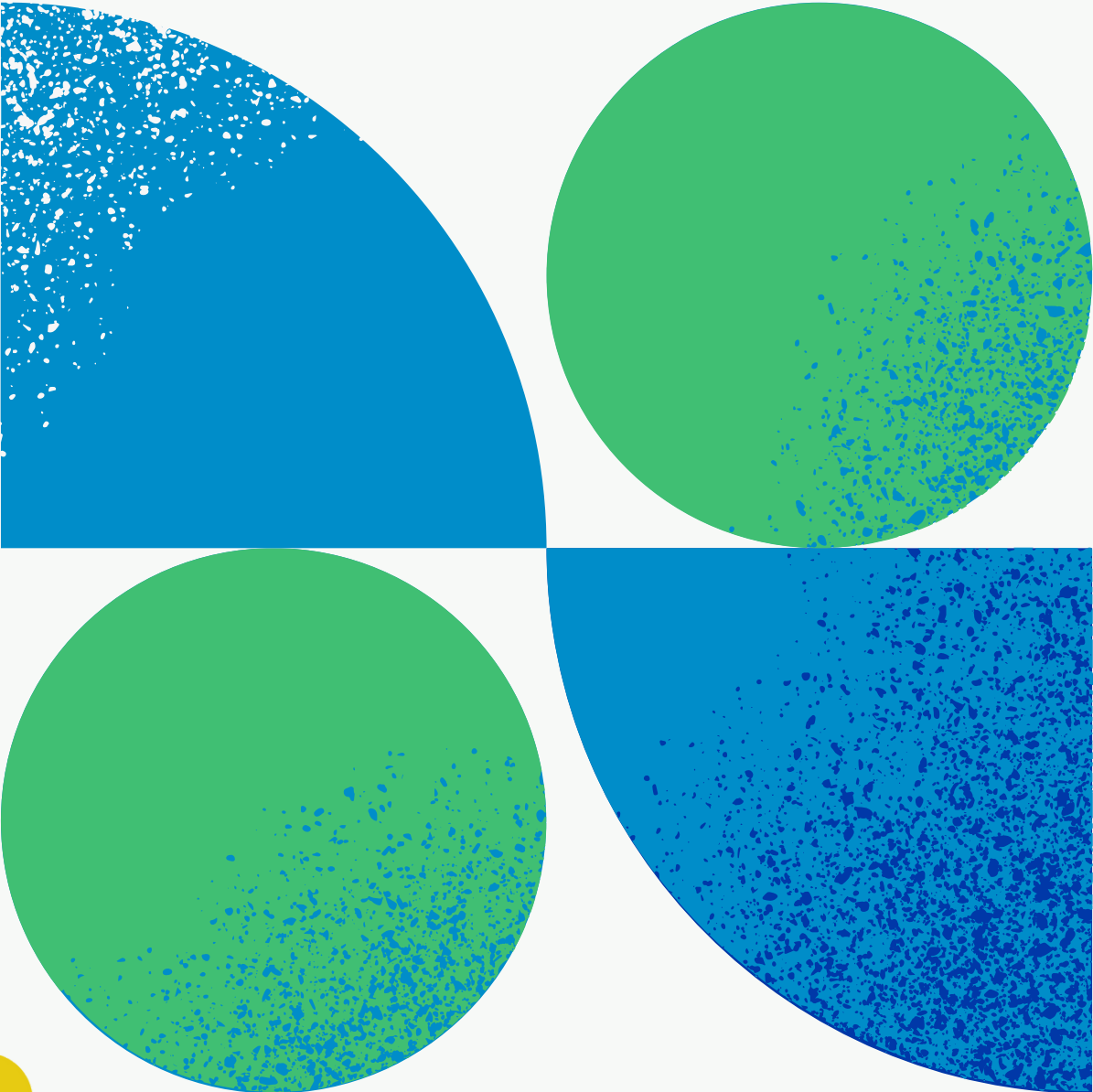

Call for Abstracts

Resilient Healthy Cities: Creating Sustainable Urban Futures for All



Instructions

Call for Abstracts
WHO European Healthy
Cities Network

To submit your abstract, please click [here](#).

Abstracts must not exceed **500 words**.

The submission deadline is **March 26**, and authors of accepted abstracts will be notified by the Secretariat between **April 28 and 30**.

For further information or any questions, please contact the Healthy Cities Secretariat at eurohealthycities@who.int.



Prosperity: Thriving Cities, Thriving Futures – The Well-Being Economy in Action

Focus: Rethinking economic success through the lens of well-being, emphasizing equity, sustainability, and healthier societies as integral to prosperity. This sub-theme explores strategies for local governments to build economic resilience, invest in health, reduce inequalities, and shift toward economic policies that prioritize people and the planet.

Key Topics:

- Building resilient local economies centered on well-being principles
- Measuring success beyond GDP through well-being indicators
- Advancing economic policies that reduce health and social inequities
- Strengthening social protection systems and inclusive employment opportunities
- Financing mechanisms for well-being economy initiatives at the city level

Planet: Climate- Ready Cities – One Health for a Sustainable Tomorrow

Focus: Cities are at the forefront of climate action, and urban policies must integrate public health, biodiversity conservation, and environmental sustainability. The One Health approach recognizes the interconnections between human, animal, and environmental health. This sub-theme aims to showcase how cities are addressing climate change through integrated strategies such as the One Health approach to protect ecosystems and human well-being.

Key Topics:

- Strengthening disaster management and climate resilience in cities
- Urban climate action plans and mitigation strategies
- Integrating the One Health approach in urban planning
- Scaling green and blue infrastructure
- Sustainable water, air, and food systems in urban environments

Participation: Cities by Us, For Us — Co- Creating the Urban Future

Focus: Elevating community voices and strengthening cross-sector collaboration to develop and implement inclusive urban policies, programs and initiatives. This sub-theme explores how cities are fostering participatory governance, co-creation processes, and multi-stakeholder engagement to ensure that policies reflect the needs and aspirations of all residents. It also highlights the role of culture in shaping urban health, fostering social cohesion, and promoting well-being through inclusive community-driven approaches.

Key Topics:

- Strengthening participatory frameworks and co-designing solutions for health and well-being
- Engaging youth, marginalized groups, community-based organizations and private sector stakeholders in decision-making processes and initiatives
- Leveraging digital platforms to enhance civic participation and public engagement
- Enhancing transparency, accountability, and trust in local government and within community
- Exploring the role of culture, art and creative sectors in advancing health and social inclusion

People: Reducing Inequities to Promote Urban Health and Well- Being

Focus: Health equity remains a critical challenge in urban settings. This sub-theme explores policies and interventions that address social determinants of health, ensuring that all residents — regardless of income, gender, ethnicity, or background — have access to resources that promote well-being. This sub-theme will examine strategies for integrating health into all policies, addressing mental health and non-communicable diseases (NCDs), and fostering community-based solutions that reduce health inequalities.

Key Topics:

- Implementing Health in All Policies (HiAP) to integrate health considerations across urban sectors.
- Addressing urban mental health and chronic disease challenges, including NCD prevention and management.
- Promoting social prescribing and community-based health initiatives.
- Exploring behavioral and cultural insights (BCI) for improved public health outcomes.
- Tackling food insecurity, housing instability, and other determinants of urban health.

Place: Designing Healthy and Inclusive Spaces

Focus: The built environment plays a significant role in shaping health, well-being, and social inclusion. This sub-theme examines how urban design, mobility planning, and public space development can create environments that promote active living, sustainability, and accessibility for all. The sub-theme will focus on innovative approaches to urban design that prioritize inclusivity, sustainability, and active living through people-centered design.

Key Topics:

- Promoting active transportation (walking, cycling, public transit) to enhance urban mobility and well-being
- Expanding age-friendly and child-friendly accessible spaces for recreation, well-being and biodiversity
- Implementing inclusive design for safer, more equitable public spaces
- Using data-driven planning and smart city technologies for healthier urban environments.

Peace: Fostering Safe and Inclusive Cities for All

Focus: Peace is more than the absence of conflict; it is the foundation for thriving, inclusive, and resilient communities. This sub-theme examines how cities can foster social cohesion, security, and trust by addressing systemic inequities, reducing violence, and ensuring access to resources and services that promote well-being. Cities play a critical role in peacebuilding, from integrating migrants to strengthening community-led approaches that foster belonging and reconciliation. This theme also considers the impact of trauma and the need for healing-centered, trauma-informed urban policies.

Key Topics:

- Addressing violence and injury prevention in cities, including violence against children, intimate partner violence, gender-based violence, and hate crimes.
- Creating public spaces that promote safety, belonging, and intercultural exchange.
- Recognizing the impact of collective trauma and integrating trauma informed approaches into social services and governance
- Psychosocial elements of post-conflict reconciliation, reducing stigma, and improving mental health support in urban settings.

Thank you

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to the Healthy Cities Network



Contact

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