

Programme Overview

Sustainable Cities Conference

Learning and Networking for the Cities of Tomorrow

12-13 July 2016

Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands

www.sustainedu.com

The Conference: #SUSTAINRdam

Who shapes the future of cities we want? What role will educators, students, and young professionals play? What are the skills, competencies, and tools needed? What are the opportunities for bridging education, research, and practice for sustainable cities?

The [Sustainable Cities Conference](#) will be a milestone in our efforts to facilitate knowledge sharing and international collaboration for sustainable urban development. Through the conference, we aim to connect and engage students, educators, researchers, higher education institutes, cities' associations, and urban practitioners in meaningful and dynamic discussions on the topic of sustainability in cities.

Join us in our two-day conference in Rotterdam, the Netherlands - one of the most sustainable cities in the world - to discuss and debate about the future of cities. Get inspired by programmes for building capacity of future city makers. Find out about the labor market perspective from urban practitioners and mobility experts. Engage with urban networks and research organizations. Learn more about examples of good practice in cities.

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Wednesday, 13 July

9:00-10:00	Registration
10:00-10:15	Opening Plenary Entering a landscape of opportunities for future city-making
10:15-11:15	Plenary 1: Education Opportunities in Sustainable Urban Development
11:15-11:30	Coffee
11:30-12:30	Plenary 2: Career Opportunities in Sustainable Urban Development
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-14:30	Plenary 3: Research Opportunities in Sustainable Urban Development
14:30-15:00	Poster Presentations
15:00-15:30	Coffee
15:30-16:45	Plenary 4: Sustainable Urban Development in Practice
16:45-17:00	Awarding and Closing Ceremony
17:00-18:00	Social Evening

Tuesday, 12 July

9:00-9:30	Registration
9:30-10:00	Opening Ceremony
10:00-10:30	Plenary 1: Role of Higher Education for Future City Making
10:30-11:00	Coffee
11:00-12:30	Plenary 2: Skills, Competencies, and Tools for Future City Makers
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-15:30	Sustainability Boot Camps
15:30-16:00	Coffee
16:00-18:00	Sustainability Learning Expeditions
18:00-19:00	Social Drinks

Programme Overview

Tuesday, 12 July 2016

Learning for Sustainable Urban Development

In the first day, we will provide an introduction to the SUSTAIN Project and its products, outcomes, and impacts by linking it to the bigger questions on the skills, competencies, and tools needed for future city making. We will feature parallel sessions on sustainable urban development themes that will be of particular interest to students, young professionals, and educators. These sessions will include expert presentations, hands-on learning activities, field trips, or multi-disciplinary workshops on show casing 'how to' develop skills and competencies on sustainable urban development.

Venue: Erasmus Paviljoen, Erasmus University Rotterdam, the Netherlands

Facilitator: Dr. Peter Scholten, Assistant Professor, *Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies*

9:00 – 9:30 **Registration**
9:30 – 10:00 **Opening Plenary**

An introduction to Erasmus University Rotterdam

Kristel Baele, President of the Executive Board, *Erasmus University Rotterdam*

An introduction to the SUSTAIN Project

Stelios Grafakos, SUSTAIN Project Coordinator, *Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies*

10:00 – 10:30 **Plenary Session 1: Role of Higher Education for Future City Making**

Higher education institutes have been integrating theories, practices, and values of sustainable urban development into teaching, training, and research. While universities continue to play a critical role in society's efforts to achieve sustainable urban development, how can higher education best contribute to future city making? What exactly does future city making mean – and what are its challenges and opportunities? Where are we now in creating sustainable urban futures? How can we make these happen through higher education?

Speaker: Claudio Acioly, Head of Capacity Building, *UN Habitat (United Nations Human Settlements Programme)*

10:30 - 11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00 – 12:30 **Plenary Session 2: Skills, Competencies, and Tools for Future City Makers**

Higher education institutes impart knowledge about urban sustainability and most importantly, it prepares students for their entrance into the labor market - by developing their skills and competencies. However, we ask: what are the values,

knowledge, skills, and competencies for future city makers? What are the learning resources and tools available – and how can we improve its delivery? How can educators inspire and engage students to learn and continue to learn about sustainable urban development?

Speakers:

Stelios Grafakos, SUSTAIN Project Coordinator and Head of Urban Environment and Climate Change Unit, *Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies*

Joseph Wladkowski, Head of ICLEI Global Capacity Center, *ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, Germany*

Dr. Talat Munshi, Associate Professor, *Center for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT) University, Ahmedabad, India*

Dr. Daniele Vettorato, Coordinator of the Urban and Regional Energy Systems Research Group, *European Academy of Bolzano/Bozen, Italy*

Dr. Alexandra Papadopoulou, Project Manager and Energy Expert, Decision Support Systems Laboratory, *National Technical University of Athens, Greece*

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 15:30 Break Out Sessions: Sustainability Boot Camps

Venue: **T3, Rotterdam School of Management, Mandeville Building**

During these nine sustainability boot camps, participants will have the opportunity to meet and learn from experts in different fields. The boot camps will feature different parallel sessions that include expert presentations, hands-on learning activities, or multi-disciplinary workshops on showcasing ‘how to’ develop skills and competencies on sustainable urban development.

Climate Resilient Urban Development

Facilitator: Stelios Grafakos & Veronica Olivotto, *Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, the Netherlands, Room T3-13*

How can cities deal with climate change and development demands at the same time? Throughout the world, cities are facing significant impacts and stress from climate change, climate variability and extreme weather events. Cities are also responsible for a large amount of the anthropogenic sources of climate change due to their share of the global energy demand and greenhouse gas emissions.

Sustainable Urban Development and Planning

Facilitator: Garfield Wayne Hunter, *European Academy of Bolzano, Italy* & Dr. Talat Munshi, *CEPT University, India, Room T3-14*

The challenge of sustainable urban development calls for professionals who can bridge disciplinary borders. Only trained individuals with a holistic understanding of the multiple and interdisciplinary aspects of sustainable development will be able to successfully adapt urban design and planning practices to the environmental challenges and societal needs of the future. Get introduced to sustainable urban development and planning through this session.

Sustainable Urban Water Management

Facilitator: Evangelos Rozos, *National Technical University of Athens, Greece, Room T3-29*

Water is one of the most important and all-encompassing urban resources. The explosive growth of urbanization is resulting in a growing pressure on water resources. Simultaneously, most cities are situated in deltas that are vulnerable in case of flooding. Therefore sustainable water management is a core issue of urban development and management and relates to many challenges of living in urban environments.

Urban Infrastructure

Facilitator: Gul Tucaltan & Prof. Dr. Jochen Monstadt, *Darmstadt University of Technology, Germany, Room T3-30*

Technical infrastructures are backbones for urban livelihoods and economies, integrate (or splinter) cities socially and spatially, and mediate resource flows between nature and the city. Get an overview of the issues of sustainable urban infrastructure development patterns, infrastructural crises, and debates on social and technical solutions for urban infrastructure as part of sustainable spatial, environmental and infrastructure planning.

Urban Transition Management

Facilitator: Dr. Niki Frantzeskaki, *Dutch Research Institute for Transitions, the Netherlands, Room T3-32*

Get informed about transition management and reflect on how to apply this approach in your urban context to mobilize existing potential towards action for urban sustainability. This session introduces Transition Management for Urban Sustainability as DRIFT has researched and applied it in different cities in Europe, Australia, and Latin America.

Governance of Sustainable Mobility and Urban Planning

Facilitator: Somesh Sharma, *Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies, the Netherlands, Room T3-34*

In urban areas, mobility is a core issue and the realization of sustainable mobility is a complex task. With this session, participants will learn more about the different aspects of governance in the urban mobility sector - as well as about the challenges and needs in urban mobility governance along with available strategies, policies and solutions.

Sustainable Energy Planning and Low Carbon Development

Facilitator: Dr. Daniele Vettorato, *European Academy of Bolzano, Italy, Room T3-36*

Cities absorb roughly three quarters of the world's fossil fuel production and will soon be under great pressure to find alternative energy sources. Today, the growth and operations of cities and urbanized areas around the world consume roughly three-quarters of the world's fossil fuel production. Learn more about sustainable energy and low-carbon (re)development of new and existing urban areas.

Sustainable Tourism in Cities

Facilitator: Prof. Dr. Jan van der Borg, *Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy* and Prof. Dr. Bakti Setiawan, *Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia, Room T3-38*

Heritage cities and sites are unique public goods and as such, their use as tourism destinations should not be left to chance. The absence of adequate tourism policies leads to either under-utilization or to over-utilization of these cultural and artistic resources. To manage heritage cities and sites in a sustainable manner, management strategies must be based on the understanding of the issues relevant to heritage cities specifically.

Corporate Sustainability and Green Cities

Facilitator: Dr. Steve Kennedy, *Rotterdam School of Management, the Netherlands, Room T3-40*

A growing number of companies seek to tackle complex sustainability issues of cities and new business models to create real value to society in the long-term. This session introduces the topic of corporate sustainability and considers its importance to the urban context. It explains how firms formulate strategies for sustainable cities and considers how they may innovate to create shared value.



15:30 – 16:00 **Coffee Break and Afternoon Snacks**

16:00 – 18:00 **Sustainability Learning Expeditions**

Rotterdam Climate Proof Initiative

Learn about Rotterdam's Climate Proof Initiative and find out what the city is doing to prepare for climate change. Visit the multi-functional water square, Benthemplein; walk towards Westersingel for an explanation on the water system at the city center; and finally, learn about the underground water storage facility in Museum Park.

Luchtsingel, DakAkkers & Benthemplein water square

Visit DakAkkers, a rooftop community garden that is, in fact, the first rooftop harvestable garden in the Netherlands; the Luchtsingel, a wooden bridge for pedestrians connecting Rotterdam North to the center and the Central Station; and Benthemplein water square.

Blue City 010 and Rotterzwam

Find out how social entrepreneurs are contributing to sustainable cities by promoting 'circular economy'. Know more about the entrepreneurial networks that exist in Rotterdam, such as Blue City 010 - and their objectives and current activities. Find out sustainable products and services, such as, for example, Rotterzwam, which grows mushrooms from coffee grounds!

Kop Van Zuid (Southbank)

"World famous architects such as Rem Koolhaas, Alvaro Siza and Sir Norman Foster, have left their (land)mark here between the monumental port buildings. Katendrecht is a completely different thing! Quietly and with time, a fascinating residential area has been built in the middle of the port. With its extensive and glorious historical roots in the port life, the area has transformed itself into modern residential buildings as the future."

Rotterdam's Inncity

"A walk through the architectural inner city of Rotterdam. For years, the question was always 'where or what is Rotterdam's inner city?' The historical stadsdriehoek? The renovated centre surrounding the Lijnbaan? You could definitely say that Rotterdam used to be a city without a heart!"

Art and Architecture

"The Art & Architecture tour runs through the centre of Rotterdam, from the brand-new railway station Rotterdam Centraal to the spectacular Market Hall. Along the way, it takes striking buildings and beautiful works of arts that have been added to the city over the past 75 years. For after the bombardment of 14 May 1940, a new modern city was built. Right from the start, art enjoyed a prominent place."

18:00 – 19:00 **Social Evening at the City Center**

Wednesday, 13 July 2016

Networking for Sustainable Urban Development

In the second day, we will focus on the following themes: education and career opportunities for students and young professionals, opportunities for research collaborations and international partnerships, and sustainable urban development in practice. These plenary sessions will feature diverse formats, ranging from high-level discussions and interactive panels to speed talks and networking events. Our guests include representatives from higher education institutes in Europe and Asia, consulting groups, research funding agencies, urban knowledge networks, and cities' associations.

Venue: Erasmus Paviljoen, Erasmus University Rotterdam

Facilitator: **Dr. Peter Scholten**, Assistant Professor, *Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS)*

Moderator: **Garfield Wayne Hunter**, Researcher, *European Academy of Bolzano, Italy*

9:00 – 10:00 **Registration**

10:00 – 10:15 **Opening Plenary: Entering a landscape of opportunities for future city-making**

Higher education institutes do not only offer knowledge generation and transfer and development of skills and competencies for future city makers, but are also integral in developing research agendas and policy reforms, demonstration of good actions and practices, implementation of sustainable urban development plans, and raising public awareness, among others. Moreover, in order to fully engage in society's efforts for sustainable urban development, higher education institutes need to form partnerships with each other as well as collaborate with other urban actors.

Speaker: **Dr. Niki Frantzeskaki**, Associate Professor, *Dutch Research Institute For Transitions (DRIFT)*

10:15 – 11:15 **Plenary Session 1: Education Opportunities in Sustainable Urban Development**

Students and young professionals can take advantage of different education programmes on sustainable urban development that will enhance their job prospects in the labour market. Explore student mobility and exchange programmes. Find out what are the funding support for professional development. Learn about the advantages of and benefits for double degree programmes.

Speakers:

Despina Christadoni, Project Officer, *European Commission - Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)*

Cosmas Kombat Lambini, President, Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association – African Chapter

Jan Fransen, Deputy Director and Head of Education & Training, *Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS), the Netherlands*

Prof. Dr. Bakti Setiawan, Chairperson, Department of Architecture and Planning, *Gadjah Madah University, Indonesia*

11:15 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 **Plenary Session 2: Career Opportunities in Sustainable Urban Development**

Pursue a challenging career in sustainable urban development – whether in the public and private sector, not-for-profit organizations, or consultancy firms – and work on a range of issues to promote social, economic, and environmental wellbeing. Furthermore, what makes a successful transition from being a student to a future city maker and potential sustainability entrepreneur?

Speakers:

Niels van Geenhuizen, Program Manager - Sustainability, *Arcadis, the Netherlands*

Marcello Palazzi, Founder and Board Member, *B Lab Europe*

Nannette Ripmeester, Founder and Director, *Expertise in Labour Mobility*

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch Break

13:30 – 14:30 **Plenary Session 3: Research Opportunities in Sustainable Urban Development**

With the growing pace of urbanization around the world, there is need for innovative research to better understand the dynamics of cities. Research results can further generate new ideas, shape decisions, inform solutions, and implement actions for sustainable urban development. Moreover, what are the best ways that research results can be best integrated with current urban practices?

Speakers:

Dr. Renee van Kessel – Hagesteijn, Director, *Social Science Office, Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research*

Dr. Zhang Mingshun, Professor and Head, *Beijing Climate Change Response Research and Education Centre, Beijing University of Civil Engineering and Architecture*

Nico Tillie, Vice President and European Office - Director, *World Council on City Data*

14:30 – 15:00 **Poster Presentations: Solutions for Urban Sustainability**

Half of the world’s population lives in cities. Although our urban areas continue to face evolving challenges, there are also opportunities for development and innovation. Students in the field of sustainable urban development can visualize innovative solutions to address the growing challenges of our cities. The following posters that fall under the thematic areas of SUSTAIN will present in this session.

Dayana Al Alam. The response of citizens to the garbage crisis in Beirut: Self-organization and local initiatives

Alexandra Tsatsou, Barbara Zamora Auza, and Carlo Capra, *I Am My City*. SPAZI CENTRALI – Milan, *Dove c’era l’erba ora c’è una città*. Where there was once grass, now there is a city.

Vicky Ariyanti and Andie Arif Wicaksono, Transfunctionality of Small Reservoir in Urban Waterscape: The Case of Embung Langensari, Yogyakarta City Center

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break

15:30 – 16:45 **Plenary Session 4: Sustainable Urban Development in Practice**

The urgent challenges in cities call for innovative solutions from local governments, city networks, and urban practitioners. Best practices and projects that illustrate inclusive, resource-efficient, climate-resilient, sustainable cities are generated locally. However, their relevance is global in scale – and can offer opportunities for knowledge exchange, dialogue, and learning among cities in developed and developing countries. Find out these practices – and more – in dealing with sustainable urban development.

Speakers:

Sabrina Kers, Sustainability Programme Officer, *Municipality of Rotterdam, the Netherlands*

Joseph Wladkowski, Head of ICLEI Global Capacity Center, *ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, Germany*

Nicola Tollin, Executive Director, *RESURBE International Program on Urban Resilience*

Asmae Belhirsch, Sustainability Programme Officer, *Municipality of Rotterdam, the Netherlands*

16:45 – 17:00 Awarding and Closing Ceremony

17:00 – 18:00 Social Evening

Contact Us!

SUSTAIN – Strengthening higher education in Urban sustainability and Transitions towards internationalization of Academic Institutions and Networks

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