SDG

Cities
Global Initiative

Urban OCTOBER
31 DAYS OF PROMOTING
A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

World Cities Day October 31, 2022
BETTER CITY, BETTER LIFE
Act local to go global

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UN@HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

C40 CITIES

SDG CITIES GLOBAL

CONFERENCE

ONLINE EVENT

REPORT

Accelerating Local Implementation of the SDGs

Overview

As cities worldwide recover from the social and economic impacts of COVID-19 and are hit by a new cost of living crisis, and with only 8 years left to achieve the commitments of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, local action has never been more central to achieving global goals. We need integrated "whole-of-society" and "whole-of-government" approaches that gather sectors, communities and the different spheres of government towards a common objective: inclusive and sustainable development. Local and regional governments are increasingly acknowledged as peers in a process where global goals, national resources and local implementation are expected to work together seamlessly. It is increasingly recognized that local governments are able to respond to several growing and interconnected challenges, whether economic crisis, the climate emergency, growing inequalities or an unexpected health crisis such as the recent pandemic.

Aware of the significance of local action for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, a growing number of local and regional governments around the world are taking action to localize the SDGs in their territories.

Cities worldwide are demonstrating their commitment to implementing the SDGs. The SDG Cities Global Initiative complements and supports the efforts of cities to advance the achievement of SDGs by providing digital tools and technical support hubs supporting 1000 cities to accelerate the implementation of SDGs by 2030. By offering expert backstopping, SDG Cities will support an interconnected value chain across four interlinked tracks of urban data and analysis, inclusive strategic planning, strengthened local institutions and, investment in SDG impact. It aims to promote collaborative action across a diverse range of actors and recognises exemplary efforts of cities through SDG Cities certification.
During World Urban Forum 2022, UN-Habitat executive director Maimunah Moh'd Sharif emphasised the interest of various UN Members States, mayors and UN-Habitat partners to leverage cities' potential in SDGs through the SDG Cities Global Initiative. Cities worldwide also expressed their interest in sharing knowledge and exchanging ideas and methods to practice sustainable urbanization.

The World Urban Forum 11 in Katowice provided several events related to SDG Cities. Building on this, the Second SDG Cities Global Conference hosted by UN-Habitat, Shanghai Municipal People's Government and C40 Cities will serve as an online learning exchange between participating cities, aligning with World Cities Day (WCD) and providing the opportunity to bring cities together again in a compact agenda to share experiences in localising the SDGs.

The recording of the Conference is available here
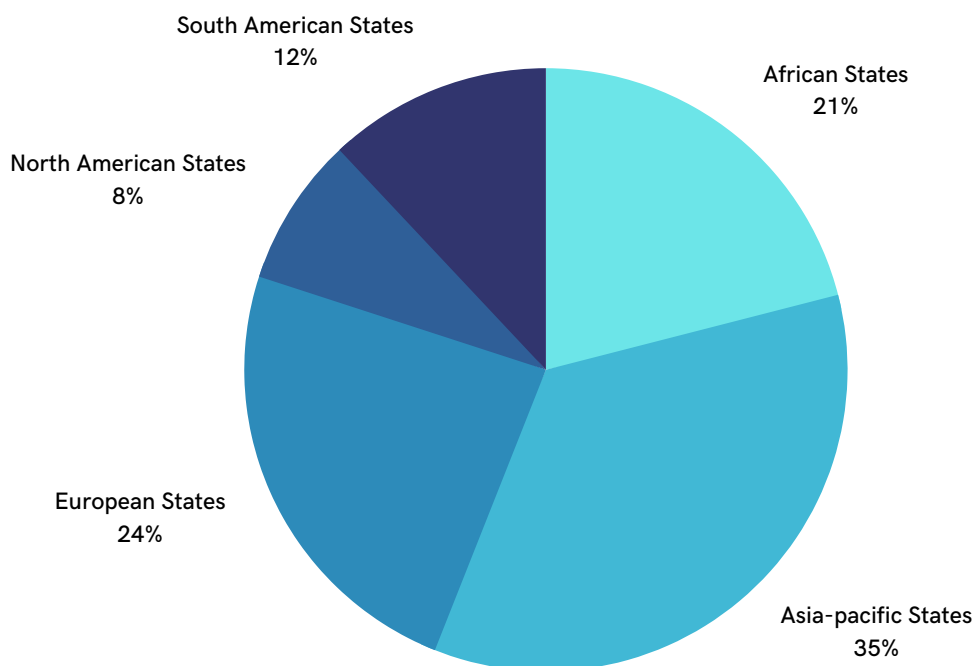https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8JXH7nmbWU&feature=youtu.be&themeRefresh=1

Participation

224 participants from 55 countries and regions joined the conference, including Asia-Pacific States (35%); European States (24%); African States (21%); South American States (12%); North American States (8%). Participants were from different organizations, including local government, inter-governmental organizations, private sector, non-profit organizations, academia, etc. On average, each participant spent 82 minutes in the conference, roughly one panel (1.5 hours).

Regional Group	Number of Participants	Percentage
African States	46	21%
Asia-pacific States	79	35%
European States	53	24%
North American States	17	8%
South American States	28	12%
Total	224	/

Repartition of the participants

Opening

Chenglei Peng
Vice Mayor of Shanghai, People's Republic of China

Rafael Tuts
Deputy Executive Director (a.i.), UN-Habitat

Mark Watts
Executive Director, C40 Cities

Chenglei Peng, Vice Mayor of Shanghai, People's Republic of China, introduced the conference sharing the experience of Shanghai in buildings renovation and implementing the SDGs and New Urban Agenda. He emphasized on the importance of having cities built by the people and for the people.

Raf Tuts, UN-Habitat Deputy Executive Director, reminded that cities generate 80% of the world economy and that poorly planned and managed cities negatively affect the quality of life of its inhabitants. The battle of sustainable urbanization will be won or lost in cities. Action at scale is needed to improve the quality of life in cities for all and the SDG Cities Global Initiative aims to support 1000 cities accelerating the achievement of the SDGs.

Mark Watts, Executive Director of C40 Cities, introduced the actions delivered by C40 Cities around the world emphasizing on the multiplication of their number. He insisted on the fact that local C40 Cities areas have reduced their emissions faster than national areas and on the importance of showing how cutting emission is the best way to create jobs people can access.

Panel 1 - SDG Cities: Accelerate SDGs Locally

SDG 8, 11, 14: Sustainable Tourism - Generating Local Economic Opportunities while Strenghtening Cultural Identity and Harmony with Nature

Helder Silva
President of Mafra, Portugal

In this mini-panel, Helder Silva, President of the Municipality of Mafra (Portugal), presented on the experience of Mafra regarding how it promotes sustainable tourism that generates local economic opportunities while strengthening cultural identity and harmony with nature.

Mr. Silva shared three examples, the first one being the awarded Ericeira "World Surfing Reserve". This surfing reserve protects waves, surf zones and surrounding environments. Going forward, Ericeira will enhance the management of the surfing reserve, putting forward regulations on the use of beach and land within the coastal area. The second example is Mafra Sustainable Tourism Destination which is awarded by the Institution of Sustainable Tourism. Mafra has made the commitment to developing tourism that balances human activities with environment protection, cultural heritage and working with the local collaborators. Mafra is also working on building a network and a tourism observatory. The third example is the declaration of the Marine Protected Area, including space of ocean waters within which special efforts are made to reinforce the conservation of the marine environment and biodiversity, and to promote the sustainable use of natural resources. Specific regulations are also put in place in this regard.

Mr. Silva highlighted three key learnings from the sustainable tourism experience of Mafra. First, building sustainable tourism is a dynamic and continuous process. Second, practices of sustainable tourism should be integrated and articulated in the Voluntary Local Review. Last but not least, the success of sustainable tourism relies on community involvement, which should be constantly reinforced throughout the process.

SDG 16: Peaceful, Healthy, Socially Cohesive Communities

Ana Oregi Bastarrika
Deputy Mayor of
Vitoria-Gasteiz, Basque
Country, Spain

Allen Coliban
Mayor of Brașov,
Romania

In this mini-panel, Ms. Ana Oregi Bastarrika and Mr. Allen Coliban addressed SDG16 in their respective speeches on Vitoria's journey to sustainable urbanization and net zero emissions as well as the importance of Brașov, Romania as a health hub, whilst also serving as the aspiring green capital of the country.

Vitoria-Gasteiz, located in the Spanish Basque Country, is a pioneer in the field of urban transformation to achieve net zero emissions. The municipality created a green belt around the city that became a system of green spaces accessible to the citizens easily. Indeed, the City of Vitoria-Gasteiz is prioritizing the ability for citizens to enjoy the benefits of nature without going far from their homes. The municipality now plans to develop further green zones in the city center to be connected with the belt to create a great green infrastructure also turning to green spaces outside the city. The idea behind this project was to create a recreation space, to relax and enjoy nature, allowing the citizens to walk and connect with each other.

This green belt is formed by a green forest that has been rehabilitated. This space offers many benefits for the ecosystem helping to reduce heat temperatures and carbon capture. The city is using new innovative solutions for agricultural spaces to improve production and is always seeking to empower citizens through participatory processes. To conclude, Ms. Ana Oregi Bastarrika said "It is a never ending work, we have to still work on it" to emphasize on the endless character of improving cities to make them more sustainable and enjoyable for their citizens.

Mr. Allen Coliban introduced the City of Brașov, located in the heart of Romania with 300,000 people as a destination for a younger population due to its number of universities. The city is developing new neighborhoods and has the ambition of becoming the sustainable and the green capital of Romania.

Health is the priority of Brașov. The city is a hub for health in Romania because it is home to many hospitals and medical schools. Their contribution to medical research is important and people from across Romania and Europe visit Brașov to learn about new methods. Medicine is taught from high school to encourage students pursuing medical studies. On the other hand, health is not just limited to medicine but is viewed holistically across all aspects of life. The Mayor hopes to make the city greener and more livable, creating national parks and hosting conferences to share knowledge, ideas and opinions are part of the integrated approach on health.

SDG 11, 10, 8: Urban Transformation for People, Planet, Prosperity and Peace

Hamdan Majeed

Managing Director, Think City

Fatma Mahmoud

Mayor of Hay Ennour Kasserine, Tunisia

Mr. Hamdan Majeed, Executive Director of Think City Malaysia, introduced its speech presenting the context of Penang City. Penang has had rapid evolution since its inception. It was once a port-city which was reinvented into an industrial city and subsequently, at the dawn of a nation state transformed into a resilient city. Now it is a destination for cultural and natural heritage and Penang is pioneering a nature-based climate adaptation programme.

The city is moving towards becoming a digital city with high value add. The city already has a thriving technology manufacturing ecosystem with semi-conductors, LED's and microprocesses originating in Penang. The city is now focusing on how to unlock and build resilience in the economy. The Penang Bay Zone has is an example of attempts to achieve this.

The city of Penang has recently achieved Silver Certificate aims to be one of the first cities to be a family focused green and smart state through the SDG Cities Model. Mr Majeed has vocalised objectives to report annually to the cohort of people on the call.

Ms. Mahmoud introduced the context of the creation of the municipality of Ennour and has voiced her efforts to ensure all citizens have access and, the right to vote during elections. These efforts are critical to ensure commitments to SDGs can be delivered and, the SDG Cities programme is a vehicle to allow this. She strongly believes that their joint efforts can make the city a better place to live.

This has the potential to make Ennour a better place to live despite the challenges the city has faced such as COVID-19. There is still an impetus to prioritise economic development on the right track towards accelerating the achievement SDG's.

Introduction to Ennour Kasserine
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C97wpPX3Kiw

Dialogue: How SDG Cities Catalyze Cities to Achieve the SDGs

Iván Arias

Mayor of La Paz, Bolivia

Mr. Iván Arias, Mayor of La Paz (Bolivia) answered Dyfed Aubrey's questions on the benefits of being part of the SDG Cities Global Initiative. He emphasized on the fact La Paz has been burdened by protests and strikes recently and throughout its history. Right now, people are divided, and social cohesion is weak. According to Mr. Arias, to become resilient, the city must reinvent itself and strive towards unity. The Municipal Government of La Paz is looking at ways to create a city that is connected and is promoting this through dialogue with different stakeholders and citizens.

Bolivia's population is growing exponentially and cities all over the country will continue to be confronted by many local and global challenges; therefore, the country and its citizens need to be united in order to confront these challenges together. Mr Arias believes that the implementation of the SDGs will help alleviate barriers and inequalities that La Paz is currently facing. He wants to capitalize on being the city of "A thousand colours" through acts of love and trust to achieve this objective.

City management is cited as being crucial to building a stable city with bridges for citizens to have greater dialogues – key for mutual respect. The city has begun to implement measures with education and schools around the city as a starting point.

Since 2017, La Paz has worked towards the Agenda 2030 and more recently the SDG Cities Programme which has been adopted as a model to guide government and city planning to better align with the sustainable development goals and Agenda 2030.

The cities vision revolves around the 4 key themes: Participation, inclusivity, co-responsibility, and integrity. This has empowered city's ability to create spaces for dialogue and subsequent social cohesion with and between communities.

Recently, the city received recognition from UN-Habitat through the SDG Cities Gold certification. This is the first city to receive this certification and will enable the city to advance the implementation of SDGs.

SDG Cities Announcements

1.Women-led Cities Window

Liane Freire
Founder of Blendlab

Luiza Helena Trajano
CEO of Magazine Luiza

The inception of Women-led Cities was during a side-event of the 2022 High Level Meeting on Acceleration of the SDGs in New York. The Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Maimunah Mohd Sharif invited women and business leaders to discuss the role of SDGs in cities and the aim of not leaving anyone behind. During the 11th session of the World Urban Forum, women leaders were defined as champions in achieving SDG in cities.

Ms. Liane Freire noted that Women-led business are to support Women-led Cities join efforts as effective agents of change in accelerating the achievement of SDGs and directly tackle gender disparities with tangible results. She also committed to supporting SDG Cities, inclusive cities, women in leadership, mobility in finance and public policy and, women economic inclusion and growth.

The initiative aims to leverage global women leaders' alliances for the achievement of SDGs through a strategy to be implemented via a global catalytic fund capable of achieving Women Led Cities goals. Starting in 2023, the goal is to achieve 100 Women Led Cities and engage 2000 women leaders raising 100 million dollars in resources in 4 years.

On behalf of Ms Luiza Trajano, Maria Cesar noted the commitment of Ms Trejano to SDG and Women-led Cities starting with Brazil. She expressed the will to bring more women into public policy and mobilise institutions to make Women Led and SDG Cities a global reality.

2.Ecuador SDG Cities National Hub

Esteban Torres Haro

Ministry of Urban Development
and Housing of Ecuador

Mr Esteban Torres presented the projects of the Ecuadorian Ministry of Housing and Urban Development regarding the SDGs and New Urban Agenda. The Ministry has established a national development plan that integrates the idea of the right to the city for all citizens which it promotes through inclusion and citizen participation. This plan celebrates Habitat III, where the New Urban Agenda was created for the transformation of cities and has been the basis for the roadmap for creating sustainable cities. During this Urban October, Ecuador had a National Urban Forum where they improved the public policies, and partnerships for sustainable development, economic improvement, and green investment. Their projects are orientated towards improving the quality of life and safety of the citizens, leaving no one and no place behind.

Mr Torres announced that 14 cities signed onto joining SDG Cities and have designated an office in Quito for UN-Habitat as a testing lab for the SDG Cities National Hub. This hub will serve as a space for the acceleration of ideas like a lab for innovative solutions for localizing the SDGs

![SDG Cities Global Initiative logo]

Panel 2 - Accelerate City Organic Renewal, Build Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods

Opening Remarks

Qiang Liu

Deputy Chief Representative China, Children's Investment Fund Foundation

Qiang Liu, Deputy Chief Representative China of the Children's Investment Fund Found (CIFF), opened the second panel by giving an overview of the work of its organization in China. Dedicated to the work on addressing climate change, CIFF has conducted various programmes on low carbon transition in China. Joint efforts and systematic solutions are needed to achieve this transition, as well as to deliver the SDG goals at a global level. Engaging local communities and neighbourhoods are important to carry low carbon development at the local level and build a more livable, dynamic and resilient living environment. Although it is a small unit, its transformative power is great. To carry this out, we call for more international exchange to replicate experiences elsewhere and deliver benefits for greater audiences.

Report Launch: Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods China Paper

Boping Chen

Regional Director for East Asia, C40 Cities

Xinfeng Liu

Director of the Center of Science and Technology & Industrialization Development of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development

Boping Chen, C40 Regional Director for East Asia, and Xinfeng Liu, Director of the Center of Science and Technology & Industrialization Development of the Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (CSTID-MoHURD), jointly announced the launch of the report Green and Thriving Neighborhoods China Paper.

Boping Chen stated that international countries including China announced their decarbonization targets and launched their roadmap of carbon neutrality and ultimately achieving the SDGs. As the first regional paper of Green & Thriving Neighbourhoods Global Guide (which is jointly developed by C40 and ARUP), the China Paper further interprets international concepts, methodology and experiences for Chinese cities and stakeholders by incorporating Chinese policy context, practices and case studies aiming to better support Chinese cities on developing green and thriving neighbourhoods. It further contributes to city, provincial and national zero-carbon targets. The paper shows that neighbourhoods are central to addressing the emission reduction challenge and improving resilience. Resulting from a collaboration with government actors, UNDP, UN-Habitat and C40 will continue to present examples to advance the implementation of the SDGs.
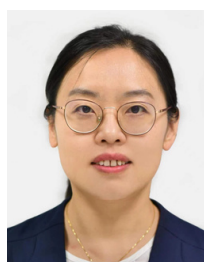
Xinfeng Liu talked about the carbon neutrality strategy adopted by the Chinese government to achieve sustainability. Several sectors such as construction, transportation, and the energy sector are involved in the emission reduction policy. Cities generate more than 70% of GHG emissions and have an important role in achieving carbon neutrality. She insisted on the imperative character of building green and resilient neighbourhoods to achieve this objective. The Center of Science and Technology & Industrialization Development of the MoHURD is responsible for the advancement of city transition and transformation and works on the elaboration of policies to do so and to advance the implementation of the SDGs.

Technical sharing: Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods (Zero Carbon Community) in China : Construction Guidebook - China Paper

Jing Hou

China Sectoral Policy Senior Manager, C40 Cities

Chunni Yao

Professor-level senior engineer, Building Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon Development Department, CSTID-MoHURD

In this mini-panel, the speakers introduced the concepts, approaches to achieve net zero carbon emission through neighborhoods participation and the construction pathway of green and thriving communities.

Neighborhoods can bring unique opportunities in achieving the SDGs and tackling carbon emissions through various scenarios. Firstly, neighborhoods are seen as a proper scale to reach these goals. Secondly, in terms of governance, the neighborhood is a unit in which decisions can be made quickly and solutions can be experienced.

Thirdly, neighbourhoods can also take advantage of the balance between scale and flexibility. Fifthly, neighbourhoods can benefit from more opportunities for policy funding or financing support. Lastly, the neighbourhood is a platform to gather all stakeholders and offers more opportunities for collaboration to deliver the SDG targets in a holistic way.

Achieving carbon neutrality and sustainability requires addressing both emissions and quality of life. Therefore, there are two pillars to achieve this: green and thriving neighbourhoods.

Green: Net Zero Emissions

Minimize emissions throughout the project lifecycle and achieve net zero by counteracting any residual emissions in a robust and transparent way. We will make emissions more transparent and more measurable.

Thriving: Resilient, People-centred Places

Thriving neighbourhoods should meet the essential needs of people at the neighbourhood scale. It supports 'human-scale' local life which encourages healthy, sustainable lifestyles. At the same time, prepare people, businesses and systems to adapt and prosper no matter the shocks, stresses or climate-related impacts.

through

- Operational Emissions: Occur continually throughout the lifetime of the neighbourhood operation, including energy, transport and waste management.
- Embodied Emissions: Arise from any construction within the neighbourhood, including new construction, retrofits and maintenance, for buildings and infrastructure.
- Consumption-based Emissions: Resulting from goods and services bought by the people living in the district such as food or clothes, travel and technology.

- Control the density of community development
- Support mixed function/multi-purpose use
- Rational planning of community road system
- Support active travel
- Optimize the architectural style of the community
- Improve the quantity and quality of public spaces
- Support local jobs and the economy
- Increase local business and festivals
- Optimize community governance
- Improve public participation and collaboration

The ten following modules correspond to ten important aspects of green and thriving neighbourhoods. It represents comprehensive, systematic and comprehensive actions and also responses to the two pillars. When adopted in new or existing community projects, the ten approaches can maximize the impact through mutual connections and strengthening to ensure the systematic and complete achievement of developing green and thriving neighborhoods.

1. Green Buildings & Energy

- Key concept: passive design, improve building energy efficiency, energy infrastructure, decarbonized energy, Minimize conventional energy use
- Strategy & action list: Example, strategies; Minimize energy demand, actions, Exterior wall roof and exterior door and window system in the land transfer process.
- Chinese city case studies: Qingdao｜Energy saving transformation of existing residential buildings, Shenzhen｜Near zero carbon community supplied by green energy island.

2. Clean Construction

- Key concept: all construction will add embodied emissions; to make the most of the existing assets; designed and built for the future; materials efficiency; clean construction machinery and site.
- Strategy & action list: strategies: optimize the use of existing assets; actions: Implement renovation and adjustment of use, reduce the vacancy rate of buildings.
- Chinese city case studies: Beijing, Shougang Industrial Park; Nanjing, Timber Building; Qingdao, Resource utilization of construction waste.

3. Complete Neighborhood

- Key concept: a compact neighbourhood with complete functions that meet daily needs within walking, cycling distance: food and necessities, healthcare, workspace, education, administrative services, and entertainment.
- Strategy & action list: compactness and mixed-use; adjust planning regulations to include key services list in the land transfer process.
- Chinese city case studies: Xiamen, building complete residential communities; Chengdu, multi-functional Service Center at Xiajiancao Community.

4. People-Centred Mobility

- Key concept: non-motorized travel modes; adjust the priority of street space, supporting infrastructure and services.
- Strategy & action list: construction of supporting infrastructure; reasonably designed bicycle lanes and bicycle parking spaces.
- Chinese city case studies: Hangzhou, sharing bicycle "colourful" parking space; Beijing, the slow traffic system of bicycle lane in Huilongguan Community

5. Connected Places

- Key concept: physical and digital contact with other areas; high-quality digital infrastructure, public transport the first choice, improve the efficiency of infrastructure services.
- Strategy & action list: physical connection; establish connections with existing transport stations, especially large transport hubs.
- Chinese city case studies: Qingdao, the interconnection between communities and transport stations; Tianjin, carbon neutral smart island.

6. Circular Resources

- Key concept: whole life cycle; minimize the use of resources, minimize generation of garbage, all solid materials, water and energy
- Strategy & action list: reduce resource use; eliminate the use of disposable materials and products.
- Chinese city case studies: Chengdu, on-site disposal of organic waste; Shenzhen, intelligent waste classification.

7. Green & Nature-based Solutions

- Key concept: green and blue spaces; maintain biodiversity; increase climate resilience; not be a short-term intervention, continuously monitored, maintained
- Strategy & action list: multi-functional green space; reasonably plan the land use to ensure that all residents can walk or ride within 15 minutes to reach the green space.
- Chinese city case studies: Wuhan, Wuqingdi River Beach Sponge City Reconstruction; Dongguan, Green kindergarten building.

8. Green Economy

- Key concept: create and support green jobs; foster and attract green businesses; promote long-term economic prosperity and sustainability
- Strategy & action list: provide spaces for sustainable businesses; use financial incentives (tax rebates, rent discounts, etc.) to attract green businesses
- Chinese city case studies: Beijing, green industries at Economic and Technological Development Zone; Qingdao, green jobs at Haichen Industrial Park.

9. A place for Everyone

- Key concept: wider benefits beyond emission reduction (social, environmental and economic), shared and equitably distributed benefits across people of all ages, genders, races, abilities, and incomes
- Strategy & action list: socially inclusive, a high proportion of zero-carbon/low-carbon affordable houses are built in the neighbourhood
- Chinese city case studies: Chengdu, shared spaces of Huangzhong Community; Shanghai, rural neighbourhoods for everyone

10. Sustainable Lifestyles

- Key concept: sustainable life is reflected not only in infrastructure but also in people; residents, workers and visitors, support long-term behaviour change
- Strategy & action list: safeguards; provide garbage sorting collection equipment and space
- Chinese city case studies: Shenzhen, carry out community low-carbon publicity and education; Zhenjiang, "Carbon discount" platform.

The construction of green and thriving neighbourhoods should follow the following guidelines: focus both on mitigation and adaptation, achieve multiple benefit synergy, pay attention to the top-level design according to local conditions and make continuous improvement. The construction pathway can be summarized into the two processes of planning and implementation.

![SDG Cities Global Initiative logo]

International City Experience Sharing

Green and Thriving Neighborhoods: A pathway to net zero, featuring the "15-mitute city"

Hélène Chartier

Director of Urban Planning
and Design, C40 Cities

Hélène Chartier, C40 Director of Urban Planning and Design introduced the "15-minute city" concept. The neighbourhood is a good unit to experiment with and implement this concept. C40 and ARUP have been working together to develop a framework for green thriving neighbourhoods for global cities and stakeholders developing local projects. This framework is based on developing net-zero districts and livable neighbourhoods.

Net zero emission	Livability
• Embodied emissions to decrease their amount in neighbourhoods. These arise from any construction activities in the area. Focusing on construction is important to tackle emissions. • Consumption-based emissions come from goods and services that residents consume. The key to reducing these emissions is to change consumption habits.	• The 15-minute city model allows everyone, in every neighbourhood, to meet most of their daily needs within a short distance of their home. • The 5 principles of this concept are: polycentrism, inclusiveness and cohesiveness, connection, people-centrism, and the use of nature

The approaches outlined in the guidebook can be included in three categories: 15-minute cities, net zero building and construction, and preparing sustainable futures through green jobs and sustainable lifestyles.

C40 has been partnering with leading stakeholders and organizations such as UN-habitat to create green and thriving neighborhood. We are carrying out programs in the developing neighborhood pilot projects. Through these programs, C40 connected with different projects and cities around the world to develop the green and thriving neighborhoods and developed new dialogue for the urban development.

SDG Cities Global Initiative

City to city knowledge sharing for a greener tomorrow – case: Copenhagen-Beijing

Christina Anderskov

Sector Counsellor for Sustainable Urban Development, Embassy of the Kingdom of Denmark in Beijing

Christina Anderskov, Counsellor on Sustainable Urban Development at the Embassy of the Kingdom of Denmark in China talked about the cooperation between Copenhagen and Beijing on sustainable urban development. Copenhagen is a green city with a lot of pedestrian and bicycle mobility and only 1 inhabitant out of 7 owns a car. In 2009, the city made a commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2025 but abandoned the unrealistic objective in 2022 for a reduction of 80% of carbon emissions compared to the 2005 baseline.

Beijing and Copenhagen have worked together on sustainable development since 2018. The project has included workshops and visits to involve citizens in climate change adaptation and sponge city projects. The cooperation also included a project on clean energy in wastewater treatment. 14 solutions can be implemented to reduce 46% of energy consumption. Lastly, pilot tests are carried out with C40 Cities, the CSTID-MoHURD and Xian on existing buildings to improve energy efficiency.

Chinese City Experience Sharing

Jiang Wenqing

Director of Ecology and Environment Bureau of Yantian District, Shenzhen

Li Wang

Deputy Director of Administrative Committee of Qingdao Area of China (Shandong) Pilot Free Trade Zone, Executive Deputy Director of Administrative Committee of Qingdao Sino-German Ecopark, Qingdao

Shenzhen's Practices for Building Green and Thriving Communities – A Case Study of Dameisha Community, Yantian District

Yantian District lies on the coast of Dapeng Bay in the east of Shenzhen City. It is the only administrative area in Shenzhen that's connected with Hong Kong by both land and water. The forest coverage of the district equates to 63.7% and Yantian's sea area was selected as one of the first national beautiful bays by the Chinese Ministry of Ecology and Environment. Yantian District is a pioneer in the building of ecological civilization and green and low-carbon development.

The Dameisha Community was selected as one of the first pilot projects for building near-zero carbon emission communities in Shenzhen. The pilot zones cover six categories: urban areas, business parks, communities, school campuses, buildings, and companies.
To facilitate the construction of the Dameisha Carbon Neutral Pilot Zone, the Shenzhen Municipal Ecology and Environment Bureau entered into the Strategic Cooperative Framework Agreement for the Joint Construction of the Dameisha Carbon Neutral Pilot Zone with Destone Management Consulting (Shenzhen) Co., Ltd. Meanwhile, the bureau also drafted the Action Plan for Building Pilot Zones for Near-Zero Carbon Emission in Shenzhen. These frameworks set up a goal of 40% reduction of carbon emissions by 2025 compared to the 2020 level. A set of 8 primary and 15 secondary indicators have been established to reach this goal.

The first actions have been oriented towards clean energy. New energy vehicles and parking spaces with charging facilities were implemented, and renovation projects were led on buildings to improve the rate of renewable energy used. Transport infrastructures have also been upgraded and public participation is encouraged through eco-protection service platforms. These are the main principles to build green and thriving neighbourhoods.

Opening up and Development of Ecology Harmonious Coexistence of City and Industry: Qingdao Free Trade Zone Sino-German Ecopark

Qingdao West Coast New Area, is a national-level new area in China, ranking in the top 3 with Shanghai Pudong and Tianjin Binhai. Sino-German Ecopark is the 1st bilateral ecological cooperation demonstration park in China and an important window of opening and a model of Sino-German cooperation in Shandong Province and Qingdao City. The eco-park was awarded the "Global Green District" of Sustainable Cities and Human Settlements Awards and Best Practices in Human Settlement of China and National Green Ecological Demonstration City and has been taken as National Pilot Smart City.

The ecological index system has also been certified by the German TÜV NORD. It allowed the introduction of passive house technology and made it the first "zero carbon community" in China.

Industries have been developed and bring together 20,000 talents in the park of many strategies:

PLATFORM	German Enterprise Centre Qingdao Service Platform	IP Protection	"Dual System" Talent Tracking
YES	Low pollution	Low emission	High energy efficiency
NO	Fail to meet indicator system standards	Fail to meet green industry directory	With no core competitiveness

This integrated area including a residential settlement of nearly 10,000 people, communities around the education system, cultural events and, retrofitted unused factories to increase jobs and improve environment quality are examples to promote green development. According to China's policy, these ensure harmony between humanity and nature.