

Amsterdam Metropolitan Area

Country	Netherland
Population	2,5 millions
World region	Europe

● Context

Amsterdam, the capital of the Netherlands, operates within the Amsterdam Metropolitan Area (MRA), an informal cooperative network comprising 30 municipalities, two provinces (North Holland and Flevoland), and the Transport Authority Amsterdam. The MRA facilitates voluntary coordination on transport, housing, and urban planning. It is the most economically robust region in the Netherlands.

● Economic profile

World Bank income group: High

Major economic activities

The MRA economy is anchored in logistics and trade — supported by Schiphol Airport, the Port of Amsterdam, and the Amsterdam Internet Exchange (AMS-IX, the world's largest data hub) — alongside financial and business services, technology and innovation, tourism and hospitality, and creative industries.

Own source revenues

Contributions from member municipalities, determined proportionally to their population size. The MRA's core budget covers coordination and programme management only; the bulk of metropolitan investment is executed through individual municipal and provincial budgets.

● Governance structure

Year of constitution: 2007

Metropolitan government: Voluntary cooperation

Legal framework

Not established by formal law, it operates as voluntary partnership guided by the Agenda for future-proof and balanced metropolises 2020-2024, aligning with the Municipalities and Provinces Acts.

Administrative structure

No directly elected body. Instead, decisions are made on an ad hoc, task-specific basis by representatives from member municipalities and provinces. Committees are formed to coordinate various sectors, including housing, transport, and economic development projects.

Annual revenue, expenditure and sources

The core budget is primarily funded by municipal contributions and allocated to project coordination, implementation, and the co-financing of metropolitan initiatives.

Number and type of administrative units

30 municipalities and 2 provinces.

KEY STRATEGIC PLAN



Resilience

MRA Urbanisation
Concept 2050



Strategic

Resilience by Design
Metropoolregio Amsterdam



Innovation

MRA Urbanisation
Concept 2050