



Global Observatory of
**Healthy and
Sustainable Cities**

Scaling up the 1000 Cities Challenge

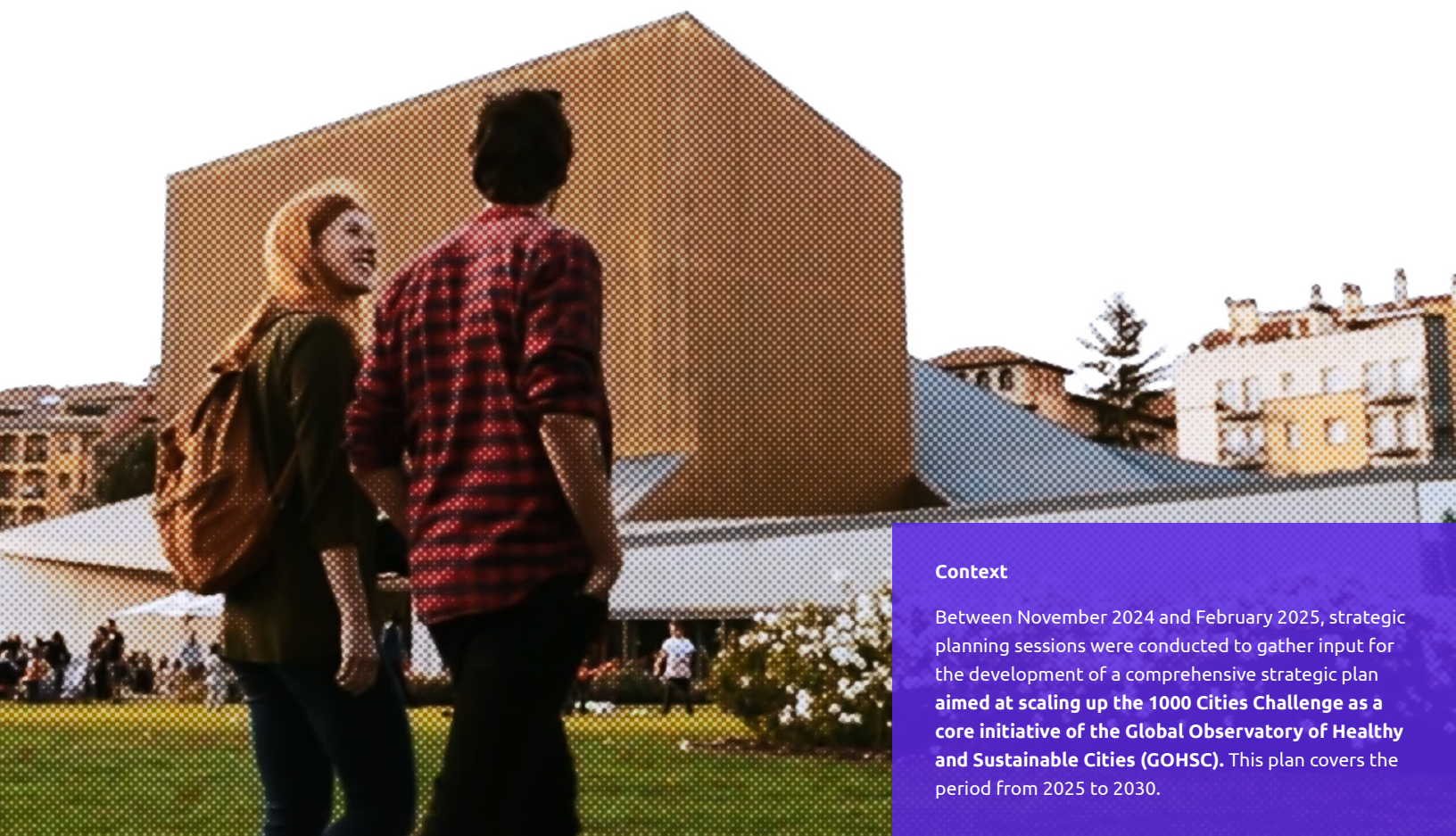
Strategic plan
2025-2030

Global Observatory of Healthy and Sustainable Cities:

Overview

The multi-award-winning Global Observatory of Healthy and Sustainable Cities (GOHSC) (www.healthysustainablecities.org) is a leading global source of evidence-based open access urban policy and spatial indicators, providing tools to measure and track progress towards healthy and sustainable cities. The 1000 Cities Challenge supports participants to generate indicator reports and scorecards for their city. The evidence-based indicators measure what matters for healthy and sustainable cities, such as walkability, access to public space, food stores and public transport, urban heat vulnerability, and the quality of policies that support healthy and sustainable

outcomes. By leveraging global open data and a rigorous, standardized measurement approach, the GOHSC provides actionable neighbourhood-level insights and enables comparable city measurement worldwide. Indicator reports, produced in English and local languages, strengthen advocacy capabilities and equip policymakers with the information needed to make evidence-informed decisions and track city planning outcomes. Through the 1000 Cities Challenge, we aim to upscale the GOHSC and support more cities to measure and act on the indicators.



Context

Between November 2024 and February 2025, strategic planning sessions were conducted to gather input for the development of a comprehensive strategic plan aimed at scaling up the 1000 Cities Challenge as a core initiative of the Global Observatory of Healthy and Sustainable Cities (GOHSC). This plan covers the period from 2025 to 2030.

Our Vision

Be a leading global source of evidence-based indicator tools, partnering with stakeholders, to support transformation towards healthier, more sustainable urban environments.



Our Mission



To provide open-access, globally comparable, and evidence-based spatial and policy indicators of healthy and sustainable cities.



To support cities to measure, report and track progress on urban and transport planning.



To facilitate collaborative research and evaluation.



To build partnerships to impact urban planning & transport.

Our Goals



Be a global collaborative network that supports cities worldwide with goal setting, policy making, practical guidance and advocacy.



Provide tools and support for calculating evidence-based, comparable indicators to identify urban inequities and track progress on urban and transport planning.



Generate new urban and transport planning indicators, data and research evidence.



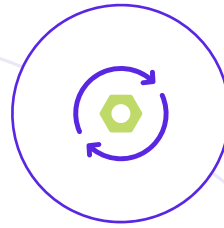
Encourage the scaling up of indicator measurement to support healthy and sustainable urban design and planning efforts worldwide.



Partner with researchers, communities, governments and organisations working towards healthy and sustainable cities.



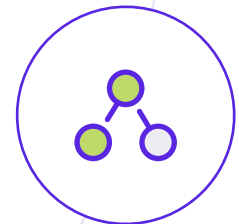
Funding opportunities



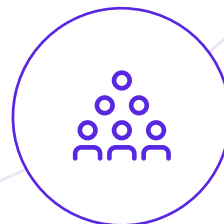
Leveraging existing resources
and networks



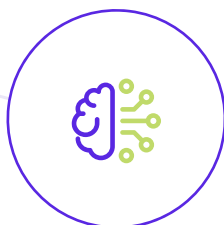
Rising global interest in
urban health and
sustainability



Capacity building and
knowledge sharing



Improved communication and
stakeholder engagement



Leveraging AI and technology

Opportunities

5-year strategic priorities

Long term outcome
Scale up the 1000 Cities
Challenge

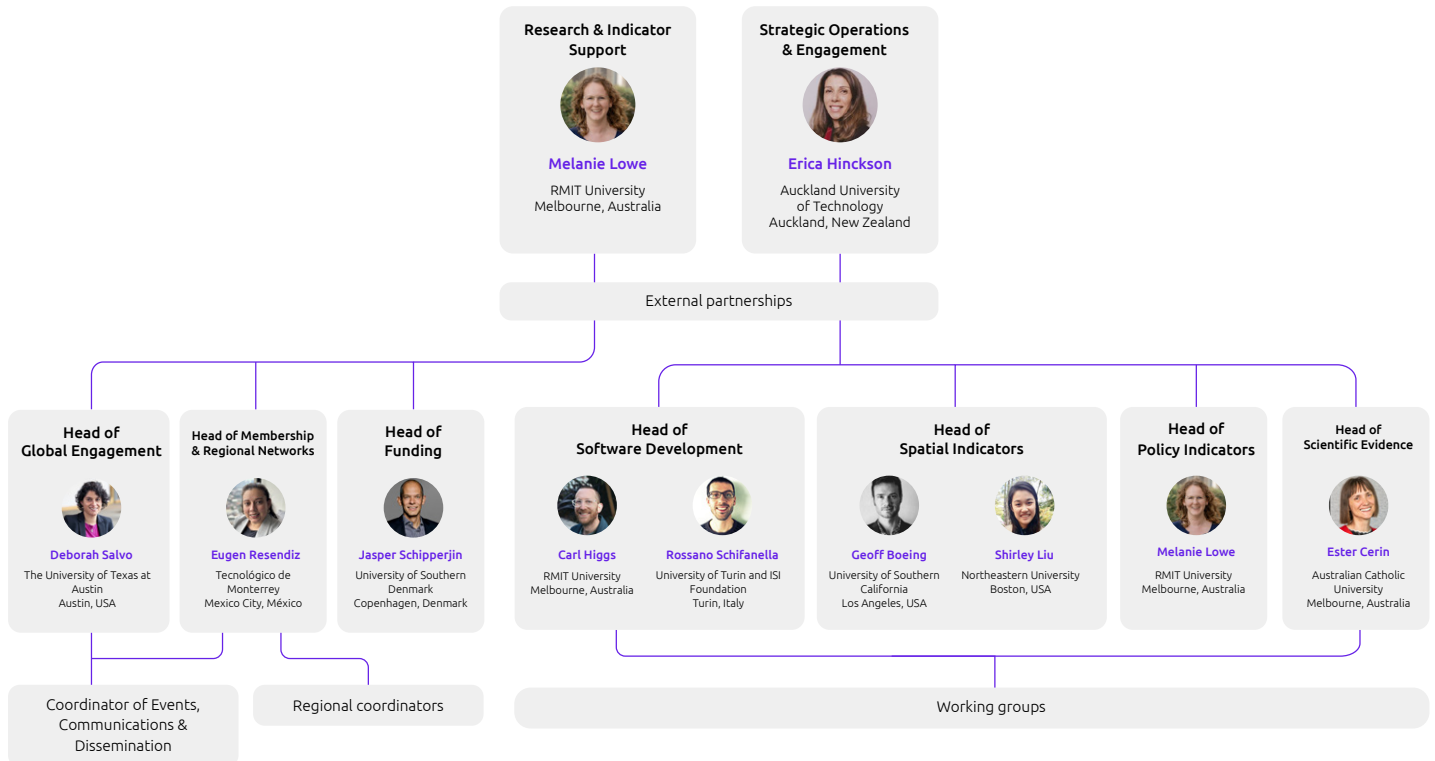


Governance Structure

Process-based organisational structure

Executive

Co-directors



International Advisory board

