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## **15 cities join C40's Reinventing Cities global competition to accelerate zero-carbon, resilient and inclusive urban development**

- **Reinventing Cities, C40's global design competition for professionals, launched its fourth edition.**
- **Participating cities include: Almere, Bilbao, Bologna, Brussels, Glasgow, Milan, New York, Palermo, Renca, Rome, San Antonio, San Francisco, São Paulo, Seattle and Venice.**

**15 February, 2024 (LONDON)** - [Reinventing Cities](#), C40's global competition to transform underutilised urban sites into innovative, zero-carbon and resilient urban projects, launched its fourth edition today. The new edition invites creative professionals worldwide—including architects, planners, developers, investors, environmentalists and start-ups—to design and develop urban projects of the future.

This year, 15 world-leading cities are calling on the private sector to collaborate, driving wider change in how cities are designed and built. Participating cities include: **Almere, Bilbao, Bologna, Brussels, Glasgow, Milan, New York, Palermo, Renca, Rome, San Antonio, San Francisco, São Paulo, Seattle and Venice.**

[Sites to be transformed](#) include creating a mixed-use, resilient and inclusive development surrounding the canal in Glasgow; supporting the 15-minute city vision in Rome; creating a more vibrant waterfront in Seattle; repurposing downtown office buildings into housing in San Francisco; designing green and thriving public spaces in São Paulo and more.

Winning projects stemming from the competition are highly ambitious regarding environmental and social benefits and go beyond business as usual. To date, Reinventing Cities has engaged over 3,500 businesses worldwide with [40 projects under development](#) globally, demonstrating how urban climate leadership and collaboration with the private sector can enable zero-carbon development to serve the needs of local communities. Through this new edition, Reinventing Cities aims to grow momentum and engage even more actors in rethinking cities globally.

**Mayor of New York Eric Adams** said: "One of the most valuable resources we have here in New York City is our space — and this innovative pilot programme is the latest way that we're maximising our space to deliver a healthier, more livable city to working-class New Yorkers. Through this programme, we'll transform unused rooftop spaces into places that generate green energy and good, healthy food."

**Mayor of San Francisco London Breed** said: "Through the Reinventing Cities Competition, we're transforming underutilised downtown buildings into a range of reimagined and sustainable spaces, including housing. This initiative not only reflects our dedication to meeting San Francisco's unique challenges but also our commitment to advancing bold environmental goals as a global climate partner. Through C40, San Francisco joins cities around the world to think big by setting new benchmarks for sustainable development, greener economies, and a more resilient future for all."

**Deputy Mayor of Seattle Adiam Emery** said: "Seattle is thrilled to partner with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to create an exemplary redevelopment of the WOSCA site. This site presents unique opportunities because of its connections to the maritime sector, our new world-class waterfront open spaces, and the stadium district where we will host 2026 FIFA World Cup games. Redevelopment of this site can play an important role in the reactivation of downtown, which is a high priority for Mayor Bruce Harrell."

**Secretary of Transportation, Washington State Department of Transportation Roger Millar** said: "C40 offers an incredible opportunity to bring together innovative and creative minds from around the world to leverage and re-imagine dormant property in the heart of Seattle. It's fitting that a parcel of WSDOT owned land will now be part of a global collaborative process to re-imagine this space for multiple uses. WSDOT looks forward to working with all of the partners and neighbours we serve in the Seattle area to best leverage this opportunity for an outcome that best serves us all."

**Mayor of San Antonio Ron Nirenberg** said: "The City of San Antonio is thrilled to partner with C40 for this year's competition, which will demonstrate the climate and cultural impacts of reinvesting in existing buildings while creating a first-of-its-kind circular economy campus focused on cultivating a green workforce, improving public health, and advancing affordable housing repair and production. We look forward to project proposals from visionary teams that are eager to invest in San Antonio, and who share our vision of making our city a national and global leader in demonstrating how reuse results in resilience."

**Mayor of Milan and C40 Vice Chair for Europe Giuseppe Sala** said: "In its fourth Reinventing Cities participation, the City of Milan will test joint interventions with Agenzia del Demanio, the national Public Property Agency, focusing on student

and social housing. This is key to enhance local cooperation among stakeholders at all levels for the acceleration of Milan's transition towards a more inclusive, green and liveable urban environment."

**Mayor of Rome Roberto Gualtieri** said: "It is with great enthusiasm that Rome reaffirms its participation in Reinventing Cities, continuing to consolidate the climate action commitments towards a safer and better life for our citizens. As in previous editions, we will start from underutilised urban areas and buildings to initiate urban regeneration processes aimed at zero-emission transformation, while continuing to foster the growth of the city's economy in a sustainable, resilient and equitable way."

**Deputy Mayor of Bologna Raffaele Laudani** said: "After the first and positive experience of our city's participation in the C40 Reinventing Cities programme, this year we joined the call together with the Italian Public Property Agency with the project of the former Perotti barracks. A project focused on the answer to the growing pressure on inclusive housing, in particular supporting young people and students in our city. A project in line with the City of Knowledge and Green Footprint city-wide initiatives, which fully reflect the ambitious goals of the Reinventing Cities programme."

**Glasgow City Councillor Susan Aitken** said: "The regeneration of Glasgow's Canal has been truly transformational, delivering economic, environmental and social benefits in the shape of new workplaces, homes, cultural and leisure facilities, green and public space, a water management system and better connections for active travel. The development of the Applecross site will mark the next stage in the regeneration in a quarter of Glasgow that is an exemplar of how urban development can help us achieve net zero."

**Scottish Canals CEO John Paterson** said: "We are excited to be given this opportunity to take part in the C40 Cities Reinventing Cities competition. Our vision is to create 'better lives by water', the successful regeneration of North Glasgow has made great strides in achieving this goal. We must continue to revitalise Glasgow's canal corridor through resilient developments that are zero carbon and look forward to seeing some of the unique entries this competition brings."

**Citydev.brussels CEO Benjamin Cadranel** said: "It's with great enthusiasm that citydev.brussels takes part in Reinventing Cities, which is for the first time running in Belgium! We are sure that the site in competition, LionCity II located in the Brussels-Capital Region, will benefit from the exchange of skills that comes with participating in this international competition."

**Agenzia del Demanio Director Alessandra dal Verme** said: "Agenzia del Demanio (the Italian Public Property Agency) shares the same inspiring principles

of Reinventing Cities, which sees in the regeneration of disused assets an opportunity to contribute to making our cities more ecological, efficient, resilient and citizen-friendly. The Agency's participation represents a unique perspective in this initiative, and we are proud to present today, alongside the Municipalities of Bologna, Milan, Palermo, Rome and Venice, our strategic assets that will benefit from the international exposure of this C40 programme, to find original reuse ideas, focusing on public-private partnerships and new investment opportunities.”

This C40 initiative is made possible thanks to the support of [Ingka Group](#).

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### **About C40 Cities**

C40 is a network of nearly 100 mayors of the world's leading cities working to deliver the urgent action needed right now to confront the climate crisis and create a future where everyone, everywhere, can thrive. Mayors of C40 cities are committed to using a **science-based and people-focused approach** to help the world limit global heating to 1.5°C and build healthy, equitable and resilient communities. We work alongside a broad coalition of representatives from labour, business, the youth climate movement and civil society to support mayors to halve emissions by 2030 and help phase out fossil use while increasing urban climate resilience and equity.

The current co-chairs of C40 are Mayor Sadiq Khan of London, United Kingdom, and Mayor Yvonne Aki-Sawyerr of Freetown, Sierra Leone; three-term Mayor of New York City Michael R. Bloomberg serves as President of the Board. C40's work is made possible by our three strategic funders: Bloomberg Philanthropies, Children's Investment Fund Foundation and Realdania.

To learn more about the work of C40 and our cities, please visit [our website](#) or follow us on [X](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).