

## 3<sup>rd</sup> International Urban Research Symposium

A complementary event to and integrated with the ICLEI World Congress

### Researchers' Own Program Overview

The venues for the Researchers' Own Program are:

- Hotel Othon Palace (Othon), Avenida Afonso Pena, 1050 – Centro, Belo Horizonte (see map).
- City Hall, Avenida Afonso Pena, 1212 – Centro, Belo Horizonte.

### Thursday, 14 June 2012

**15.00-16.00 Researchers' Own opening plenary**

**Venue: Othon Hotel Room: Tiradentes**

Welcome address

- Marcio Lacerda, Mayor, Belo Horizonte
- Monika Zimmermann, Director, Capacity Center, ICLEI World Secretariat
- Renato de Lima Santos, Professor, Pró-Reitor de Pesquisa, UFMG.

Welcome and introduction by conveners

- *Geraldo Wilson Fernandes (UMFG), Mark Roseland (Simon Fraser University), Julian Agyeman (TUFTS), Richard Simpson (ICLEI)*

**16.00-17.30 RS-S Special session: Community Capital Tool**

**Venue: Othon Hotel Room: Tiradentes**

#### RS-S Special Session

Presentations + 30 minute facilitated discussion/ Q&A

**Community Capital Tool – a new international collaborative initiative to advance community sustainability**

This session introduces the conceptual framework of community capital as a way of understanding sustainable community development, and the community capital tool as a way of operationalizing the community capital framework. Presentations will provide case studies of application of the Community Capital Tool in Canada and Bolivia, discussing both the successes and challenges experienced. A special workshop will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

- Mark Roseland, Simon Fraser University, Canada
- John Dagevos, Tilburg University, Netherlands
- Daniel de Andrade, Simon Fraser University, Canada
- Gretchen Hernandez, Simon Fraser University, Canada
- Julie Lowry, Simon Fraser University, Canada
- Alberto Mollinedo, Centro DEC, La Paz, Bolivia

**From 19.00 World Congress ceremonial opening**

**Venue: SESC Palladium**

Friday, 15 June 2012

9.00-11.00 World Congress opening plenary: From Rio to Rio

Park Pavilion

Chair: David Cadman, ICLEI President

The Opening Plenary aims to give a powerful message of the need for rapid action and radical solutions in order to overcome and reverse the continued deterioration of global environmental trends by 2050. It will convene leading past and present international experts to discuss the success of the past twenty years, and to set out a vision for the next 30 years.

11.30-13.00 Session RS-A

Venue: Hotel Othon

(these sessions will run into the lunch time, the subsequent sessions RS-B are timed to have a full 1.5h lunch break)

### RS-A1 Healthy & happy communities

11.30-13.00 Room: Diamantina

20 minute presentations + 30 minute facilitated discussion/ Q&A (tbc)

#### Social media and Australian local government: strategic applications and integration for community engagement as a key component of sustainability

This paper on social media will emphasize the need for strategic approaches to application and integration of social media, whether for overall community engagement, sustainability or specific programs or services delivery including those with environmental focus. This can also drive innovation and be an evolving component of the emerging paradigm shift towards e-democracy and citizen-centric decision-making processes - a key part of sustainability.

- Paul Bateson, Program Co-ordinator, ANZSOG Institute for Governance

#### Governing the social dimension of sustainability: the influence of municipal sustainability networks on local policy making

Concurrent with the emergence of the drive for municipalities to become more sustainable is the increase in the number of sustainability networks, designed specifically to aid municipalities in navigating the challenge of sustainability. This presentation reports on phase one of a two-phase study investigating how networks influence municipal policy-making around sustainability, with a particular focus on social sustainability.

- Freya Kristensen, Simon Fraser University, Canada

#### Institutional framework for sustainable cities: what can cities do by themselves?

This presentation discusses the minimum empowerment required by local and regional entities in order to implement Local Agenda 21 autonomously, in the hypothesis that no national legislative programs were adopted for this purpose.

- Susana Galera, Rey Juan Carlos University

### RS-A2 Resilient communities

11.30-13.00 Room Congonhas

20 minute presentations + 30 minute facilitated discussion/ Q&A

#### Sustainable rural communities: advancing place-based development

This presentation uses the concept of place-based development to re-frame the sustainability debate in rural areas. Place captures and motivates the participatory intentions of sustainability planning, while also revealing rural assets that may be used for development purposes. It is a collaborative approach requiring both bottom-up and top-down engagement.

- Sean Markey, Centre for Sustainable Community Development, Simon Fraser University

#### Systems analysis for urban sustainability transitions: a joint understanding of complexity and dynamics

This presentation introduces a systems analysis method in the context of a multi-actor approach for sustainable urban development – Urban Transition Management. This method is designed to (1) provide a shared knowledge base and language for cooperation between actors with different backgrounds; (2) stimulate an integral way of thinking and make actors look beyond their own perspectives and (3) understand the dynamics of the system from a transition perspective.

- Chris Roorda, Researcher & consultant urban and regional transitions, Erasmus University Rotterdam

**Ciudad Juarez Chihuahua Mexico: the opportunity to be a resilient city**

The presentation focuses on instruments for sustainable development, made available to the local and state government authorities through the work of the research group in bio-architecture (UACJ). UACJ has contributed to providing the city with two projects with the premise of ecological and sustainable urban design and restoration of buildings for community service.

- *Elide Staines, Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad Juarez Chihuahua Mexico*

**RS-A3 Resource efficient cities****11.30-12.30 Room Serro**

20 minute presentations + 30 minute facilitated discussion/ Q&A

**Mobility: generation of index of quality of services**

This study describes the process of formulating an index of sustainable urban mobility, to serve as a tool to aid planning activities and management of mobility in the urban level.

- *Susan Canellas, K-Traffik Consulting*
- *Ricardo Lanzellotti, K-Traffik Consulting*

**Cows to kilowatts: anaerobic bio-digestion of abattoir waste generates zero emission and creates sustainable bio-energy and bio-fertilizer in Africa**

The Cows to Kilowatts project pioneered a new model of waste management that treats slaughterhouse effluent at the source and converts harmful greenhouse gases into clean energy through social enterprise.

- *Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan, Global Network for Environment and Economic Development Research*

**2.30-4.00 Session RS-B – WORKSHOPS****Venue: Hotel Othon****RS-B1****14.30-16.00 Room: Diamantina****Community Capital Tool – a new international collaborative initiative to advance community sustainability**

90 minute workshop

This session applies the conceptual framework of community capital as a way of understanding sustainable community development, and the community capital tool as a way of operationalizing the community capital framework. The tool was already presented following the Research Symposium opening on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>.

- *John Dagevos, Tilburg University, Netherlands*
- *Daniel de Andrade, Simon Fraser University, Canada*
- *Gretchen Hernandez, Simon Fraser University, Canada*
- *Julie Lowry, Simon Fraser University, Canada*
- *Alberto Mollinedo, Centro DEC, La Paz, Bolivia*
- *Mark Roseland, Simon Fraser University, Canada*

**RS-B2****14.30-15.30 Room Serro****Urban Agriculture (UA) stimulating the construction and common management of inter-sectorial public policies**

60 minute workshop

This session offers the results of two projects: The Program Cities Farming for the Future (CFF) and the From Seed to Table (FStT) as means of professionalization and income generation. The project helped to create conditions for low-income families to make economically viable activities linked to the community gardens, with focus on self-management.

- *Ivana Cristina Lovo, RUAF Foundation: Reseource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security*

**RS-B3****14.30-16.00 Room Congonhas****Perspectives on scarcity, creativity and the built environment: a toolkit for action**

90 minute workshop

The session will draw on research in Reykjavik, Oslo and London to expand our theoretical understanding of the concepts of scarcity and creativity in the context of the built environment. Issues such as shifts from periods of abundance to scarcity, the provision of social housing and tactics of resourcefulness and resilience will be addressed.

- Deljana Iossifova, University of Westminster
- Arna Mathiesen, April Arkitekter
- Barbara Ascher, The Oslo School of Architecture and Design
- Jeremy Till, University of Westminster (virtual presentation (technical tbc))

**Saturday, 16 June 2012****11.00-16.00 World Congress RS 1-2 sessions****Venue: City Hall (Prefeitura de Belo Horizonte)****RS1 - Integrating research and practice: the informed city****11.00-12.30 Room Multiuso 1**Facilitator: *Paul Bateson, Program Coordinator, ANZSOG Institute for Governance***Urban Transition Management: the role of local governments in sustainability transitions**

Urban Transition Management (UTM) is a new governance approach. Key elements of UTM are a central role for frontrunners and change-agents, an aim for systems innovation instead of incremental improvements and a strong link between a long-term perspective and short term action. As part of the Interreg-funded MUSIC project, DRIFT assists five European cities to implement this approach. Here the experience of Ghent will be detailed.

- *Chris Roorda, Researcher & consultant urban and regional transitions, Erasmus University Rotterdam*

**Turku Teams up with universities and businesses for sustainability**

Since 2009, Turku has been running a joint urban research program, intensifying its sustainability co-operation with universities and businesses in order to intensify the transfer and joint creation of knowledge on urban development challenges.

- *Risto Veivo, Adviser to Deputy Mayor, City of Turku*

**Panel discussion**

- *NN, (local government representative)*
- *Julian Agyeman, Co-editor, Local Environment and Professor and Chair, Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, Tufts University, USA*

**ICLEI's Informed cities initiative: making research work for local sustainability**

- *Stefan Kuhn, Director Urban Governance, ICLEI Europe*

**Pando | Sustainable Communities: Advancing Collaboration between Researchers and Practitioners**

Discussion on Pando | Sustainable Communities, a web-based research and collaboration network being launched at the ICLEI 2012 World Congress, and impetus behind its creation. The presentation addresses the challenges of connecting academics with practitioners in a meaningful way, gives a tour of the site's unique attributes, and underscores the importance of collaboration between traditionally disconnected groups, to advance sustainability and foster innovation.

- *Mark Roseland, Centre for Sustainable Community Development, Simon Fraser University*

**RS 2 - Learning from Research for Practice****14.00-16.00 Room Multiuso 1**

Facilitator: Geraldo Wilson Fernandes, Director, LEEB, and Professor, Departamento de Biologia Geral, ICB

**A partnership approach to implementing community sustainability plans**

There are eight incentives (eg knowledge transfer, increased legitimacy for sustainability initiatives) that local authorities can achieve through structural mechanisms that encourage partner engagement in implementation. Research has also identified five disincentives (eg ineffective communication) to be avoided. This presentation provides recommendations to local authorities and practitioners on the value of effective partnerships based upon extensive research.

- *Amelia Clarke, Assistant Professor, School of Environment, Enterprise and Development (SEED), University of Waterloo*

**Cities and the EU 2020 Strategy: analysis of actors, tools and impact related to climate change policies and green economy.**

Research conducted with ICLEI Europe on the Green Economy approach of 6 cities active in local climate change and energy. Despite the diversity of cases, results have shown similarities in approaches and challenges. Outputs confirm the relevance of the European Union in developing “bridging” policies and strategies through its own models. On the other hand, the concept of “urban green economy” has emerged as a young - therefore still vague- but also inspiring concept.

- *Sergi Nuss, PhD candidate, University of Girona, Institute of the Environment*

**Options for resource efficient resilient cities - an integrated approach**

A vision and approach will be presented that allows for closing the cycles for energy, materials, water and food in the built environment, while adapting to changing climate. The impact that resources have on each other is underexposed and present solutions focus on energy or water or materials or food supply individually. Getting to grips with the existing interactions helps to avoid the suboptimisation and achieving real sustainability.

- *Vera Rovers, Researcher, Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research*

**New York City social-ecological systems: A Non-economic ecosystem services valuation approach**

Research has primarily focused on economic valuation of either biophysical or social benefits of urban green space and has rarely investigated ecosystem services (ES) from the perspective of non-economic value. As a result research has overlooked urban spaces as providing combined social-ecological value. The conducted research subsequently proposes the first multi-criteria, non-economic social-ecological services assessment of urban land in New York City.

- *Peleg Kremer, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Urban Ecology and Ecosystems, The New School, New York*

**Commentary from local governments**

- *Catarina Freitas, Head of Department, City of Almada, Portugal*
- *Naomi Tsur, Deputy Mayor for Planning and Environment, City of Jerusalem, Israel*

## Sunday, 17 June 2012

**11.00-13.00 Session RS-C**
**Venue: Hotel Othon**
**RS-C1 Integrated sustainability plans**
**11.00-12.30 Room Diamantina**

20 minute presentations +20 minute facilitated discussion/ Q&amp;A (tbc)

**Urban Sustainability in Houston TX: The largest city without a plan in North America**

This research examines the sustainable development of the city of Houston, adding to the literature on urban sustainable development by creating a new approach to integrated indicators. The study also presents the intersection of previously disparate systems in our built environment and how those could be integrated under the umbrella of urban sustainability.

- *Lester King, Sustainability Fellow, Shell Center for Sustainability, Rice University, Houston, USA*

**Modernizing sustainable development? Standardization, evidence and experts in local indicator development**

Reflecting on the role of power and knowledge in developing indicators – are the evidence they privilege and the policies that follow from them consistent with the stated goals of sustainable development? Are they merely bureaucratic tick-boxes that enable the measurement of “progress”? Or do they represent “knowledge modernization” whereby sustainable development can be measured objectively, like GDP?

- *Laureen Elgert, Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

**RS-C2 Biodiverse cities and green infrastructure**
**11.00-13.00 Room Congonhas**

20 minute presentations +20 minute facilitated discussion/ Q&amp;A (tbc)

**Urban Agriculture conquering the school food institutional market in Belo Horizonte**

The “From Seed to Table (FSst)” project, deployed in Belo Horizonte city, aims to make possible the generation of “self-managed” income groups, consisting of low-income families. Income is generated from the sale of healthy food produced in Urban Agriculture projects called “Productive Gardens”.

- *Ivana Cristina Lovo, RUAF Foundation: Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security*

**Exploring the potential for one planet living in Vancouver**

Vancouver’s effort to engage with one-planet living – a fair Earthshare designating two hectares of productive land and water for each person – provides a learning opportunity for city practitioners and researchers. Wrestling with questions of how to advance quality of life whilst living within the ecological carrying capacity of Earth, the research draws attention to disparities between lifestyle patterns of those who consume more than their fair Earthshare and those who do not.

- *Jennie Moore, Director Sustainable Development and Environment Stewardship, BCIT School of Construction and the Environment*

**Wetland system: a cheaper and efficient treatment option for food processing waste in Africa**

This research investigated the technology adopted (advanced wastewater treatment plant) for a brewery industry in West Africa. The cost and treatment efficiencies among other indicators were examined.

- *Joseph Akinkugbe Adelegan, Global Network for Environment and Economic Development Research*

**RS-C3 Low carbon and climate neutral cities**
**11.00-13.00 Room Del Rey**

20 minute presentations + 20 minute facilitated discussion/ Q&amp;A (tbc)

**Mobility: a matter of habits**

This paper presents a proposal for transportation planning for the city of Niteroi. A series of systems and supplementary means of transport are proposed, with a pedestrian and cyclist subsystem feeding larger systems classified by size, distance traveled and speed. This considers how traffic is defined by the habits of the agents.

- *Susan Canellas, K-Traffik Consulting*
- *Ricardo Lanzellotti, K-Traffik Consulting*

**Sustainable energy and climate strategies: lessons from planning processes in five Swedish municipalities**

The presentation describes the factors influencing development of municipal climate and energy plans in five Swedish municipalities and assesses the relevance and importance of these factors from theoretical and practical perspectives. This will help answers the research questions: what are the characteristics of municipal climate and energy planning processes; and, what lessons can be learnt from these cases which may be applicable to other municipalities?

- *Paul Fenton, Linköping University, Sweden*

**Pioneer Cities - new transition arenas for challenge-led socio-technical low-carbon innovation**

The presentation reports initial findings of the Pathfinder 'Pioneer Cities' research project of the European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT) Climate-KIC. A network of 6 European cities (Birmingham, Frankfurt, Wroclaw, Bologna/Modena, Castellon/Valencia, Budapest) have identified 76 existing low carbon innovation projects. Clusters of 'transition experiments' contribute to an understanding of the role of municipal authorities as a system innovation actor.

- *Fred Steward, Professor of Innovation & Sustainability, Westminster University, Policy Studies Institute*

**14.00-14.45 (tbc) RS outlook plenary****Venue: City Hall (Prefeitura de Belo Horizonte) Room: Auditório****Closing Plenary: What Next?**

*Conveners: Mark Roseland, Julian Agyeman, Geraldo Wilson Fernandes*

- *NN, UFMG (tbc)*
- *Monika Zimmermann, Director, Capacity Center, ICLEI World Secretariat (tbc)*

**16.00-17.30 World Congress outlook plenary: The Message to Rio****Park Pavilion**

The Outlook Plenary provides an opportunity for all delegates to reflect on the congress discussions and achievements, assisted by reflections from experts from the congress program. Together, delegates will look ahead to Rio+20 and beyond. What strong message will local governments take to Rio de Janeiro? How will we maintain momentum beyond the Rio+20 Conference?



## Further Information

### ICLEI World Congress 2012

Congress host: City of Belo Horizonte

Congress organizer: ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

### Conveners of the 3rd International Urban Research Symposium

Local research community:

- Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG), Laboratório de Ecologia Evolutiva e Biodiversidade – LEEB  
Contact: Geraldo Wilson Fernandes, Director, LEEB, and Professor, Departamento de Biologia Gera, UFMG

International research community:

- Pando | Sustainable Communities Research Network (to be launched at the ICLEI World Congress 2012)  
Contact: Mark Roseland, Director, Centre for Sustainable Community Development (CSCD) and Professor, School of Resource and Environmental Management, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada.
- Local Environment Journal  
Contact: Julian Agyeman, Co-editor, Local Environment and Professor and Chair, Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, Tufts University, USA.
- ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability  
Contact: Richard Simpson, Research Analyst, Capacity Center, ICLEI World Secretariat.

### Contribution to the journal *Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability*

All full papers presented at the Research Symposium may be considered for publication in a Special or Regular Edition of *Local Environment: The International Journal of Justice and Sustainability*. The manuscript deadline will be August 31st 2012 to be considered for any potential Special Edition. If insufficient papers are received for a Special Edition, those that are submitted and pass peer review will be published in the next available Regular Edition. Please read Instructions for Authors <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/journal.asp?issn=1354-9839&linktype=44> and submit your paper online <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cloe>



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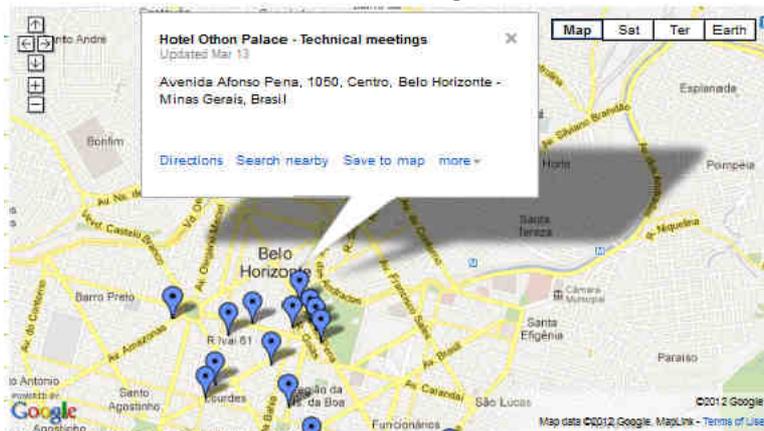
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## Practical information for the ICLEI World Congress 2012

### Venue for Researchers' Own Opening at UFMG on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2012



### Main venues of the Researchers Own Program: Hotel Othon Palace and City Hall



View [ICLEI World Congress 2012](#) in a larger map

#### Hotel Othon Palace

Avenida Afonso Pena, 1050 - Centro  
Belo Horizonte

The Hotel Othon Palace will be used for a number of sessions and workshops through the ICLEI World Congress 2012.



#### Belo Horizonte City Hall

Avenida Afonso Pena, 1212 - Centro  
Belo Horizonte

Belo Horizonte's City Hall will be used for a number of sessions and workshops throughout the ICLEI World Congress 2012, including the Urban Researchers' Symposium.



<http://worldcongress2012.iclei.org/practical-information/congress-venues.htm>