



Cities4All Webinar
Equity and Accessibility in Times of Pandemic:
Building “Cities For All” Post-COVID19

July 15th, 2020 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm EDT New York

[Register Here](#)

Content: Discussion with stakeholders and allies to the Cities4All Global Campaign about the challenges and opportunities for local governments after the COVID-19 pandemic. This webinar will focus on:

- **Launch of the “Recommendations for Empowering Local Governments in the context of an Inclusive Pandemic Response”**
 - The Webinar Series launched an open document to align efforts and provide guidance to city leaders around the world. We will be presenting the final version.
 - The document offers local governments recommendations for formulating and implementing action plans that are in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the inclusion targets of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, the New Urban Agenda, and World Health Organization’s Age-friendly Cities and Communities Initiative.
 - In addition, the document aligns to the [first-ever UN flagship Report on Disability and the Sustainable Development Goals](#) , the [UCLG Policy Brief on Inclusive and Accessible Cities](#), [UN Policy Brief: The Impact of Covid-19 on older persons](#), and the [Joint Declaration of local governments and persons with disabilities in relation to Covid-19](#) issued by the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary General on Disability and Accessibility, the UN Secretary General’s and the Cities4All Network
- **Present the results from the Global Survey on Inclusive and Accessible Pandemic Response**
 - The survey, developed in coordination with the World Bank, gathers insights on local responses to the Covid-19 outbreak and their alignment to the C4All Global Compact.
 - The survey generates globally comparative data on how local municipal Covid-19 responses impacted the lives of persons with disabilities and older persons.



Collaborators:



Background:

The COVID-19 pandemic represents a severe threat to city services, global health, and is radically transforming the societies in which we live. Physical distancing measures adopted around Latin America and the world directly impact the life and well-being of almost 4.1 billion people living in cities. The populations considered at high risk include persons with disabilities and older persons. Local governments need to plan and address the unprecedented political, economic, and social implications resulted from the limitations of mobility, participation, expression, and social interactions.

Therefore, it is vital to document the experience lived by persons with disabilities and older persons, including the identification of the physical, health, and socioeconomic barriers that affect their fair, full, active participation and human rights in the cities in which they live.



- Persons with disabilities and older persons have a privileged position to understand and face crises. Their experiences are an asset in the current pandemic.
- Containment measures (such as physical distancing) are challenging practices for persons with disabilities and older persons since they can depend on others' assistance and support to meet their daily needs.
- Countries have imposed stringent measures of physical distancing. However, there is a need to prepare for life both during and after the pandemic. Cities struggle to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on health systems, the economy, and social life.

The actions proposed in the **Recommendations for Empowering Local Governments in the context of an Inclusive Pandemic Response** aims to advance the conclusions outline on the [first-ever UN flagship Report on Disability and the Sustainable Development Goals](#)¹, the flagship [UCLG Policy Brief on Inclusive and Accessible Cities](#)², [UN Policy Brief: The Impact of Covid-19 on older persons](#), and the [Joint Declaration of local governments and persons with disabilities in relation to Covid-19](#)³.

¹ The 2018 Disability and Development Report on “Realizing the Sustainable Development Goals by, for and with persons with disabilities”.

² The Inclusive and Accessible cities policy brief was launched in November 2019 during the UCLG World Summit of Local and Regional Leaders.

³ The Joint Declaration was signed by the UN Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility, and the president of Cities For All Global Campaign on May 5th 2020.



Agenda

4:00 pm – Welcome and Introductions

- **Daniela Bas**, Director of the Division for Inclusive Social Development, the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- **HE Ambassador Lana Zaki Nusseibeh**, Permanent Mission of The United Arab Emirates to The United Nations
- **Maimunah Mohd Shariff**, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (recorded)
- **Emilia Saiz**, Secretary General of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

4:20 pm – Recommendations for Empowering Local Governments in the context of an Inclusive Pandemic Response

- **Professor María Soledad Cisternas**, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary General on Disability and Accessibility
- **Jose Viera**, CEO of World Blind Union and permanent representative HLPF Stakeholder Group of Persons with Disabilities

4:40 PM – Discussion Panel about Cities

Moderator: **Dr. Víctor Santiago Pineda**, president **World Enabled**

- **Cid Torquato**, Director of Secretariat of Persons with Disabilities of City of **Sao Paulo, Brazil**
- **Sara Rawshanara**, Chief of Staff, **New York City** Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities, **USA**
- **Fabiana Goyeneche**, Director of Social Development, **Montevideo City, Uruguay**
- **Dr. Bushra Al Mulla**, Executive Director, Community Development Sector, Department of Community Development, **Abu Dhabi** (recorded)

5:10 pm – Results from the Global Survey on Inclusive and Accessible Pandemic Response



Disability Accessibility
Special Envoy
UN-SG



CITIES FOR ALL
GLOBAL CAMPAIGN ON INCLUSIVE
AND ACCESSIBLE CITIES



United Nations

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

- **Dr. Víctor Santiago Pineda**, president **World Enabled**
- **Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo**, Global Disability Advisor, **World Bank**