

SHARING CITIES ACTION

OUTCOMES OF THE YEAR 2019 AND FORWARD ACTION FOR 2020



SHARING CITIES ACTION

CITIES ACTION ON CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF PLATFORM ECONOMY



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Barcelona



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DIMMONS

Sharing Cities Action 2019 and moving forward for 2020

- One year has passed since the Launch of the **Declaration of Common Principles and Commitments for Sharing Cities** and the creation of the Sharing Cities Action Task Force. This year, the cities have renewed their willingness to collaborate and define together an **Action Plan for 2020** to make a step forward in addressing the challenges and the opportunities of digital platforms and strengthen their sharing potential.
- The **Sharing Cities Encounter 2019** has congregated 30 cities representatives from around the world and 150 actors from the international sharing ecosystem: business platforms, civil society, networks, experts, activists and research centers. The Sharing Cities Stand Lab created an innovative three-days laboratory for policy cocreation in the middle of the Smart City Expo World Congress (SCEWC). Key topics were: The Future of Work, Inclusion and Gender Equality, Data Policies and Commons, and Environmental Sustainability .
- The Task Force aims at catalysing courageous moving forward actions in the following areas: supporting city sovereignty, data commons, sharing regulatory efforts and empowering cities in front of disruptive platforms; the promotion of sustainable and inclusive platforms to achieve cities' and global goals, and the preservation of citizen and human rights; to incorporate sharing dynamics in urban planning and foster citizen engagement among others. To support these follow-up actions, the Barcelona City Hall, along with the Open University of Catalunya agreed on extending the **Sharing Cities Action Task Force program**.
- **The city of Seoul** will take over from Barcelona, New York City and Amsterdam, and will support the program of collaborations between cities, as well as, to organize the next Sharing Cities Summit 2020.



Institutional moments: (Left) Mayor of Barcelona Ada Colau accompanied by Spanish and Catalan governments representatives and international cities representatives part of the Sharing Cities Encounter. (Right) Deputy Mayor of Barcelona Laia Bonet, Mayor of Barcelona Ada Colau, Commissioner of Social Economy, Local Development and Food Policies Álvaro Porro and Chairman of the Smart City Committee of Seoul Metropolitan Government Mr. Lee Jung-hoon.

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Sharing Cities Action Encounter 2019

Cities around the world face challenges and opportunities derived from the exponential growing importance of digital platforms. In 2016, 12 cities met in Amsterdam in order to celebrate the first Sharing Cities Summit. In 2017, 22 cities gathered in New York City for the second Summit. Last year, 50 cities got together to celebrate the third Summit in Barcelona. During this last Summit, a [Declaration of Common Principles and Commitments for Sharing Cities](#) was launched. In order to foster collaborations among cities and to support the implementation of the Declaration, a **Task Force** has been established. The task force has been coordinated by the city of Barcelona with the support of the 70 cities engaging in the actions developed during 2018-2019.

Sharing Cities Action is the result of the task force work. It is an empowering node and a catalyzer to favor courageous moving forward actions between cities to support city sovereignty, share regulatory efforts and empower cities in front of disruptive platforms; to establish criteria for platforms differentiation and the promotion of platforms with positive impact; to favor the transition toward sustainable models; to foster socio-economic development and digital innovation; to defend and adapt labour and digital rights; to preserve inclusion and equality; to incorporate sharing dynamics in urban planning; to impulse public innovation, citizens' engagement and policy co-creation; among other actions.

One year later, the willingness of the cities' network to be involved in the Sharing Cities Action continues. It has celebrated its revival with the **Sharing Cities Encounter 2019** at the Smart Cities Expo World Congress (SCWEC). The Encounter gathered 30 representatives of cities from all around the world and 150 actors from the international ecosystem to work and build a stronger network. The International ecosystem is composed of business platforms, civil society organisations, activists, networks, experts, research centers and other actors.

The event has been attended by the following cities: Amsterdam, Atlanta, Barcelona, Berlin, Bologna, El Prat de Llobregat, Gothenburg, Grenoble, Lisbon, Maribor, Montreal, Moscow, NYC, Seoul, Stockholm, Taipei, The Hague, Umea, Vienna, and Wroclaw. The Encounter's objective was to foster debates and exchanges between cities and actors of the ecosystem, and to define common objectives and actions for the 2020 Action Plan agenda.



SHARING CITIES ACTION ENCOUNTER 2019

19-21 November 2019



LEARN WHO IS PART OF THE QUADRUPLE HELIX SHARING ECOSYSTEM AT SHARING CITIES

Sharing Cities Action gathers several members of the Platform Economy and Collaborative Economy ecosystem to work and build a stronger network. The Sharing Cities Action Ecosystem is formed by a great variety of agents: city governments, companies, foundations, networks, research centers and other actors.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

- Ajuntament de Barcelona
- Barcelona Activa
- Ateneu de Fabricació
- European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC)
- Policy Lab EU
- Committee of regions and cities EU
- European Parliament
- Generalitat de Catalunya (DG Transparency & Open-Data, Government of Catalonia)
- OIT (International Labour Organization)
- Poznań Open Data Municipal Platform
- Rec (Recurs Econòmic Ciutadà)
- Sharing Cities Sweden

City Governments of:

- Almere
- Amsterdam
- Athens
- Atlanta
- Barcelona
- Berlin
- Bologna
- Gothenburg
- Grenoble
- Lisbon
- Milan
- Montreal
- New York
- Paris
- Seoul
- Stockholm
- Sydney
- Taipei
- Tallinn
- The Hague
- Umea
- Valencia
- Vienna
- Wroclaw

CIVIL SOCIETY

- Arsgames
- Associació Blockchain Catalunya
- Associazione Orlando
- Banco de Objetos
- Black & Brown Founders
- Calatala
- CodeBar
- Commoning in Catalonia
- Decidim
- Design Justice Mediterranean
- DigitalFems
- Desprotegides.cat
- Dones Visuals
- Éticas Foundation
- Extinction Rebellion Barcelona
- Flossbcn.org
- Flying-labs
- Geochicas
- Green FabLab
- GlobalShare
- FILMCLUB
- Iniciativa Barcelona Open Data
- Inside Airbnb
- La Coop des Communs
- Liquen Data Lab
- La Comunicadora
- La Innobadora
- My Data (Barcelona)
- Procommons - BarceloProcommons - Barcola
- Raval Data Commons
- Remix the commons
- R-Ladies
- Tecnopolítica
- The Smart Citizen
- Take Care of Each Other Network
- The Things Network Catalunya (TTNcat) / Xarxa Oberta de l'Internet de les Coses (XOIC)
- X-net
- Zebra Unite

BUSINESS PLATFORMS

- Authenticitys
- Caelum Labs
- C03Project
- Colectic
- CodeOp
- CommonsCloud
- Economia Humana
- Eirisell
- Extinction Rebellion Barcelona
- Fairbnb.coop
- Food Coop
- Guifi.net
- Goteo.org
- Jamgo
- Katuma
- Mammaproof
- Making Sense
- Metadecidim
- Moving3Dmachine
- Montera34
- OpenODS
- Platoniq
- Railgrup
- Sic4change
- Sinestesia
- Six-Ter
- Sensitive Cities Academy
- SMartIB
- Sokotech
- Som Mobilitat
- Storydata
- Teamlabs
- Tecnalia
- The Data Place
- Vanwoow
- Vocdon.io
- Viquidones
- Wikiesfera
- Wikimedia España
- Wikimedia Foundation
- Xarxa d'Economia Solidaria (XES)
- Ouishare
- E-reuse

UNIVERSITIES/RESEARCHERS

- Antigona
- Austrian Centre for Digital Humanities
- Bicocca Università degli studi di Milano
- CIDOB - Barcelona Centre for International Affairs
- Emerson College
- Harvard University: Governance of Data in Cities
- IN3, Interdisciplinary Internet Institut (UOC)
- Kanazawa Institute of Technology
- Lund University
- MIT
- My Data, My Rules, ESADE
- European Project PLUS (Platform Labour in Urban Spaces)
- RESCUUE
- Grup Tecnopolítica BCN IN3 UOC
- Universidad Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)
- FACSO, Universidad de Chile
- Universitat de Barcelona
- Universidad de Sevilla
- Viable Cities

OTHER PARTICIPANTS:

- Approach Villages
- Bird.co
- Scout.co
- SINGA Spain



The Encounter included a three-days laboratory of innovation. The Sharing Cities Stand Lab at the Exhibition Area involved all the stakeholders of the ecosystem and acted as a central space; holding cocreation sessions, workshops, round tables and showcasing projects. In addition, working meetings between cities representatives, and a track on “*Inclusive and Sharing Cities*” also took place at the Congress.

The European Union has also been part of this Encounter through the presence of representatives from the European Parliament and the European Commission (EC). The European Committee of the Regions (CoR) has also been present through the voice of Vienna, which developed an own-initiative, adopted recently by the CoR. The Sharing Cities Stand Lab **has been awarded to be part of the European Social Economy Regions Plan 2019 (ESER 2019) by the European Commission General Directive of Grow**. This award implied an active involvement with the participation at the Encounter of Ulla Engelmann, Head Unit of Advanced Technologies, Cluster and Social Economy, DG for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs.

The organization of the Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 has been the result of a joint effort of the City Council of Barcelona and the Dimmons research group of the Open University of Catalonia (UOC). Both entities are committed to the continuation of the Sharing Cities Action Program and the expansion of its operations during 2020.

Furthermore, **Seoul Metropolitan Government** takes over from Barcelona, New York City and Amsterdam, and will support the program of collaborations between cities, and organize the following Sharing Cities Summit. Seoul hopes that the next year Summit will be an opportunity not only for many cities from around the world to exchange their wonderful experiences about sharing, but also to reach a new level of cooperation between cities. Barcelona will give support to Seoul in organizing successfully the next Summit.



One year since the Declaration of Sharing Cities

Collaborations and Actions taken by cities between 2018 and 2019

During this first year of the Sharing Cities Action Task Force, the number of cities involved has expanded from 50 to 67. The task Force activities have contributed to the development of common and shared views between cities, including support and contribution to actions and developments from other cities and networks with common goals: the opinion issued by the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) on platform economy, and the European Network of Short Term Holiday Rental.

The Task Force has also developed action research in order to support and inform about cities actions. The research has been focused on: the state of policies of cities in the field; the connection between the Sharing Star (the democratic dimensions of digital platforms' features) the Declaration of Sharing Cities at the city level, the Global Sustainable Goals of the 2030 agenda, and lobby strategies by platforms. In addition, the program has catalyzed cities lobbying together, and Collaborations among cities on Short Vacation Rental.

Communication between cities: Expansion of the Sharing Cities Action network from 50 to 67 cities

As a result of the actions that have been taking place during this last year, the Sharing Cities Action network has expanded. In concrete, the communication has been extended from the 50 cities who were part of the Barcelona Sharing Cities Summit 2018, to 67 cities from 36 different countries.

Almere, Amsterdam, Athens, Atlanta, Barcelona, Berlin, Bethlehem, Bilbao, Bologna, Bordeaux, Bristol, Buenos Aires, Brussels, Città Metropolitana di Catania, Corunna, Eindhoven, El Prat de Llobregat, Fez, Ghent, Gothenburg, Grenoble, Kobe, Krakow, Lisbon, Madrid, Malmo, Maribor, Melbourne, Milan, Montelíbano, Montreal, Montreuil, Moscow, Munich, Neapoli-Sykie, Muscat, Naples, NYC, Paris, Porto, Prague, Reykjavik, Rijswijk, Rotterdam, San Francisco, Santiago de Compostela, Sao Paulo, Seoul, Singapore, Stockholm, Sydney, Taipei, Tallinn, Terrassa, The Hague, Thessaloniki, Toronto, Turin, Umea, Utrecht, Valencia, Vienna, Vilnius, Vitoria, Warsaw, Wroclaw, Zagreb.

Developing common views: Opinion for the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) on platform economy

The City of Vienna has developed, during the year 2019, an own-initiative report on sharing economy for the Commission on Economic Policy (ECON) of the European Committee of the Regions (CoR): “**A European framework for regulatory responses to the collaborative economy**”. This report mentions the [Declaration of Sharing Cities](#) and the European Cities Network on Short-Term Holiday Rental. It has been debated on 9th of July and on 22th October in the ECON, and finally presented and adopted by unanimity at the Plenary Session of the CoR on 5th December.

The rapporteur for this opinion was Peter Florianschütz (AT/PES), Member of the Vienna Regional Parliament and Member of Vienna City Council.

Sharing Cities Action contributed to collect opinions from the cities to inform the CoR positioning for the second and final document, which was debated on the 22nd of October 2019 in the ECON.

Access the [full text of the opinion](#) and the [press release of City of Vienna](#). Key insights of this initiative and the CoR positioning were presented in the Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 by Klemens Himpele, Head of Department for Economic Affairs, Labour and Statistics, of Vienna City Administration. [Slides](#), [recorded session](#) (minute 25:56 to 32:45 and 43:24 to 45:53).

Action Research to empower cities

This year, action research has been developed in order to support cities' action. Next year further research will be performed to inform sharing cities actions about platform economy topics that concern the participating cities.

Public Policies of the Sharing Economy by Cities

Moreover, departing from the Sharing Cities Summit 2018, Sharing Cities Action developed a new report: “**An Overview of Public Policies of the Sharing Economy by Cities**”. The report starts with an analysis of cities' conceptions and approaches regarding the sharing economy definition, its challenges and opportunities, and criteria used to differentiate platforms. Afterwards, it goes on to provide a descriptive analysis of cities' main goals and policy interventions. There, special attention was paid to gender and inclusive policy interventions. Thirdly, the different particularities of policy design processes were studied focusing on government structure, participatory methodologies, collaborations among cities, and connections between different stakeholders and cities' administrations. Lastly, an analysis of cities' typology was developed regarding their reactions towards Sharing Economy.

Among the main findings of the study, we would like to highlight two of them. First of all, each city differs in their own conceptions and definitions regarding the “Sharing Economy” and their orientation towards the different types of platforms (see Annex II for more information on Models of Platform Economy). There are cities whose orientation is characterized by a focus on the legal challenges posed by unicorn platforms. These cities try to mitigate the negative externalities of unicorn platforms while promoting their more beneficial aspects. Other cities are more focused on platform cooperativism and/or community based initiatives. These are mostly concerned with reinforcing existing networks while helping these “alternative” initiatives to be viable, fostering entrepreneurship.

Secondly, we found that the most selected goals are “promoting innovation” and “community development/gender, social and inclusion goals”, both selected by 65% of the cities. It is followed by “economic development/employment” for 59% of respondents; “regulating to help prevent and minimize conflicts created by platform disruptive impacts” for 53% of respondents, and “improving the environment” for 41% of respondents. “Consumer choice and protection” occupies the last place with 29% of answers.

Promoting innovation	Community development	Economic development	Regulating	Improving the environment	Consumer choice and protection
65%	65%	59%	53%	41%	29%

Main goals of sharing economy policy (n=17)

Cities size seems to be connected to certain orientation of their policies. Cities that have both social inclusion and environmental goals are small and mid-sized, having between 500.000 and 1.000.0000 inhabitants in their urban area: Ghent, Gothenburg, Maribor, Umeå and Vitoria-Gasteiz. The only exception is Stockholm with more than 1.5 million inhabitants in its urban area. These cities have a history of involvement either with the social and solidarity economy or with environmental policy.

The nine cities which selected “regulation in order to cope with the negative impacts of the platform economy” as a goal are, in their majority, larger than the ones that have social and environmental goals. These are Amsterdam, Barcelona, Ghent, Milan, New York, San Francisco, São Paulo, Toronto, and Vienna. This can be attributed to the fact that they are the ones most affected by the activities of Airbnb and Uber, which triggered protests from both incumbents in their sector and residents affected by the changes in their neighborhoods.

Lobby activities in Brussels from large platforms like Airbnb and Uber

The Task Force has established a collaboration with the Corporate European Observatory (CEO), a research and campaign group working to expose and challenge the perceived access and influence enjoyed by corporations and their lobby groups in EU policy making.

In September 2019, the CEO launched a new report on Platforms's lobbying in Europe: "[Über-influential? How the Gig Economy's Lobbyists undermine Social and Workers Rights](#)". As gig economy companies are spending more than ever on lobbying the EU, the study shows how the platforms like Uber and AirBnB are fighting the regulation of their sector in Europe. "Uber Influential" reveals lobbying tactics of the billion-dollar corporations, whose business depends on the exemption from social and workers' rights laws, as well as the tax rules that apply to their analogue competitors.

Another report to have a look at is "[UnFairbnb. How online rental platforms use the EU to defeat cities' affordable housing measures](#)" (May 2018). Key insights have been presented in the Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 by Kenneth Haar from the CEO through a brief [video](#) recorded for the cities' meeting.

Data Strategies for Cities to facilitate Negotiation with Platforms

The Sharing Cities Action task force has established a collaboration with Murray Cox from [Inside Airbnb](#) (an independent, non-commercial set of tools and data that allows you to explore how Airbnb is really being used in cities around the world) to develop a **study on Data Strategies for Cities to facilitate Negotiation with Platforms**. This collaboration fits into the goal of promoting common actions between cities to defend the sovereignty of cities in front of large platforms.

The goal of the study is the systematization of knowledge about negotiation with platforms to inform possible actions and strategies that cities may develop from each responsible department. The participant cities are the following: Amsterdam, Athens, Barcelona, Berlin, Bologna, Bordeaux, Grenoble, Krakow, Montreal, Munich, Neapoli-Sykie, Paris, Porto, Rotterdam, San Francisco, Tallinn, Thessaloniki, Umea, Valencia and Vienna.

The results were presented and debated among cities in the Sharing Cities Encounter 2019. The report is being further developed for a new version in February. The current results can be found [in this presentation slides](#). The study was also presented at the Smart City Expo World Congress in Barcelona, which was recorded ([Youtube](#), minute 1:48:31). Some of the highlights are shown [in this article](#) at Medium.

In many of the cities surveyed, there is no specific legislation, which means that the platforms are not obliged to share their data (including addresses, owners' names, number of nights occupied). The majority of the twenty cities surveyed around the world have not achieved the desired results in negotiations with tourist apartment rental platforms such as Airbnb, due

largely to this lack of regulation. 62% have agreements in place with one or more platforms to collect taxes on tourist apartment rentals. However, very few city councils have been able to access the data, being the ones that already have specific regulations. The cities that already have their own legal framework are able to negotiate more easily with the platforms to obtain specific data and modify protocols



(From Right to Left) Murray Cox presenting the study in the Congress at Smart City Expo World Congress. Mayo Fuster, Director of Sharing Cities Action and Director of Dimmons - UOC. Albert Eefting, Senior Policy Advisor on housing affairs at City of Amsterdam & coordinator of the European cities network on short term holiday rental

The study shows that cities need to unite to be able to gain more negotiating power with the platforms and also to call for European regulation that does more to protect cities.

Lobby together: Collaborations among cities on Short Vacation Rental

Sharing Cities Action has been supporting and cooperating with the European cities network on short term holiday rental. This network is formed by 19 European cities and regions that are working together on **the challenges of the Short-term Rental Platforms to tackle common problems regarding their socioeconomic impact**. It aims at reorienting the growth on touristic activities mediated by platforms towards sustainable growth. In other words, it pursues to foster the social and economic sustainability of the housing market, as well as, to ensure and improve the quality of life in both cities and regions. An example of **coordinated action** among the members of this working group **has been the recent [joint press](#)** positioning **"Cities alarmed about the European protection of holiday rental"** after the recent Opinion of the Advocate-General (AG) of the EU Court of Justice concerning Airbnb, and benefit from the freedom to provide services, laid down by the so called E-commerce Directive of the European Union.

Key insights of the European cities network on short term holiday rental have been presented in the Smart City Expo World Congress and in the Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 by Albert Eefting, Senior Policy Advisor on housing affairs City of Amsterdam & coordinator of the European cities network on short term holiday rental. [Slides](#), [recorded session](#) (minute 1:38:35).

Agenda of Key issues and goals Encounter 2019

Progress on common views and resources



Star of Democratic Qualities of Digital Platforms & Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)

The first principle of the Declaration of Common Principles and Commitments for Sharing Cities points towards the importance to differentiate platform models. In this regard, the **Sharing Cities Summit Barcelona 2018** worked over the Sharing Star as a tool that is useful for differentiating platforms depending on their democratic and collaborative attributes.

The **Star of Democratic Qualities of Digital Platforms** factors in governance, economic strategy, technology, and data policies as dimensions of platform economy initiatives. It also looks at platforms' externalities, such as their impact and their social responsibility dimension. The Sharing Star's new approach developed over 2019 helps to tackle the challenges raised by the

platforms and it can entail and contribute to achieve the objectives of the Declaration of Sharing Cities principles (at the city level) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (at the global level).



[Link to png format](#)

The Future of Work and Labour Rights

During the Sharing Cities Encounter 2019, several sessions took place around the topic of labour in the platform economy departing from the European Project H2020 **Platform Labour in Urban Spaces (PLUS project)**. On the one hand, at the Sharing Cities Stand Lab one of the sessions was a discussion about possible modifications on employment regulations, expansion of (digital) rights and co-creation of public policies surrounding platform labour. **The session was already a first step towards co-creation processes since apart from experts, different alternative business models based on cooperativistic legal structures gave their insights.** On the other hand, a debate about platform labour in urban spaces took place in the Congress Area of the SCEWC. Concretely, this debate focused on Platform Economy's impact on work, welfare, social protection and the right to the city through a ground-breaking trans-urban approach to promote collaboration among cities. This debate among Commissioner Alvaro Porro (Barcelona City Council), Katalin Gennburg (Berlin House of Representatives), Deputy Mayor Matteo Lepore (Bologna City Council) is available following [this link](#).

Dimmons Research Group from the Open University of Catalonia (UOC) is one of the partners of the European H2020 **Platform Labour in Urban Spaces (PLUS)** project, which started at the beginning of 2019 and will be continued until 2021. To highlight some insights from the current analysis:

- Digital platforms are having an impact on the working conditions of workers. On the one hand, it is affecting the legal consideration of workers, and on the other hand, it turns digital platforms into new intermediaries and control tools. These are the main elements to consider in this new framework of platform capitalism.
- In parallel, there are emerging platforms linked to platform cooperativism. These models adopt a more or less commonly used format. The development and scalability of these new platforms will be the key to the construction of an alternative system to digital capitalism.
- In any case, public policies must play a fundamental role in the regulation of platforms. In this regard, there is an additional difficulty: local administrations have limited competencies in an area of great impact on urban areas.
- The co-creation of public policies including the actors of the quadruple helix (civil society, research, companies and public administration) is a key element regarding two main aspects. Firstly, in responding to the impact that unicorn platforms are causing on the working conditions of the platform workers. Secondly, co-creation of public policies may be a tool for the promotion of fairer alternative models in economic, social and environmental terms.

Sessions in Sharing Cities Encounter 2019:

Session 1: Labour & Digital Platforms. The appearance of disruptive digital platforms like Uber or Airbnb has generated a great deal of public controversy and has made it crystal clear that our cities are changing in terms of labour and rights. How should the current laws be modified to face these challenges? Should a new contractual form be designed? Should current rights be expanded? The PLUS project analyses the current state of platform labour in urban spaces, and focuses its attention to how we can achieve alternative models towards the promotion of labour and digital rights. [Youtube](#)

Session 2: Sharing Cities: Platforms in Urban Spaces. Departing from the Declaration of Common Principles and Commitments for the Sharing Cities (Barcelona, 2018) agreed by around 50 cities, this panel is structured in two parts intertwined. The first part was focused on a discussion about the impact of platform labour in urban spaces. On the other side, a second part centred on the importance of an alliance among cities and the work carried on by the Sharing Cities Action Taskforce. At last, activist Murray Cox introduces the article: "A coordinated negotiation with platforms? Data Policies & Strategies with focus on Short Term Rental Tourism by Dimmons Research Group and Murray Cox from Inside Airbnb. [Youtube](#)

Inclusive Platforms and Feminist Economics



The Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 has been highly committed to the gender equality global goal. Thus, at the Sharing Cities Stand Lab several sessions developed gender analysis of the current state of the platform economy. The analysis was mainly focused on three axes; the position of women valued through their participation: data representation and working conditions; the care economy in the frame of the platform economy; and the role of public administration in promoting equalitarian and inclusive platform economy models.

Lina Gálvez, Committee of Members of the European Parliament

The sessions supposed a first phase in the creation of a new theoretical and practical framework for a **feminist digital economy**. As a result of the gender analysis developed, we would like to highlight **four main outcomes** of diverse sessions:

- Take into account, the **knowledge developed from feminist economics on how to create a more sustainable and inclusive economic model** in research and practices. Feminist economics is proposing a new epistemology of what the economy is. Thus, Feminist Economics understands the economy as a method of “social provisioning”, as the way in which human beings collectively organize themselves in order to guarantee their survival. In that sense, the sharing economy is supporting this understanding with good practices. However, patriarchal and capitalist ideologies are interrelated forms of dominance that go through all economic activities impacting gender inequity, as well as racial and class inequities, and they may persist within the platform economy.
- The increasing importance that **care-based service work** (care of human bodies and maintenance of physical spaces; i.e. reproductive work) will have in the platform economy- There is a sheer quantity of home-based service work that forecasts to exist in the future due to the demographic challenges, basically because of the aging population, i.e. inverted pyramid. The platform economy can offer: i) proposals for care work to be recognized as a relevant societal economic activity relevant to social well-being; 2) effective and adapted solutions to different care needed users; 3) favorable working conditions to promote a quality service.
- The relevance of doing **gender impact evaluations and gender-sensitive budgeting to urban sharing practices/initiatives**. For democratic cities to offer sharing initiatives for all, participatory processes to amplify conversation among all citizens are required. For such purpose, **digital tools as data and political tools as gender-sensitive budgeting are fundamental**.
- A general agreement that the sharing economy is presenting as a revolutionary new model of production and consumption with endless and unimaginable solutions to offer. However, we recognised that **the great challenge is to frame these solutions in a democratic framework able to redistribute equally and recognise all individuals**. In this regard, androcentric visions of economic matters need to be reviewed and start a dialogue with those who have been traditionally excluded. We agreed that we need to **develop methodological frameworks to understand economics from a justice and equality basis**. We agreed that it is not about to “add women and stir” but to do structural changes to really offer solutions to the cities’ and global great challenges.

This edition’s commitment to equality has also been materialised through the creation of a **GENDER POLICY CODE OF CONDUCT AND GOOD PRACTICES** to promote the following ([link to the document](#)):

- 1) Defending the event as an area of equality and free of gender violence.
- 2) Generating knowledge with a gender perspective.

- 3) Adopting affirmative action measures in the configuration of the panels and activities that took place.
- 4) Using an inclusive and non-sexist language.
- 5) Creating an inclusive space.

Sessions in Sharing Cities Encounter 2019:

Session 1: Feminist digital economy: towards a feminist platform, enterprise or/and policy. The pursuit to achieve more sustainable and inclusive models for our cities requires a change of perspective and a transformation of our economic system. In this matter, the feminist economics questions the individualist competitiveness of the current neoliberalist economical system, and proposes a more collaborative and sustainable way of life. At this point, it seems that feminist economics can initiate a fruitful dialogue with the collaborative digital economy. In this session we discuss how collaborative economy and feminist economics can achieve synergies and start a dialogue. [Mayo Fuster's slides](#), [Monica Grau's slides](#), [Youtube](#).

Session 2: Gender Meet up,

Part I - Lightning talks with gender perspective. The Gender MeetUp is an open meeting where different organizations and initiatives led by women explain their objectives, scope and views about their experiences. A gender perspective elevator pitch that covers different projects and fields: from cinema to tech, also from social economy to data, and even from collective democracy initiatives to research.

Part II - Inclusion and gender at Wiki and FLOSS environments. In the FLOSS environments there is a clear gender gap that we need to face. Only 2% of the Free/Libre/Open Source Software developers are women. Why is this happening? Why are there so few female FLOSS developers? How is Wikipedia facing the gap between men and women members? How does Wikipedia work out the gender gap? In this session women in tech share their experience on Inclusion & Gender at Wiki and FLOSS environments, as well as their perspectives on bridging the gender gap. [Youtube](#), [Wikidones UPF slides](#), [Viquesfera slides](#), [Ars Games slides](#), [Codebar slides](#), [CodeOp slides](#), [Digital Fems slides](#), [Gender Violende Bcn app slides](#).

Session 3: Data and Gender: the importance of Data with gender perspective in Public Policies. We only have partial snapshot of women's lives because there are gaps in gender data. How can we achieve gender equality if we do not have enough data to generate clear policies or enough data to track actions? Session focused on hearing the opinion of actors with great knowledge in this field and giving various examples of good use of GENDER DATA cases. [Youtube](#)

Session 4: GenderDataLab: Hacking session, sessió de hacking. Which is the situation of women in terms of gender representation in the Barcelona's cultural sphere? Can we overcome the gender gap through software? In this session, we first work on a data visualization of the state of the art. After this, we focus on the specific case of theatre to

analyze if there is a gender gap between the programmed directors of the 2019-2020 season. By the end of the session we set up a database on Barcelona's cultural sphere with gender perspective.

Session 5: Design Justice Lab. Bridging the gaps in the digital sphere must be a top priority. From a Design Justice perspective, this session will analyze the design of the Sharing Cities Action to check if the project is challenging or reproducing the domination matrix. The objective is clear: to show how we can ensure that no collective is left behind.
[Youtube](#)

Session 6: The impact of the digital transformation on achieving an egalitarian society. The European Parliament agenda. How can we achieve an egalitarian and inclusive society giving the outstanding impact of the digital transformation? The rapid evolution of the digital sphere requires a high level of reflection from the political institutions. Lina Galvez is part of the Science and Technology Options Assessments (STOA), a committee of members of the European Parliament devoted to all issues related to science and technology assessment. Galvez will introduce which is the European Parliament agenda in terms of promoting a better education and an active inclusion of all citizens.
[Youtube](#)

Data Commons

Nowadays digital technologies allow us to turn everything into data. Currently, all of us are producing data that afterwards is aggregated to be analyzed, shared and sold. All that information constitutes digital patterns that reveal behaviors, interests and habits of the digital society. **Data has an immense value that is being concentrated in a very few hands especially in big corporations and in some States.** The most valued companies base their business model in the uses of all this information, that goes from continuous advertisement to intervention in political processes up to generating citizen rankings.

Worried by corporate data extractivism, **several initiatives against technological determinism are appearing in the public sphere with the aim to foster individual and collective rights towards data uses.** A fairer data economy implies **not only the promotion of open data and personal data control initiatives, but also the consideration of data as a commons.** A model that goes beyond the data-centric visions and regulations, and looks to the technological, legal, economic social structures among others. Last April, **more than 50 experts signed a manifesto for data sovereignty and commons.** This collective action proposed adopting alternative data management models that are more transparent and democratic as a way of combating surveillance capitalism. **During the Sharing Cities Action 2019 Encounter several sessions focused on data issues, including a debate on the principles agreed in this Manifesto and a Data Commons Workshop .**

Moreover, the Sharing Cities Action gave a large space to work on how **data could include a gender perspective to contribute to the transformation towards more sustainable, inclusive and diverse cities**. The Sharing Cities Stand Lab 2019 has been compiling a series of discussions and debates that reflect the state of the art in the data fields related to gender issues. In concrete, the three sessions hosted in the Stand Lab have shown that **in the FLOSS environments there is a clear gender gap that we need to face. Only 2% of the Free/Libre/Open Source Software developers are women**. Moreover, we only have a partial snapshot of women's lives because of the existing gaps in gender data. It becomes crucial to **devote resources on understanding why this gap is produced and how we can overcome it**. For instance, **The GenderDataLab hacking session has been working on the creation of a database with a gender perspective and on its visualization**. The database was focused on the representation of women in Barcelona's cultural sphere on the specific case of theatre to analyze if there is a gender gap between the programmed directors of the 2019-2020 season in Barcelona.

Sessions in Sharing Cities Encounter 2019:

Session 1: New Deal for the Future of Data Commons: Data Commons Manifesto. On April 2019, more than 50 experts signed a manifesto for data sovereignty and commons. This collective action proposed adopting alternative data management models that are more transparent and democratic as a way of combating surveillance capitalism. In this session, a group of experts debate on the principles agreed in the Manifesto to reach a New Deal for the Future of Data Commons. [Slides](#)

Session 2: Data Commons Workshop. Various researchers specialized in the field of Data Commons run a workshop. In the era of surveillance capitalism, this workshop gives us tools to build data commons and indications on how to address data regulation.

Session 3: City sovereignty and Data policies. Special focus on Tourism Platforms. Digital platforms currently represent an existential threat to our democracies. The most used digital platforms, also in the touristic field, have as their main business model the surveillance of citizens and the commodification of personal information. However, algorithms and big data can also be used to serve citizens, improve public services and working conditions. How can data sovereignty be restored? How can citizens take back the control of their data? Can we obtain collective benefits from sharing information? Can citizens' rights be put at the center? [Youtube](#)

Session 4: Data and Gender: the importance of Data with gender perspective in Public Policies. We only have partial snapshot of women's lives because there are gaps in gender data. How can we achieve gender equality if we do not have enough data to generate clear policies or enough data to track actions? Session focused on hearing the opinion of actors with great knowledge in this field and giving various examples of good use of GENDER DATA cases. [Youtube](#)

Session 5: GenderDataLab: Hacking session, sessió de hacking. Which is the situation of women in terms of gender representation in the Barcelona's cultural sphere? Can we overcome the gender gap through software? In this session, we first work on a data visualization of the state of the art. After this, we focus on the specific case of theatre to analyze if there is a gender gap between the programmed directors of the 2019-2020

season. By the end of the session we set up a database on Barcelona's cultural sphere with gender perspective.

Session 6: Cities and Wikiprojects. Wikipedia is the source of all knowledge, and that includes all relevant information about our cities, street names, monuments, and notorious individuals. Come and learn fun and innovative ways in which the Wikimedia movement has partnered with cities globally - from editathons to create articles about famous street names, to contests to capture open images and data on local monuments. Come learn how to have your city's knowledge represented in the largest encyclopedia humanity has ever known! [Youtube](#)

Session 7: Ethics, Data and Transparency Models. This session frames a critical issue at the heart of a data-driven society: how is data handled across the diverse sectors in which we engage? The panel discuss new paradigms of data ethics and transparency of data system design across civic publics and IT sectors. The goal is to activate a broader conversation on what direction civic action might take to advance this ethos. [Youtube](#)

Climate Change and Sustainability

New advances in the fields of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT), Machine Learning (ML) and other technological areas aim to deeply transform cities towards technologically interconnected urban spaces, known as the "Smart Cities". However, **Cities becoming smarter does not mean that they become wiser, more sustainable, more democratic or fairer.** The current model of technological development is dominated by a very few incredibly big international companies. These main players are contributing to sharpen socioeconomic inequalities while having incalculable environmental impacts. **Cities can take full advantage of the advances of all these innovations to reduce the environmental footprint, but they need to take action.**

The ideas that have sprung from here are very much related to the need to articulate bottom-up collective action, beyond the individual and small-scale initiatives, as one of the guests said, "all collaborative efforts need to come together, that's the next step." Trust, democracy, collaboration and the pursuit of diverse sovereignties as "one of the paths to social empowerment", while rethinking and deconstructing the role of mere consumers, towards a necessary big structural change.

Whereas technology facilitates this long term process, there was also space for self-critique on "how much it is that inclusive rather than exclusive", and how digital based pro-sustainable initiatives should address the issue of outreach and access by marginalized communities to build and democratize a really sustainable future for all.

On the one hand, **the Sharing Cities Action Encounter hosted a panel and a collaboration with Viable Cities.** Viable Cities is the main project worldwide on Urban Sharing. In concrete, this project is working on how cities can transit into **Climate Neutral Cities** through digital innovation and civic engagement.

On the other hand, cities can take full advantage of the advances of all these innovations to reduce the environmental footprint by **working with cooperative and collaborative business models**, rooted in having a positive impact on our environment. **The Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 has been a meeting point for Catalan and international projects working on environmental sustainability such as Som Mobilitat.**

During the Sharing Cities Action Encounter 2019 several sessions around sustainability issues have taken place.

Session 1: Sustainable Future for all. A Sustainable Future For All” session has brought together an eclectic group of initiatives, whose work ranges from decentralized energy exchange to electronics re-use, sustainable travel to food cooperativism, climate and political action and social networking for transformative communities. Having in common strong environmental concerns and a digital based approach at the center of their operations, the panel explored their relation to the motto of the session: whereas "sustainability" has become a buzzword co-opted by the interests of the major neoliberal corporations, what is the sustainable future each initiative aims at after all? [Youtube](#)

Session 2: Shared mobility, micromobility, a last mile solution for Public Transport. Because of the rapid evolution of technology, citizens' lifestyles have also changed: current public transports may not be enough to satisfy their needs if they do not change accordingly. Shared & on-demand e-mobility operators (by car, bike, moto, scooter, etc) are emerging and offering a real “door2door” mobility. Some of them even understand this new option as the perfect complement of public transports, its “last mile” solution. Various projects involving shared mobility come together to share their views on working for a mobility service towards more livable and sustainable cities. [Youtube](#)

Session 3: Climate Innovation Hackathon Barcelona 2030: An open co-creation session guided by Team Labs and SIC4Change that includes city planners from PEMB (Strategic Metropolitan Plan of Barcelona) and makers from Team Labs' LEINNERS community. They have gathered up to imagine the Barcelona we want for 2030, seeking to maximize climate resilience and equity. It has constituted the launchpad for a wider “social innovation for the climate” process within the new Barcelona Metropolitan Strategic Plan.

CONCLUSIONS & FORWARD ACTION FOR 2020

Sharing Cities and Platform Economy is a s.XXI topic and growing on attention. All cities agreed that Platforms have landed in our cities and life to stay. At the same time, this new scenario, and still evolving phenomenon, brings challenges to tackle and opportunities to explore.

After the success of the **Sharing Cities Stand Lab** last year, this new edition **consolidates it as the referent space on the sharing economies and sharing cities within the Smart City Expo World Congress**. This 2019's edition, congregated 30 cities representatives from around the world and 150 actors from the international sharing ecosystem: business platforms, civil society, networks, experts, activists and research centers. Key topics were: The Future of Work, Inclusion and Gender Equality, Data Policies and Commons, and Environmental Sustainability.

The famous sentence "Platforms are eating the world", the fast pace of technological and digital disruptions and the immense power of some "unicorn platforms" demands courageous actions from the different stakeholders of society. Cities are experiencing the local impacts and need new ways to approach the situation in order to defend City Sovereignty and a city livable for all citizens.

The organisation of the first Sharing Cities Summits was born from this necessity. After the three editions celebrated so far (Amsterdam 2016, NYC 2017 and Barcelona 2018), **Seoul takes the lead and will host the 4th edition of Sharing Cities Summit in 2020, expected by the end of September**.

After the 3rd edition in Barcelona, the necessity of keeping the cities energy moving in between the Sharing Cities Summits was identified, as well as the development of concrete actions that support the Declaration of Sharing Cities launched in 2018. Barcelona has established Sharing Cities Action as a hub of communications with cities and other networks, and a task force to develop concrete actions, as for example leading the development of a proposal to apply to European funds (Urbact), the development of the study on "Data Strategies for Cities to facilitate Negotiation with Platform" in collaboration with Inside Airbnb and the organisation of the Sharing Cities Stand Lab in the Smart City Expo World Congress. **Sharing Cities Action will continue its activities during this year 2020 and will explore how resources and efforts already being developed by cities may contribute to its purpose: concrete actions to support the Declaration of Sharing Cities**.

Cities need to unite in order to confront the power asymmetry in front of large platforms. Some cities are being proactive and pioneering local negotiations with platforms which other cities may learn from. Some others are developing lobbying actions in order to set the political agenda at higher government institutions, well as own-initiatives, such as Vienna with the European Committee of the Regions; or well specific working groups, as for example the European cities network on short term holiday rental. **2020 will be an important year at European level regulations, especially with the upcoming approval of the new Digital Services (DSA), which will replace the old e-Commerce Directive (2001)**. On-going cities lobbying actions will have an

important role on this matter and will need the support from all the cities to gain strength on elevating the cities' realities and on shaping legislation that allow us to defend City Sovereignty.

During the cities meeting in Barcelona focused on Short Term Rental, other common actions were discussed, such as systematization of information and actions developed by each city, or collective negotiation with platforms to gain leverage. **During the year 2020, this action line on Data & Negotiation Strategies will be further explored.** The upcoming new version of the study on "Data Strategies for Cities to facilitate Negotiation with Platform", will be accompanied by other resources such as a coded version of the replies to the survey that let cities know what other cities are doing; and a prototype of common database with datasets that allow cities, researchers and activists develop studies and data-driven decisions.

Size of cities matters when identifying needs and willingness of cities. This was one of the findings of the report "An Overview of Public Policies of the Sharing Economy by Cities" and it also arose in the debates held in the Sharing Cities Encounter 2019, expressed by the city representatives themselves. While tackling challenges seems more urgent for large cities, the side of exploring opportunities gains more weight for small and medium size cities. For this purpose it is important to acknowledge the coexistence of different models of platforms, being the sharing-oriented platforms the most promising to benefit the city and citizens. These sharing-oriented platforms have different economic models, different governance and a different approach to growth, for what new and alternative strategies for economic development and promotion are a key value that cities may explore. **As a first step, Sharing Cities Action will help to exchange information among cities about innovative services being developed by cities,** as for example the entrepreneurship programme focused on sharing-oriented platforms in Barcelona, *La Comunificadora* or the experience of "match-funding", a collaboration with a crowdfunding platform to finance projects with social impact.

Digital platforms are impacting platform workers' working conditions and producing changes in the labour market while they challenge current employment regulations. In this regard, public policies must play a fundamental role in the regulation of platforms. The 2019 Sharing Cities Encounter was a first step towards the co-creation of public policies including all the actors of the quadruple helix (civil society, research, companies and public administration). The co-creation of public policies is a key element regarding two main aspects. Firstly, in responding to the impact that unicorn platforms are causing on the working conditions of the platform workers. Secondly, co-creation of public policies may be a tool for the promotion of fairer alternative models in economic, social and environmental terms. Some of the cities are already being engaged with this topic and exploring what may be the role of city governments regarding this challenge. **This topic will be further developed, through the on-going european project PLUS, but also cities will have the opportunity to influence the agenda of higher institutions.** For instance, the European Commission will organise a Platform Work Summit during the 3rd quarter of 2020.

The discussion and dialogue developed from the different sessions of Sharing Cities Encounter 2019 denote there is a great necessity to embed feminist economics knowledge and methodology to confront the challenges that the new technologies and the changes that the fourth industrial revolution may impose on the way we produce, the way we consume, the way we relate to work and employment. As well as the changes this will bring to our lives and to political

participation. **Sharing Cities Action will develop, through the Research-in-action capacity brought by Dimmons, new frameworks of analysis and models that help understand the challenges of the digital paradigm and facilitates the incorporation of the feminist theory knowledge into innovative policy-making.**

Year 2020 will be key for the future of our cities. Either by individual actions towards common goals or collective actions, cities need to unite efforts. A challenging and thrilling year to make step forward and dare to be bold.

ANNEX I: Actors from the Ecosystem attending the Sharing Cities Action Encounter 2019

More than 145 entities and organisations participated at the Sharing Cities Encounter 2019:

Universities and Researchers

Antigona
Austrian Centre for Digital Humanities
Bicocca. Università degli studi di Milano
CIDOB - Barcelona Centre for International Affairs
Dimmons IN3 UOC
Emerson College
Harvard University: Governance of Data in Cities
IN3, Interdisciplinary Internet Institut, Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) (UOC)
Kanazawa Institute of Technology
Lund University
MIT
My Data, My Rules, ESADE
European Project PLUS (Platform Labour in Urban Spaces)
RESCCUE
Grup Tecnopolítica BCN IN3 UOC
Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona (UAB)
FACSO, Universidad de Chile
Universitat de Barcelona
Universidad de Sevilla
Viable Cities

Public Administration:

Ajuntament de Barcelona
Ateneu de Fabricació
Barcelona Activa
Coboi
European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC) - Policy Lab
Pla Estratègic Metropolità de Barcelona

Committee of regions EU

European Parliament
Generalitat de Catalunya (DG Transparency & OpenData. Government of Catalonia)
Poznań Open Data Municipal Platform
Rec (Recurs Econòmic Ciutadà)
Sharing Cities Sweden

City Governments

Amsterdam
Atlanta
Barcelona
Berlin
Bologna
El Prat de Llobregat
Gothenburg
Grenoble
Lisbon
Maribor
Montreal
Moscow
New York City
Seoul
Stockholm
Taipei
The Hague
Umea
Vienna
Wroclaw

Platforms:

Authenticitys
Caelum Labs
CO3Project
Colectic
CodeOp
CommonsCloud
Economía Humana
Explorins

Fairbnb.coop
 Food Coop
 Guifi.net
 Goteo.org
 Holiday Exchange
 Jamgo
 Katuma
 Mammaproof
 Making Sense
 Metadecidim
 Moving
 Montera34
 OpenODS
 Platoniq
 Railgrup
 Sic4change
 Sinestesia
 Six-Ter
 Sensitive Cities Academy
 SMartIB
 SokoTech
 Som Mobilitat
 Storydata
 Teamlabs
 Tecnalía
 The Data Place
 Vanwoow
 Vocdoni.io
 Viquidones
 Wikiesfera
 Wikimedia España
 Wikimedia Foundation
 Xarxa d'Economia Solidària (XES)
 Ouishare
 E-reuse

Civil Society Organisations:

Arena Housing
 Arsgames
 Associazione Orlando
 Banco de Objetos
 Black & Brown Founders
 CodeBar
 Commoning in Catalonia

Decidim
 Design Justice Mediterranea
 Design Justice Network
 DigitalFems
 Desprotegides.cat
 Dones Visuals
 Eticas Foundation
 Extinction Rebellion Barcelona
 Flying-labs
 Geochicas
 Green FabLab
 GlocalShare
 FILMCLUB
 Iniciativa Barcelona Open Data
 Inside Airbnb
 La Coop des Communs
 Liquen Data Lab
 La Comunicadora
 La Innobadora
 My Data (Barcelona)
 Planet Coop
 Procomuns - BarcolaProcomuns - Barcola
 Prosume
 Raval Data Commons
 Remix the commons
 R-Ladies
 Sharing Cities Alliance
 The Smart Citizen
 Take Care of Each Other Network
 The Things Network Catalunya (TTNcat) /
 Xarxa Oberta de l'Internet de les Coses
 (XOIC)
 X-net
 Zebras Unite

Other participants:

Bird.co
 Scoot.co
 SINGA Spain
 Scrum Smart City

ANNEX II: Models of Platform Economy

MODELS OF PLATFORM

	OPEN COMMONS	UNICORN	PLATFORM COOPS
			
GOVERNANCE, DEMOCRATIC ECONOMY, ECONOMICAL SUSTAINABILITY AND PURPOSE EMBEDDED IN THE ECONOMIC MODEL	<p>Foundations, with community representation at the board</p> <p>Economic models adapted to keep community governance</p>	<p>Multinational company closed to community involvement</p> <p>Profit oriented driving governance</p>	<p>Small and Medium Enterprise & Cooperatives based on community ownership</p> <p>Economic sustainability and benefits destined to the mission</p>
POWER DISTRIBUTION; FREEDOM ALLOCATIONS AND OWNERSHIP EMBEDDED IN THE TECH AND KNOWLEDGE POLICY	<p>Collective and public ownership</p> <p>Open software (replicable) Open data Open licences (eg Creative Commons)</p>	<p>Private ownership</p> <p>Proprietary software Closed data Restricted Copyright</p>	<p>Depend on the case</p>
IMPACT ON VALUE CREATION AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARDS EXTERNALITIES	<p>Social Value oriented</p> <p>Bases on circular economy - Sustainable environmental impact</p> <p>Gender and diversity discrimination complaints</p>	<p>Economic value oriented</p> <p>Disruptive impacts in city sovereignty</p> <p>Environmental discrepancies</p> <p>Gender and diversity</p>	<p>Social and economic value oriented</p> <p>Based on circular economy - Sustainable environmental impact</p> <p>Gender and diversity inclusion active policies</p>

Source: Dimmons UOC

Find more information at [“Sharing Cities: A worldwide cities overview on platform economy policies with a focus on Barcelona”](#) (Fuster Morell, 2018), Chapter IV: Qualities of the different models of platforms.