



THE CITY WE NEED 3.0

THE CITY WE NEED NOW!

REALIZING THE NEW URBAN PARADIGM

Approved on 6 April 2022 by the WUC Steering Committee, the representative body of the World Urban Campaign (213 partner organizations).

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PREAMBLE

1. The World Urban Campaign (WUC), was created by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) in 2010. It is an advocacy and partnership platform to raise awareness and advance positive change in order to achieve green, productive, safe, healthy, inclusive, sustainable and well-planned cities. Through its campaigns and 250+ Urban Thinkers Campuses (UTCs) which engaged more than 30,000 participants, the WUC has provided an educational exchange led by its 16 partner groups¹ to share learnings, ideas, best practices, tools, local examples and case studies to make cities and communities more sustainable and accessible and so to improve our shared urban future.
2. At this critical moment for cities worldwide, the WUC partners have come together to provide a framework and identify related actions for creating The City We Need Now! (TCWNN). The vision is to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable by the end of the decade to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 11, while meeting the ever-more urgent crises of climate change, global pandemics like COVID-19 and the challenge of integrating into cities and towns large numbers of new migrants and refugees while also recognizing their rights, lived experiences and knowledge to positively contribute to their new host city.
3. Now it is time for new action! In 2015, the WUC developed The City We Need to create a shared vision, framework, towards the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) held in July of 2016 in Quito, Ecuador. The WUC was recognized and helped to influence the outcome agreement, also known as the New Urban Agenda (NUA). However 21st century challenges are converging in cities with greater intensity at the same time that urban populations are growing and poverty is concentrating.
4. TCWNN (3.0) is aligned with The City We Need (2.0) and builds on the implementation of Global Agreements such as the New Urban Agenda (NUA), Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Climate Agreement, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants, with reference to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as our fundamental ground.
5. We urge Member States and the international community to consider our common vision driven by principles and drivers of change, to effectively work for the localization of SDGs and towards the 2030 Global Goals and the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat IV) in 2036.

URBAN CHALLENGES

6. The world is at a crossroads. As we have witnessed since 2020, the world, and cities in particular, have been living in what has been called “the new normal,” as people living in cities, especially poor and vulnerable groups have been disproportionately hit with social, economic, and political challenges from the COVID 19 pandemic. Cities are also increasingly affected by the impact of temperature rise and violent weather events as the result of increasing greenhouse gases emissions by human activities. In addition, the world is subject to recent war conflicts affecting entire cities and communities, triggering a humanitarian crisis. This has resulted in devastating setbacks to reaching our goals to eradicate poverty

¹ The WUC is composed of sixteen (16) partner constituent groups (PCGs): Local and subnational authorities, Research and Academia, Civil Society Organizations, Grassroots organizations, Women, Children and youth, Parliamentarians, Business and industries, Foundations and philanthropies, Older Persons and Persons with Disabilities, Professionals, Trade Unions and Workers, Farmers, Indigenous people and the Media.

and advance inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable cities. Not only are we off-track to achieve the SDGs but the future appears increasingly uncertain with the acceleration of crises of different natures, be it environmental, economic, geo-political and societal, widening gaps in cities. Today's reality of climate change, pandemics risks and wars destroying cities, reinforces our drive for correcting actions and urgently puts cities on track to build a better urban life for future generations.

7. More than ever, our shared vision is to achieve cities and human settlements where all persons are able to enjoy equal rights and opportunities, as well as their fundamental freedoms, guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including full respect of international laws. To realize this vision, we need to implement the SDGs and the complementary NUA which is grounded in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and informed by the Declaration on the Right to Development.

8. In the next few decades, urban dwellers will double in number, reaching nearly three-quarters of the world's population. More than 60 percent of the built environment needed to accommodate these new urban dwellers by 2030, has yet to be constructed. How we plan, build, and manage our cities today will determine the outcome of our efforts to achieve a sustainable and harmonious development tomorrow. Well-planned cities allow all residents the opportunity to have safe, culturally rich, healthy, and productive lives. Well-designed cities present nations with major opportunities to promote social inclusion, equality, resilience, and prosperity. But current planning is not affordable today for half of the urban dwellers. New tools are needed for planning cities that take into account the right to the city for all.

URBAN OPPORTUNITIES

9. As declared in the United Nations New Urban Agenda and further reiterated here: "The battle for a more sustainable future will be won or lost in cities."

10. Cities are the world's engines for human development, business, social enterprises, and innovation. With good management, they can provide jobs, hope and growth, while building sustainability. Cities represent an unparalleled opportunity to forge a new urban era where people can find freedom, equal opportunities, inspiration, prosperity, health and security.

11. The ecological transition that presents itself as an imperative, calls for a new economy defined by the recognition of the limits of natural systems in our approach to urbanization.

12. Understanding the city as a complex socio-ecological-system can help realize a heretofore impossible dream: that of bridging short-term economic goals with longer-term policies and strategies that focus on peace, shared prosperity and better health, safety, and well-being of all of a city's inhabitants, while respecting cultural identity and preserving the natural environment. We believe that cities and communities can only become truly regenerative, heritage rich, resilient and sustainable if we start applying key principles and take action for TCWNN in 10 key areas: health and well-being; peace and safety; climate adaptation and resilience; inclusion and gender equality; economic opportunities for all; culture and identity; local governance; urban planning and design; housing, services and mobility, and; learning and innovation.

THE CITY WE NEED NOW! ACTION AREAS, PRINCIPLES AND RELATED SDGs

	Action Areas	Principles	SDGs
1	Health and Well-being	TCWNN is healthy and promotes well-being	SDG2 Zero hunger SDG3 Good health and well-being SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
2	Peace and Safety	TCWNN is free from violence, war and fosters a culture of peace	SDG16 Peace Justice and strong institutions SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG17 Partnerships SDG4 Quality education
3	Climate Adaptation and Resilience	TCWNN is resilient, low-carbon and adapts to climate change	SDG13 Climate Action SDG15 Life on Land SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production SDG6 Clean Water and sanitation SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
4	Inclusion and Gender Equality	TCWNN is inclusive and promotes gender equality	SDG1 No poverty SDG4 Quality education SDG5 Gender equality SDG10 Reduced inequalities SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
5	Economic Opportunities for all	TCWNN is economically vibrant and provides opportunities to all	SDG1 No Poverty SDG2 Zero hunger SDG8 Decent work and economic growth SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities
6	Culture and Identity	TCWNN has a strong sense of place and has room for diverse identities	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG4 Quality education SDG10 Reduced inequalities
7	Local Governance	TCWNN is managed through public participation and democratically governed	SDG16 Peace Justice and strong institutions SDG 17 Partnerships SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG10 Reduced inequalities
8	Urban Planning and Design	TCWNN fosters comprehensive and integrated planning and development	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG9 Build resilient infrastructure SDG12 Responsible Consumption and Production SDG13 Climate Action
9	Housing, Services and Mobility	TCWNN ensures access to housing, services and mobility	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG6 Clean water and sanitation SDG7 Affordable and clean energy SDG9 Build resilient infrastructure
10	Learning and Innovation	TCWNN learns and innovates	SDG11 Sustainable Cities and Communities SDG4 Quality education

PRINCIPLE 1: HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

TCWNN IS HEALTHY AND PROMOTES WELL-BEING.

1. TCWNN creates accessible social, physical and cultural environments that promote the health and well-being of communities.
2. TCWNN ensures that the health and well-being of all are at the heart of all decision-making processes.
3. TCWNN is resilient with integrated design lens, taking into account present and future demographic needs, through innovative and transformative infrastructure that in particular supports walking in comfortable environments that are safe from the dangers and anxieties caused by automobile-oriented infrastructure, and provide strategies such as tree cover to protect humans from the threats posed by excessive sun exposure in a warming world..
4. It recognizes the critical role of the determinants of health and the need to work collaboratively with public, private, and civil society organizations of varying sizes and capacities.
5. TCWNN ensures universal access to quality food, safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and decent shelter as key elements to ensure the resilience, good health and well-being of communities.
6. TCWNN builds health systems resilience to tackle communicable and non-communicable diseases whilst reducing climate change and disaster risks.
7. TCWNN provides affordable, accessible, well-planned and sustainably designed health care facilities for all.
8. It provides safe public space for social and communal engagements as well as recreational activities that is inclusive and accessible.
9. TCWNN improves the quality of life of communities taking into account the particular needs of all people including its children, women, youth and older population regardless of social norms change.
10. TCWNN recognizes that both physical and mental health are preconditions for productivity and active engagement into socio-economic and political life to contribute to societal stability and development.
11. TCWNN acknowledges that not all disability is visible and implements universal design guidelines at the city level that considers this as an input to urban planning and public policy.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Implement the 15-minute city concept wherever possible.
2. Ensure green spaces are designed and established to foster local biodiversity, sports and provide essential ecosystem services, accessible by all residents and cultural spaces to promote mental and spiritual health.
3. Revisit the city plans with a health lens to limit the spread of infectious diseases: densities for overcrowding, centering the pedestrian and providing infrastructure supportive of human-powered transportation, including alternative mobility modes such as mass transit, adequate public space, sufficient health infrastructures and rapidly convertible areas/facilities for emergencies, access to food supply.

4. Ensure proper sanitation and access to clean water to increase pandemic-resilience among all areas and populations.
5. Increase non-automobile-dependent access and mobility choices linking human communities with parks and public spaces.
6. Create an emergency helpline for citizens to access mental health facilities.

PRINCIPLE 2: PEACE AND SAFETY

TCWNN IS FREE FROM VIOLENCE, WAR AND FOSTERS A CULTURE OF PEACE.

1. TCWNN is free from war, violence and crime. It is an open, sustainable and safe city, welcoming night and day, inviting all people to use its streets, parks, open and public spaces and transit without fear.
2. TCWNN strives to eliminate fears of the scourge of war and endeavors to foster peace for all. It adopts urban safety and security strategies based on human rights and the respect of the rule of law. It actively addresses cultures of violence, intolerance and corruption and promote a culture of lawfulness, civic responsibility, social cohesion and solidarity.
3. TCWNN responds to refugee and migration challenges as a matter of human dignity and social responsibility. It plans for and ensures the treatment of refugees and internally displaced people following international humanitarian and human rights.
4. TCWNN actively engages and involves people of all genders, ages, and communities in the planning, design, budgeting and implementation of safety and security interventions. It ensures the safety of women, girls, LGBTQ persons, children, older persons, persons with disabilities, minorities, migrants and refugees in both public and workplaces, including through strategies such as street lighting that provides safety at night for people walking with all hues of skin color.
5. TCWNN fosters a culture of peace and freedom by working together with all stakeholder groups in organizing inter-generational, inter-cultural dialogue and programs to promote understanding, tolerance and communications to guarantee better quality of life.
6. TCWNN takes responsibility in preventing crime and in taking care of children and youth at risk providing education, active recreation opportunities, sources of employment, and opportunities to thrive.
7. TCWNN enacts urban legislation supporting the right to the city and frameworks to mediate conflicts of interests. TCWNN considers various strategies, including reparative justice programs, to reconcile social inequalities and inequities.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Put in place and implement inclusive urban safety and security policies and strategies addressing all areas of the city, including marginal urban, peri-urban and other settlements, to avoid piece-meal neighbourhood interventions that can displace crime.
2. Strengthen the capacity of local governments in understanding and integrating safety and security in plans and budgets, the development of inclusive and participatory mechanisms, the monitoring and evaluation of interventions, and the use of knowledge-based practices.
3. Create fora and living labs for people from different communities, ages and gender identities to exchange and foster a culture of peace, cooperation and trust amongst citizens and institutions. These will ensure that urban safety and security policies and strategies are constantly updated to reflect on-the-ground realities and emerging problems.
4. Ensure that all urban safety and security measures, initiatives and investments address the specific interests and needs of women and girls, children and youth, and persons in vulnerable situations, including migrants, unhoused populations, people

of color, persons with disabilities and older persons, in order to leave no one behind when addressing social and gender norms surrounding safety and security.

5. Advocate , collaborate, mobilize resources and build capacities of stakeholders to build partnerships to prevent, respond to, and end ethnic, gender and racial based violence.

PRINCIPLE 3: CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE

TCWNN IS RESILIENT, LOW CARBON AND ADAPTS TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

1. TCWNN is net zero emissions by 2050 and limits global warming to 1.5°C by cutting greenhouse gas emissions by 40 to 50 percent before 2030 from 2010 levels, en route to full carbon neutrality and a fossil fuel free global economy by mid-century. It reduces emissions from buildings, embraces retrofitting, and ensures that new urban construction becomes fossil fuel-free. It adopts affordable, robust low-carbon technologies and approaches, with efficient and locally relevant urban design strategies that minimize the carbon footprint of cities. It calls on cities to plan for and provide infrastructure and incentives for industries to prosper in a circular economy and to implement sustainable design, production, and consumption patterns.
2. TCWNN is resilient. TCWNN develops strategies for coping with current stresses and future shocks to its social, economic, and technical systems and infrastructures. It builds the capacities of local stakeholders, communities, and governing systems to assess risks, loss, and damage, and learn how to effectively adapt to and prepare for climate-related disasters. It acts to prevent such events where feasible and protect at-risk populations. It recognizes that it is only as resilient as its most vulnerable and marginalized populations and strives to ensure their long-term survival, sustainability, and quality of life.
3. TCWNN is regenerative. It restores and replenishes energy, water, food systems, land, air, and ecosystems. It is energy and resource-efficient, low-carbon, and increasingly reliant on renewable energy sources. It replenishes the resources it consumes and recycles and reuses waste. It manages water, land, and energy in a coordinated manner and in harmony with its regional areas. It supports ecosystem restoration and city-regional food systems, including urban and peri-urban food production and community-based agriculture. It is endowed with multifunctional, adaptable infrastructure that supports local biodiversity while providing public spaces that improves quality of life.
4. TCWNN thrives on nature and culture. It recognizes the capacities and limitations of the natural systems which support it, values biodiversity and ecosystem services for the roles they play in urban health, environmental protection, aesthetics, and liveability. It incorporates, supports, and empowers, cultural heritage, indigenous and traditional local knowledge, practices, and techniques, as well as community-based solutions, in climate change mitigation and adaptation planning and strategies.
5. TCWNN leaves no one behind. Because climate change is a poverty multiplier, it places the poor and marginalized groups at the heart of climate plans, strategies, and actions. It protects the most at-risk in preventing, preparing for, and responding to, dangerous events, providing sufficient resources for the most vulnerable members of a community before, during and after climate-related disasters. It empowers and provides vital tools for the most vulnerable communities and makes them more resilient. It addresses the needs of new migrants moving into communities as a result of climate-related disasters and distress.
6. TCWNN has new pathways for sustainable living, valuing preservation, and resource optimization. It harnesses effective solutions to ensure that non-renewable resource extractions are minimized, and renewable resources are fully utilized by improving waste management, generating clean and resource-efficient energy, decarbonizing the electric grid, and enabling next-generation sustainable mobility. It recognizes traditional mechanisms, enables knowledge and technology transfer, and encourages innovations in addressing climate change.

7. TCWN adopts climate-resilient planning, sets targets and strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, engages in monitoring and continuous improvement practices to ensure those targets are attained on time or make strategy adjustments where necessary to correct course back towards target attainment, and promotes innovative urban design and sustainable mobility. It uses spatial planning and other decision support systems to encourage proactive and coordinated cross-cutting urban adaptation and mitigation. It lays emphasis on the preparation of actionable frameworks for better climate-resilient integrated urban development, including a massive expansion of pedestrian and active transportation networks, tree planting, community gardens, and green spaces.

8. TCWN has collaborative partnerships and mobilizes resources to manage and achieve climate actions and solutions. It places inclusive climate action at the center of all urban decision-making, to create thriving, sustainable, and equitable communities. It supports locally-led action as one of the most transformative strategies and recognizes the contributions of all stakeholders and their roles as agents of change.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Engage in urgent and coordinated climate action and invite organizations to recognize the global climate emergency with declarations paired with meaningful, goal-oriented actions.
2. Request governments to enact adequate and effective laws and regulations and facilitating sound climate, informed planning and risk reduction, access to secure tenure, the provision of infrastructure, basic services, and shelter.
3. Collaborate towards urgent implementation and commit to innovative climate actions and solutions.
4. Gather effective scalable solutions and innovations to create greener and sustainable cities to address the climate change challenges.
5. Engage national governments and local authorities to create conducive enabling environments that incentivizes all stakeholders, including the private sector, to play their part in manifesting effective climate action.
6. Advocate, collaborate, mobilize resources and build capacities of stakeholders to better implement, scale-up and replicate solutions with feedback loops to continuously improve, refine, and share effective climate action strategies and practices that show respect for all living things.

PRINCIPLE 4: INCLUSION AND GENDER EQUALITY

TCWNN IS INCLUSIVE, DIVERSE AND PROMOTES GENDER EQUALITY.

1. TCWNN is an inclusive city where no person, social group, sex, age group, race, culture, ethnicity, sexual orientation, creed or faith is excluded from the social, economic, cultural, and physical goods delivered by just, productive, sustainable, and well-planned cities. Human rights and equity are the forefront of its policies.
2. TCWNN eliminates all forms of segregation, discrimination and exclusion. It creates collaborative spaces that are socially inclusive, driven by democratic and participatory decision-making, and fosters shared values and a shared vision for a common good urban future.
3. TCWNN is a diverse city through actively promoting the value of the lives and potential of all the city's diverse inhabitants—children, the poor, people with disabilities, older persons, and other disadvantaged groups, including migrants and refugees and all other human diversity.
4. TCWNN promotes gender equality and gender equity. TCWNN recognizes and supports women as key actors and partners in planning and designing, and adopts measures that enhance female participation and roles in decision making. Women are recognized as active change agents in sustainable urban development.
5. TCWNN promotes the economic empowerment of women and the opportunities to fulfil female professional aspirations.
6. TCWNN strengthens the “right to the city for all”. This entails the right to a dignified and secure existence with access to safe and affordable housing, public goods, services and a voice in decision-making for all.
7. TCWNN elaborates policies that are based on equity principles, constantly adjusting to reach optimal equilibrium. In the City We Need resources are distributed equitably and opportunities are available to all.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Stimulate educational and cultural activities to foster social cohesion, tolerance, based on cultural diversity and human rights.
2. Establish gender mainstreaming into all stages of policy-making (preparation, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation).
3. Provide emergency housing for women to tackle violence (domestic, on the working place, symbolic, etc).
4. Guarantee the means and mechanisms that enable everyone, without any kind of discrimination, to participate in the local decision-making, through processes such as community consultations, community contracting and participatory and gender-responsive decision-making and budgeting.
5. Encourage faith-based organizations co-committed to the common good and TCWNN to maximize their influence and impact to implement TCWNN.
6. Monitor inclusion or exclusion and ensure there are protocols for disaggregated data (gender, age, ethnicity or race, socio-economic status) to inform monitoring and assess health, living conditions, access to urban services and well-being.

PRINCIPLE 5: ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

TCWNN IS ECONOMICALLY VIBRANT AND PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.

1. TCWNN incorporates the collective well-being of the city and its environmental sustainability into its vision and strategy for economic growth, acknowledging the shift needed to build shared prosperity. It embraces circular economy solutions, sustainable innovations, and climate resilience to generate inclusive prosperity. It takes full advantage of economies of scale and agglomeration to design and implement policies and strategies that improve livelihoods.
2. TCWNN recognizes that healthy urban and rural economies are not only of equal concern, but inter-connected and economically mutually interdependent. Thus, TCWNN intentionally strives for stronger interdependence and complementarity of these economic geographies.
3. TCWNN encourages and fosters local economic development from small enterprises to large corporations. It provides a level playing field, especially for micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises, which are key engines of economic growth.
4. TCWNN recognizes that the informal sector of the economy provides an important source of livelihoods and other contributions for the urban poor and especially for women. It ensures dignity, protection and rights for all those involved in the informal economy
5. TCWNN recognizes the role and potential of the shared economy both as a means to make public services more affordable and accessible and to promote local economic development.
6. TCWNN is guided by policies, focused on inclusion and vibrant economic activity, that incentivizes optimal mixed use of the built environment.
7. TCWNN supports affordable opportunities for housing, jobs, and services, fostering the right to the city for all.
8. TCWNN recognizes that continued learning and re-skilling is required by new and existing workers to adapt to frequent changes in the world of work.
9. TCWNN provides infrastructure and services which enable everyone, including women and people with disabilities, to have good access to jobs and business opportunities.
10. TCWNN understands the role that the solidarity economy plays in ensuring social and economic justice for all.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Facilitate sustainable innovation and inclusive prosperity and promote the right to decent work, livelihoods and shared prosperity through skills development, job training and policies that support non-discriminatory employment through public private, and civil society collaborations.
2. Expand investment in quality education and workforce development to foster job creation.
3. Develop incentives to increase job creation and upskilling, including creation of economic development zones, apprenticeship programs, on-the-job training opportunities (including focus on youth, women and other vulnerable under-employed populations), and innovative programs that will foster broader access to economic opportunity.
4. Expand investment in sustainable infrastructure and services to increase access to all and support livelihoods.

5. Increase the bankability of infrastructure investment and public-private partnerships by prioritizing the development of feasibility studies in urban infrastructure with these as included criteria.
6. Increase sub-standard housing upgrading programs as part of post-pandemic recovery plans and incorporate, in addition to health and safety measures, fuel switch strategies that end fossil fuel dependency for cooking and heating, as well as other green strategies that reactivate productive green activities, such as greywater paired with permaculture, to support food sovereignty and the circular, solidarity, and care economies.

PRINCIPLE 6: CULTURE AND IDENTITY

TCWNN HAS A STRONG SENSE OF PLACE AND HAS ROOM FOR DIVERSE IDENTITIES.

1. TCWNN has a multifaceted identity made up of diverse neighbourhoods and peoples who consciously seek ways to share a common sense of place. It recognizes culture as a vital contributor towards human dignity and values diversity as a source of creativity, growth and learning in a knowledge economy. It recognizes and celebrates the culture and traditions that are practiced by marginalized and minority communities including ethnic and religious minorities, migrants and refugees, while supporting cultural evolution in order to ensure equality and equity for all regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, or other elements of human identity.
2. It functions as a resilient learning community that responds to changing needs of its population in the context of an ever-changing world. It strengthens its relationship with surrounding rural regions, recognizing the valuable resources rural areas provide for urban inhabitants. It develops local solutions to urban challenges through the use of local culture and heritage, local skills and materials and local knowledge.
3. TCWNN respects and safeguards its material and immaterial heritage and recognizes historic heritage buildings and urban landscapes, in a dynamic and evolutionary perspective looking at cities as stratified urban fabrics.
4. TCWNN looks at heritage not just nostalgically but in an evolutionary and innovative sense. When done well it celebrates the evolving nature of modern cities when it cherishes the value of indigenous knowledge, culture and perspectives. It recognizes the importance and role of art in creating uniquely distinguishable and aesthetically pleasing places and that different forms and means of expression all have a place in the city. Human beings are connected to places via their senses.
5. TCWNN recognizes the importance of sensory stimulation and beauty to sense of place and wellbeing. It designs urban public and natural spaces to actively promote aesthetic experiences. It enables people, especially poorer communities, to claim ownership of urban spaces and use them to contribute to a shared experience and to enhance a sense of achievement and belonging.
6. TCWNN uses art in all of its forms as a creative means for all citizens to design, explore and experiment with new urban paradigms.
7. TCWNN lives in the present time and welcomes new cultures and expressions.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Increase investment and capacity towards the protection of natural and cultural heritage of cities and human settlements against the adverse effects of climate change, natural and man-made impacts and disasters.
2. Develop city and metropolitan region wide planning policies and statutory mechanisms to protect the city's tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Develop and implement living heritage frameworks to support the expansion and renovation of cities and metropolitan regions.
3. Support the conservation and regeneration of cultural heritage in relation to the multidimensional benefits it can produce.
4. Create new urban space with new art and greenscaping within which culture can be encouraged, using trees to provide protection from the impacts of urban heat islands and extreme heat events.

5. Use Culture, Arts and Creativity as catalysts and enabler for integration, education and social participation and cohesion.
6. Create 'living labs' to transform degraded and damaged historical areas/sites into new attractions and "places" as a means to generate intangible value for reorienting lifestyles and behaviours/culture and demonstrate the value of cultural circular ecosystems.

PRINCIPLE 7: LOCAL GOVERNANCE

TCWNN IS MANAGED WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND IS DEMOCRATICALLY GOVERNED.

1. TCWNN is participatory. It promotes effective partnerships and active engagement by all members of society and partners (public, private and civil society). It safeguards local democracy by encouraging participation, transparency and accountability.
2. TCWNN empowers communities to be self-supporting, innovative, developing local capacities and supporting local leadership and collaborative institutions. It recognizes and values data inputs generated by community- based and grassroots mapping initiatives and has an equitable, transparent framework into which they are placed.
3. TCWNN recognizes that its inhabitants are co-owners of the public space, which are designed with their participation and consciously include the needs of women, older persons, as well as children and youth, persons with disabilities and marginalized populations to ensure its accessibility and affordability.
4. TCWNN makes public service an employment of choice and engages appropriate professionals and ethical practices to carry out its policies and plans. The City We Need recognizes the important roles that women fulfill in their respective communities and strengthens female participation in urban and local decision making.
5. TCWNN makes effective urban legislation an indispensable pillar of sustainable urban development.
6. TCWNN maintains transparency in all fiscal matters at different levels of governance through publicly available and community audited financial data.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Enact laws allowing community participation and public disclosure in order to establish appropriate accountability relationship between local government bodies and the citizens. Also establish community participation funds to support community-led initiatives.
2. Implement the principle of subsidiarity, that matters ought to be handled by the smallest, lowest, or least centralized competent authority, by building up capacity at all levels to strengthen bottom-up decision making participatory processes throughout the entire policy, implementation and review cycle to collectively define, review, implement, and oversee city priorities, strategies and actions.
3. Strengthen the role of community leaders and grassroots territorial organizations in defining urban initiatives and projects given their pivotal role and inside knowledge of multifaceted communities.
4. Increase 'engaging' urbanism approaches to ensure the participation of citizens towards the life activation of places, prototyping of solutions and evaluation of experiences before implementing solutions.
5. Adopt new user-friendly technologies to facilitate communication, support planning and increase the transparency of decisions and actions.
6. Continue implementing the decentralization of territorial finances in order to increase autonomy and implementation at the local level.

PRINCIPLE 8: URBAN PLANNING AND DESIGN

TCWNN FOSTERS COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Urban planning and design are cornerstones of TCWNN. They enable cities to translate a common vision into action to optimize cities for human thriving and healthy ecological systems through spatial visioning and strategic planning, supported by policies, tools, institutional and participatory mechanisms, regulatory procedures, and implemented through adequate resource allocation and investment.
2. TCWNN coordinates sectoral policies and actions, dealing with economic development, mobility, housing, culture, biodiversity, energy, water and waste, within a comprehensive and coherent territorial framework. Roles and responsibilities between all stakeholders, while respecting the principle of subsidiarity, are clearly defined with resources allocated strategically, equitably, and around a common agenda.
3. TCWNN is a catalyst for sustainability planning across jurisdictions within the region it occupies. It actively seeks to coordinate and implement policies, make investments and take actions that retain local autonomy while building and enhancing regional cooperation. It actively seeks cross-sectoral coordination and cooperation and promotes mutually beneficial, resilient, and environmentally sound linkages between rural and urban areas and related actions for climate adaptation.
4. TCWNN encourages efficient and equitable development patterns that avoid and repair urban sprawl and preserve natural and cultural resources. It recommends reducing the need to expend energy for transporting goods and people, and to increase resiliency in the face of the increased threats posed by a changing climate, through appropriate clustering of housing, industries, services and educational institutions. It recommends inter-municipal cooperation to achieve economies of scale and agglomeration, optimize use of resources and prevent unhealthy competition among local authorities and other public agencies.
5. TCWNN uses a bottom up planning process ensuring participation from all stakeholders including civil society organizations, corporate entities, and across communities, ethnicities, age and gender identities.
6. TCWNN acknowledges the fast changing dynamics and unfolding multiple crises of the 21st century that require an increasing adaptability of cities to arising complex situations. Planning and design requires more than ever a sense of resilience and preparedness for extreme crisis circumstances.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Revisit planning and design practices to address the evolving societal and environmental needs in terms of accessibility, walkability, mobility, energy and resources: increasing proximity, curtailing urban sprawl expansion to focusing on just urban renewal and infill development, reducing the urban-rural dichotomy to embrace a metropolitan and regional planning approach.
2. Re-orient the automobile-oriented, fossil fuel-dependent business model used in urban planning towards one focused on humans, walkability, quality of life, and affordability in city design and planning instruments.
3. Refocus urban planning and design practices to make better use of the natural capital by developing nature-based solutions, increasing the CO₂ sequestration capacity of places, and focusing on improving micro-climates.
4. Encourage new urban planning regulations and incentives that focus on the use of nature-based solutions to bring green spaces back into cities, restoration of natural and working lands that surround and support human communities, while monitoring

the benefits that these can produce (health, environmental, social, cultural, aesthetic, etc.).

5. Introduce urban planning regulations to limit and prevent new land consumption.
6. Encourage the reuse of underused and abandoned spaces and buildings to limit the waste of resources and land resulting from new construction.

PRINCIPLE 9: HOUSING, SERVICES AND MOBILITY

TCWNN ENSURES ACCESS TO HOUSING, SERVICES AND MOBILITY.

1. TCWNN provides access to adequate housing for all, which includes accessibility; affordability; availability of services, materials, facilities and infrastructure; habitability; location; cultural adequacy and security of tenure. In TCWNN, housing is not just a roof. It is homes that are the building blocks of people's health, dignity, safety, well-being and inclusion.
2. Housing is a human right and a catalyst for most other fundamental rights to ensure the Right to the City for All. TCWNN addresses the conditions leading to slums and informal settlements to prevent their development by providing affordable alternatives, and options to legalize and upgrade informal communities, rather than through punitive measures. It condemns forced evictions as a violation of the right to adequate housing.
3. TCWNN has a rights-based and social justice policy framework that provides transparency, uses data to guide equitable decision-making, and ensures access and commitment to land, housing, and services for all. It adopts innovative and flexible approaches to extend the delivery of adequate housing to all of its inhabitants.
4. TCWNN adopts integrated, sustainable planning to meet present and future needs for land, housing, infrastructure and services, as well as climate-resilient public and green spaces. It adopts participatory planning by bringing on board and empowering all stakeholders in the development of its design and development plans and building codes. The resulting land use integrates form, function and connectivity.
5. TCWNN promotes the adequate allocation of land in cities, and the rights associated with its use, as a prerequisite to inclusive and equitable cities. Property rights regimes should be systematized, reliable, equitable, and transparent. Zoning and other means of land management should ensure social and spatial inclusion, supporting the communal function of property and the diversity of land tenure systems in cities and other human settlements, and encourage rather than stifle the continued evolution of all places within cities from less to more intense forms over time..
6. TCWNN supports the provision of incentives and disincentives to stimulate accessible land markets, equitable land use laws and policies to adequately fulfill the social function of land, housing and property. It ensures the affordability of adequate housing and anticipates future social housing and land needs. Policies and plans ensure the allocation of an appropriate share of land for public spaces.
7. TCWNN pays special attention to homelessness through a coordinated approach between different social and welfare services, the provision of adequate shelter and transitional accommodation facilities near the workplace of their residents and strategies for appropriately tailored permanent housing solutions.
8. TCWNN has planned underground infrastructure for utilities that are well connected with each other.
9. TCWNN includes complete, sustainable, safe, and inclusive people centred transportation and mobility networks and systems.
10. TCWNN includes the importance of accessible public transit that provides for convenient mobility for poor communities to enhance their access to jobs and services, while reducing the overall carbon footprint of the city.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Follow the UN Guidelines for Implementing the Right to Adequate Housing, a set of implementation measures, including homelessness and the unaffordability of housing, migration, evictions, climate change, the upgrading of informal settlements, inequality and the regulation of businesses.
2. Enable a continuum of land rights for security of tenure through data collection and documentation with communities, and prevent forced evictions.
3. Explore new sustainable and affordable home building technologies, such as 3D printing, to meet housing demand, and increase investment to strengthen the public, social and affordable rental housing in all communities.
4. Encourage land trusts and cooperatives to deliver housing and economic opportunity with ownership options affordable to all community members, including new migrants, providing for generational wealth-building opportunities.
5. Continue revisiting mobility by exploring the potential of multi-modal travel, reducing the use of space reserved for automobile infrastructure and access to underutilized urban space. Invest in charging stations for electric vehicles, including widely-available curbside and other publicly-accessible locations, to encourage their use and similarly incentivize the transition of the public transportation sector to adopt more climate-friendly low-carbon sustainable mobility.
6. Decentralize essential service delivery to maximize accessibility by all segments of the population. Expand digital infrastructure and affordable technologies enabling everyone to participate in digital communications and education.

PRINCIPLE 10: LEARNING AND INNOVATION

TCWNN PROMOTES QUALITY EDUCATION, LEARNS, ADAPTS, AND INNOVATES.

1. TCWNN is able to meet new dynamics and not afraid to explore, discuss and implement alternative scenarios for the future provided that these scenarios are bound by the common principle of equity. It values its heritage and learns from the wisdom of past generations.
2. TCWNN creates collaborative learning and discovery opportunities to revisit and redefine urban paradigms and social contracts for sustainable futures. It values community-based/grassroots innovations and solutions, and supports them to scale
3. TCWNN recognizes that cities are continuously changing, which calls for continuous learning and reflection and more flexible planning and decision making. This includes new and innovative approaches to social, economic and environmental governance. It also calls for new and innovative approaches to municipal administration and fiscal and financial management.
4. TCWNN is not afraid to open itself to new ideas, experiments and innovations, engaging all stakeholder groups and working in close collaboration with other cities and communities.
5. TCWNN harnesses the full potential of technologies to improve efficiency and effectiveness in its operations and to reduce its carbon footprint. These technologies and digital systems introduce new channels of communication, new forms of work and new business models and enterprises. They multiply the means by which all inhabitants can participate in and interact with planning, decision-making and project implementation.
6. TCWNN recognizes the importance of democratizing digital space and so reduce the digital divide by increasing access to network and communication facilities and enables all inhabitants to take advantage of the city as an open platform and a collaborative space. This openness contributes to improved understanding and trust among inhabitants, policy makers and the private sector. It allows both inhabitants and government entities access to information across sectors and traditional silos to develop new models and paradigms for managing water, waste, energy, mobility and food.
7. TCWNN uses systems thinking to understand urban complexity and the sources of unintended policy and/or resource consequences. It experiments with new approaches to science and the production of evidence, including action-based research, crowd-sourced data-gathering and analysis, inter-active policy dialogue and studies, and collaborative research involving trans-disciplinary engagement with stakeholders.
8. TCWNN promotes quality education where students are not only closer to institutions of higher learning such as universities and colleges, but they are also more exposed to a richer curriculum and a wide range of co-curricular activities.
9. TCWNN understands the disruptive effect of new technology on existing socio-economic structures. It ensures that new technology and innovations act as enablers and partners with, and not replacement of human efforts, specially the work done by marginalized groups. TCWNN also rejects the practice of trying out in marginalized communities urban innovations and experiments. When such experiments and innovations do not work out they hurt the communities that can least afford it.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

1. Introduce monitoring systems for all city projects to assess their impacts and success before possible replication. Such monitoring systems should be based on transdisciplinary assessments.

2. Make use of new visual mapping tools for citizens to better communicate on new projects and visualize budget allocation in the city.
3. Develop laboratories of innovation for public policy and project development tapping into the existing multi-actor, multiscale and multimedia initiatives that have shown impetus for collective action during the Covid-19 pandemic.
4. Link people in the informal sector and micro-entrepreneurs to foster larger value chains using new information and communication technologies.
5. Support peer-learning amongst stakeholders and work with education and multi-sectoral partners to create systems for open-source and open-data information sharing.
6. Establish platforms for the collection of good practices, with evidence on costs and impacts produced.

THE WAY FORWARD

1. We, Urban Thinkers of the World Urban Campaign, are committed to The City We Need NOW, its ten key principles and actions to achieve sustainable urbanization.
2. As non-state actors joined by a shared vision, we commit to combine our strengths to build TCWNN.
3. As local and sub-national authorities, we will act as catalysts of policies, strategies and actions to deliver TCWNN.
4. As research and academia, we will contribute knowledge through relevant research to advance TCWNN.
5. As civil society organizations, we will mediate between civil society actors and the State to ensure the representation of all in the realization of TCWNN.
6. As grassroots organizations, we will ensure the inclusion of all grassroots communities in the realization of TCWNN.
7. We will ensure the full inclusion of a diversity of women and girls at all levels of TCWNN. This implies also a life cycle approach to include older women and non-binary people.
8. As parliamentarians, we will promote TCWNN principles in national policies and urban legislation.
9. As children and youth, we will make sure that TCWNN is sustainable and resilient for future generations.
10. As business and industries, we will contribute through innovations and inclusive solutions to deliver TCWNN.
11. As foundations and philanthropies, we will partner with others to support and finance TCWNN.
12. As professionals, we will use our skills to build TCWNN and promote professional and ethical practices.
13. As trade unions and workers, we will support and protect the builders of TCWNN.
14. As people with disabilities, we will advocate for increased accessibility and inclusiveness.
15. As older persons, we will ensure the experience of the do's and don'ts of TCWNN to improve policies and practices, and ensure inclusion for all.
16. As farmers, we will nurture The TCWNN through sustainable agricultural practices.
17. As indigenous people, we will infuse our local ancestral knowledge and customs in TCWNN.
18. As media, we will promote and disseminate TCWNN.