



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

LSE**Cities**

Executive MSc in Cities



2020 ADMISSION





LSE Cities and its Executive MSc in Cities are making an important contribution to advancing city leadership globally. ”

Parks Tau, President, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

LSE Cities is an international centre at the London School of Economics and Political Science that carries out research, graduate and executive education, outreach and advisory activities in London and abroad. Extending LSE's century-old commitment to the understanding of urban society, LSE Cities investigates how complex urban systems are responding to the pressures of growth, change and globalisation with new infrastructures of design and governance that both complement and threaten social and environmental equity. LSE Cities was awarded the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education for 2016-2018 in recognition of its work on training, research and policy formulation for cities of the future and a new generation of urban leaders around the world.

LSE Cities hosts a young and interdisciplinary group of researchers who investigate how cities can be designed and managed to be more open, promote social inclusion, reduce the impacts of climate change and be governed more effectively. Building on its authoritative database of over 60 global cities, the centre works with local governments, international agencies other institutions on innovative applied research that shapes urban policy and practice. Through the Urban Age conferences and taskforce programme, the centre leverages its global network of urban leaders, experts and practitioners to raise the level of debate, promote knowledge exchange and influence change in the ways cities are planned, designed and governed. LSE Cities contributes to the public life of the LSE, organises major conferences and exhibitions, publishes books and research reports, and has an active social media presence.

The innovative Executive MSc in Cities, now in its fifth year, is designed around the popular 'learning while working' model for early to mid-career professionals. With five weeks of intense teaching sessions in London spread over twelve months, the programme provides direct contact with LSE faculty and global fellows, and a further six months of personalised consulting with a host organisation. This flexible, tailor-made programme in one of the top social science universities in the world attracts urban professionals in the public, private and third sectors who want to improve the way their organisations understand and deliver change in cities. Participants include mayors and policymakers, investors and property experts, as well as planning and urban design consultants from cities across the globe.

Programme Overview



The Executive MSc in Cities is aimed at urban professionals who want to rethink the way their organisations are delivering large-scale change in cities. Using an evidence-based approach, the programme builds upon LSE Cities' extensive interdisciplinary urban research programme, social science research methods and wide range of public and private sector advisory activities to train the urban leaders of tomorrow.

This 18-month executive programme is delivered in five intensive teaching sessions in London, followed by a six-month urban consultancy project in the participant's own organisation. Each of the teaching sessions features lectures, workshops and seminars led by LSE's world-leading faculty and high-profile guest speakers with direct governmental, civic and industrial experience of urban change. Through these sessions,

participants are exposed to the latest analysis, strategy and delivery tools to address urgent issues of urban inequality, economic development and environmental sustainability.

Between teaching sessions, participants work together on challenges based upon urgent issues currently facing cities. These challenges are designed with help from global NGOs and local government authorities.

Following the last teaching session, participants complete an urban consultancy project in their own organisation (or an organisation of their own choosing). Supervision support is provided remotely, allowing participants to work locally without having to return to London.



C40 WILL TURN THE PARIS
AGREEMENT FROM
ASPIRATION TO ACTION



Programme Journey

A unique programme taking you through all stages of the policy and project lifecycle with the leadership skills to help you strategise, engage and deliver.



SESSION 1: THE CHALLENGE

21-25 September 2020

THEMATIC FOCUS

What are the world's major urban challenges? How does leadership, planning and growth affect the future of cities?

LEADERSHIP FOCUS

Reflect. This opening week will help you understand your leadership values and styles. How are you placed to effectively lead change in your city?



SESSION 2: ANALYSIS

7-11 December 2020

THEMATIC FOCUS

The analytic frameworks to help you understand the latest economic, environmental and social trends in cities, including key performance indicators and understanding multicriteria assessments.

LEADERSHIP FOCUS

Diagnose. See challenges from a systems-based approach. Move beyond the analysis of urban conditions to their underlying structures, mental models and cultural values that are often resistant to the change you want to deliver.



SESSION 3: STRATEGY

8-12 February 2021

THEMATIC FOCUS

Strategic visions, forecasting and innovation. How are cities positioning themselves for more sustainable futures? How to translate broader conceptual ideas to specific urban contexts?

LEADERSHIP FOCUS

Strategise. Design strategies and pathways to action. Build your own theory of change and inspire and campaign for a shared vision amongst conflicting agents.



SESSION 4: DELIVERY

19-23 April 2021

THEMATIC FOCUS

Delivery vehicles, governance structures and financing mechanisms for environmental, social and economic programmes and projects.

LEADERSHIP FOCUS

Innovate. Understand how institutions think and create innovation cultures within your organisation.



SESSION 5: TASKFORCE

21-25 June 2021

THEMATIC FOCUS

Participants act as consultants in one of two city-focused institutions. One organisation will be seeking collective advice on metropolitan level strategic planning and infrastructure provision. The other will focus on a local master plan for a development area.

LEADERSHIP FOCUS

Collaborate. Engage in a collaborative planning framework that brings people together to achieve the change you want to implement. Facilitate agreement and negotiate.



INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANCY

Six months

Having consulted for an organisation in Session 5 as part of the taskforce, participants will conduct an individual strategic advisory/management project within an organisation of their choice.

Courses

CORE COURSES

CITIES IN AN URBAN AGE: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

An introduction to the structural dynamics that shape the way cities are governed, planned and managed in different regions across the globe. The course outlines the key environmental, social and economic drivers that determine urban change in the 21st century.

CITIES AND SOCIETY: DESIGN AND SOCIAL COHESION

The connections between how cities are configured and the impact on different social, ethnic and economic groups – including migrants, youth and the elderly - are explored in a course that investigates how the design and planning of cities can either promote social inclusion or exacerbate divisions in urban society.

CITIES AND THE ECONOMY: URBAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCE

This applied course investigates how city governments, investors and firms can drive inclusive local development in a competitive global economy. Using case studies and real-life examples, the course identifies better ways to measure the city economy and looks at how urban policy can play a key role in steering it through industrial strategies, investments in innovation and fiscal policy.

CITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT: URBAN ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSITIONS

Recognising the critical role that cities play in successfully responding to the global ecological and climate crisis, the

course identifies how the negative impacts of urban development on the environment – linked to urban sprawl, motorisation and resource use – can be reversed through innovative governance, green policies and practices that transform the way we develop and inhabit cities and regions in the future.

URBAN CONSULTATION PROJECT

The six-month final report allows participants to develop a tailor-made consultancy designed to respond to the actual urban needs of an organisation or city of their choice, including public sector agencies, corporations and companies, NGOs and international bodies.

ELECTIVE COURSES

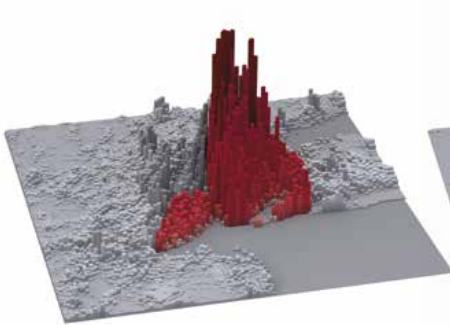
URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

A collaborative group-based workshop brings together participants with representatives of an external organisation to provide input and practical insights on infrastructure development and strategic planning for cities.

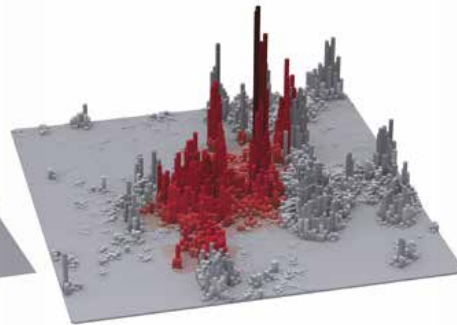
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MASTER PLANNING

A similar collaborative group-based workshop engages participants with real-life clients, landowners and city authorities to tackle selected planning, design and development issues on a major urban regeneration site.

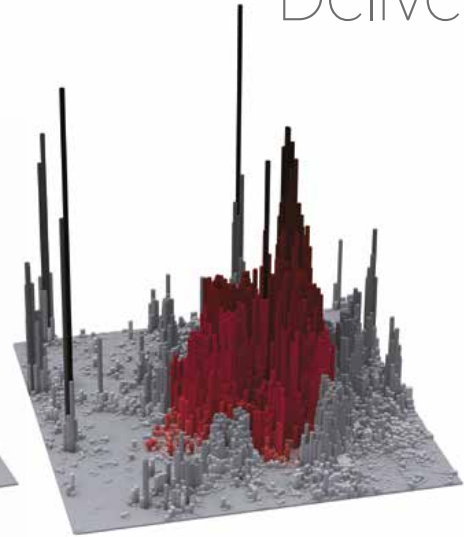
LSE CITIES HAS PIONEERED NEW FORMS OF MEASUREMENT AND REPRESENTATION OF CITY DYNAMICS, SUCH AS RESIDENTIAL DENSITY OF MANY MAJOR GLOBAL CITIES.



NEW YORK



JOHANNESBURG



DELHI

TEACHING METHODS

The Executive MSc in Cities programme utilises an innovative blend of face-to-face teaching, online learning and coaching to help participants develop the skills they need to become future urban leaders.

Sessions 1-4 consist of lectures, seminars, workshops and roundtables, delivered by LSE faculty and high-profile guest speakers. Through these sessions, participants engage with leading academics and professionals to enhance their understanding of urban design, economic development and environmental sustainability.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Leadership Development Programme is designed to aid professional development and help participants work through complex urban challenges. The programme uses a variety of frameworks and methods such as systems thinking, stakeholder

analysis and ideation labs to help participants make the case and deliver change on the ground.

SITE AND ORGANISATION VISITS

During sessions 1-4, participants visit in a variety of local governmental, private and third sector organisations involved with running and developing London. Participants are also given the opportunity to join tours of London's urban development and regeneration areas led by the key actors who have led urban change in the city.

DISTANCE LEARNING

In between teaching sessions, participants are supported in their learning through a series of online challenges delivered through collaborative online teaching tools. In addition to these, the programme directors run regular virtual office hours to discuss assessments, answer questions and offer feedback.

Taskforce

The final teaching session of each year is dedicated to a taskforce activity where participants act as consultants for a city-focused institution. Participants are given the choice of two taskforces (aligned with the programme's elective courses), one on metropolitan-level strategic planning, while the other focuses on a local master plan for a development area. New organisations are chosen each year and a few examples are listed below.

URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE AND STRATEGIC PLANNING

AMARAVATI, INDIA

Participants developed a report for the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority, intended to inform the phased building of Amaravati, the new state capital for Andhra Pradesh, India. The participants worked in teams to address issues surrounding sustainable financing, urban mobility and affordable housing.

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

Participants worked with the Addis Ababa City Plan and Development Commission on three strategic planning topics related to the Addis Ababa City Structure Plan 2017-2027. These topics addressed affordable housing, upgrading street space and nature-based solutions for urban intensification.

URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MASTER PLANNING

LONDON ROYAL DOCKS

Participants engaged with a number of organisations and interest groups (including the Greater London Authority) to develop a new Urban Park in the London Royal Docks. This process covered the overall design concept, proposed uses and suggested how the park could be operated to be financially self-sustaining.

PARK ROYAL, LONDON

Participants worked with the Old Oak & Park Royal Development Corporation to explore the future of urban manufacturing and industrial estates in cities using the case of Park Royal in London. The taskforce explored how to reinforce existing industrial and business sectors within Park Royal while also attracting new ones.





AMARAVATI, INDIA



Urban Consultancy

The Urban Consultancy Project is a six-month individual consultation undertaken in a participant's own organisation or an external organisation of their choice.

The project is an opportunity for participants to put the research and strategy skills gained over the teaching modules into practice by undertaking a piece of work that directly benefits their host organisation.

Previous consultancies have had a major impact in a diverse range of organisations, including the Asian Development Bank, the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group and the cities of Sydney, Vienna, Kampala and Medellín.

The Urban Consultancy Project is designed to allow participants to advance their careers by:

- Repositioning themselves in their current organisation.
- Supporting the development of new business plans.
- Engaging with a prospective future client or employer.
- Working with an organisation that is a sector leader in a field.
- Advising on urban strategies and policies.

The project begins with participants agreeing a brief that meets both the strategic goals of their host organisation and the academic requirements of LSE. Each participant is then allocated a supervisor from the programme's senior faculty who provides advice and guides them through the research and writing process. Supervision sessions are undertaken remotely, allowing participants to engage with the programme without having to travel to London.



Senior Faculty



Ricky Burdett

Director, LSE Cities
Research areas: City design,
social equity and planning



Tony Travers

Director, LSE London
Research areas: Urban
governance, finance and
public policy



Jo Beall

Professorial Research Fellow,
LSE Cities
Research areas: Development,
education and infrastructure



Nick Stern

IG Patel Chair of Economics
and Government, LSE
Research areas: Climate
change, economics and policy



Fran Tonkiss

Deputy Head, Department
of Sociology, LSE
Research areas: Urban
sociology, society and inequality



Suzi Hall

Director, Cities Programme, LSE
Research areas: Social diversity,
urban migration
and integration



Andrés Rodríguez-Pose

Professor, Department of
Geography, LSE
Research areas: Economic
geography, regional and urban
economic development



Alcinda Honwana

Strategic Director, Firoz Lalji
Centre for Africa, LSE
Research areas: Youth politics,
social movements
and urban cultures

Programme Co-Directors



PHILIPP RODE – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LSE CITIES

Philipp is Executive Director of LSE Cities and Co-Director of the Executive MSc in Cities at the London School of Economics and Political Science. Since 2003, he has been directing interdisciplinary projects comprising urban governance, transport, city planning and urban design. He co-directed the cities workstream of the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate in the run-up to the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference in Paris and co-led the UN Habitat III Policy Unit on Urban Governance. Philipp is a Member of the Board of Directors of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP) and Steering Committee Member of the Coalition for Urban Transitions.



SAVVAS VERDIS – SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW, LSE CITIES

Savvas is Senior Research Fellow at LSE Cities and Co-Director of the Executive MSc in Cities at the London School of Economics. Until recently he was Director of Infrastructure Economics at Siemens Cities. At LSE, he manages the Executive Education programmes, which include: tailored learning experiences for organisations; an Executive Summer School programme; and the Executive MSc in Cities. He previously worked in the advisory service of LSE Cities and led the research of the ninth Urban Age conference in Rio de Janeiro. He has consulted numerous city and national governments on their infrastructure strategies in countries such as Australia, Brazil, Ethiopia, Germany, the Netherlands, Russia and Turkey.

Guest Speakers



Sue Parnell
Global Challenges Professor of Human Geography, University of Bristol



Saskia Sassen
Robert S. Lynd Professor of Sociology, Columbia University



Mark Watts
Executive Director, C40 Cities



Greg Clark
Chair, The Business of Cities



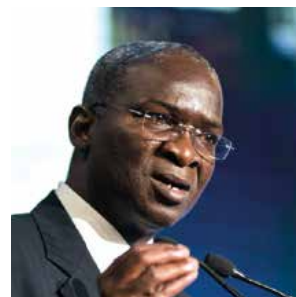
Alejandro Echeverri
Director, URBAM



Jagan Shah
Senior Infrastructure Advisor, DFID



Diane Davis
Charles Dyer Norton Professor of Regional Planning and Urbanism, Harvard



Babatunde Fashola
Minister of Power, Works and Housing, Nigeria



Jennifer Musisi
City Leader in Residence, Harvard Kennedy School



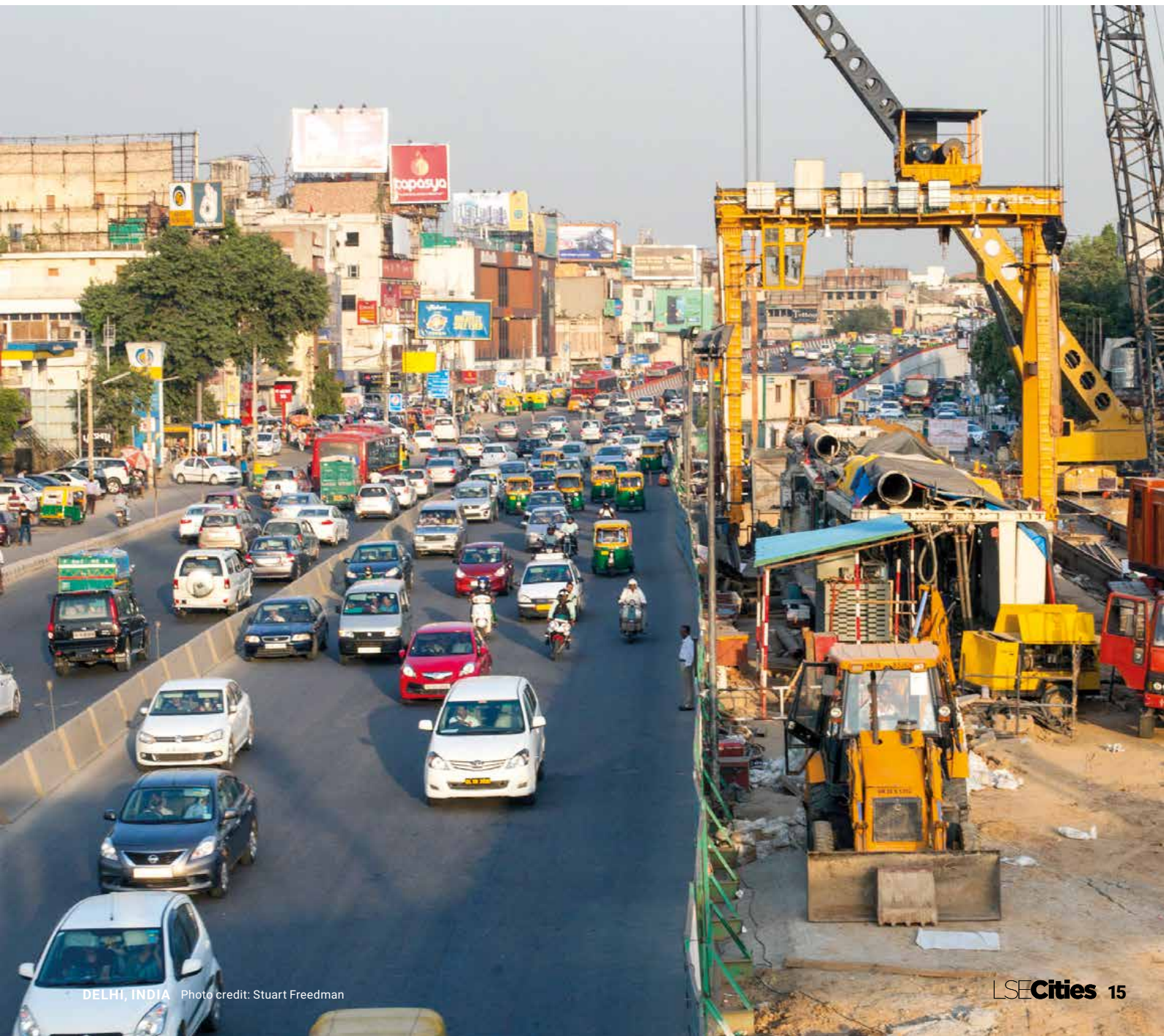
Jean Louis Missika
Deputy Mayor of Paris



Erion Veliaj
Mayor of Tirana



Rohan Silva
Co-Founder, Second Home



Participant Stories



Cecilia Vaca Jones

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR, BERNARD VAN LEER FOUNDATION

The Bernard van Leer Foundation works internationally to improve the health and wellbeing of babies, toddlers and the people who care of them. The Foundation's Urban95 initiative works with urban planners, designers, policy-makers and civil society to reimagine cities from the height of an average healthy three-year-old (95cm).

The Executive MSc in Cities helped me spread Urban95 by reaching a diverse set of great professionals who now show interest and enthusiasm for understanding how the lives and development of young children and their families are affected by urban design, mobility and the environment.



Anupma Jain

SENIOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST, ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

One of the highlights of the programme was the urban consultancy project. I took the academic research from my consultancy and turned it into a successful project proposal for regional financing and partnership, securing funds from within my organization to develop a Pacific city resilience measurement tool to prepare a sub-regional solid waste management strategy in the Pacific.

Through the innovative learning from the programme and inputs received during the consultancy, I have identified ways in which the concept of wellbeing can be woven in measurement and strategy development. It is about the people and their relationship with the urban space in which they live and work - it goes beyond just infrastructure development.



Ciarán Cuffe

MEP FOR DUBLIN

2019 has been an eventful year. After submitting my LSE Cities consultancy project in March, I kicked off my election campaign to represent Dublin in Europe. I was honoured to top the poll in Dublin, and receive a merit grade for my work on 'Decarbonising Dublin'.

Now I am working on low-carbon solutions in the European Parliament, helping deliver a European Green Deal to tackle climate change across cities and regions in the European Union. The Executive MSc in Cities helped me to be more strategic in my work, and collaborate successfully on shared goals.



Hastings Chikoko

REGIONAL DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA, C40 CITIES CLIMATE LEADERSHIP GROUP

The unprecedented rate of urbanization in Africa provides an opportunity for economic growth and low-carbon development. However, the climate emergency is stretching the continent's capacity to achieve healthy and prosperous cities due to increasing climate hazards, insufficient resilience of existing infrastructure, and inadequate financial and professional capacity. C40 provides cities with the best available data, approaches and capacity necessary to develop and implement policies and programmes for a sustainable, resilient and inclusive urban future.

The Executive MSc in Cities equipped me with analytical skills to unpack complex research findings and lessons from C40 programmes, and propose to city leaders innovative ways of addressing climate change while dealing with poverty, employment creation, service delivery and inequality.

Benefits to your organisation

As an executive participant, your development on the programme will bring many valuable benefits to your organisation.

IMMEDIATE IMPACT

Studying whilst working, you can immediately apply your newly gained knowledge, skills and strategies in your workplace, contributing to new and improved efficiency and effectiveness in your team. You will be able to demonstrate enhanced communication, negotiation and influencing skills and confidence with your contextual understanding of the problems facing urban environments. Supporting a participant from your organisation offers instant return on investment.

DEVELOPING TALENT

Being a sponsored executive participant signals a strong interest in the development of the staff within your organisation. Such a commitment to nurturing talent will increase motivation, loyalty and in turn strengthen the leadership of your organisation.

CONSULTING FOR YOUR COMPANY

Through the choice of two final courses, the programme will be tailored to your organisation's specific business needs. This will be further developed during the six month consultancy project in which you will be expected to analyse specific challenges facing your business. With lectures and workshops led by world renowned faculty and a network of global urban thinkers, their leadership, knowledge and expertise flow directly into your organisation.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

You will have access to high-profile urban leaders and researchers which will offer your organisation the opportunity to tap into diverse new resources and knowledge. Your classmates will offer exposure to a wide range of professional and regional perspectives which will build your employer's global mobility.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONSULTATION

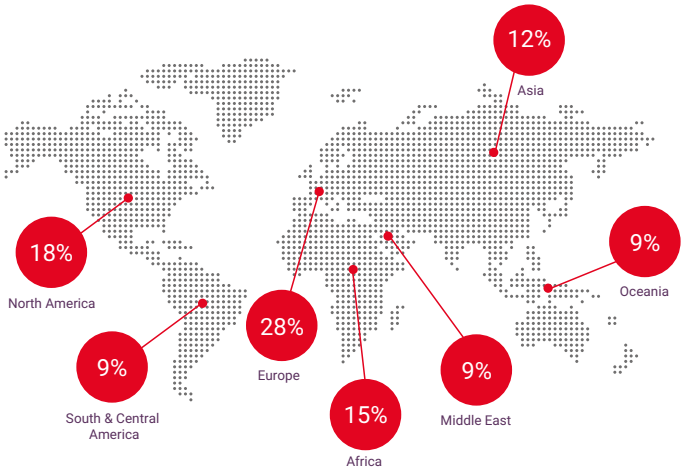
Our team will be very happy to discuss sponsorship options with you and/or your employer, ensuring that the programme is best suited to your organisation's objectives; and to your professional development needs and experience.



Who Should Apply



PARTICIPANT REGIONS



The Executive MSc in Cities welcomes applications from experienced working professionals based in any location who are committed to leading large-scale change in cities. Our alumni include senior city officials, architects, politicians, entrepreneurs, property developers, urban designers, city planners and academics.



INDUSTRY/SECTORAL AFFILIATION

ARCHITECTURE	9%
CULTURE, EDUCATION & COMMUNICATIONS	8%
MANAGEMENT CONSULTING	4%
ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY	9%
URBAN PLANNING	14%
URBAN DESIGN	10%
URBAN REGENERATION	5%
INFRASTRUCTURE AND TECHNOLOGY	8%
REAL ESTATE	7%
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	9%
LOCAL & NATIONAL GOVERNMENT	18%

However, our participants are known for their geographic and sectoral diversity, so we will consider applications from all experienced professionals who want to understand and deliver change in cities.

How to Apply

We welcome applications from working professionals based in any location around the world who are committed to leading large-scale change in cities. Our minimum requirements are below.

- Typically, a minimum of ten years of professional experience in an urban related field in the public/private/third sector, or professionals with a similar level of experience who wish to move into the urban sector.
- A good first degree: UK 2:1 or higher, OR equivalent professional qualification.
- Higher level English language: If you are not a national of a UKVI-approved English-speaking country, you can meet the LSE's language requirements in a number of ways. These include achieving the required grade in a recognised English language test or completing a course of study in a UKVI-approved English speaking country. Please consult the LSE website for details.
- Two references: two professional references, OR one professional reference and one academic reference.
- Personal statement: include your interest and suitability for the programme, career achievements and ambitions, what you hope to get out of the programme and what you believe you can bring to the class.
- CV or résumé.

If you would like to find out if this programme is right for you, we offer personal consultations for prospective applicants.

Please email your CV or résumé to exec.lsecities@lse.ac.uk and a member of the programme team will get in touch.

All enquiries should be made to:

Executive MSc in Cities
+44 (0)20 7955 7326
exec.lsecities@lse.ac.uk
lse.ac.uk/emc

All applications are made through LSE's Graduate Admissions Office. It is recommended to apply early to avoid disappointment:

lse.ac.uk/study/graduate

LSE

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Photo credit: Johannes Mann/Corbis