



Fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly
Hosted by the United Nations Environment Programme
Nairobi, 28 February – 2 March 2022

Side event on
The Crossroads of Sustainability, Climate Change and Health :
practical approaches and lessons for the post-covid cities and territories

Date 1 March 2022

9.30 am – 11.00 am (EAT)

7.30 am – 9.00 am (CET)

Hybrid Meeting

Green Room at the United Nations Office in Nairobi and at the link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAodeurpzwwGdyyCw5Uz0st6JC80Tf1GOVs>

Session Abstract

Today, more than half of the global population lives in towns and urban centers. Due to climate and economic growing migration two thirds of the world will be urbanized by 2050. While such urban concentration offers clear advantages of economy of scale, it also contains liabilities if urbanization is not properly managed and planned. Seventy percent of Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) take place in cities. However, global GDP, innovations, services, and employment are also concentrated in urban agglomerations. Cities are also the locus where the global pandemic SARS-Cov2 has hit hard different segments of the population, unveiling new challenges and new needs that must be urgently addressed to foster resilience and sustainability.

The session brings together global practitioners, city and region leaders, NGOs to discuss emerging trends and practical approaches that address the current crisis unfolding in urban centers worldwide. This discussion will stress our need to respond to increasing spatial and social inequalities, increasing GHG emissions, and losses of the urban economy. It will also highlight urban ecosystem deficiencies and erratic governance.

This session will be practical and problem solving oriented. Speakers will share perspectives and drawn from practice and experience in participatory city management, urban planning and design interventions, climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, urban mobility, access to basic infrastructure, and adequate housing. Policies and approaches to shift the

pattern of urbanization and promote sustainable and carbon neutral cities will be at the core of the conversation

SPEAKERS

Moderator



Claudio ACIOLY is an architect and urban planner, a development practitioner with nearly 40 years of experience in more than 30 countries working as a practicing expert, program manager, resident technical and policy advisor or short-term consultant to governments, bilateral and multilateral organizations, academic institutions, civil society organizations and community-based organizations. He was a senior manager of UN-Habitat for 12 years and is currently associated staff and visiting professor with the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies-IHS of the Erasmus University Rotterdam. He

is member of the council of IFHP.

He has facilitated high-level inter-governmental policy dialogues, international meetings such as the World Urban Forum, Rio+20, Habitat III and Global Congresses. He has also conducted several executive trainings to mayors and senior decision makers, and multiple capacity building workshops in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Europe.

Panelists



Jorge ABRAHAO, General Director at the Sustainable Cities Institute, organizing entity for Rede Nossa São Paulo and the Sustainable Cities Program in Brazil. Member at the São Paulo State Commission for Sustainable Development Goals and Advisor at Ethos Institute for Business and Social Responsibility and Democracy and Sustainability Institute (IDS) Councils.

Former member of the Global Compact at the United Nations-UN (2012 to 2018), the CDES- Council for Economic and Social Development of the Republic (2014-2018), the National Commission for Sustainable Development Goals (CNODS 2017 -2019).



Anne-Marie CHAVANON, currently chairing the Committee on Environmental and Health crisis in the Conference do INGOs of the Council of Europe.

She is a Council member of the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP), delegate to UNEP, UNESCO and the Council of Europe. She is Vice-president of the French Confederation for Housing, Planning and Environment (COFHUAT), and member of the Scientific Council of the National Institute for Research for the Environment and Agriculture (water department). She previously served as a councilor of ministers, parliamentarians, local and regional authorities.



Roberto CIAMBETTI is the President of the Veneto Regional Council (Italy).

He is-President of the Italian delegation to the European Committee of the Regions, Italian Ambassador for Climate and Energy to the Covenant of Mayors, Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. As a legislator, he was the author of several laws on the environment.

Ciambetti was the promoter and extender, together with the IFFD and the UN Department of Social Policies, of the **Venice Charter** presented at the United Nations. He is vice-president of the ELISAN network (European Local Inclusion and Social Action network)



Jose CHONG is Programme Management Officer at UN-Habitat (United Nations Human Settlements Programme)

He is an urban development and international cooperation specialist with over 15 years of working experience. Track record on managing global programmes for urban planning strategies, urban regeneration and public space policies in international organizations. He is technical coordinator for urban planning and design initiatives in Latin American and Arab States.

Advisor for several national and local government on urban policies and strategies for sustainability. Graduated in International Cooperation, with specializations in Urban Development, Post-disaster Architecture, Renewable Energies and Sustainable Architecture and Urbanism (tbc)



Arun JAIN is a US and Indian educated urban designer and urban strategist with over three decades of US and international experience in practice and academia. He is currently the Chief Urban Designer and Principal Planner for the City of Bellevue, Washington (USA).

Arun has directly influenced over 90 new private and public projects with a combined investment capital of over US \$14 billion across the world. He has spoken in over 100 major keynotes, conferences, seminars, and workshops. He has held academic positions at six universities and on the Advisory Board of ARUS (Advanced Research in Urban Systems), University of Duisburg-Essen. Arun has been a United Nations lead expert on SDG 11; a policy advisor to UN Habitat III's New Urban Agenda; and a contributor to the UNODC on urban safety and security. Arun JAIN is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners. A past director on the IFHP Board, he is an honorary life member and IFHP Council member.



Eric PIOLLE is the mayor of Grenoble (France), 2022 European Green city.



Jose SARTO is the mayor of Fortaleza (Ceara), fifth largest city in Brazil. He holds a degree in Medicine from Brazilian and US universities

Sarto entered public life with humanitarian work at the Christian Children's Fund caring vulnerable children and adolescents. He is serving his seventh consecutive term as state deputy and was elected President of the Legislative Assembly for the 2019-2020 period.

Over 30 years of public life, Sarto occupied several strategic positions in Ceará's politics. He chaired the Constitution, Justice and Writing, Education and Inspection and Control committees, in addition to the Parliamentary Inquiry Commissions (CPI). He is highly involved in environmental issues at local and federal level

He recently joined the Master's course in Political Science at the Higher Institute of Social and Political Sciences at the University of Lisbon.

ORGANIZERS and partners

IFHP

International
Federation for
Housing and
Planning

IFHP (International Federation for Housing and Planning) – Copenhagen – Netherlands Accredited to UNEP since 2002

The International Federation for Housing and Planning was founded in 1903 by Ebenezer Howard, the initiator of Garden cities, an environmental concept merging nature and urban nexus, mixing different dimensions of social life such as housing, agriculture, manufacturing, business, services, transport infrastructure, municipal institutions, etc.

Today, IFHP main objective is to create the necessary conditions for a global network in all areas of housing, town and regional planning, and environment in the broadest sense.

This network, built to search and promote best practices, encompasses many disciplines, such as town and regional planning, architecture, transport and traffic, but also ecology, sociology, health, political science, economics, law, statistics and logistics. Artificial intelligence and IT also find their place.

The network thus brings together the most diverse professionals worldwide: politicians, scientists, administrators, civil servants, advisers, builders, financiers, students, lawyers, etc. They all work for a better quality of life, in a better built environment, and intend to have, through their professional practice and lobbying, a vital influence on decision-making.

Contact : Claudio ACIOLY claudioaciolyjr@gmail.com



The Committee on Environmental and Health crisis¹ and the Conference or INGOs (343 international NGOs) of the **Council of Europe**, Intergovernmental organization with 47 Member States

The Climate Change acceleration and the rapid worldwide spread of SARS-Cov2 increased awareness on the fragile complexity of the ecosystems that shape the world, both its human settlements and all life forms. This led Council of Europe NGOs to consider, in collaboration with UN bodies, the need for a holistic approach and the urgency for a full research on ecology, both environmental and human. In this framework, the committee's objective is to assist in identifying the components for an efficient and humane «recovery » (Building forward better), based on a real practice of democracy, at all levels of governance, through an ethical, collaborative and participatory approach in the following areas : Environment and health, solidarity and resilience in the face of risks, good governance of metropolises and their hinterland.

This, in line with UNEP and UNEA5.2 events to be held in Nairobi (February-March 22), with the United Nations Environment Conference to be held in Stockholm (May 2022) and the Earth Summit to be held in Rio (June 2022), targeting the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda (SDG Summit 2023 in New York)

Contact : A-M CHAVANON - amchavanon@gmail.com +33 6 60 76 86 14




ELISAN network (European Local Inclusion and Social Action network) formed on January 28th, 2008 at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels is an INGO enjoying participatory status with the Council of Europe, working with many other organizations and entities in the world.

¹ [Committee on Environmental and Health Crisis : governance and solidarity challenges](#)

Local communities, which are highly involved in times of crisis play a vital role in the deepening of social cohesion at European and global level, although being respectful of national models. It is the ambition of the ELISAN network to speak up for elected representatives for local social action on the European and world stage.

The ELISAN network is open to territorial communities, as well as town networks, experts in local social action and networks acting in the field of social action or interested in working notably to develop a social Europe which guarantees the basic rights of all citizens.

Contact : Elena CURTOPASSI Elena.Curtopassi@regione.veneto.it + 32 2 743 70 12 | + 32 2 471 30 35 28

 **IOPD** The **International Observatory on Participatory Democracy** (IOPD) is an **international network** open to all cities, organizations and research centers interested in learning about, exchanging and applying experiences of **participatory democracy** at the local level. It was founded in 2001 within the framework of the European Commission's URB-AL program for decentralized cooperation and its official constitution was in November 2001 in Barcelona, during the 1st IOPD Conference. Also, since 2006 it works together with **United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)**.

IOPD goals are to be the worldwide center of reference within the participatory democracy field, to create synergies between cities, organizations and research centers in order for them to think about the quality of democracy at the global level, to produce and improve the existing knowledge in the local participatory democracy field, to exchange experiences about democratic innovations in all regions of the world, to recommend policies to public administrations of the world, preferably local ones.

Contact : Adrià DUARTE a.duarte@uclg.org | +34 93 481 58 22 www.oidp.net | www.uclg.org |

IFHP

International
Federation for
Housing and
Planning



UNEA5.2

Strengthening Actions for Nature to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

The Crossroads of Sustainability, Climate Change and Health : practical approaches and lessons for the post-covid cities

Date 1 March 2022

9.30 am – 11.00 am (EAT)

7.30 am – 9.00 am (CET)

Hybrid Meeting

Green Room (UN Compound in Nairobi) and online link

Opening of the meeting and moderation by Claudio ACIOLY (IFHP), architect and urban planner, international expert, consultant to International Organizations, governments, local and regional authorities

1. Environmental and Health Emergency: Carbon Neutral Cities

- ***The Practice of Urban Management and the Search for Carbon Neutral Urban Development: lessons from Fortaleza (Brazil)*** by José SARTO, Mayor of Fortaleza
- ***Global Public Space Programme, UN-Habitat: territorializing the SDG 11,*** Jose Chong)

2. New Economic, Environmental and Social Needs

- ***Circular Economy: The Policy and Incentives of the Veneto Region (Italy),*** by Roberto CIAMBETTI, President of the Regional Council of the Veneto Region, Italian Ambassador to the Covenant of Mayors on Climate and Energy
- ***Urban Ecology:*** Eric PIOLLE, Mayor of Grenoble, 2022 Green European Capital, President of the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (IOPD)

3. Good Governance: New Approaches and Lessons

Sustainable Cities Indicators (IDSC-BR): A Tool to Foster Sustainability and Social Inclusion in Brazilian Municipalities by Jorge ABRAHAO, General director of the Sustainable Cities Institute – Sao Paulo (Brazil)

- ***Adaptive and Environmentally Sensitive Decision Making*** by Arun JAIN FAICP Urban Strategist; Chief Urban Designer and Principal Planner, City of Bellevue - Washington State (USA)
- ***Civil Society: Post-Covid Expectations*** by Anne Marie CHAVANON, chair of the Committee on Environmental and Health Crisis – Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe

Conclusion and Ways Forward by Claudio ACIOLY (IFHP)