G100 Smart & Sustainable Cities Wing
Bi-Annual Newsletter

Here's what has happened in the first half of 2026 and what's to come!

Dear G100 Community,

Welcome to the latest issue of the G100 Smart and Sustainable Cities Wing newsletter!

Over the past months, our collective efforts have once again demonstrated the power of collaboration and shared vision. I would like to begin by expressing my sincere appreciation to all our members and partners who joined us at the World Urban Forum (**WUF13**) on May 20, 2026. It was a pleasure to come together, exchange insights, and contribute to advancing inclusive, resilient, and sustainable urban development. Your engagement made our presence truly impactful.

As we look ahead, we are actively preparing for key global milestones: the Smart City Expo World Congress on November 3–5, 2026, in Barcelona, and COP31, to be held on November 9–20, 2026, in Antalya, Türkiye. These events will provide valuable opportunities to strengthen collaboration and showcase our work on a global stage.

I'm very pleased to share that we have signed a collaboration agreement with ENoLL, which will enhance our ability to foster innovation, and develop human-centric, sustainable solutions.

I am also delighted to share an important milestone: the establishment of our first Country Club, the UAE Country Club. This step reflects our commitment to deepening regional engagement. I warmly congratulate Misha Mittal for achieving this.

Our Wing continues to grow, driven by your dedication. Together, we are shaping more sustainable and inclusive urban futures.

Finally, I extend my sincere thanks to Dr. Harbeen Arora, Dr. Hartini (h.c.) Osman, Dr. Alfonso Vegara and our Global Advisory Council members for their continued support.

Enjoy the newsletter, and let's stay connected!

ZEYNEP BODUR OKYAY
G100 Global Chair
Smart & Sustainable Cities Wing
President and CEO
Kale Group of Companies

In this newsletter you can find:

New Wing Members

Upcoming Events in 2026 H2

Knowledge Hub

Wing & G100 News

World Urban Forum - WUF13

Our Wing Structure & Members

Our New Wing Members

Arabia Touré

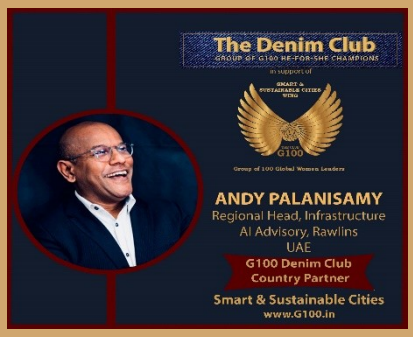
Mali Country Chair

Leads Mali's government mandated real estate and urban development company to support sustainable urban transformation and economic growth in Mali with her extensive experience in land development, real estate, and investment promotion.

Dagmar Turkova

UAE-Abu Dhabi City Chair

Dagmar Turkova is a global sustainability advocate, strategic partnerships expert, and champion of responsible business and inclusive development with more than 20 years of experience.



Andy Palanisamy

UAE Denim Club Partner

A seasoned C-level executive with ~28 years of public/private sector experience, solving complex problems at the intersection of public policy, infrastructure, technology, sustainability, and urban development.

Announcements

Urban Thinkers Campus

The Urban Thinkers Campus (UTC), an initiative by UN-Habitat, serves as an open platform for critical discussions among urban researchers, professionals, and decision-makers who view urbanization as an opportunity for positive transformation.

It aims to foster collaboration among partners for the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda by 2036. This edition, the Urban Thinkers Campus focuses on the theme of "Housing Matters", highlighting the essential role of housing in sustainable urban development.

Organizations keen on hosting an Urban Thinkers Campus in 2026–27 are encouraged to apply online on UN-Habitat's Global Event Management System (GEMS). (**Application Deadline: 31 August 2026**).

Our Peru Country Chair Olenka Ochoa Berreteaga is an expert and key figure in urban development, recognized as the Founder of Urban Thinkers Campus (UTC) Binational (Peru and Mexico). She is actively involved with the World Urban Campaign and UN-Habitat initiatives, serving as a core advocate for sustainable, inclusive, and gender-responsive cities. Please reach out to her for more information.

Upcoming Events 2026 H2

COP31 TÜRKİYE ANTALYA

SMARTCITY EXPO WORLD CONGRESS
3 – 5 November 2026
Barcelona

OPEN LIVING LAB DAYS

16.07-17.07.2026 High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Midterm Review of the NUA
29.09-02.10.2026 Brussels-Antwerp - **Open Living Lab Days** https://openlivinglabdays.com/
03-05.11.2026 Barcelona **- Smart City Expo World Congress** https://www.smartcityexpo.com/
09-20.11.2026 Antalya – **COP`31 https://cop31.tr/**

G100 Events https://www.g100.in/g100-meetings/
08-09.10.2026 India - **G100 Academic Leadership Awards, Women Leadership Conference**
12-13.10.2026 Tashkent, Uzbekistan - **G100 Meetings alongside Women Economic Forum Uzbekistan**
24-26.10.2026 Turin, Italy - **G100 Meetings alongside Women Economic Forum Italy**
12-13.11.2026 Washington DC, USA- **G100 USA Meetings**

Knowledge Hub

- **IMD Smart City Index**
- **Why smart cities must become integrated urban ecosystems5**
- **Data and API requirements for decentralized smart city platforms**
- **World Cities Report 2026: Global Housing Crisis: Pathways to Action**
- **City Diplomacy and Sustainability Policy Paper**
- **Housing at the center of urban futures**
- **Global Platform for Sustainable Cities resilient**

News From Our Wing Members & G100

Smart Cities Model Projects Congress

Claire Piqueret Rose was at the **8th Congress of the Smart Cities Model Projects** #MPSC in Berlin representing our wing. The event stressed that smart cities and regions are not created by individual projects, but through collaboration, trust and shared learning.

Smart City Exchange Forum: Pathways to Resilient Cities

Kulle Tarnov was among organizers of the successful event in Tallinn-Estonia that brought together city leaders, government representatives, innovators to explore strategic and practical approaches for strengthening urban resilience.

Circularnxt 2026

Dr. Misha Mittal was a speaker at the **Circularity Summit 2026** and pointed out that circularity is an essential component of climate action and AI is a powerful tool to race against time to reach the targets if we want a better future for ourselves and our families.

Our wing's first Country Club established in UAE

Congratulations to Misha Mittal for establishing our wing`s first Country Club in UAE after persistent efforts. We welcome UAE`s Denim Club Partner Andy Palanisamy and Abu Dhabi Country Club Chair Dagmar Turkova to our wing.

Please contact Berrin Benli if you also wish to establish a Country Club in your Country.

Women's Gathering Round Table Dinner

To foster meaningful dialogue among global women leaders on shaping inclusive and resilient urban futures, **Zeynep Bodur Okyay**, Global Chair of our Wing, hosted a "Women's Gathering Round Table Dinner" in Baku during WUF`13, in the presence of **Dato' Seri Tpr (Dr) Maimunah Mohd Sharif** (former UN-Habitat Executive Director) as Guest of Honor. The event attended by G100 Wing members in Baku, **UNITAR** representatives and local participants featured opening talks of Zeynep Bodur Okyay, Dato' Seri Tpr (Dr) Maimunah Mohd Sharif) and **G100 Global Chair Dr (h.c) Hartini Osman** and resulted in valuable dialogues among the participants.

World Urban Forum - WUF13

The **G100 Smart and Sustainable Cities Wing** organized a special networking session titled `**Women Leading Inclusive & Resilient Urban Futures**` at the **World Urban Forum (WUF13)**, bringing together global leaders to shape the future of sustainable cities on May 20th in Baku, Azerbaijan in cooperation with **ENoLL** and Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (**ACHR**).

The Forum reached over **57,000** participants from **176 countries**, making WUF13 **largest ever** in the event's 24-year history. This year's Forum also achieved gender parity, with over 55 per cent of attendees identified as women and girls.

The discussions in Baku have reinforced the clear message: "housing must be placed at the center of integrated urban policy, linking land, infrastructure, climate action, finance and governance."

H. Zeynep Bodur Okyay Global Chair of **G100 Smart and Sustainable Cities Wing** and the President and CEO of **Kale Grubu** opened the session with a keynote speech followed by **Martina De Sole** `s keynote. The panel moderated by **Berrin Benli**, consisted of the following speakers:

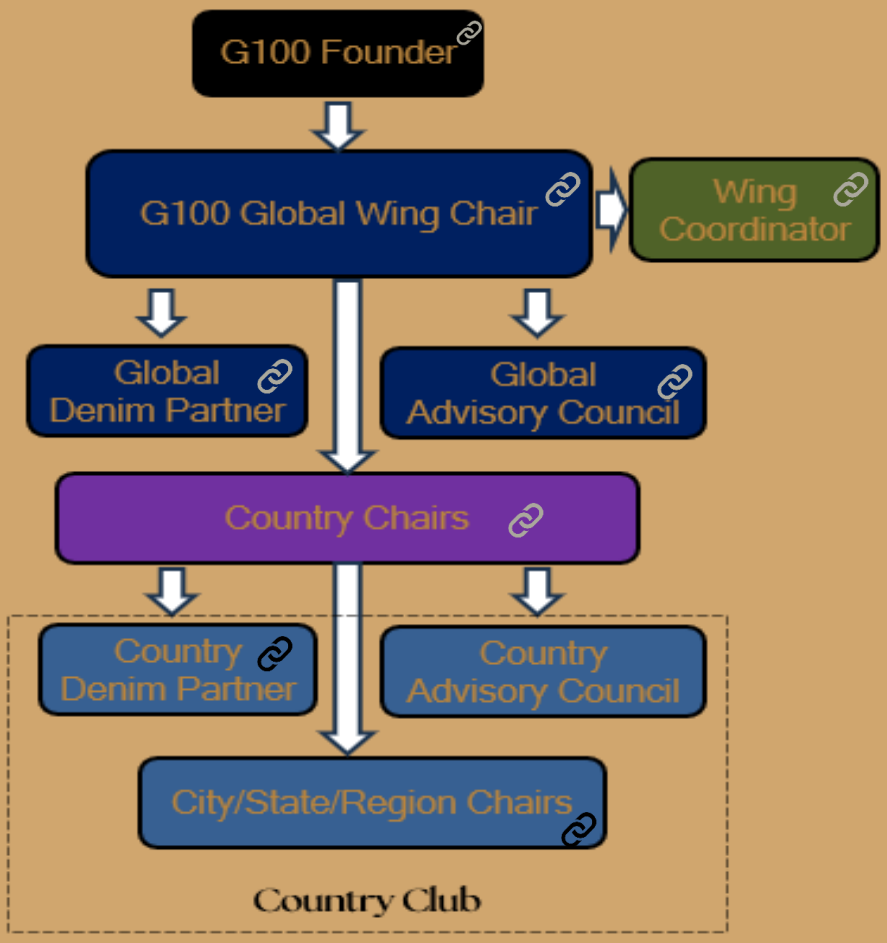
- **Olga Chepelianskaia** – G100 Wing Country Chair for India
- **Lajana Manandhar** – G100 Wing Country Chair for Nepal
- **Dr (h.c) Hartini Osman** - G100 Global Chair
- **Olenka Ochoa Berreteaga** – G100 Wing Country Chair for Peru

Please visit **Baku Call to Action** document regarding outcomes of **WUF13**.

Zeynep Bodur Okyay was also a keynote speaker at the **WUF`13** Session titled '**Water-Smart Cities: Building Urban Resilience through Capacity Development**'.

The side event, co-hosted by **UNITAR**'s Global Water Academy (**UGWA**) and Azerbaijan's Water and Amelioration Scientific Research Institute (**WASRI**), brought together international experts to examine the nexus between urban water systems and resilient housing. The event built on the new collaboration between UGWA and WASRI, which is focused on capacity development, knowledge exchange, and innovative approaches to water governance in rapidly urbanizing contexts.

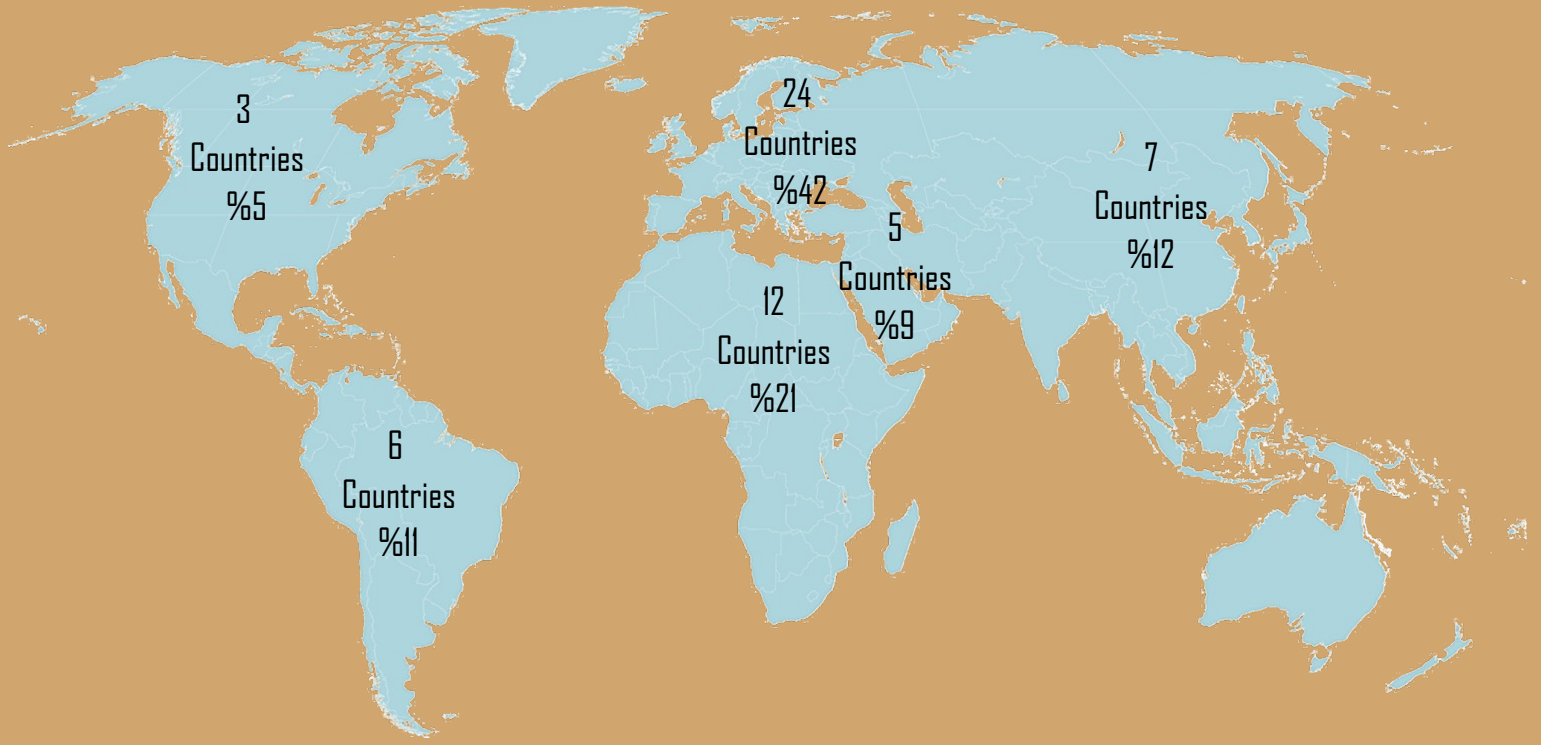
OUR WING STRUCTURE



Advisory Council Members

G100 Smart&Sustainable Cities Wing Country Chairs

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF OUR 57 MEMBERS



G100 Smart & Sustainable Cities Wing

https://www.g100.in/
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Supporting Partners

European Network of Living Labs
UCLG MEWA
SMARTCITY EXPO WORLD CONGRESS 4 - 6 NOVEMBER 2025 BARCELONA
NOVUS SMARTCITY