



URBAN FUTURE

global conference

NOVEMBER 18-19, 2014
GRAZ, AUSTRIA



UNECE panels at the Urban Future Conference

18-19 November 2014

Introduction

The Open Working Group for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which was established after Rio+20 Conference with the aim to develop a set of sustainable development goals for consideration and appropriate action by the General Assembly, elaborated a set of goals, including a goal on cities and human settlements, at its final meeting on 19 July 2014.¹ The UN General Assembly will further negotiate and adopt the goals in 2015.

The Ministerial panel will address some of the issues suggested in the SDG concerning cities and human settlements such as sustainable urban development and smart cities, at the national level. The sessions will discuss how the governments can support smart cities initiatives and provide an enabling environment to sustainable urban development. It will as well focus on the benefits and the challenges of such initiatives as well as how to engage the involved stakeholders.

Provisional Agenda - Draft 19.08.2014

Tuesday, 18 November 2014	
Part 1 – Supporting smart cities initiatives in the western countries: benefits, challenges and stakeholders' engagement	
11.00 -12.15	<p>Chair: Ms. Elena Szolgayová, Chair, Committee on Housing and Land Management, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Switzerland</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Mr. Ingolf Schädler, Deputy Director General, Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Austria– Ms. Tanja Sippola-Alho, Political Advisor to the Minister of the Environment, Finland– Mr. Ferdi Licher, Director, Housing and Building Directorate General, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, The Netherlands– Mr. Tony Mulhall, Associate Director, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, UK <p>Questions and discussion</p>

¹ <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/focussdgs.html>

Part 2 – Supporting smart cities initiatives in developing countries: benefits, challenges and stakeholders’ engagement	
14.00-15.15	<p>Chair: Ms. Elena Szolgayová, Chair, Committee on Housing and Land Management, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Switzerland</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ms. Elena Szolgayová, Director General, DG Housing Policy and Urban Development, Ministry of Transport, Construction and Regional Development, Slovakia – Ms. Janja Kreitmayer McKenzie, Secretary, Spatial Planning Directorate, Ministry for the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia – Mr. David Gigineishvili, Head, Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia – Ms. Ruzan Alaverdyan, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Urban Development, Armenia <p>Questions and discussion</p>

The Mayors’ panel will address some of the issues suggested in the SDG concerning cities and human settlements such as sustainable urban development and smart cities, at the municipalities’ level. The sessions will discuss which initiatives have the municipalities implemented or would like to implement regarding smart urban solutions. It will as well focus on the benefits and the challenges of such initiatives as well as how to engage the involved stakeholders.

Wednesday, 19 November 2014	
Part 1 – Smart urban solutions for large cities	
09.00 – 10.15	<p>Chair: Ms. Gulnara Roll, Head of Housing and Land Management Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Switzerland</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ms. Kristina Dely, Head of Office, Covenant of Mayors, Belgium – Ms. Ina Homeier, Project manager, Smart City Vienna, Austria – Mr. Bram Sieben, Project manager, Smart City Amsterdam, The Netherlands – Mr. Victor Callister, Assistant Director, Department of Built Environment, City of London, UK – Ms. Marina Johansson, Vice-Mayor of Gothenburg, Sweden <p>Questions and discussion</p>
Part 2 – Smart urban solutions for medium size cities	
11.00 – 12.15	<p>Chair: Ms. Gulnara Roll, Head of Housing and Land Management Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, Switzerland</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ms. Carina Svensson, Chairman, City Planning Committee, City of Malmö, Sweden – Mr. Filippo Boschi, Special Advisor, City Strategic Plan, City of Rimini, Italy – Mr. Andres Jadla, Former Mayor of Rakvere, Estonia – Mr. Vachagan Adunts, Mayor of Goris, Armenia <p>Questions and discussion</p>