



GENEVA URBAN DEBATE

HYBRID EVENT

**The Plastics wrap-trap:
what about cities in inter-
states negotiations?**

COVID passes required to attend in person

**24 January 2022
15:00 - 16:45 CET**

Villa Rigot,
Av. de la Paix 9
1202 Geneva

Description

At the end of 1970s, when Christo, a famous artist, tried to wrap the Pont-Neuf in Paris in polyamide, the then Mayor of Paris Jacques Chirac first rejected the project. Mainly because he thought Parisians would not appreciate the artwork. Not because he thought the use of so much plastic would elicit environmental concerns.

Decades later, the use and misuse of plastic have become a significant burden for authorities. As such, plastic pollution is being debated at all levels by States, regional and local authorities, businesses, closely followed a large group of civil society organizations. This topic has also been on the radar of several international organizations, such as the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the World Trade Organization or the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) with a system-wide coordination mechanism being put in place by the United Nations.

The United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA), the world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment, enjoying universal membership of all UN member States, is taking the lead in establishing the mandate on a global plastics agreement at its next session in February-March 2022.

But what is the status of local and regional governments (LRGs) within UNEA? Could it be enhanced? If so, how? And for what purpose? Do municipalities share knowledge and exchange experience about the prevention and reduction of plastic pollution?

The Geneva Cities Hub, with UN-Habitat and partners, welcomes all relevant stakeholders to an informal event to discuss concrete ways and means to better include LRGs in plastic pollution-related negotiations.

To provide food for thought, LRGs are kindly invited to fill in [a short survey by 18 January 2022](#).

The event will be followed by a light cocktail

Speakers

- UNEP/Geneva Environment Network
- Local/Regional Governments' representatives
- City networks
- State representatives

Moderation: **Geneva Cities Hub & UN-Habitat**

Registration on the GCH [website](#).