UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

BETTER POLICIES FOR BETTER LIVES

UNECE Green Economy Seminar

Compact, smart and climate-neutral? - Cities in a Green Economy

26 September 2012, 15:00-18:00
Room VII, A-Building, 3rd floor
Languages: English, Russian and French with simultaneous translation

Rio+20 UN Sustainable Development Conference outlined the importance of a "*holistic approach to urban development and human settlements, including an integrated approach to planning and building sustainable cities and urban settlements*"[1]. There are multiple dimensions of the sustainable urban development. Compact, smart, resource-efficient or climate-neutral – urban development has many faces.

During this third UNECE Green Economy Seminar, different concepts, approaches and initiatives, which aim to achieve sustainable urban development and support the transition to a Green Economy in urban areas, will be presented and discussed. Participants will explore how these concepts differ from each other and what they have in common. Can we agree on a common denominator for integrated sustainable urban development?

This seminar will be organized jointly by UNECE and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

This event is held back to back with the annual session of the UNECE Committee on Housing and Land Management. Discussion outcomes will support the preparations of the Committee Programme of Work for 2014-2015. The seminar is also relevant to other UNECE programmes as sustainable urban development is the outcome of good practice in the areas of environmental planning, housing, energy and transport.

For more information, please contact:

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[1] Please see the Rio+20 Conference outcome document "The Future We Want" at http://www.uncsd2012.org/thefuturewewant.html

Agenda

Time	Speakers
15:00-15:10	**Welcome and Introduction** *Wolfgang Förster* Chair, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Committee on Housing and Land Management
15:10-15:25	**Climate Neutral Cities** *Maike Christiansen* Housing and Land Management Unit, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE),
15:25-15:40	**Compact Cities** *Tadashi Matsumoto* Regional Policies for Sustainable Development Division, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
15:40-15:55	**Sustainable and Resource-efficient Cities** *Soraya Smaoun* Built Environment Unit, Division of Technology, Industry and Economics, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
15:55-16:15	**Q&A on Presentations**
16:15-16:30	*COFFEE BREAK*
16:30-16:45	**Resilient Cities** *Christel Rose (tbc)* Regional Offices Support and Coordination Unit, United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
16:45-17:00	**Smart Cities** *Matthew Lynch* Urban Infrastructure Initiative, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)
17:00-17:15	**Q&A on Presentations**
17:15-17:45	**Conclusion** Interactive exercise to identify common denominator for sustainable urban development
17:45-18:00	**Conclusion and wrap-up by Chair**