

# **Towards Habitat III**

## **Inspiring –Strengthening - Empowering**

**European Sustainable Cities & Towns Conference**  
**Bilbao, 29 April 2016**

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# Habitat Conferences every 20 years

To set a new global strategy around urbanization for the next two decades.



**1976**  
**Vancouver**



**1996**  
**Istanbul**



United Nations  
Conference on Housing  
and Sustainable Urban  
Development

**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

**17-20 Oct. 2016**  
**Quito**

**2015:**

# A year of UN events with high relevance for cities

March:  
UN  
Disaster  
r

July:  
Adis  
Abeba  
\$\$

Sept:  
SDGs &  
2030  
Agenda



Dec: UN  
Climate  
Conf.  
(COP)



**17-20 Oct. 2016**  
**Quito**

**ICLEI position 1:**

**Habitat III shall translate these policies and processes towards implementation on the local and regional level, with focus on required (national) framework conditions.**

March:  
UN  
Disaster

July:  
Adis  
Abeba  
\$\$

Sept:  
SDGs

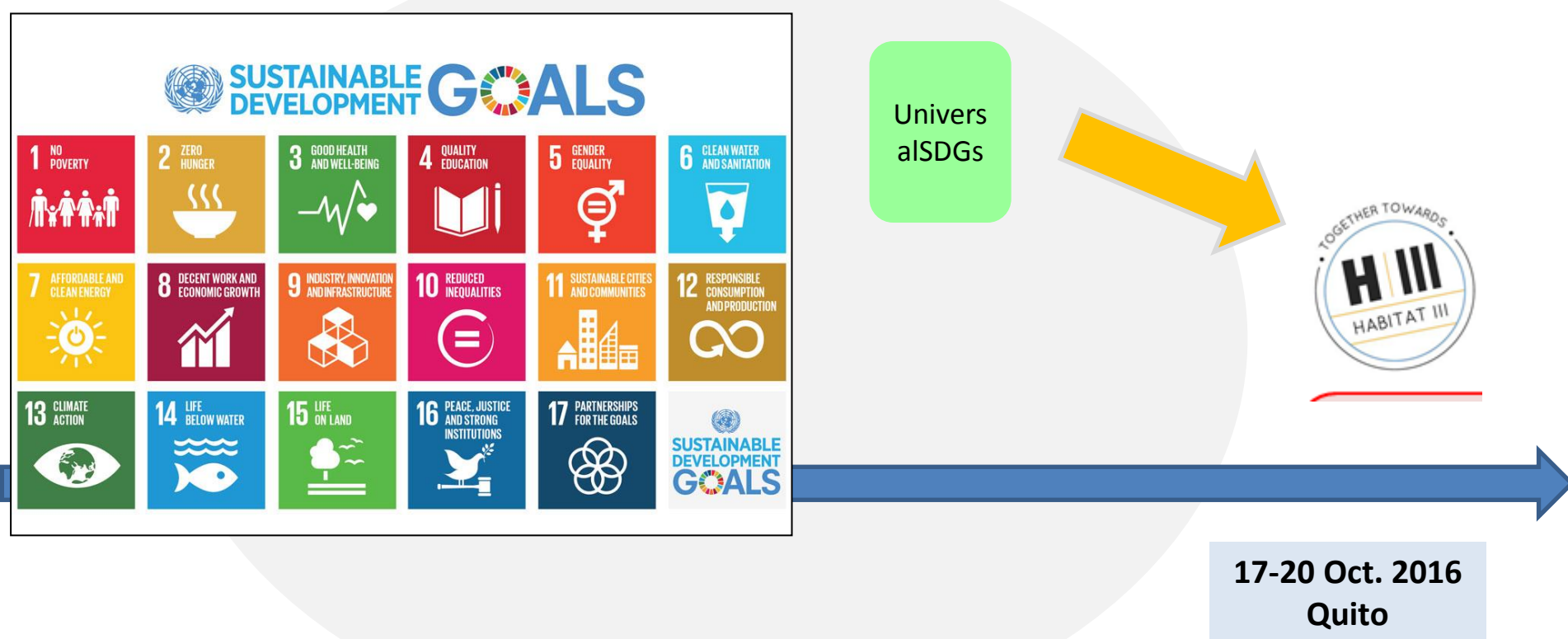
Dec: UN  
Climate  
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**17-20 Oct. 2016  
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## ICLEI position 2:

**A New Urban Agenda shall (also) help to implement the SDGs as quickly as possible.**



# Expected outcomes of Habitat III



Oct. 2016  
Quito

Political Declaration of  
UN Member States ?

The New Urban Agenda (NUA)

Monitoring & reporting  
framework

New „UN architecture“ for  
the sub-national level

Countless (bilateral) initiatives,  
projects, agreements



More ??

# Key outcomes of Habitat III (?)



Oct. 2016  
Quito

Political Declaration of UN  
Member States ?

## The New Urban Agenda (NUA)

- Intensive preparations
- Regional and thematic prep-events
- 10 Policy units
- We wait for the „Zero draft“

## New „UN architecture“

- Behind closed doors

Countless (bilateral) initiatives,  
projects, agreements

# New Urban Agenda: ICLEI positions (3)

## 1. (New) Sustainable Urban Agenda:

- NUA as universal driving frame to achieve a rapid implementation of SDG 11 and other SDGs
- Visions for integrated, cross-sectoral policies and instruments
- Aalborg Charter, Leipzig Charter, Basque Declaration.... = European input

## 2. Outline for engagement of all levels of government

- Strengthening, empowering, capacitating local & regional level
- Fiscal strength and (direct) access to finances
- Embedding sub-national level in global governance
- inter-municipal & trans-regional city cooperation

## 3. Commitments for national sustainable urban planning

- Subsidiarity principle
- Democratic multi-level government cooperation
- Enabling conditions (policies, instruments, incentives....) for local action
- Secured participation and stakeholder involvement, civil society



## New Urban Agenda: ICLEI positions (3)

### 4. Transformative power of the NUA

- rapid and radical action (ICLEI World Congress 2009)
- ambitions for transforming systems
- ICLEI's Transformative Action Program
- mandatory sustainability management
- ICLEI calls for "10.000 New Urban Agendas till 20130 "

# TAP

## Transformative Actions Program

TAP the potential of local and subnational  
climate action!

## New Urban Agenda: ICLEI positions (3)

### 4. Monitoring and reporting framework

- SDG and Habitat III monitoring need joint framework
- Which indicators help local and global performance tracking?



Welcome to the Sustainable Development Goal indicators website

*A robust follow-up and review mechanism for the implementation of the new 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will require a solid framework of indicators and statistical data to monitor progress, inform policy and ensure accountability of all stakeholders.*

“The New Urban Agenda must be a universally applicable political, implementation-oriented document that motivates and mobilises member states and other relevant players to push for sustainable development at the local level. (German position)”

# ICLEI's 10 Urban Agendas help to implement the SDGs



# New “UN architecture”

- 1. How will UN agencies coordinate among themselves „about cities“? („UN Cities“ ??)**
- 2. Future role of UN-Habitat ?**
  - New mandate?
  - Extended scope (also relevant for Europe?)
  - Reduction to technical support body on urban planning?
  - more frequent Habitat Conferences?
- 3. UN-System and local & regional governments**
  - Mandate? Composition? Role of networks?
  - Anchored within UN-Habitat? To UN SG? To UN High Level Forum?



Oct. 2016  
Quito

# New “UN architecture”

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  - Mandate? Composition? Role
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## ICLEI positions (4) on UN-local dialogue mechanism

- Needs strengthened mandate
- No contin. of „UNACLA“
- For dialogue & consultations
- Linked to SDG implementation
- Bottom up and not top down
- Supporting cooperation of global networks
- Model: Committee of Regions

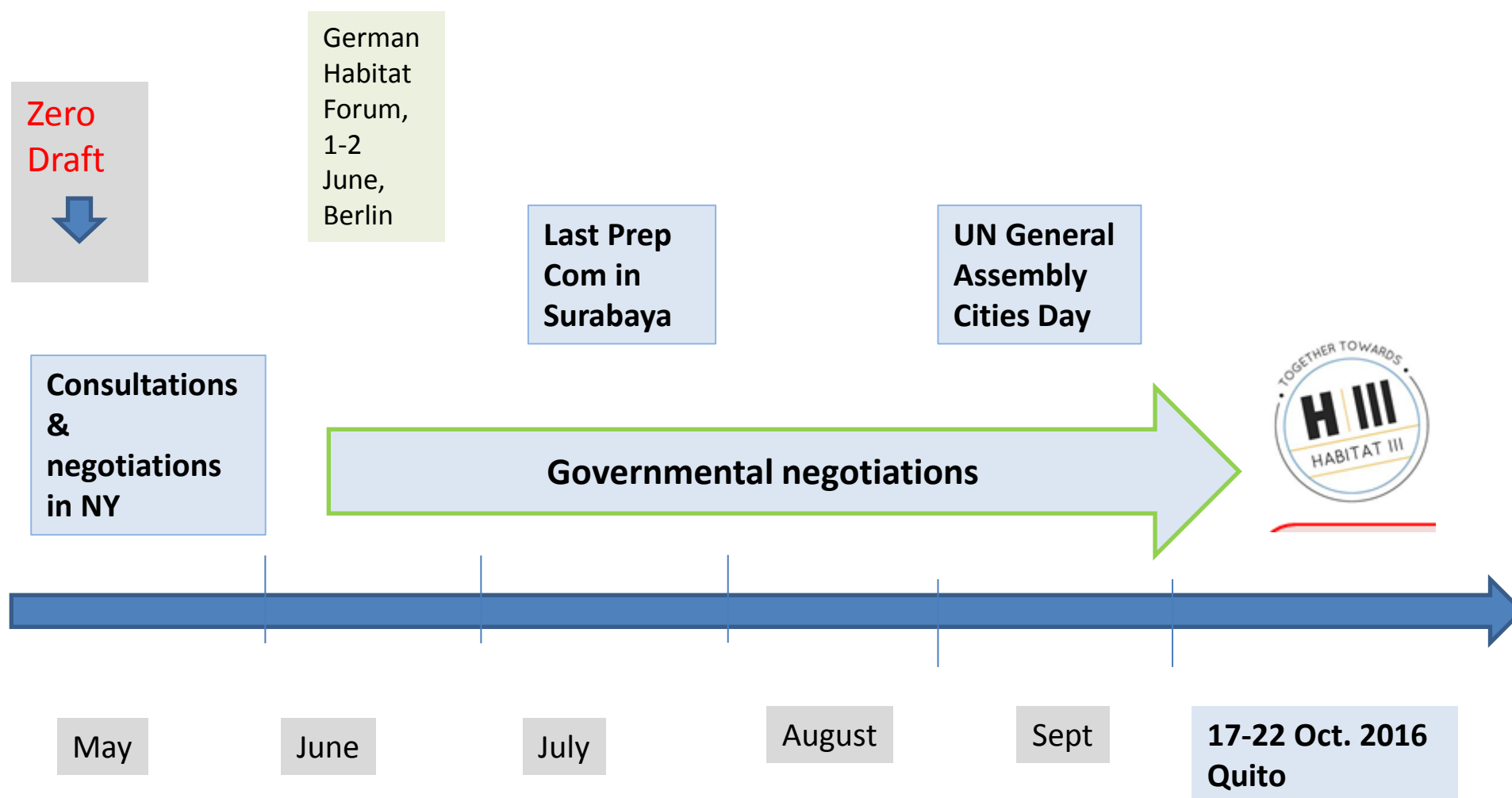


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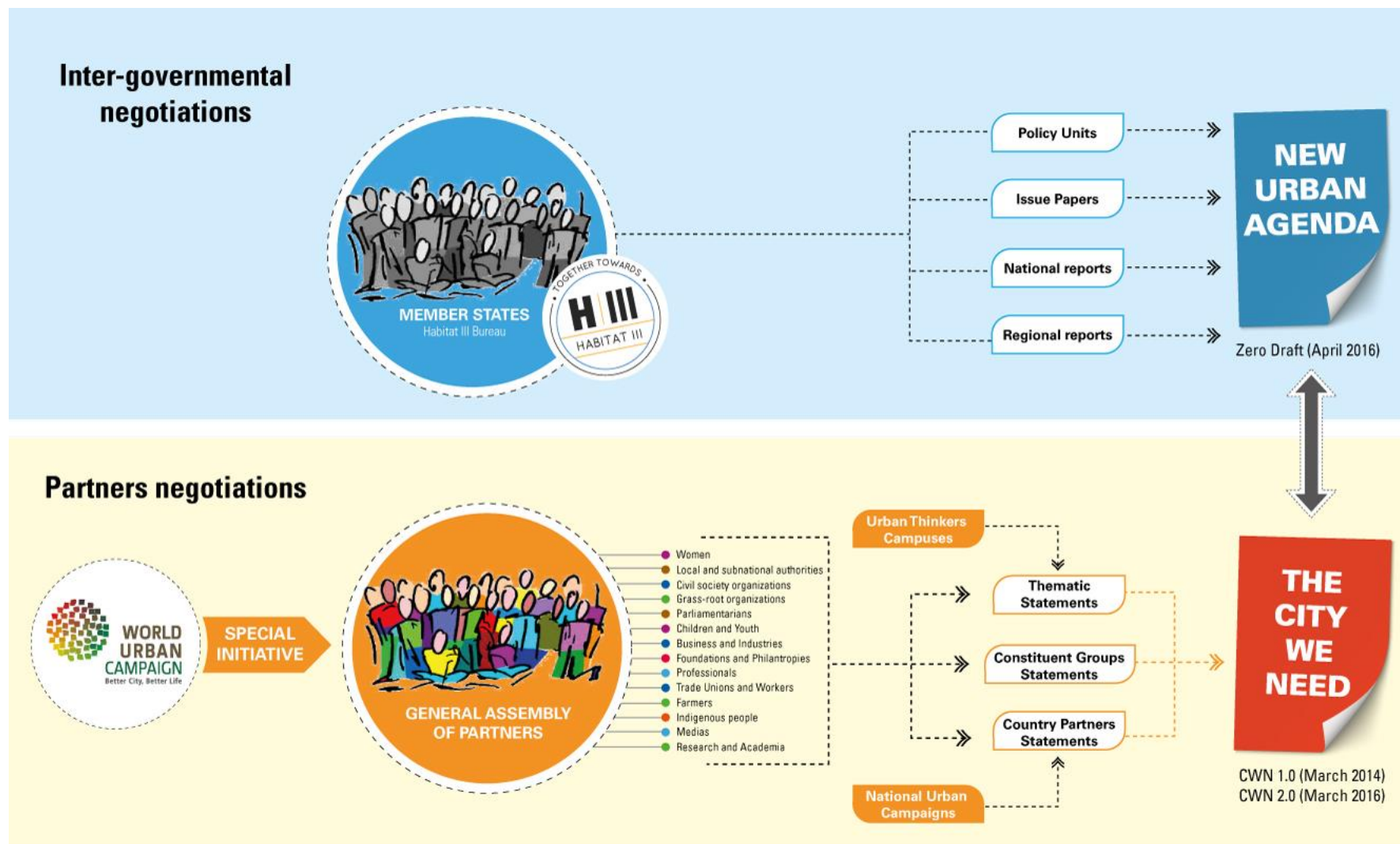
# Further ideas

1. **UN Decade of Sustainable Urbanization (ICLEI 2012)**
2. **International Panel on Sustainable Urbanization**
  - model of IPCC
  - (recent success: IPCC will make special report on local climate action)
3. **Local Government Global Task Force (GTF)**
  - cooperation UCLG, ICLEI, other networks

# Towards Quito (2016)



# Towards Habitat III in Quito

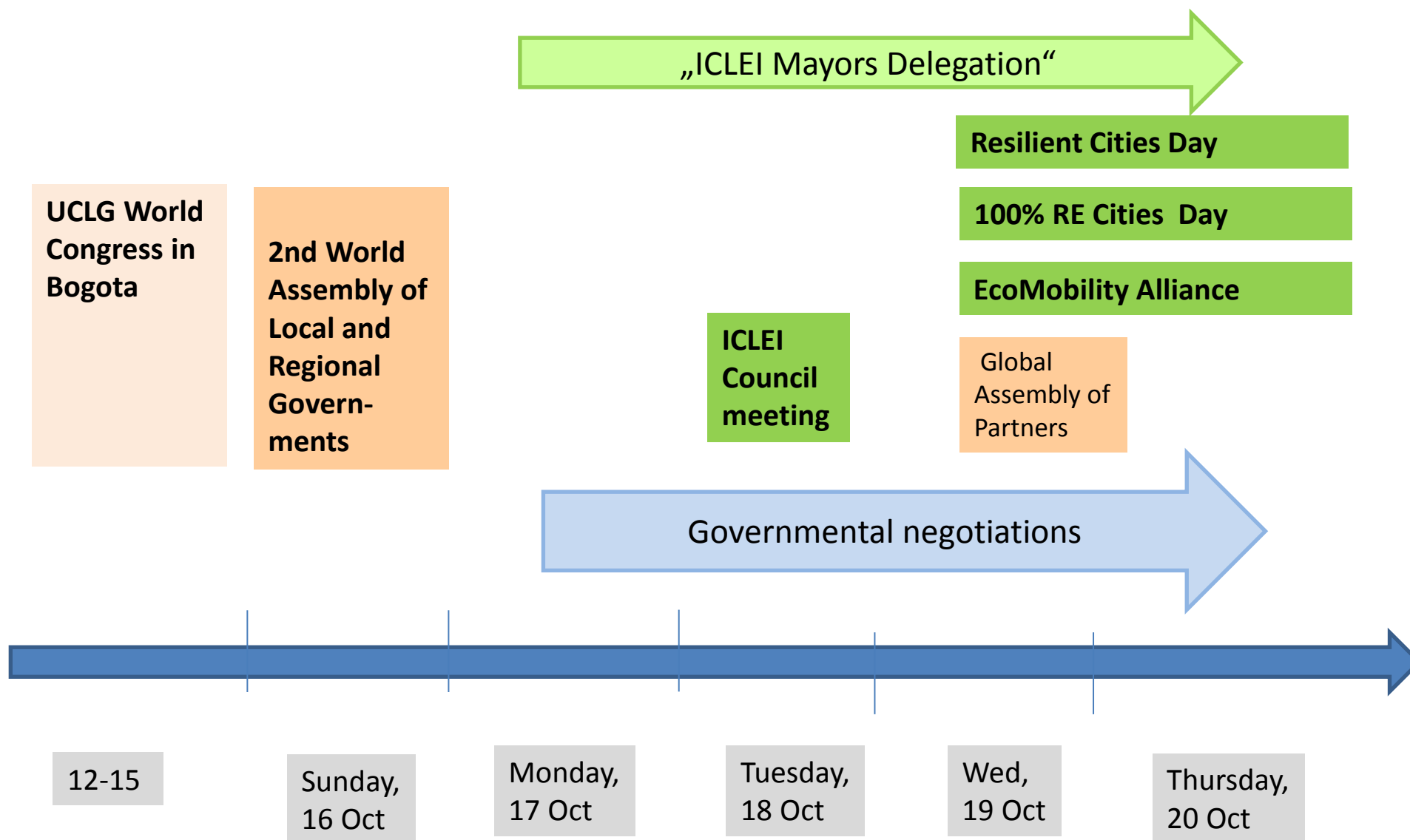




# ICLEI in Quito (16 – 20 October)



**ICLEI**  
Local  
Governments  
for Sustainability



# Local Action is key

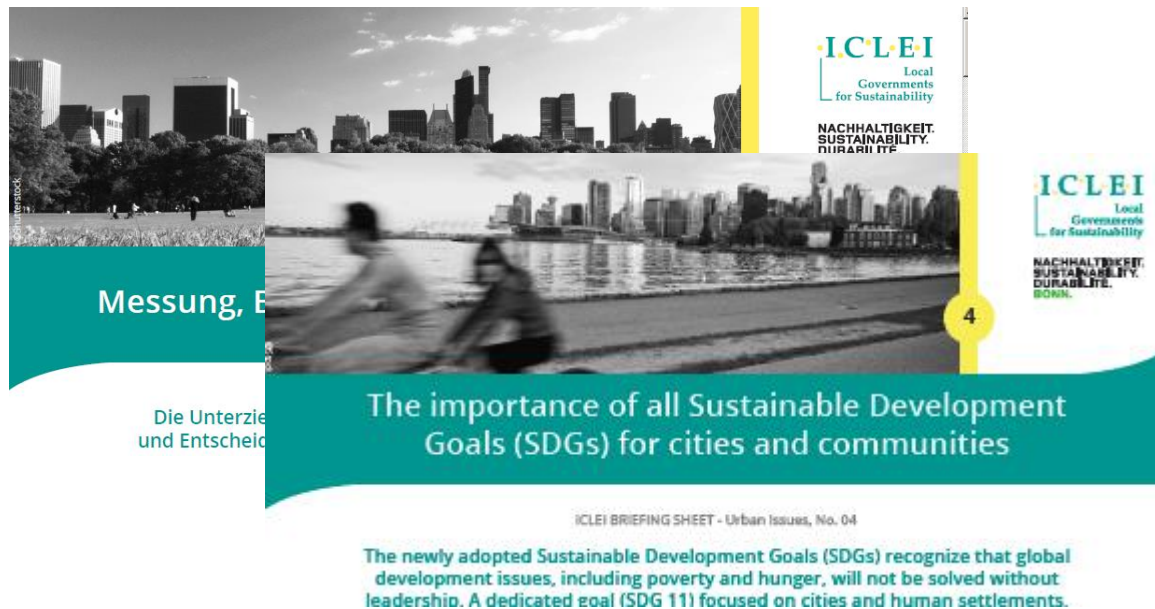
## ICLEI position (5)

**Whatever will happen towards and in Quito, we will only achieve a sustainable urban world through**

- **strong local action,**
- **with local governments in the lead and**
- **strong involvement of civil society and**
- **Local renewal processes as outlined in the Basque Declaration**

**The enormous challenges can only be solved with cooperation among local governments, within the European Union and on global level.**

## More information



### Series of Briefing Sheets

- Available for translation

### Background information for delegation

### (ICLEI) Position documents

### Updates in ICLEI Inews

### Information on COP 21 ICLEI Strategic Plan 2015-2021

# More information

**Resilient Cities  
Congress**  
6 – 8 July 2016, Bonn

Global Forum for  
tracking „Resilience“  
in SDG 11

ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability Global

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## ICLEI Gears Up for Habitat III

As the preparations for the Habitat III Conference in October 2016 advance, ICLEI is engaging in the global process, in particular through expert Policy Units, thematic and regional meetings, the Global Task Force, General Assembly of Partners and the 2nd UN Environment Assembly.

**What is Habitat III?**

Habitat III is the [United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development](#) that is to take place in Quito, Ecuador, from 17 – 20 October 2016. Habitat III is the third in series of bi-decennial conferences that began in 1976 in Vancouver, with the second Habitat II held in Istanbul in 1996.

Learn more about Habitat III and how the important inter-governmental agreements on Sustainable Development from 2015 (e.g. the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement) now need to be anchored in its New Urban Agenda [here](#).



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