



International cooperation for innovation in urban development policy and practice: results and perspectives from EU – Asia Cooperation

Venue: ONLINE

Date: 13 October 2020

Time: 09:30 – 11:00

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/99553768430?pwd=THE3SkQxMXpROGpwTExOTnNrS0Jodz09> or

Zoom App: Meeting ID: 99553768430, Password: 995374

Description: Urbanisation is a complex issue, involving many different players and sectors in myriads of situations. Public policy for the development of urban areas is most successfully implemented when it is joined-up, integrated and inclusive. In Europe, cities are increasingly seeking to address complex twenty-first century issues and challenges, and, through working together and networking, are developing innovative and original solutions that would not have been possible if left exclusively to the national level. Therefore, in 2016, the EU agreed the Urban Agenda and, in the same year, was a major player in the New Urban Agenda under Habitat 3. Accordingly, countries across the world share a common interest in promoting a human-centred and environmentally-friendly urban development model which delivers clean, resource-efficient, socially fair, smart cities. The EU has increasingly supported actions in this field on a global scale including the URBELAC (2010-2013) project with Latin America, two generations of the World Cities project (2015-2018), and the International Urban Cooperation (IUC) programme (2017-2020). All these programmes have defined some thematic networks for the cooperation. This workshop will examine the results of this cooperation regarding added value for the public authorities and the private sector. In two sessions, speakers from Asia and Europe will participate in moderated thematic discussions and make recommendations for the future. A special emphasis will be placed on the effects of the Covid19-crisis to the respective cities' actions in the thematic areas of green deal and digital transition (see below) as well as to the international cooperation capacity. The session complemented with a presentation by the IUC Methodology Taskforce (MTF) on lessons learned and recommendations for future city-to-city cooperation.

Agenda

Moderation: Mr. Pablo Gándara, IUC Asia Team Leader

09:30 – 09:35 **Introductory Remarks by Mr. Rudolf Niessler, Principal Advisor, DG REGIO**

09:35 – 09:40 **Keynote by EU FPI by Mr. Nelson Jorge, Team Leader, DG FPI**

09:40 – 10:10 **Panel Session 1: Smart City & Digital Transition**

- Thematic introduction by Mr. Panagiotis Karamanos, Team Leader, IUC India (5 min)
- Panellists (5 min each):
 - **China (Guangzhou):** Mr. Dominique LI, Managing Director and Ms. Jasmine Guangzhou Global Star Investment LTD. Guangzhou Development District Foreign Affairs Office
 - **India (Panaji-Goa):** Mr. Sanjit Rodrigues, Commissioner, Corporation of the City of Panaji
 - **EU (Barcelona, Spain):** Ms. Bettina Stollar, Programme Director for Asia-Pacific, Department of International Relations, Barcelona City Council
- Questions and answers (10 min)

10:10 – 10:40 Panel Session 2: Green Deal: Circular Economy and Energy Transition

- Thematic introduction by Mr. Hidefumi Imura, Team Leader, IUC Japan (5 min)
- Panellists (5 min each):
 - **Japan (Koriyama):** Mr. Yohei Watanabe, Business Creation Division, City of Koriyama
 - **China (Chengdu):** Mr. Yi LIU, Deputy Director, Energy Internet Research Institute (EIRI)
 - **EU (Rome, Italy):** Mr. Patrick Maurelli, Coordinator for GIS, BIM and Data Management, CITERA Sapienza University
- Questions and answers (10 min)

10:40 – 10:55 Takeaways and prospects for cooperation, Sandra Marin, Coordinator IUC Methodology Taskforce

10:55 – 11:00 Closing remarks

Speakers' information:

Rudolf Niessler is Principal Adviser for International Relations at DG REGIO. He studied economics and informatics at the Vienna University and holds a PhD in economics. He has worked in economic research and at the OECD. In 1997 he joined the European Commission where he served in several functions, i.p.as Director for Policy Coordination, Director for Policy Development and Director for the Competence Centre for Smart and Sustainable Growth. Since 2019, Rudolf is in charge of international relations at DG REGIO.

Nelson Jorge is Team Leader at the Partnership Instrument of the European Union's Foreign Policy Instruments (FPI). He looks after global projects in environment, climate, energy and international urban development.

Dominique, Li is the managing director of Guangzhou Global Star Investment Ltd. Global Star is wholly owned by Guangzhou Development District (GDD) Government. It formerly served as a window for GDD in Hong Kong, specialized in dealing with international projects and overseas resources. It is also the specific undertaker of China-EU regional cooperation in GDD and could provide the incubator, capital, talent policy, market and potential customers resources for international innovative enterprises. Dominique has over 19-year working experience in Global Star. He has led and participated in the introduction, negotiation, consulting services and investment for various Fortune 500 corporations.

Sanjit Rodrigues is the current municipal commissioner of Corporation of City of Panaji (CCP). He is one of the senior bureaucrats from Government of Goa and has hold several important positions since his induction in Goa government. As a municipal commissioner of CCP, he has a keen interest on critical topics like solid waste management, urban transport, smart parking and digitalization. He has been instrumental in bringing several reforms and best practices to the benefit of citizens of Panaji.

Bettina Stollar is Director for Asia-Pacific within the Department of International Relations of Barcelona City Council. Bettina looks after institutional and technical exchanges with Asian cities. Working in areas such as urban diplomacy, urban planning management, sustainability, and the development of technologies for the improvement of quality of life. Within the IUC project, she has led an experts missions to China (Liuzhou and Chengdu) and has received high-level Chinese delegations. Bettina has also coordinated several follow-up online exchanges, especially with Liuzhou.

Yohei Watanabe belongs to Business Creation Division of Koriyama City in Japan. He is working for industrial innovation and business promotion for the city and city-to-city cooperation with Essen City in Germany.

LIU Yi is the deputy director of the Energy Internet Research Institute, Tsinghua University, in Chengdu. Since 2008, he has been working on Smart Grid, and he has been with Energy Internet Research Institute since 2015. His research interests are in Energy Internet Planning, and Flexible Energy Resource Planning, Control and Optimization. He participated in several smart grid projects of State Grid. Since 2015, he led and participated several projects of energy internet approved by National Energy Administration. Now He is working at EIRI as the deputy director for innovation, technology commercialization and international collaboration.

Patrick Maurelli is the Coordinator of the Laboratory "GIS, BIM and Digital Twins" of CITERA Research Centre of Sapienza University of Rome. He is an expert in environmental and urban planning, energy transition, renewable energy, impact assessment and risk analysis, information technology for digital twins (GIS and BIM). Now he is working as Project Manager of European Projects on Energy Efficiency for *Risorse per Roma SPA*, the in-house agency of Roma Capitale, and Federesco, Italian National Association of the Energy Service Companies. Patrick has a master's degree in environmental engineering and a PhD in urban planning techniques. He is an independent expert evaluator and monitor for the European Commission on Horizon 2020 program, for the MISE – Ministry of Economic Development, the MCI - Medio Credito Italiano - and ANR - France- on several R&D projects mainly addressed to Clean Energy and Climate change. Actively engaged in international cooperation projects with several Chinese cities (IUC), Lebanon, Turkey.

Sandra Marín is an experienced expert on sustainable urban development from an integrated approach. She has a proven track record working for DG-Regio and the FPI, including her current assignments as global coordinator of the IUC methodology for city-to-city cooperation as well as team leader for the IUC-LAC city-to-city cooperation.

Moderation: Pablo Gandara, Team Leader IUC Asia. Contact: pgandara@iuc-asia.eu