH - University of Oxford - Sustainability in the Eco City
186	Climate change	Rainer SCHEPPELMANN - Metropolregion Hamburg - Coordination Centre for Climate Issues
185	Climate change	Emily PRESTWOOD - Manchester University EUC02 80/50 Project
184	Climate change	Roger READ - METREX - Metropolitan areas coping with climate change - EUC02 80/50
183	Urban/rural	Rolf-Barnim FOTH - Ministry of Economy, Transport Hamburg Metropolitan-Rural relations
182	Urban/rural	Juliane KURSCHNER - City of Amsterdam - Responsible Capital
181	Metropolitan	Natalia KORWIN-PIOTROWSKA - Westpomeranian Region - Cross border metropolitan region

2011 - Athens

180	Planning	Knowledge Day Report - METREX
179	Transportation	George NATHAS - Organisation of Athens - Transport Planning
178	Tourism	Eli ILIOPOULOU - Organisation of Athens - Strategic Planning for Tourism
177	Planning	M. MANTOUVALOU - Organisation of Athens - Priority Axes of the new Strategy Plan
176	Environment	K. MORAITIS - NTUA - Central area of Athens and Piraeus - Upgrading
175	Sustainability	Theodota NANTSOU - Organisation of Athens - Planning for Sustainability
174	Water	Efi STEFANI - Organisation of Athens - Regional management of water
173	Planning	PANGALOU - Organisation of Athens - Athens waterfront - Falern Bay
172	Planning	Danai ANTONAKOU - Organisation of Athens - New Regulatory Plan for Attica 2021
171	Major Events	Urban Planning & Design Institute Shanghai - Expo 2010

2010 Vilnius/Riga

170	Planning	Arturas BLOTNYS - Vilnius City Municipality - 20 Years of Vilnius Urban Changes
169	Macro Region	Gediminas RUTKAUSKAS - Vilnius Old Town Renewal Agency - The Baltic Strategy
168	Macro Region	Aleksandras GORDEVICIUS - Ministry of Environment - Territorial Development - Baltic Region
167	Macro Region	Wilfried GORMAR - Federal Office for Building & Regional Planning, Germany - Baltic Region
166	Planning	Andis KUBLACOVŠ & Guntars RUSKULS - Riga City Council - Riga City long term development
165	Planning	Janis DRIPE - Riga City Architect's Office - Raising significance of Riga metropolis
164	Planning	Egons BERZINS - Riga Technical University - Riga coastline development
163	Macro Region	Jean-Marc VINEAUX - DG Regio, European Commission - EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
162	Macro Region	Lars FRIEDRICH - Baltic Sea States Subregional Co-operation Network - Baltic Sea Strategy

2010 - Berlin

161	Transportation	Jose Manuel VIEGAS - TU of Lisboa - High quality mobility and low carbon emissions
160	Transportation	Michael CRAMER - MEP - Metropolitan areas - EU transport policy towards sustainability
159	Energy	Burkhard Schulze DARUP - Passivhaus Architect - Climate neutrality in the building sector
158	Climate change	Rainer SCHEPPELMANN - Metropolregion Hamburg - EUCO2 80/50 - Climate strategies
157	Climate change	Roger READ - METREX - Practice Benchmark - EUCO2 80/50 outcomes
156	Polycentricity	Hans HEDE & Peter SCHMITT - Stockholm County Council - Intra-Metropolitan polycentricity

2009 - Paris

155	Sustainability	Gerard LACOSTE - IAU idF - Planning and sustainable development
154	Planning	Jean-Claude GAILLOT - Crif- Vincent FOUCHIER - IAU idF- Le projet de schema directeur (SDRIF)
153	Planning	Patricia CORREZE-LENEE - Crif - Agenda 21 regional
152	Planning	Claude BASSIN-CARLIER - Arene - Agenda 21- Energy
151	Climate change	Yann FRANCOISE - Ville de Paris - Climate plan for Paris
150	Climate change	Christian THIBAUT - IAU idF - Carbon footprint compensation
149	Sustainability	Saskia SASSEN - Universite de Columbia - Think sustainable future of cities in globalization
148	Planning	Alessandro BADUCCI - Milan- Strategic planning for Milano
147	Planning	Heiko KASSECKERT - Frankfurt RM - Strategic planning for Frankfurt
146	Planning	Alberto LEBOREIRO AMARO Comunidad di Madrid - Strategic planning for Madrid
145	Planning	Valerie MANCRET-TAYLOR - Ile-de-France - Strategic planning for Ile-de-France
144	Futures	Francois BELLANGER - Transit city - Prospects for the city of tomorrow
143	Urban/rural	Reinhard HENKE - PURPLE - What lies between town and countryside?
142	Climate change	Roger READ - METREX - Climate change - Urban change
141	Climate change	Sebastian CARNEY - METREX - European project EUCO2 80/50
140	Planning	Hans HEDE - Stockholm County Council - Stockholm metropolitan areas
139	Planning	Douglas GORDON - Helsinki - Helsinki metropolitan area
138	Planning	Martin AARTS - Rotterdam - Rotterdam metropolitan area
137	Planning	Marc GIBB - NVRC - Northern Virginia metropolitan area
136	Cohesion	Jean PEYRONY - DG Regio - Territorial cohesion and metropolises

2009 - Wroclaw

135	Planning	Tomasz OSSOWICZ - Municipality of Wroclaw - Planning for Wroclaw
134	History	Lukasz KRZYWKA - University of Wroclaw - Introduction to Wroclaw
133	Planning	Anna SZARYCZ - Municipality of Wroclaw - Wroclaw city of all generations
132	Planning	Malgorzata BARTYNA-ZIELINSKA - Municipality of Wroclaw - Multigenerational metropolis
131	Planning	Reinhard WOELPERT - Saxon Triangle - Metropolregion Mitteldeutschland
130	Planning	Gloria VEGA GONZALES - Ayuntamiento de Sevilla - Metropolitan areas of Seville & Malaga
130	Planning	Ramon SISO - Governmt of Catalunya - Metropolitan Region of Barcelona
129	Planning	Sofia LONA CID - Area Metropolitana de Lisboa - Metropolitan area of Lisbon
128	Planning	Emidio GOMES - Area Metropolitana de Porto - Porto Metropolitan area
127	Planning	Donald KELLER - Regionalplanung Zurich und Umgebung RZU - Switzerland and Zurich
126	Planning	Kurt PUCHINGER - Bereichsdirektor fur Stadtplanung, Stadt Wi - Planning Wien
125	Planning	Jana EGER SCHRODER - City of Cophagen - Urban planning in the City of Cophagen
124	Planning	Jan Willem KOOLJIMANS - City of The Hague - Metropolregion Rotterdam - The Hague
123	Polycentricity	Hans HEDE - Stockholm County Council - Intra Metropolitan Polyctricity

2008 - Amsterdam

122	Planning	Rohit AGGARWALA - Plan NYC - A green greater New York
121	Urban/rural	Marijke VOS - City of Amsterdam - Role of food in urban-rural development
120	Planning	Martin AARTS - City of Rotterdam - Reinventing Rotterdam
119	Planning	Elvira VREESWIJK - City of Amsterdam - Metropolizing Amsterdam
118	Planning	Michel BEZUIJEN - City Region of Amsterdam - Regional spatial planning
117	Planning	Vincent GOODSTADT - METREX Shanghai Feedback - Shanghai Study Tour
116	Polycentricity	Theo TOONEN - Delft University of Technology - Governing Polycentricity
115	Planning	Tomasz SLAWINSKI - Warsaw City Region - Innovative metropolitan strategy
114	Transportation	Tor BYSVEEN - City of Oslo - Investment strategy - Transport and Sustainability

2008 - London

113	Climate change	Sir David KING - Oxford University - Climate change/Urban change
112	Climate change	Ronald HALL - DG Regio - Cities, climate change- urban & regional policies of the EU
111	History	Professor Norman DAVIES - Climate change/Urban change
110	Climate change	Jim HALL - Tyndall Centre - Impacts, adaptation and mitigation in urban areas
109	Climate change	Roger READ - METREX - EUCO2 80/50 Project
108	Climate change	Sebastian CARNEY - Tyndall Centre - Estimating and reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions
107	Climate change	NVRC - Harvesting Climate and Energy Lessons - European Regions
106	Planning	Kevin REID - GLA - Planning London
105	Climate change	Alex NICKSON - GLA - Preparing London for inevitable climate change
104	Climate change	Alina LAZAR - GLA - London Climate Change Action Plan
103	Major Events	Peter HEATH - GLA - London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games
102	Flood risk	Tim REEDER - Environmt Agency - Climate change and flood risk
101	Energy	Simon EVANS - London Energy Partnership

2007 - Veneto

100	Planning	Albert SERRATOSA - IET Barcelona - PolyMETREXplus project
99	Planning	Alexander KOLONTAY - Institute for the Master Plan of Moscow - General Plan for Moscow
98	Climate change	ds+V Rotterdam - Adapting Cities
97	Policy	Egidio CANCIANI - DG RELEX - European Neighbourhood Policy - a role for local authorities?
96	Practice	Grahame BUCHAN - InterMETREX Project - Benchmarking European Strategic Planning Systems
95	Planning	Mohamed AWAD - University of Alexandria - A vision for the future of Alexandria
94	Economics	Raffaele TRAPASSO - OECD - Competitive Cities in the Global Economy
93	Cohesion	Rolf-Barnim FOTH - Senates Chancellery Hamburg - Cohesion newly defined
92	Climate change	Sebastian CARNEY - Tyndall Centre - GRIP - Emission scenarios and key results
91	Interreg	Silke BROCKS - Interreg IIIC West - Interreg achievements and insight into the future
90	Planning	Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality - Planning Istanbul
89	Practice	Zygmunt ZIOBROWSKI - Krakow Institute of Urban Development - European Cooperation

2007 - Zaragoza

88	Climate change	Angela FALCONER - EEA - Greenhouse gas emission trends and projections in Europe
87	Climate change	Asher MINNS - Tyndall Centre - Climate change and metropolitan areas
86	Climate change	Bruce HORTON - Water UK - Climate change and the UK water industry
85	Sustainability	Enrique CANAS - CTZ - Sustainable mobility in Zaragoza
84	Sustainability	Jaume FONS-ESTEVE - European Topic Centre on Land Use - Urban Sprawl and sustainability
83	Sustainability	Javier CELMA - Ayuntamiento de Zaragoza - Agenda 21 - Sustainable Zaragoza
82	Expo 2008	Je ronimo Blasco JAUREQUI - Expo Zaragoza 2008
81	Climate change	Peter TORBIJN - Dutch Ministry - Adaptation to climate change in spatial planning
80	Climate change	CeroCO2 - Initiative for climate care
79	Sustainability	Reiner NAGEL - Capital Region of Berlin and Brandenburg - Sustainable development
78	Climate change	Sebastian CARNEY - Tyndall Centre - GRIP project
77	Energy	Georgette RAFAILOVA - Sofia Master Plan - Hydrothermal resources of Sofia
76	Planning	Ulrike ASSIG - Capital Region of Berlin and Brandenburg - Partnership for cooperation

2006 - Madrid

75	Sustainability	Sir Peter HALL - UCL - Planning & Sustainable Development
74	Practice	Sir Peter HALL - UCL - State of the Art
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70	Metropolitan	Antonio LAMPUGNANI - Architect - Planning & Development of Metropolitan Capital Region
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62	Planning	Drew STEVENSON - University of East London - London Case Study
61	Planning	Tom WEYANDT - Atlanta Regional Commission - Atlanta Case Study
60	Transportation	Andres MONZO - Universidad Politecnica de Madrid - Madrid Accessibility Case Study
59	Planning	Marc JORGENSEN - Senior Adviser - Copenhagen Case Study
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52	Planning	Kai BOHM - ESPON
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