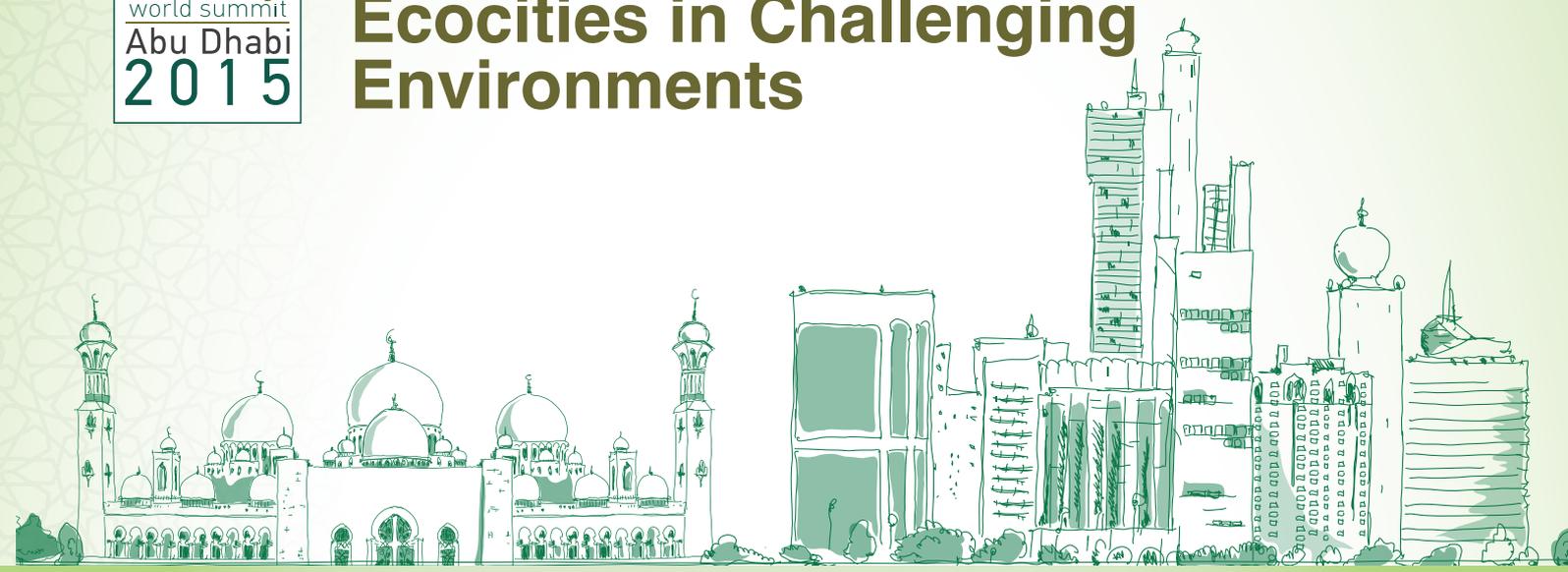




11 - 13 OCTOBER, 2015  
ADNEC | Abu Dhabi, UAE

# Ecocities in Challenging Environments



Taking the Vision Forward

# Post Event Report

[www.ecocityworldsummit.com](http://www.ecocityworldsummit.com) | [ecws2015@ead.ae](mailto:ecws2015@ead.ae)

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## Thank You Message



Thank you for joining us at the Middle Eastern debut of the 11th edition of the longest running international conference series on sustainable cities, focusing on Ecocities in Challenging Environments.

We were delighted to bring together the world's leading authorities and academia on urban planning and city development to exchange ideas and experiences that will promote the ecocity concept.

Designed to be inclusive, collaborative, and solution-oriented, the Summit featured a variety of workshops, panel discussions, plenary sessions and debates, in addition to an exhibition and side events. For those first time visitors to the UAE, the Summit offered a series of complimentary tours and excursions that shared the UAE's rich local culture and heritage.

The Ecocity World Summit is an ideal platform to help develop action strategies relevant to the region and to the global community, while also empowering citizens to play an active role in shaping urban development. Thank you for your support and contribution to the progress made in building cities that are healthy, liveable, sustainable and resilient.

Thank you for your valued participation and attendance which contributed to the success of the 11th Ecocity World Summit!

ECOCITY  
BUILDERS



## Committee Members & Contributors

*A special thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the Summit*



### Academic Committee

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CEDARE

**Dr. Costis Toregas**

AGEDI-ECWS

## Primary Partners



Established in 1996, the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD) is committed to protecting and enhancing air quality, groundwater, as well as the biodiversity of our desert and marine ecosystem. By partnering with government entities, the private sector, NGOs and global environment agencies, we embrace international best practice, innovation and hard work to institute effective policy measures. We seek to raise environmental awareness, facilitate sustainable development, and ensure environmental issues remain one of the top priorities of our national agenda.

[www.ead.ae](http://www.ead.ae)



Under the guidance and patronage of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative (AGEDI) was formed in 2002 to address responses to the critical need for readily accessible, accurate environmental data and information for all those who need it. With the Arab region as a priority area of focus, and based on systemic problems that exist around the world, AGEDI facilitates access to quality environmental data that equips policy-makers with actionable, timely information to inform and guide critical decisions. AGEDI is supported by the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi on a local level, and by the United Nations Environment Programme regionally and internationally.

[www.AGEDI.ae](http://www.AGEDI.ae)



The UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) represents the foundations of the UAE Society and serves as its window to the outer world, communicating the thoughts and vision of the UAE leadership, asserting the values of human brotherhood, and calling for lifting the suffering of humans. The Ministry promotes the importance of attaining global peace and amicably resolving disputes through dialogue.

[www.mofa.gov.ae](http://www.mofa.gov.ae)



Ecocity Builders is a non-profit organization dedicated to reshaping cities for the long-term health of human and natural systems. They develop and implement policy, design, educational tools and strategies to build thriving urban centres based on access by proximity and to reverse patterns of sprawl and excessive consumption. Ecocity Builders and associates' definition of Ecocity is rooted in a healthy relationship of the city's parts and functions, similar to the relationship of organs in living complex organism. Ecocity Builders is concerned with city design, planning, building, and operations in relation to the surrounding environment and natural resources of the region. Their praxis utilizes organic, ecological and whole-systems lessons to actually reverse the negative impacts of climate change, species extinction and the destruction of the biosphere. Ecocity Builders believes the form of the city matters, that it is within our ability, and indeed crucial, to reshape and restructure cities to address global environmental challenges.

[www.ecocitybuilders.org](http://www.ecocitybuilders.org)

## Primary Partners



Masdar is a commercially driven renewable energy company based in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. A strategic government initiative, the company has a mission to invest, incubate and establish a new energy industry in Abu Dhabi and around the world. Masdar is playing an important role in extending Abu Dhabi's energy leadership beyond hydrocarbons. By adopting an integrated, holistic business model – merging higher education, R&D, investment and sustainable urban development – Masdar can meet the changing needs of the evolving industry.

[www.masdar.ae](http://www.masdar.ae)

مجلس أبوظبي للتخطيط العمراني  
ABU DHABI URBAN PLANNING COUNCIL



The Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council was created by law number 23 of the year 2007 and is the agency responsible for the future of Abu Dhabi's urban environments, and the expert authority behind the visionary Plan Abu Dhabi 2030 Urban Structure Framework Plan published September 2007. Chaired by His Highness

Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, UPC defines the shape of the Emirate, ensuring factors such as sustainability, infrastructure capacity, community planning and quality of life, by overseeing development across the Emirate as a whole.

[www.upc.gov.ae](http://www.upc.gov.ae)

## Contributors



The overarching theme for the Ecocity World Summit 2015 was “Ecocities in Challenging Environments”. Given that previous Summits had addressed cold climates, small villages and other similar characteristics of an Ecocity environment, it was felt that “Challenging Environments” would capture challenges of the hot and arid climate that undergirds living in the region and causes creative expressions of local architecture, use of materials and other similar responses to take root and develop outcomes and examples for emulation elsewhere around the globe.

The Strategic Committee (see page 6 for its composition) which met for over a year and in several locations (Barcelona, Casablanca, Abu Dhabi and virtually using teleconferencing facilities), agreed to further subdivide this broad theme into 4 subthemes in order to allow for a full treatment both in terms of program, as well as the contributions from the academic community (posters, papers, etc.).

### 2.1 Sub Themes

Under the overarching theme: - Ecocities in Challenging Environments, 4 subthemes were created to provide a structured approach to Ecocities. While related, each of the subthemes allowed for programmatic representation of different sectors of academia, private industry, civil society and government that come together to create an Ecocity. The diagram below shows this interrelationship.

Each of the four subthemes were color-coded and described to the participants early on in a consistent manner to increase engagement:



#### Urban design for liveability and resilience

ECWS 2015 encourage the development and application of solutions that improve urban eco-design such as footpaths, green-spaces, and bicycle-friendly infrastructure construction. By using the right construction materials and techniques, and through appropriate financing, cultural traditions can remain a part of eco-design and green infrastructure.

#### Urban systems, footprints and metabolism

ECWS 2015 delegates presented tangible solutions aimed at improving urban systems – developing systems that make things work. This is done via innovation in reducing cities’ carbon-footprints; contributing to a healthier metabolism through reducing food waste; educating the population about the benefits of sustainability; developing integrated and more eco-friendly water and energy solutions; and promoting realistic financing schemes for green architecture. An integrated approach that does not undermine the role of technology and systemic analyses are key to Low Impact Development (LID).

#### Social systems that facilitate Ecocities

ECWS 2015 define and promotes human strategies for eco-neighbourhoods in a challenging climate, and propose an action plan for Abu Dhabi to bring it one step closer to becoming an ecologically healthy city. Key concepts will include improved governance of resources; eco-literacy; eco-actions incentives (such as solar panel rebates, LED lighting, etc.); a rise of social networks; equity; health; and culture.

#### Cities in balance with nature

ECWS 2015 generated ideas and created ways to reintegrate nature into cities in order to create a healthier equilibrium. With nature as a guide, and through preservation of the old and exploration of new biodiversity, co-existence is made possible.

## 2.2 Keynote Speakers



### H.E. Reem Ibrahim Al Hashimy

Minister of State, UAE  
 Director General, EXPO 2020 Dubai Bureau  
 UAE

In February 2008, Her Excellency Reem Al Hashimy was sworn in as Minister of State in the Cabinet of the United Arab Emirates. Her Excellency has managed the International Affairs Office of the UAE Prime Minister, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, since her ministerial appointment. Additionally, she holds responsibility within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, for the UAE's bilateral relations with Sub Saharan African countries, India, Pakistan and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS).



### H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak

Secretary General  
 Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi  
 UAE

Razan leads the organisation in achieving its mandate of protecting the environment by reducing pollution and enhancing the Emirate's biodiversity. Razan is also the Managing Director of the Emirates Wildlife Society in association with the WWF (EWS-WWF) as well as the Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund. Her Excellency serves on the boards of the Global Footprint Network, African Wildlife Foundation, and the Al Ain Wildlife Park and Resort. She is also a member of the Board of Advisors of Abu Dhabi Music and Arts Foundation. She holds a Master's degree in Public Understanding of Environmental Change from the University College London, UK and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and International Relations from Tufts University, Massachusetts, USA.



### H.E. Fahad Saeed Al Raqbani

Director General  
 Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development  
 UAE

Fahad Saeed Al Raqbani is one of the economic leaders in the emirate of Abu Dhabi. He holds the post of Director-General of the Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development since September 2010. Fahad joined ADCED in June 2008 as Deputy Director-General, and in collaboration with the private sector and the support of the team at ADCED, he launched a number of initiatives that contribute to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the Economic Vision 2030 Abu Dhabi. Through his administrative skills, Fahad managed to create a working group of high-caliber and high performance employees as well as creating partnerships and developing relationships with many government entities in furtherance of the principle of cooperation and support between government departments. Thanks to his previous work experience with Mubadala Development Company, Tawazun Economic Program (formerly the UAE Offset Program), Dolphin Energy and Emirates Aluminum, and his dealings with government and financial institutions before joining ADCED, Fahad has gained extensive expertise in several areas, including international funding for projects and project management.

## Keynote Speakers



### **Prof. Joseph Alcamo**

Executive Director

Center for Environmental Systems Research (CESR), University of Kassel  
Germany

Since 1996, Prof. Joseph Alcamo is a professor at University of Kassel in Germany, working as the head of the university's Center for Environmental Systems Research. He has taken a temporary leave of absence from the institute, however, to work as the Chief Scientist for UNEP until 2014. He was Chief Scientist of the United Nations Environment Programme and the first Chief Scientist appointed within the UN system. Since coming to UNEP in 2009, he has been working to strengthen the interface between global science and policy. He has convened groups of scientists to produce quick response reports for policy making on climate change, air pollution, ozone layer depletion, and food security issues. While at UNEP he has helped found the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, an alliance of governments and non-state partners dedicated to fast action on pollutants that cause both air pollution and climate change. At UNEP he has also initiated an international "Foresight" process for identifying emerging issues, co-founded a new umbrella organization for climate impact science (PROVIA), co-organized the UN Global Assessment of Water Quality, and helped found Future Earth a new international framework for global change research.



### **Dr Amine Bensaid**

President, Mundiapolis University  
Morocco

Amine Bensaid, B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D., is a computer scientist by training. He has been the President at Mundiapolis University in Casablanca since 2011. In addition to university leadership and to research for economic development, his recent interests have included quality assurance & enhancement in institutions of higher education. Between 2009 and 2011, he was the Principal at Fondation RMA-Watanya in charge of developing a new private and not-for-profit technical university in Morocco, and was an advisor to the CEO of the MASclR – a foundation for market-driven S&T (science & technology) research in Morocco.



### **Senator Ronan Dantec**

Senator, Loire-Atlantique, Vice-President of the Committee for Sustainable Development, Infrastructure and Territorial Equipment and Planning  
Spokesman of the World Organization UCLG  
France

Born in Brest August 5, 1963, Ronan Dantec followed a veterinarian training at the National Veterinary School ENV Nantes (1983-1987). Founder and director of community radio station (AlterNantes FM) from 1989, then ascends the business of creating and leasing cultural exhibitions. He is author, Éditions Ouest France, of several books including The Bretons in the popular press illustrated (2001) There is a century sport (2003) There is a century working-France (2006), There is a century on Sunday (2008), Britain (s) to the XX th century (2010). Environmental activist since high school, Ronan Dantec joined the environmentalist Confederation in 1983 and participated in the creation of the Greens in 1984. The same year he was behind the creation of the Green Group in Nantes. His areas of expertise are the environment, sustainable development, biodiversity, energy, international negotiations on climate change, sustainable cities, urban planning, regional planning, local authorities (institutional reform, taxation) and regional languages.



### **Prof. Hisham Elkadi**

Dean – Head of School, School of the Built Environment (SoBE)  
University of Salford  
United Kingdom

Prior to my appointment at Salford University, I was the Chair and Head of School, Architecture and Built Environment at Deakin University since 2009. My academic career with a Ph.D. from the University of Liverpool in 1989 includes a research associate at the University of Liverpool, a Senior Lecturer at the University of Plymouth, Director of Architecture programme and a Director of postgraduate studies at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne and Chair and Head of School of Architecture & Design in Belfast. I have established a sound research network on both national and international levels in the subject of urban ecology. I led the art & architecture theme in a EU FP6 Network of Excellence, and works on other national and international grants related to regeneration of mid cities, and urban ecology. I acted as an invited external examiner at many Universities including Harvard Graduate School of Design, the University of Toronto, Liverpool, Edinburgh, Nottingham, Beirut, Newcastle upon Tyne, Alexandria, Gothenburg, Kuwait, Lund, Carlow, Kuala Lumpur, Curtin and Newcastle (Australia). I am an Honorary Fellow at the University College London, an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, a Member of Institute of Egyptian Architects, Affiliate of the Royal Institute of British Architects, and a Fellow of the Australia Institute of Buildings. I have, 5 books, more than 100 refereed publications and graduated 18 Ph.D. students.



### **Dr. Arab Hoballah**

Chief, Sustainable Consumption and Production/SCP, UNEP  
France

Dr. Arab Hoballah serves as Chief of Sustainable Lifestyles, Cities and Industry, for Delivering SCP, as from January 2015; since October 2005, he was Chief of Sustainable Consumption and Production/SCP in UNEP since October 2005. Among other responsibilities, he looks for mainstreaming Resource Efficiency and SCP policies at all levels, in particular through responsible industry and cities management. He has launched and supervises various Initiatives and Partnerships (buildings, tourism, cities). Dr. Arab has coordinated the preparation and is actually supervising the implementation of the only operational issue that was explicitly adopted in The Future We Want at Rio+20, the 10 Year Framework of Programmes on SCP; under his coordination, the work achieved by SCP team received the Special Baobab Award 2014, UNEP. Prior to this post, he spent 14 years working in the UNEP Regional Seas programme as Deputy Director of the Blue Plan, Deputy Coordinator of the Mediterranean Action Plan (MAP) and Coordinator of the Mediterranean Commission on Sustainable Development Before, he worked for several development institutions in developing countries. Dr. Arab Hoballah holds a MSc in Economic Tools and Prospective Analysis, a MSc in Law and International Relations and a PhD in Economic Development from the University of Paris, France.

## Keynote Speakers



### **Prof. Jeffrey Kenworthy, BSc. (Hons), PhD Murdoch**

Professor in Sustainable Cities  
The Curtin University Sustainability Policy (CUSP) Institute  
Curtin University of Technology  
Australia

Jeff Kenworthy has spent 35 years in the transport and urban planning field and currently teaches courses and supervises postgraduate students in the urban sustainability fields, focussing on transport and particularly car dependence. His research focuses on large international comparisons of cities from a transport and land use perspective. He is author/co-author of a number of books as well as over 200 other book chapters and journal publications in the area of urban planning, transport and sustainability and has lectured in 34 countries and 84 cities worldwide. His latest book with Peter Newman is *The End of Automobile Dependence: How Cities are Moving Beyond Car-Based Planning* (Island Press, 2015). He has received two awards from the German government for his research and teaching in the field, including a Mercator Guest Professorship (Goethe University) and is currently a guest professor at the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences.



### **Chancellor Linda Katehi**

Chancellor, University of California, Davis  
USA

Linda Katehi became the sixth chancellor of the University of California, Davis in August 2009, overseeing all aspects of the university's teaching, research and public service mission, including the UC Davis Health System. Despite being appointed during the worst economic downturn since the Great Depression, Chancellor Katehi has continued to move the university forward, advancing a number of crucial initiatives that have enhanced UC Davis' reputation for excellence. Those include a strategic growth plan to add 5,000 undergraduate students and 300 faculty by 2020, creation of the new UC Davis World Food Center and the successful completion of a \$1 billion university fundraising campaign a full year ahead of schedule.



### **Ng Lang**

Chief Executive Officer  
The Urban Redevelopment Authority of Singapore (URA)  
Singapore

Mr Ng Lang was appointed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Singapore (URA) in August 2010. Before this, Lang was CEO of the National Parks Board of Singapore for 5 years, where he has played a key role in implementing major green infrastructural programmes to achieve the City in a Garden vision. This includes the development of new parks and park connector network, streetscape greenery masterplan, skysrise greenery, the expansion of the Singapore Botanic Gardens and the new Gardens by the Bay. He also championed community outreach efforts to enhance public appreciation and participation in Singapore's greening and biodiversity conservation programmes.

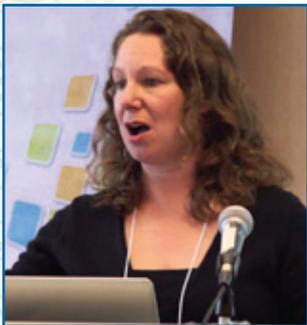
## Keynote Speakers



### H.E. Dr. Nadia Makram Ebeid

Executive Director Centre for Environment & Development for the Arab Region and Europe - CEDARE  
Egypt

Nadia Makram Ebeid has been Executive Director of the Center for Environment and Development of the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE), since January 2004. Previously, as the first Special Peace Envoy of the Secretary General of the Arab League to Sudan (2002-2003), her efforts contributed to the signature of Sudan's subsequent Peace Agreement. Ebeid was formerly Egypt's Minister of Environment and headed the newly created Ministry in 1997, for five years. She is the first female minister to hold this position in the Arab world. One of her most noticeable achievements was the initiation of a \$100 million River Nile Pollution Prevention Program. As a result, and for the first time, she declared the River Nile free from polluted industrial waste-water discharge.



### Dr. Jennie Moore

Director, Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship  
British Columbia Institute of Technology, School of Construction and the Environment  
Canada

Dr. Jennie Moore, Director of Sustainable Development and Environmental Stewardship, British Columbia Institute of Technology, School of Construction and the Environment In 2006, the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) became the first post-secondary educational institution to join Global Footprint Network's partner network, which now numbers 76 institutions applying the Ecological Footprint methodology around the world. Dr. Jennie Moore, director of sustainable development and environmental stewardship at BCIT's School of Construction and the Environment, has led the charge, applying Footprint science to make real policy changes for the Vancouver city government.



### Dr. Tarik Nesh-Nash

EWM Technical Manager, Ushahidi  
EWM Academic Manager, Mundiapolis University  
Morocco

Tarik is an Ashoka fellow on the use of technology on citizen engagement for democracy and good governance. He is the CEO of Software Centre, and heads the research center of 'ICT for good governance' at Mundiapolis University. He holds a master's degree on Computer Sciences from University of Washington and a Bachelor degree in Law. Tarik is managing the technical implementation of the Ushahidi project, and managing the academic course of Ecocity at Mundiapolis University. He is also a lead facilitator of the EcoCitizen World Map Project in Morocco under the Community Sustainability and Resilience Special Initiative of Eye on Earth. and charged with implementing the policy of France in the field of sustainable development. She left that post May 2, 2011 and was replaced by Dominique Dron.

## Keynote Speakers



### **Michèle Pappalardo**

National Coordinator for Sustainable Cities, Nantes  
France

Michèle Pappalardo is the Interministerial Delegate to coordinate the French offer on sustainable city - Vivapolis. She was Director of Michel Barnier's office at the Ministry of Environment, CEO and President of France 22 from 2003 to 2008 the Agency of Environment and Energy Management (ADEME). She is the first Commissioner-General for Sustainable Development in the Ministry of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and Spatial Planning. As such, so it runs a service created July 7, 2008 and charged with implementing the policy of France in the field of sustainable development. She left that post May 2, 2011 and was replaced by Dominique Dron.



### **Richard Register**

Founder, Ecocity Builders  
USA

Richard is the founder of the International Ecocity Conferences, which have been held on all continents but Antarctica. He is one of the world's leading theoreticians on all things ecological city with pioneering work in writing and organizing since the early 1970s, and has led local hands on projects in waterway restoration, community gardens, slow street design and city ordinance amendments in the San Francisco Bay Area, California. Perhaps best known for his book *Ecocities* and as the originator of the term *ecocity* aka *eco-city* in the late 1970s, he has been responsible for China adopting *eco-city* as their term for green or sustainable cities in their national policies and demonstration projects currently being built. Richard is a Fellow in the World Academy of Art and Science (based in India) and International Consultant to the Chinese Society for Urban Studies, Eco-Cities Planning and Construction Center, China. His next two books are editor-ready manuscripts looking for publishers: *World Rescue – an Economics Built on What We Build* and *Ecocities Illustrated – the Easily Built Visionary Future* of Richard Register.



### **Sanjay Sridhar**

C40 Cities, Regional Director  
South and West Asia

Sanjay Sridhar is the C40 Regional Director for South and West Asia. He is responsible for facilitating cities in the region to participate in the exchange of best practices to reduce the sources and their impact of climate change. Sanjay has more than 16 years of work experience in 3 continents (North America, Europe and Asia) in areas of architecture, urban development and planning, sustainable design and public policy. Prior to joining C40, Sanjay was with the World Resources Institute (WRI) as the Director of Urban Development for India. He also established WRI's regional office in Bangalore from where, as the Country Lead for the Sustainable and Livable Cities Project, he laid the foundation for WRI's flagship programme, the Steve Ross Center for Sustainable Cities.



### **Dr. Wolfgang Streitenberger**

Adviser - Conseiller

European Commission

Directorate-General for Regional Policy and Urban Development Belgium  
Belgium

Born was born in Vienna on 2 January 1952, and is Austrian citizen. He completed his studies with a PhD in Political Science and a Master's in Economics. He also accomplished a post-graduate study at College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium. He started his professional career as economic researcher in the then largest Austrian bank. After that he continued as economic editor and head of strategic planning of the public Austrian Broadcasting and TV, Vienna. 1991 – 94 he was Member of the Board of the Lower Austrian Capital City Planning Corporation which developed a new regional capital city and constructed its buildings. Since 1996 Mr Streitenberger is senior official of the European Commission His first function there was Head of European Commission Representation to Austria, and then, since 2002 he acts as senior Adviser of several Directors General, currently of the Director General “Regional and Urban Policy” in the European Commission in Brussels.



### **Dr. Hussein Abaza**

Senior Advisor  
Ministry of Environment  
Egypt

Worked for the United Nations for 33 years. Six years in Saudi Arabia for a UN physical Planning project supported by the UN Office for Technical Cooperation. Worked with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for twenty seven years. Post held at UNEP included Coordinator for the African Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development, Coordinator for the Committee of International Development Institutions on the Environment, Assistant to the Executive Director of UNEP, and Chief of the Economics and Trade Branch.



### **Yaser Abunnasr**

Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture  
American University of Beirut,  
Lebanon

Dr. Yaser Abunnasr is an Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture in the Department of Landscape Design and Ecosystem Management at the American University of Beirut (AUB), Lebanon. He is educated and has extensive professional experience as an architect (BArch, American University of Beirut, Lebanon), a landscape architect (MLA, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA) and planner (PhD in Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts Amherst, USA). He joined the American University of Beirut after fifteen years of professional practice with the aim to conduct research that spans the three professional fields.



### **Dr. Sahar Attia**

Professor of Architecture & Urban Design  
Head of the Department of Architecture  
Faculty of Engineering - Cairo University  
Egypt

Prof. Dr. Sahar Attia is a Professor at the Faculty of Engineering at Cairo University, with a PhD in Urban Planning from the Urban Institute of Paris, University of Paris 12, France. She has more than 30 Years of experience practicing Urban Planning, Urban Design, and Architecture in the Academic and Professional Field. Her specializations and fields of interest include Urban Development & strategic Planning, Heritage Conservation and Urban Regeneration, Upgrading the informal areas, with special focus on public space. She has been doing consultancy work for both, public and private sector. She has been coordinating several national projects with Egyptian authorities as well as international partners (e.g. GIZ, UN Habitat, UNDP). She has been lecturing since 1984, is or has been member in 15 national and international committees and boards, many of them dealing with Architecture, urban Planning, and governance in Egypt. Since September 2013 she is the Head of the Department of Architecture, at Cairo University.

## Speakers



### **Prof. Thomas Andersson**

Chairman, IKED & Intentac  
Senior Advisor, World Student Community on Sustainable Development (WSCSD)  
Sweden

Thomas Andersson is Chairman of intentac since 2007. He was previously President of Jonkoping University, Sweden, which served as the main academic hub for intentac from 2007 to 2010. Among current assignments, he is Senior Advisor to the Research Council, Sultanate of Oman. In the past, Thomas Andersson Deputy Director for Science, Technology and Industry at the Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Three divisions of that Directorate fell under his responsibility \* the Industry Division, the Division for Economic and Statistical Analysis and the Division for Transport. He also coordinated the technology part of the OECD Jobs Study, the OECD Growth Study and a programme with the World Bank on building knowledge-based economies.



### **Yasmeen Al Rashedi**

Senior Manager - Estidama Department  
Urban Development & Estidama Sector  
Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council (UPC)  
UAE

Yasmeen Al Rashedi is the Senior Manager of the Estidama Department at the Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council (UPC). Her previous role as a senior urban development review planner has given her the privilege to be intimately involved in the Plan Capital 2030, Plan Al Ain 2030 and Plan Al Gharbia 2030 Framework Plans. As part of her role at the UPC, Yasmeen has been responsible for managing a team of sustainability rating assessors responsible for evaluating design, construction and operational sustainability of developments. This role aims to ensure effective implementation of the Estidama Pearl Rating System: the Government of Abu Dhabi's mandatory sustainability programme for Villas, Buildings and Communities. Yasmeen is the first Emirati female urban planner to work for the UPC.



### **Abdulla Saeed Al Shamsi**

Executive Director, Strategic Affairs  
Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council (UPC)  
UAE

Abdulla Al Shamsi is the Executive Director, Strategic Affairs of the Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council (UPC). The UPC is recognised as having a pivotal role in the achievement of Abu Dhabi Vision 2030. As a member of the Executive Leadership team, he reports directly to the Director General. Prior to joining the UPC, Abdulla worked for Abu Dhabi City Municipality (ADM), which he joined in 2005. He undertook a number of important roles including Acting Executive Director for Infrastructure and Municipal Assets Sector. He also held the position of Director of Roads and Infrastructure, and Director of Building Operations and Maintenance prior to his promotion to Executive Director. Abdulla has directed many multimillion-dollar international projects in Morocco, Pakistan, Syria and Kazakhstan.



### **Prof. Ibrahim Abdel Gelil**

Adjunct Prof., Natural Resources, Arabian Gulf University  
Consultant, Energy and Environment, AFED  
Egypt

Ibrahim Abdel Gelil El Sayed received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Cairo University in 1984. In 1994, he was appointed as a research fellow at the Natural Resources Department of Cornell University, and a visiting researcher at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory (LBL), CA. He currently holds the H.H. Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Academic Chair in Environmental Science at the Arabian Gulf University (AGU), where he teaches and supervises research on energy, the environment and sustainable development. Before joining AGU, he was the Chief Executive Officer of the Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA), (1997–2002), prior to which he served as the Chairman of Board of the Organization for Energy Conservation and Planning (OECF), (1994–1997), the government entity responsible for energy policy analysis and energy efficiency. In these positions he played a key role in leading national efforts to address energy and environmental issues, and climate change in particular. For more than eight years he had led the Egyptian delegation to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) negotiations; he has also assumed various advisory and coordinating positions for partnerships between the Government of Egypt and the European Community, USAID, the World Bank and other bilateral and multilateral development assistance organizations. He also represented North Africa in the council of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). Prof. El Sayed Gelil El Sayed has more than 40 years of industry, government, and academic experience in the fields of energy and environment, with a particular emphasis on policy formulation and analysis, strategic planning and program development and management.



### **Kathrine Brekke**

Officer, Urban Research  
ICLEI  
Germany

Kathrine maintains and develops the research management functions in the ICLEI Capacity Center. Having studied urban policy and governance issues and worked with academic research, Kathrine is eager to work with bridging research and practice. She also has practical experience in the field of international development, volunteering in community development projects in rural West Africa, and working with emergency relief in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, managing projects and liaising with UN agencies other partners of.



### **Alberto Barandiaran**

Adviser to the Ministry of Environment of Peru (MINAM)  
Coordinator of the Sustainable Cities and Climate Change Minam Agenda  
Peru

Alberto Barandiaran is the Adviser to the Ministry of Environment of Peru (MINAM), and Coordinator of the Sustainable Cities and Climate Change MINAM Agenda. Alberto Barandiaran is an environmental lawyer with a master's degree in Conservation Biology, and also studied International and Comparative Environmental Law in University of Florida/Universidad de Costa Rica Joint Environmental Law Programme.

During the past 17 years, Alberto Baraniaran worked on various environmental projects including sustainable development policies, environmental management issues and law, biodiversity conservation issues, sustainable use of natural resources, environmental assessment of extractive industries and infrastructure projects, indigenous people and public participation, social conflicts, climate change, land use planning, and sustainable cities throughout Perú and Latin America.



### **Dr. Steve Crooks**

Climate Change Director  
Environmental Science Associates (ESA)  
USA

Dr. Crooks is the Director of Climate Change Services for Environmental Science Associates, a co-founder of the International Blue Carbon Initiative, and member of the IPCC Working Group that drafted the 2013 guidelines to include wetlands in national greenhouse gas inventories. Much of his work focuses on research, management and policy guidance to help communities and countries mitigate and adapt to climate change and other human impacts.



### **Adib Dada**

Founder and Lead Architect  
Architecture and Environmental Design  
theOtherDada  
Lebanon

Born and raised in Beirut, Adib Dada earned a BAr in Architecture at the American University of Beirut - Lebanon in 2006, a Master's Degree in the Interactive Telecommunications Program at NYU - USA in 2011 and completed a BSpecialist certification from the Biomimicry 3.8 Institute in Arizona, and Biomimicry graduate certificate from Arizona State University. His interests lie in the transdisciplinary dialogue between architecture, living systems, technology and art, which he aims to pursue through his integrated architecture lab theOtherDada; developing creative solutions that have a positive impact. Adib Dada believes in sustainability as being a collaborative effort. Through his architectural practice, he integrates architects, scientists, botanists, artists, economists and the craftsmen within his process. Dada aims to connect to the natural ecosystems of sites to understand and consequently devise new potential living habitats. This approach has led him to win the 2012 MIPIM Architectural Review Future Projects Awards, where he acted as a creative director for the masterplan design of N+, positioned as a major creative hub in Ningbo, China that will be environmentally sustainable and feature design schools, fashion embassies and research facilities.



### **Debra Efroymsen**

Regional Director  
HealthBridge  
USA

Debra Efroymsen is Regional Director of the Canadian NGO HealthBridge. Debra has lived in Asia since 1994: in Vietnam, Sri Lanka, and mostly in Bangladesh; her work has taken her throughout the world. She has written and spoken extensively on urban planning, transport policy, climate change, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, gender issues, tobacco control, and non-communicable disease. Debra is co-founder and advisor to Work for a Better Bangladesh Trust and the Institute of Wellbeing, Bangladesh. Her work in Bangladesh has helped prevent widespread bans of the environmentally-friendly cycle rickshaw, gained attention to the importance of walking and cycling in urban transport, and contributed to the establishment of a separate Ministry of Rail, giving trains far more importance (and a bigger budget) than previously. Her most recent book is *Beyond Apologies, Defining and Achieving an Economics of Wellbeing* which sets out thirteen myths about economics, offers a better way of viewing each issue (such as the belief that economic growth is necessary and positive), and provides practical suggestions on advocacy towards a better economic system—and thus a better world. The book is available for free download from the Institute of Wellbeing ([www.instituteofwellbeingbd.org](http://www.instituteofwellbeingbd.org)) and other websites. Debra also helped produce the recent documentary *Recovering from Disruption: A Comprehensive Approach to Building a Better, More Sustainable World*, along with Joel Crawford of Carfree.com.



### **Himadri Das**

Program Manager, Integrated Urban Planning  
World Resources Institute  
India

Himadri is the Program Manager for the Urban Development and Accessibility projects based in Bangalore. He works to make technical and managerial inputs in Urban development and Accessibility projects. He also engages with the core groups of Transport and GHG to dove-tail components within projects in order create comprehensive outputs that flow seamlessly across the diverse areas of expertise that Embarq brings to bear. Himadri leads the Transit Oriented Development projects and publications in WRI-India. He is a co-author of the *Safe Access Manual: Safe Access to Mass Transit Stations in Indian Cities*. Bangalore. Himadri worked previously for organizations that advised and consulted with planning institutions in various part



### **Dr. Paul Francis Downton**

Principal, Paul Downton Architects  
Co-Founder, Ecocity Design Institute  
Founding Convener, Urban Ecology Australia Inc  
Adjunct Assoc Professor, University of Adelaide  
Australia

Architect, urban ecologist, writer, international speaker, ecocity pioneer and advocate for climate action for 30+ years. Paul is sole principal of his own practice, an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Adelaide and Co-Founder of the Ecocity Design Institute. He is DeTao Master of Ecological Urban Design, senior consultant for Green World Solutions (Beijing), Chief Designer for the International Eco-Technology Institute/Agence C&P Architecture and an Adviser to the Zhuhai Municipal People's Government. Paul is on the URBIS Advisory Board and is an Expert Panel Member of Katerva. As principal of Ecopolis Architects, his projects included keynote green buildings for Adelaide Zoo and the Australian National University, the iconic Halifax EcoCity Project and the internationally awarded Christie Walk development. Paul was 2013 winner of the Tehran International Award. He was Founder of Urban Ecology Australia in 1991 and of Australia's first community organisation focused on climate change in 1989. Paul has taught and practiced architecture for over 30 years. He was editor and a principal author of the Australian government's 'Your Home Technical Manual'. His doctorate is in environmental studies and his book 'Ecopolis: Architecture and Cities for a Changing Climate' was published by Springer in 2009. Paul contributes regularly to 'The Nature of Cities' blog and is working on the development of courses in Ecological Urban Design and Ecocity Theory. Accompanied by his family, Paul lived & taught in Jordan (Yarmouk University) for 2 years. His grandchildren are constant reminders of the imperative of a sustainable future.



### **Scott Fossil**

Business Development Director  
Biomimcry Institute  
USA

Scott has a sophisticated background in technology, sustainability, biology, and innovation. He is a highly interdisciplinary problem solver with finely honed entrepreneurial and creative skills. Scott has had broad experience launching a number of high technology companies and hands on experience designing their products. He has had his own consulting practice for many years that works with clients whose primary interests lie at the intersection of his specialties. As well, he has broad experience both in small-scale residential real estate and in a variety of projects involving large-scale commercial real estate planning, development, and transactions.

## Speakers



### Prof. Paul James

Director, Institute for Culture and Society  
University of Melbourne  
Australia

Paul James is a social theorist with three overlapping areas of research focus. The first is globalisation and its impact upon social relations, from national community to local community. The second is social change and the human condition, including the impact of modernisation on customary and traditional ways of being. The third is sustainability with an emphasis on sustainable urbanisation. These areas of focus are integrated through an approach to social theory called 'engaged theory', encompassing questions of social formation, social integration and ontological tension.



### Prof. Simon Joss

Director  
International Eco-Cities Initiative  
University of Westminster  
United Kingdom

Professor Simon Joss, Director, International Eco-Cities Initiative, University of Westminster  
The International Eco-Cities Initiative is a multi-national research network co-ordinated by scholars at the University of Westminster (London), the Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore), and the Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation at the Smithsonian Institution (Washington DC). The initiative undertakes and supports:

- Research into contemporary urban sustainability and related governance and innovation issues
- Comparative analyses of diverse eco-city initiatives in various national and cultural contexts
- Seminars, workshops and conferences
- Knowledge transfer between academics, policy-makers and practitioners
- Postgraduate and research training through the MPhil/PhD programme.



### Anthony Mallows

Director  
Masdar City  
United Arab Emirates

Anthony Mallows is the Director of Masdar City – one of world's most sustainable communities and an emerging technology cluster in Abu Dhabi that also hosts the headquarters of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology, developed in cooperation with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. As the Director of Masdar City, Mr. Mallows is responsible for spearheading the overall growth and direction of Masdar City's initiatives, strategic partnerships and the development of research and innovation clusters within the city. He is also responsible for championing and overseeing the low carbon development objectives of Masdar City including the design, development and delivery of the entire city in accordance with the master plan and sustainability standards. Mr. Mallows is both an architect and city planner with extensive experience in the feasibility, programming, planning, design and management of large, complex projects worldwide.

## Speakers



### **Kirstin Miller**

Executive Director  
Ecocity Builders  
USA

Kirstin Miller leads Ecocity Builders' program development, global initiatives and activities. She specializes in integrating city-based experiences from a diverse range of perspectives. Kirstin is an international speaker and presenter on ecocity design, technology, development and citizen participation. She works closely in the development of the organization's "toolbox" of strategies, such as car-free by contract housing, environmental restoration transfer of development rights, centers oriented development, ecological demonstration projects and ecological zoning overlay mapping. Kirstin is lead facilitator of the International Ecocity Framework and Standards Initiative, Board Member of the International Ecocity Conference Series, a member of the Steering Committee of the City Protocol Society, an Expert Advisor to the Global Forum on Human Settlements, and an Expert Panelist for The Katerva Awards. Previously she was Lead Contact for the Cities and Urban Issues Forum of the United National NGO Major Group, and an instructor for the San Francisco Institute of Architecture and UC Berkeley's Sustainable Design Certificate Program.



### **Simone Ariane Pflaum**

Director of Sustainability Management  
City of Freiburg  
Germany

Simone Ariane Pflaum is the Director of Sustainability Management for the City of Freiburg, a city recognized as the most sustainable in Germany and a model for sustainability innovation globally. Simone leads the sustainability process for Freiburg and collaborates with local businesses, political bodies, and civil society. Prior to working for the City of Freiburg, Simone was an advisor for Edith Sitzmann, the Chairwoman of the Green Party in State Parliament. From 2009-2012, Simone served as the youngest member of the Freiburg City Council, representing youth interests and focusing on issues such as sustainability, urban development, inclusion and migration.



### **Sue Riddlestone OBE**

CEO & Co-Founder  
Bioregional Development Group  
United Kingdom

Sue co-founded Bioregional in 1994 with her husband Pooran Desai. They initiated the iconic BedZED eco-village in south London, where they live and where Bioregional have their headquarters. Bioregional evolved the BedZED strategies to create One Planet Living. As part of the One Planet Living initiative Sue has worked with partners including B&Q, China Merchants on a 6,000 home eco-community in China, and the London Borough of Sutton. Bioregional work with partners around the world and in 2006 Sue and her team advised on the sustainability strategy for Masdar City.

## Speakers



### **Dr. Philipp Rode**

Executive Director

LSE Cities, London School of Economics and Political Science  
United Kingdom

Philipp Rode is Executive Director of LSE Cities and Senior Research Fellow at the London School of Economics and Political Science. He co-convenes the LSE Sociology Course on 'City Making: The Politics of Urban Form'. As researcher and consultant he has been directing interdisciplinary projects comprising urban governance, transport, city planning and urban design at the LSE since 2003. The focus of his current work is on green economy strategies in cities which includes co-directing the cities research programme of the Global Commission on the Economy and Climate. He has previously led the coordination of the chapters on Green Cities and Green Buildings for the United Nations Environment Programme's Green Economy Report.



### **Salim Rouhana**

Urban Development and Resilience Specialist

Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice  
The World Bank  
USA

Salim Rouhana is an Urban Development and Resilience Specialist at the World Bank. His 10 years of experience, in more than 17 countries focused primarily on Urban Infrastructure Development and Financing, and Institutional Development with a focus on Decentralization, Housing, and Urban Resilience, especially in low-income communities. He is currently leading the World Bank Urban Program in Senegal and Nigeria. With the World Bank, he previously worked on Benin, Chad, China, Djibouti, Egypt, Lebanon, Mongolia, Morocco, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, among others.



### **Najib Saab**

Arab Forum for Environment &  
Development (AFED)  
Lebanon

An architect by training, Najib Saab is publisher and Editor-in-Chief of Al-Bia Wal-Tanmia (Environment & Development), the leading pan-Arab magazine on sustainable development and Secretary General of Arab Forum for Environment & Development (AFED). He has a varied experience, ranging from designing for multi-nationals like General Motors and lecturing on corporate architecture at the American University of Beirut, to advising various governments and agencies on environment and writing on sustainable development and technology. He is a 2003 laureate of the United Nations Environment Programme's Global 500 Award for environmental achievement, and in 2011 was awarded Zayed International Prize for the Environment. In 2014 he received the distinguished Alumni Award from the American University of Beirut. Saab has ten books to his credit, including Nature Book which received in 2002 the Book of the Year Award from the Beirut Arab Book Fair. He is co-editor, with Mostafa Tolba and Mohamed El-Ashry, of the annual reports on the State of the Arab Environment published by AFED. His monthly editorial is simultaneously published by 10 leading newspapers across the Arab region, and is the only regular syndicated commentary in Arabic on environment issues. Born in Lebanon in 1953, Najib Saab got his degree in Architecture from the American University of Beirut, where he also studied mass communications and political science



### **Rashid bin Shabib**

Co-Founder

Brownbook Magazine Cultural Engineering

UAE

In 2007, Ahmed and Rashid Bin Shabib founded Brownbook Magazine, a publication highlighting the values and subjects relevant to the greater Middle East. Retailing in over 40 cities globally, Brownbook is a leading publication on varied topics about the contemporary culture of the Middle East. A year later, Ahmed and Rashid developed an interdisciplinary practice called Cultural Engineering, focused on elevating the role and importance of Middle Eastern culture on a local and global stage. Offering insights, consultancy, publishing, events and spaces, Cultural Engineering serves as a platform for new ideas, solutions and ways of thinking. Some of the many initiatives and cultural collaborations under Cultural Engineering include Shelter, The Pavilion, The Archive, The Space, and The Magazine Shop.



### **Dr. Ayman Smadi**

Director of Transportation and Traffic Management

Greater Amman Municipality (GAM)

Jordan

Dr. Smadi is the Director of Transportation and Traffic Management at the Greater Amman Municipality (GAM). In this capacity, he oversees several key departments, including Traffic Operations, Public Transportation Operations, and Transportation Planning. He is a key member of the leadership team at GAM that sets and oversees transportation policy in Amman and is responsible for implementing Amman's core public transport system. He is also the project director/manager for several key initiatives including Amman's Transport and MObility Master Plan, the Design and Service Planning of Amman Rapid Bus Transit - Phase 1, and the Feasibility and Preliminary Design of Amman Rail Transit. Dr. Smadi holds a Ph.D and M.S. in transportation engineering from the USA and a B.S. in civil engineering from Jordan. He is a member of TRB, ITE, ITS America, ITS Arab, and was selected in 2008 as a Fulbright Scholar. It goes back to the 1970s, when an unlikely coalition of farmers, many of them wine makers, academics and students forced the state government to cancel plans for a



### **Jeff Stein AIA**

Co-President  
Paolo Soleri's Cosanti Foundation at Arcosanti USA  
USA

Award-winning architect, writer, educator Jeff Stein AIA is Executive Director of Program Development and Fundrasing. His first construction workshop at Arcosanti was in 1975. Since then he has spent time on the Cosanti staff; taught architecture in the Career Discovery program of the Harvard GSD; headed the department of architecture at Wentworth Institute in Boston; and was Dean of the Boston Architectural College for the past seven years. He has taught at architecture schools in the US and at the Technicum Winterthur, Zurich, and Ecole d'Architecture Languedoc-Rousillon, in Montpellier, France. Mr. Stein has written for ARCHITECTURE BOSTON magazine and was for ten years architecture critic for the New England newspaper, BANKER+TRADESMAN. He lectures widely about Arcosanti, energy and urban design, including at the recent Tel Aviv-Yafo Centennial Conference on Urban Sustainability, this past fall in Montreal at the 9th World EcoCities Congress and this spring at the Santa Fe Institute.



### **Dr. Yong Sung Kim**

Senior Water Specialist  
Knowledge Solutions Division  
Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)  
Korea

Yong Sung Kim works as a Senior Water Specialist at GGGI and joined the organization in early 2013. He provides technical advisory to GGGI's country operations on issues related to water and sanitation, climate change adaptation, and climate finance. Before joining GGGI, Dr. Kim worked as an infrastructure specialist at Korea Eximbank, providing technical services for the operation of the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF, Korea's bilateral soft loan program). He was in charge of project development, specifically supervising economic/financial feasibility analysis of infrastructure projects in the water resources, energy and waste management sectors. Dr. Kim grew up in Indonesia and holds a Ph.D degree in Civil/Environmental Engineering from Seoul National University.



### **Mathis Wackernagel**

Global Footprint Network  
Switzerland

Mathis is co-creator of the Ecological Footprint and President of Global Footprint Network. He completed a Ph.D. in community and regional planning with Professor William Rees at the University of British Columbia, where his doctoral dissertation developed the Ecological Footprint concept. Mathis also earned a mechanical engineering degree from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology.

## Speakers



### **Dr. Tahar Tolba**

Researcher  
University of Mons  
Belgium

Born August 15, 1960, Tahar Tolba is a hydraulic engineer from 'Ecole Nationale Supérieure de l'Hydraulique (Algeria) and holds a Diploma of Advanced Studies in Dynamics of Natural and Human Environments from the University of Bordeaux 3 (France). He began his career on dam construction sites, then as Director of Dams and Water Projects at the National Studies Office. He was also responsible for studies in an engineering firm during his stay in France. Before working for the Ministry, he held many positions, such as project leader for El Kala National Park Project and for the wetland complex (Project GEF / World Bank), Inspector of Environment in Illizi (South-East of Algeria), Assistant Director of household and similar waste, Director of Urban Environmental Policy, project leader for the landfill rehabilitation of oued S-mar and finally General Manager of Environment and Sustainable Development at the Ministry of Land Planning and the Environment, a position he holds since June 2013.



### **Dr. Theresa Williamson**

Executive Director  
Catalytic Communities  
Brazil

Winner of the 2012 National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO)'s John D. Lange International Award for her contribution to the international housing debate, and Honorary Councilmember with the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, with three Opinion pieces published in The New York Times in 2012 and 2013, a recent Opinion piece in Architectural Review, featured in O Globo, Marie Claire, Yodona, and Tricycle—and quoted in The New York Times, The Guardian, BBC World, France TV, Al Jazeera, NPR's Worldview, The Atlantic Cities, Next American City, Places: The Design Observer, Architectural Record, WBGO Journal, as well as SBS Dateline (Australia), CBC TV (Canada), CBC Radio (Canada), The Independent (UK), El Mondo (Spain), Rádio CBN (Brazil), Folha de São Paulo (Brazil), O Globo (Brazil), Revista Piauí (Brazil), and 45 Minuuttia (Finland), among others—Catalytic Communities founder Theresa Williamson has become an outspoken and respected advocate and informant on behalf of Rio de Janeiro's favelas in the face of current fast-paced urban transformations.

## 2.3 Opening / Closing Session Speakers



The Summit had a natural flow over its three-day duration. The first day focused on what we know today about Ecocities, the second day reflected on ways to take advantage of what we know and how best to promote it, and the final day looked into the future.

For the opening day, speakers represented both regional and global voices of the Ecocity movement:

- **Dr. Arab Hoballah**  
UNEP, France
- **H.E. Reem I. Al Hashimy**  
Dubai World Expo, UAE
- **H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak**  
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE
- **H.E. Dr. Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi**  
UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UAE

On the closing day, the speakers looked into the future and imagined developments made possible by a continued evolution of Ecocities

- **Dr. Arab Hoballah**  
UNEP, France
- **Senator Ronan Dantec**  
Loire-Atlantique, France
- **Prof. Joseph Alcamo**  
University of Kassel, Germany
- **H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak**  
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE



Senator Ronan Dantec (left) and Prof. Joseph Alcamo (right) in closing session



H.E. Reem Ibrahim Al Hashimy during the opening session

## 2.4 Sub Theme Session Speakers



In each of the sub theme tracks, the flow of ideas was strong and by design focused on the diversity of experiences in different parts of the world. The original mandate from the Strategic Committee to ensure wide regional representation was accomplished, as the speaker designations will attest. In addition, a series of key questions were posed to each speaker so their attention and contribution would be tightly focused around the dominant themes of Ecocity development. The speaker names for the ECWS15 program are replicated here to document this preparation and effort to guide the discussion and outcomes through the selection of a truly representative sample of experts from the region and a global selection of visionary and thoughtful presenters.

**Dr. Jennie Moore**

British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

**Prof. Hisham El-Kadi**

University of Salford, UK

**Richard Register**

Ecocity Builders, USA

**Dr. Tarik Nesh-Nash**

Mundiapolis University, Morocco

**Anthony Mallows**

Masdar City, UAE

**Dr. Sahar Attia**

Cairo University, Egypt

**Stephan Bauer**

RAG.Austria.Energy, Austria

**Rashid bin Shabib**

Brownbook Magazine, Cultural Engineering, UAE

**Sue Riddlestone OBE**

Bioregional Development Group, UK

**Prof. Waleed K. Al-Zubari**

Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain

**Kirstin Miller**

Ecocity Builders, USA

**Dr. Simon Pearson**

Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE

**Prof. Paul James**

University of Western Sidney, Australia

**Dr. Theresa Williamson**

Catalytic Communities, Brazil

**Dr. Mohamed Salheen**

Integrated Urbanism and Sustainable Design (IUSD), Egypt

**Salim Rouhana**

The World Bank, USA

**Dr. Jennie Moore**

British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

**Yasmeen Al Rashedi**

Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council, UAE

**Dr. Rafik Ibrahim Rezk**

Advisor, Urban Planning, RAK, UAE

**Prof. Simon Joss**

University of Westminster, UK

**Dr. Arab Hoballah**

UNEP, France

**Tahar Tolba**

University of Mons, Belgium

**Alberto Barandiaran Gomez**

Ministry of Environment (MINAM), Peru

**Dr. Costis Torgas**

The George Washington University

**Dr. Dieter Salomon**

Mayor City of Freiburg, Germany

**Sébastien Sabatier**

Thales Communications & Security, France

**Ashley Pilipszin**

University of Geneva, Switzerland

**Ida Tillisch**

EWS-WWF, UAE

## 2.4 Sub Theme Session Speakers



**Maria Cordiero**

Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, UAE

**Dr. Robin King**

World Resources Institute

**Chang-hwan Myung**

Vice Mayor, Suncheon City, Korea

**Dr. Amine Bensaid**

Mundiapolis University, Morocco

**Michelle Pappalardo**

French Government, France

**Prof. Jeffrey Kenworthy**

Curtin University, Australia

**Sanjay Sridhar**

C40 Cities, Regional Director  
South and West Asia

**H.E. Dr. Nadia Makram Ebeid**

CEDARE, Egypt

**Ng Lang**

Urban Redevelopment Authority, Singapore

**Dr. Robin King**

World Resources Institute, USA

**Prof. Thomas Andersson**

IKED & Intentac, Sweden

**Dr. Wolfgang Streitenberger**

European Commission, Belgium

**Dr. Philipp Rode**

London School of Economics, UK

**Matthis Wackernagel**

Global Footprint Network, USA

**Dr. Yong Sung Kim**

Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Korea

**Debra Efroymsen**

HealthBridge, Bangladesh

**Prof. Philipp Krueger**

University of Geneva, Switzerland

**Dr. Yaser Abunnasr**

American University of Beirut, Lebanon

**Scott Fossel**

Biomimcry Institute, USA

**Adib Dada**

theOtherDada, Lebanon

**Dixie Hudson**

British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

**H.E. Rapol Zhoshybayev**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kazakhstan

**H.E. Fahad Saeed Al Raqbani**

Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development (ADCED), UAE

**H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak**

Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE

**Mohamed Yahiya Hassan**

Remah School for Boys in Al Ain, UAE

**Abdullah Al Shamsi**

Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council, UAE

**Dr. Majid Al Qassimi**

Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, UAE

**Carl Nettleton**

Open Oceans Global, USA

**Ahmed Al Hashmi**

Ministry of Environment & Water, UAE

**Dr. Steve Crooks**

Environmental Science Associates (ESA), USA

**Dr. Steve Lutz**

GRID-Arendal, Norway

**Simone Ariane Pflaum**

City of Freiburg, Germany

**Chancellor Linda Katehi**

University of California, Davis, USA

**Dr. Yves Flueckiger**

University of Geneva, Switzerland

## 2.4 Sub Theme Session Speakers



**Dr. Pengyu\_Zhu**

Masdar Institute, UAE

**Prof. Dr. Mohammad Atef**

Masdar Institute, UAE

**Dr. Alexandre Hedjazi**

University of Geneva, Switzerland

**Ahmed Al Hashmi**

Ministry of Environment & Water, UAE

**Najib Saab**

Arab Forum for Environment & Development (AFED), Lebanon

**Dr. Ibrahim Abdel Gelil El Sayed**

Arabian Gulf University (AGU), Bahrain

**Dr. Ayman Smadi**

Greater Amman Municipality, Jordan

**Hussein Abaza**

Ministry of Environment, Egypt

**Himadri Das**

World Resources Institute, India

**Patrick Mallejacq**

IFSTTAR, France

**Jeff Stein AIA**

Arcosanti, USA

**Alberto Barandiaran Gomez**

Ministry of Environment (MINAM), Peru

**Dr. Paul Downton**

Architect, Writer, Urban Evolutionary, Australia

**Rashid bin Shabib**

Brownbook Magazine, Cultural Engineering, UAE

**Dr. Marwa Abdel-Latif**

Integrated Urbanism and Sustainable Design (IUSD), Egypt

**Katherine Brekke**

ICLEI, Germany

## 2.5 Outputs of the Program/Sessions



Each of the sessions produced strong dialog that was captured in Twitter postings and other social media. The intent of the Summit was to stimulate interregional dialog with two ideas in mind: to present and promote the ways that the Middle East and North Africa region has dealt with challenging environments as urban landscapes were created over the centuries, and to provide a way to hear experiences from other parts of the world in similar challenging environments. This was indeed accomplished in a strong way, which went far beyond the session rooms.

The academic papers themselves leave a legacy of a book of proceedings with over 370 pages of academic, peer-reviewed papers that will be available to all participants and academic institutions. In addition, the innovation stream is ongoing beyond the Summit, with consideration being given to the best, most innovative ideas that may move into an implementation track through the activities of the Masdar Institute.

There were several dominant themes through the sessions that were repeated at plenary dialogs and in the Summit corridor talk. They included the following ideas that shape the outputs from the Summit and extend a continuation hand to the next ECWS in Melbourne.

- There is a strong university role in MENA between people “with free mind” and governments in the sustainable urban dialog
- We must recognize a changing paradigm away from Predict and Provide to Debate and Decide...
- There is a strong role of technology as enabler
- Informal settlements must be brought into the equation of policy dialog between nations and their cities
- Individual choices on consumption through informed individuals can influence macro trends, and should be pursued consistently
- Networking can efficiently respond to growing demand for know how and the limits of resources
- The upcoming COP21 in Paris is a seminal moment for the Ecocity movement and should be seized
- We must find ways to bring “Earth overshoot” day beyond its current August place
- We must make not only livable, but loveable cities!

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08:45 - 09:00	<b>Review of Ecocity World Summit 2015 Programme</b> <i>Summit Mistress of Ceremony: Ayesha Al Blooshi - Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE</i>				
09:00 - 10:00	<b>Debate: Existing Cities and Integrating Eco Developments</b> <i>Moderator: Dr. Jennie Moore - British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada</i>				
	Prof. Hisham El-Kadi - University of Salford, UK Richard Register - Ecocity Builders, USA Dr. Tarik Nesh-Nash - Mundiapolis University, Morocco				
10:00 - 10:20	Networking Break				
10:20 - 11:20	<b>Session 2A: Cities and Urban Design - Global State of the Art</b> <i>Conference Hall B, Section 3</i>	<b>Session 2B: Water-Energy-Food- Climate Nexus</b> <i>Conference Hall B, Section 1</i>	<b>Session 2C: Improving Quality of Life in Informal Settlements - Focus on Access to Services</b> <i>Capital Suite 7</i>	<b>Session 2D: Sustainable Urban Indicators and Frameworks</b> <i>Conference Hall B, Section 2</i>	
Moderator	<b>Anthony Mallows</b> Masdar City, UAE	<b>Najat Saliba</b> American University of Beirut, Lebanon	<b>Prof. Paul James</b> University of Western Sydney, Australia	<b>Dr. Jennie Moore</b> British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada	
	<b>Dr. Sahar Attia</b> Cairo University, Egypt	<b>Sue Riddlestone OBE</b> Bioregional Development Group, UK	<b>Dr. Theresa Williamson</b> Catalytic Communities, Brazil	<b>Yasmeen Al Rashedi</b> Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council, UAE	
	<b>Stephan Bauer</b> RAG.Austria.Energy, Austria	<b>Prof. Waleed K. Al-Zubari</b> Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain	<b>Dr. Mohamed Salheen</b> Integrated Urbanism and Sustainable Design (IUSD), Egypt	<b>Dr. Rafik Ibrahim Rezk</b> Advisor, Urban Planning, RAK UAE	
	<b>Rashid bin Shabib</b> Brownbook Magazine, Cultural Engineering, UAE	<b>Kirstin Miller</b> Ecocity Builders, USA	<b>Salim Rouhana</b> The World Bank, USA	<b>Prof. Simon Joss</b> University of Westminster, UK	
	Discussion	Discussion	Discussion	Discussion	
11:20 - 11:40	Networking Break				
11:45 - 12:45	<b>Session 3 - Opening Ceremony</b> <i>Moderator: Dr. Arab Hoballah, UNEP, France</i>				Conference Hall A
	<b>National Anthem</b>				
	<b>Opening Speech: Mobility, Sustainability and Opportunity - The Future Vision for Expo 2020</b> <i>H.E. Reem I. Al Hashimy - Dubai World Expo, UAE</i>				
	Opening Film				
	H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak - <i>Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE</i>				
	<b>Our Living Planet</b> <i>H.E. Dr. Thani Ahmed Al Zeyoudi - UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UAE</i>				
12:45 - 14:00	Lunch (Poster Viewing, Exhibition Viewing, Pavillion Events)				
14:00 - 15:00	<b>Session 4A: Building in Hot and Arid Climates - Challenges and Innovation</b> <i>Conference Hall A</i>	<b>Session 4B: Smart Cities, Smart Citizens</b> <i>Conference Hall B, Section 1</i>	<b>Session 4C: Climate Change Modeling Workshop</b> <i>Conference Hall B, Section 3</i>	<b>Session 4D: Climate Change and Cities</b> <i>Conference Hall B, Section 2</i>	
Moderator	<b>Dr. Arab Hoballah</b> UNEP, France	<b>Dr. Costis Torgas</b> George Washington University, USA	Hosted by UN-ESCWA, ICBA and AGEDI  <i>Understanding climate change impacts on Gulf cities in the future</i>	<b>Ida Tillisch</b> EWS-WWF, UAE	
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	<b>Alberto Barandiaran Gomez</b> Ministry of Environment (MINAM), Peru	<b>Ashley C. Pilpiszyn</b> University of Geneva, Switzerland		<b>Chang-hwan Myung</b> Vice Mayor, Suncheon City, Korea	
	Discussion	Discussion		Discussion	
15:00 - 15:15	Proceed to Hall A				

## 3.0 Programme



Sunday, 11 October 2015

Day 1

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	Prof. Hisham El-Kadi - University of Salford, UK Richard Register - Ecocity Builders, USA Dr. Tarik Nesh-Nash - Mundiapolis University, Morocco				
10:00 - 10:20	Networking Break				
10:20 - 11:20	<b>Session 2A:</b> Cities and Urban Design - Global State of the Art <i>Conference Hall B, Section 3</i>	<b>Session 2B:</b> Water-Energy-Food- Climate Nexus <i>Conference Hall B, Section 1</i>	<b>Session 2C:</b> Improving Quality of Life in Informal Settlements - Focus on Access to Services <i>Capital Suite 7</i>	<b>Session 2D:</b> Sustainable Urban Indicators and Frameworks <i>Conference Hall B, Section 2</i>	
Moderator	Anthony Mallows Masdar City, UAE	Najat Saliba American University of Beirut, Lebanon	Prof. Paul James University of Western Sydney, Australia	Dr. Jennie Moore British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada	
	Dr. Sahar Attia Cairo University, Egypt	Sue Riddlestone OBE Bioregional Development Group, UK	Dr. Theresa Williamson Catalytic Communities, Brazil	Yasmeeen Al Rashedi Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council, UAE	
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	Discussion	Discussion	Discussion	Discussion	
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	H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak - <i>Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE</i>				
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	Opening Film H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak - Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE		
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15:00 - 15:15	Proceed to Hall A				

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	Discussion	Discussion		Discussion	
15:00 - 15:15	Proceed to Hall A				

## 3.1 Main Programme

The Summit program was a flexible one, reflecting the changes and opportunities which arose along the way to the actual event. It reflected a mix of plenary presentations that set the tone for the overall debates, panel discussions amongst experts that allowed the participants to deepen their knowledge on specific technical topics, and high level policy presentations that set the overall tone for subsequent important events on the pathway for Ecocity (as for example the COP21 December 2015 discussions in Paris that are expected to draw more than 40,000 stakeholders).

The program venues were close to each other, and this proximity allowed participants' to sample several discussions during the full three days of the event, even when they were going on simultaneously. Here is the detailed program elements broken by subtheme and time period.

### Session 1: Debate: Existing Cities and Integrating Eco Developments

The opening debate will establish a high level dialog between the global Ecocity movement and the regional realities and aspirations for sustainable and liveable cities. It will set up the entire Summit as a true collaboration between the traditions and history of the region and the tools, techniques and lessons that have been created throughout the world more recently that align well with the directions open to decision makers.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. What are the major highlights of the way the region has approached settlements over the centuries, and how do they reflect in today's urban planning and architecture strategies at national level?
2. What undergirds the pioneering work of Ecocity Builders and how has it been received in different parts of the world?
3. What regional elements could enhance Ecocity strategies? And are there barriers to their implementation in MENA? How can they be overcome?
4. Are there structural options to retain the Ecocity ideas in the region? What are the roles of academic institutions, governments and industry to encourage their adoption?

#### Moderator:

- Dr. Jennie Moore  
British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

#### Speaker(s)

- Prof. Hisham El-Kadi  
University of Salford, UK
- Richard Register  
Ecocity Builders, USA
- Dr. Tarik Nesh-Nash  
Mundiapolis University, Morocco

### Session 2A: Cities and Urban Design - Global State of the Art

This session will provide attendees with a high-level placement of the global efforts to support ecocity strategies. Architectural approaches to constructing individual buildings, the planning discipline which organizes buildings and the activities within them and economic development strategies that promote economic viability are three elements that come together to highlight the Summit starting point in the journey to Livability and Resilience.

## 3.1 Main Programme

### Areas Addressed:

1. The informal development process and governmental strategies are two mechanisms that come together as human settlements develop and sustain liveable communities. What contributions can be made at this important intersection by the scientific community, by architects and how can these contributions be informed by the rich cultural heritage of each region?
2. Liveability is defined by the individuals who indeed live in urban settlements; how can input from the residents be secured as governments and private industry plan and execute housing and urban development strategies?
3. Balancing energy, transportation and economic activity can be improved and the sustainability of urban areas strengthened through the adoption of new technologies; however, they require early investment before their benefit is felt. What are ways to provide front-end capitalization to improve urban design?

### Moderator:

- Anthony Mallows  
Masdar City, UAE

### Speaker(s)

- Dr. Sahar Attia  
Cairo University, Egypt
- Stephan Bauer  
RAG.Austria.Energy, Austria
- Rashid bin Shabib  
Brownbook Magazine, CulturalEngineering, UAE

### Session 2B: Water-Energy-Food-Climate Nexus

A systematic way to define the challenge of ecocities today must address the “Big Four” of the political and scientific debate: Water, energy, food and climate. The way these interact, constrain and empower each other is currently a driving force in scientific and policy debates. The way that they affect ecocity development and success, and strategies that improve their integration into decision making will be the focus of the discussion.

### Areas Addressed:

1. Mayors and other top officials at the city level must balance the nexus of water, energy, food and climate in a careful manner. What are tools that have been found useful to effect such a balance?
2. Actions to improve climatic conditions and reduce harmful effects of human actions must be integrated into a broader policy framework. Looking at the city as a true system with a “metabolism” mechanism that adjusts sometimes-competing interests, are there lessons that can be shared from actual experiences?
3. How can the finite reservoir of resources such as water and food be addressed at urban level, and what are effective strategies to relate such solutions with central and regional efforts to do the same?

### Speaker(s)

- Sue Riddlestone OBE  
Bioregional Development Group, UK
- Prof. Waleed K. Al-Zubari  
Arabian Gulf University, Bahrain
- Kirstin Miller  
Ecocity Builders, USA
- Dr. Simon Pearson  
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE

## 3.1 Main Programme



### Session 2C: Improving Quality of Life in Informal Settlements - Focus on Access to Services

Informal settlements are a harsh reality; resistive by definition to explicit planning and governmental interventions, they present a challenge to policy makers, and an opportunity for NGOs and academics to pioneer new intervention strategies that can improve on-the-ground conditions. Access to services is one mechanism that can integrate informal and formal mechanisms, but also that can create dissonance given resource constraints. The panel will explore ways that improving the quality of life can indeed be accomplished, and how the Ecocity framework can align directly with such strategies.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Service delivery requires explicit knowledge of time, place and issue, as well as budget authority to provide the actual service; informal settlements usually do not have an effective mechanism to provide them. Are there examples of engagement strategies that can provide such required front-end information elements?
2. How can national or international aid programs incorporate Ecocity principles in their evaluation parameters for grants and other support mechanisms?
3. What can be done in terms of measuring service levels, and who is best positioned to organize communications with the providers- government, civil society, donor organizations?

#### Moderator

- Prof. Paul James  
University of Western Sidney, Australia

#### Speaker(s)

- Dr. Theresa Williamson  
Catalytic Communities, Brazil
- Dr. Mohamed Salheen  
Integrated Urbanism and Sustainable Design (IUSD), Egypt
- Salim Rouhana  
The World Bank, USA

### Session 2D: Sustainable Urban Indicators and Frameworks

This panel is intended as a collaboration platform of leading voices in the urban indicators and frameworks community to present their approaches and experience to date, and look for ways to synthesize a core set of principles into a strategy that can reflect a common way forward. With global organizations active in the effort to define an Ecocity, its attributes and measurement techniques, this discussion is not an easy one. But with the right leadership, those who attend will have a chance to advance this important goal and participate in shaping the way forward.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Defining a “sustainable city” and an “Ecocity” presupposes the existence of certain parameters and strategies. Is there global consensus as to their definition?
2. ECWS15 is a gathering of leading voices in the indicators and frameworks field; how can a unified vision be established that allows such multiple frameworks to coexist and strengthen an approach to urban sustainability? Are there a small number of Guiding Principles that can capture a consensus definition?
3. How can the indicators under discussion be related to the ongoing discussion of Sustainable Development Goals?

## 3.1 Main Programme

### Moderator:

- Dr. Jennie Moore  
British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

### Speaker(s)

- Yasmeen Al Rashedi  
Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council, UAE
- Dr. Rafik Ibrahim Rezk  
Advisor, Urban Planning, RAK, UAE
- Prof. Simon Joss  
University of Westminster, UK

### Session 4A: Building in Hot and Arid Climates - Challenges and Innovation

Hot and arid climates present special challenges to ecocity design and evolution. The lack of plentiful water and the heat that defines human, crop and animal constraints creates conditions under which the ingenuity of creative scientists and political leaders develop innovative ways forward.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. What can be learned from historical approaches to building in hot and arid climates? Can these lessons be adapted to other climatic conditions and help establish more sustainable environments?
2. MASDAR is known globally as a major innovative step forward in urban design and planning under extreme climatic conditions. What are the next phases of the MASDAR experience?
3. Public and private sectors must come together to develop strong responses to the hot and arid conditions that are both comfortable for living and ecologically balanced. Are there mechanisms that have worked in specific nations that can help inform others?

### Moderator

- Dr. Arab Hoballah  
UNEP, France

### Speaker(s)

- Anthony Mallows  
Masdar City, UAE
- Tahar Tolba  
University of Mons, Belgium
- Alberto Barandiaran Gomez  
Ministry of Environment (MINAM), Peru

### Session 4B: Smart Cities, Smart Citizens

The advent of ubiquitous connectivity and inexpensive portable devices are transforming the way cities can listen to citizen needs and engage them in improving city operations- a veritable “smart city” opportunity. But is a smart city equivalent to an ecocity? Is technology a necessary but not sufficient condition for ecocity capacity? A way to approach the answer will be shaped by the discussion of experts.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Is a Smart City necessarily an Ecocity? And if not, how can the two concepts be brought closer together?
2. Citizen input and the ability to reach citizens and modify their lifestyles are two key parameters of a Smart City design. What technologies are helpful in such linkages?
3. Information and Telecommunications technologies can help mayors hear citizen concerns in a more direct manner- are there downsides to this increased technology capacity to hear and consult with citizens?

## 3.1 Main Programme



### Moderator

- Dr. Costis Torgas  
The George Washington University

### Speaker(s)

- Dr. Dieter Salomon  
Mayor City of Freiburg, Germany
- Sébastien Sabatier  
Thales Communications & Security, France
- Ashley Pilipszin  
University of Geneva, Switzerland

### Session 4C: Climate Change Modelling Workshop

Hosted by UN-ESCWA, ICBA and AGEDI

Understanding climate change impacts on Gulf cities in the future

### Session 4D: Climate Change and Cities

Climate Change is a global challenge with global geographic dimensions. However, the “think global-act local” strategy has created viable local approaches which add up to significant global impacts and accomplishments. Ecocity programs which involve urban actions and social strategies have developed policy alternatives that can be leveraged to national and regional levels.

### Areas Addressed:

1. The role of subnational entities such as cities and regions in the Climate Change effort has not been finalized; the voice of urban leaders has been increasingly heard, and urban strategies accepted as important Climate Change contributions. How can the Ecocity movement add to this trend?
2. Measuring the impact of Climate Change at the urban scale is providing much needed scientific evidence to nations and multinational organizations; is there an explicit strategy to promote this two-way exchange of information and policy options?
3. Natural resources are being depleted at an ever increasing rate, and strategies to mitigate this are often found in urban policies- including energy conservation, shift to renewables and green transport. How can the beneficial impact of such strategies be aggregated to global level, and what is the best role of the NGO sector ?

### Moderator

- Ida Tillisch  
EWS-WWF, UAE

### Speaker(s)

- Maria Cordiero  
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Dr. Robin King  
World Resources Institute
- Chang-hwan Myung  
Vice Mayor, Suncheon City, Korea

## 3.1 Main Programme



### Session 5: Key Dimensions for Ecocity Development

Summarizing the first day information flows, the speakers will focus on the high level strategies that describe the current state of the art and state of the practice regarding Ecocity accomplishments. This plenary will act as a gateway to Day 2 when the many ways in which Ecocity stakeholders can consolidate the gains and disseminate the experiences to locales that are not yet on board. The special role of ECWS15 in describing and promoting the Ecocity concepts and principles in the region will be highlighted.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. What is a desired role for the academic institutions and research establishments in driving urban policy?
2. Mayors are constantly challenged by oft-times conflicting facts and research findings- are there organizational strategies that can help urban leaders be informed and derive best value from the scientific evidence regarding sustainable urban development?
3. As we prepare for the second day of discussions that target ways we can learn from each other and our accomplishments and needs, what are two or three strategies or approaches that rise above others for the consideration of the audience?

#### Moderator

- Dr. Arab Hoballah  
UNEP, France

#### Speaker(s)

- Dr. Amine Bensaid  
Mundiapolis University, Morocco
- Michelle Pappalardo  
French Government, France
- Prof. Jeffrey Kenworthy  
Curtin University, Australia

### Panel Session: Ingredients of an Ecocity

Session 6 (plenary) What makes an Ecocity what it is? The plenary event panelists are each expert in answering this question from a variety of perspectives- geographic, scientific and governmental. The outcome of this discussion will distil the critical elements that are to be organized as a necessary ingredient for success.

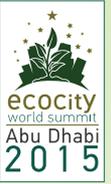
#### Areas Addressed:

1. Urban settlements have been a reality for centuries. In the MENA region, are there some unique characteristics that have shaped them, and are these transferable to other parts of the world?
2. Land restrictions are a reality in many parts of the world, and yet city forms adapt and thrive; are there relationships between urban densities, transport strategies and other elements of governance that can optimize the way that sustainability at the urban scale is assured?
3. The balance between automobiles and clean air is only part of the challenge urban leaders face; increasing trip times from home to work, difficulty of subsidizing public transport and challenges of personal habit barriers are all converging to make an Ecocity approach difficult to initiate and sustain in different parts of the world. What are lessons learned from strong experiments in transport innovation, and how do they relate to sustainable strategies for cities?

#### Moderator

- Sanjay Sridhar  
C40 Cities, Regional Director, South and West Asia

## 3.1 Main Programme



### Panelists

- H.E. Dr. Nadia Makram Ebeid  
CEDARE, Egypt
- Ng Lang  
Urban Redevelopment Authority, Singapore
- Dr. Robin King  
World Resources Institute, USA

### Session 7A: “Eco”nomics of Ecocities

The financing aspects of an Ecocity are important to any planning effort. Whether reflecting an incremental approach that builds small successes into a large and positive future, or a “Big Bang” approach that organizes investments necessary to quickly scale to an urban size, it is vital to understand the minds and calculus of the investment community. RoI for an Ecocity plan may reflect not only financial, but ecological benefits that may defy quantification, yet vital to the success of a plan execution. Putting “eco”nomics into “eco”cities is therefore a vital and important step to accomplish.

### Areas Addressed:

1. There is a common perception that ecological strategies are implemented at the expense of fiscal growth and at great cost to both governments and the private sector; do you agree?
2. There are two dominant economic drivers in Ecocity financial efforts- the investments to be made and the economic development potential that accrues from a healthy and prosperous Ecocity. How can urban leaders differentiate between the two, and how can they establish appropriate relationships with financial leaders?
3. Public and Private partnerships vary around the globe but are vital to the success of the economy that undergirds urban policies. Are there organizational models that work, and how do they differ across regions?

### Moderator

- Prof. Thomas Andersson  
IKED & Intentac, Sweden

### Speaker(s)

- Dr. Wolfgang Streitenberger  
European Commission, Belgium
- Dr. Philipp Rode  
London School of Economics, UK

### Session 7B: City Form and Resource Flows Workshop - Part 1

There is a strong and fertile discussion under way on the architecture, urban planning and systems analysis communities about the best way to capture and organize data in a creative, realistic and efficient manner. ECWS15 is pleased to offer a global discussion platform where these discussions can be combined and an outcome can be created which reflects the major thinkers and activists in the field. This workshop is intended to permit a thorough review of major streams of thought and their integration into a coherent strategy that can reflect current state of the practice.

### Hosted by Ecocity Builders & British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

This workshop is focused on the development of a framework for an Ecocity index that can be used at the global and regional levels

## 3.1 Main Programme



### Session 7C: Eco Citizen and the Green Economy

Ecocities nurture and create a citizen-based enthusiasm for support and more importantly, for the ready reception of eco-based new economy, the so called Green Economy. Unlike an effort to jump start a Green Economy as a policy, Ecocities provide the framework and citizen enthusiasm to eagerly participate in its support. Ways that such support is created will be highlighted, and the role of ecocitizenship will be described, with an emphasis on diverse regional examples.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Much has been said about “ecotourism” as a mechanism to strengthen urban development in locations close to nature. Are there ways to promote this with full involvement of the citizens in the area who may depend on natural resources on their livelihood?
2. Residents and their sustainable life styles are key to successful Ecocity development. What are communication and engagement strategies that have worked, and what modifications may be necessary before they can be implemented in other regions?
3. Green economy is part of the Sustainable Development Goals discussion articulated in the UN 2015 “Transforming our World” document. How can citizens become engaged in this dialog and participate in this important global effort at urban scale?

#### Moderator

- Matthis Wackernagel  
Global Footprint Network, USA

#### Speaker(s)

- Dr. Yong Sung Kim  
Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI), Korea
- Debra Efroymsen  
HealthBridge, Bangladesh
- Prof. Philipp Krueger  
University of Geneva, Switzerland

### Session 7D: Biomimicry in Architecture

Nature has wonderful ways to shape living things in order to survive hostile environments, and to organize groups of animals and plants into ecosystems that can thrive. Scientists have been studying these mechanisms and looking for ways to mimic nature’s strategies both at the individual structure level (architecture) and at the aggregate urban planning level. This knowledge is being organized in a new discipline called biomimicry. The Workshop will expose the audience to the basic definitions and strong examples of biomimicry in action.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Theoretical study of nature differs from implementation of natural patterns and systems in urban scale projects; what are major differences as the leap from theory to practice is made?
2. What are some biomimicry examples that have not been implemented and yet present significant value? What are the barriers to implementation?
3. Is the MENA region more ready to introduce biomimicry examples? Does the cultural and historical of the region reflect such readiness?

#### Moderator

- Dr. Yaser Abunnasr  
American University of Beirut, Lebanon

## 3.1 Main Programme



### Speaker(s)

- Scott Fossel  
Biomimcry Institute, USA
- Adib Dada  
theOtherDada, Lebanon
- Dixie Hudson  
British Columbia Institute of Technology, Canada

### Session 8

#### Speaker(s)

- H.E. Rapol Zhoshybayev  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kazakhstan

### Session 9: The Local Vision - Leadership Panel

This plenary session will remind the participants of the importance of ecological thinking not only on a city's health (both citizen and nature) but also on its economic vitality and development. The Economic Development imperatives are expanding beyond the built environment and looking to the positive aspects of a city well balanced with nature and able to provide residents with a positive and healthy life style, while preserving vital resources for future generations. This mainstreaming of ecological thinking and its acceptance in the economic development calculus is evident in regional efforts under way in Abu Dhabi and the UAE.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. How do urban needs become identified and enter a planning and funding strategy? And what is the role of sustainability in such process?
2. The planning discipline brings many sectors together to organize decisions around key principles of design, liveability and financial viability. How do the intellectual, human and monetary factors become integrated into urban policy, and how can governmental agencies exercise oversight and adherence to plans?
3. How do Best Practices and innovative approaches to urban development and sustainable growth get promoted and shared across agency boundaries? And what is the role of leadership in promoting progress?

#### Moderator

- Prof. Hisham El-Kadi  
University of Salford, UK

#### Speaker(s)

- H.E. Fahad Saeed Al Raqbani  
Abu Dhabi Council for Economic Development (ADCED), UAE
- H.E. Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak  
Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Umayma Abubakar  
Mubadala, UAE
- Mohamed Yahya Hassan  
Remah School for Boys in Al Ain, UAE

### Session 10A: Taking the Vision Forward: Regional Examples

Abu Dhabi, as host of Ecocity15, has developed a strong, ecologically sustainable vision that is articulated in a statement of intent for 2030. More importantly, Abu Dhabi is making explicit linkages to the 2030 vision in today's policies and programs using explicit mechanisms and engagement of various sectors. How tactical accomplishments can assist a visionary intent is the focus of this discussion.

## 3.1 Main Programme



### Areas Addressed:

1. The administrative framework in the MENA region differs from that in other parts of the world; methods that permit the implementation and tracking of long range plans and visionary directions are vital to the success of the effort. Can you describe how your agency permits the methodical alignment of vision to the on-the-ground reality of urban projects?
2. Urban development and its pressures are by definition local; what are mechanisms that allow for the combination of urban needs and potentialities into a national or regional urban plan? And how does the introduction of sustainability alter them?
3. How do urban planning strategic plans get integrated with other agency and ministry strategic plans (such as transport, environment and finance)?

### Moderator

- Dr. Sahar Attia  
Cairo University, Egypt

### Speaker(s)

- Abdullah Al Shamsi  
Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council, UAE
- Dr. Rafik Ibrahim Rezk  
Advisor, Urban Planning, RAK, UAE
- Dr. Majid Al Qassimi  
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, UAE

### Session 10B: Carbon Sequestration and Ending Overshoot

The threat of carbon overshoot (where the emission of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions is significantly more than the planet can handle without warming significantly) is real, and thought leaders in the ecological sciences are pursuing ideas for carbon sequestration that can support net “negative” emissions to compensate for this overshoot situation. The panel will give insights into creative strategies now under development to do just that.

### Areas Addressed:

1. Are there creative projects currently under way to use non-traditional techniques to reverse the carbon overshoot situation many parts of the world find themselves in? and what are barriers to their implementation elsewhere?
2. Who are important partners for environmental agencies to engage in carbon sequestration efforts?

### Moderator

- Carl Nettleton  
Open Oceans Global, USA

### Speaker(s)

- Ahmed Al Hashmi  
Ministry of Environment & Water, UAE
- Dr. Steve Crooks  
Environmental Science Associates (ESA), USA

### Session 10C: Resilience on the Ground - A Citizen Perspective

City policy makers find it challenging to incorporate citizen views in over all decisions being made regarding a sustainable path forward. Whether because of large numbers or unfamiliarity with government processes, true citizen engagement is not easy to accomplish. The panel will focus on strategies that promote the inclusion of citizen perspectives into decision making, and find creative ways to identify and include citizen needs in the analysis of Ecocity designs.

## 3.1 Main Programme

### Areas Addressed:

1. Citizen engagement is an important element of any important planning effort; are there techniques that can organize such input along Ecocity principles and how do they become integrated into the process in an effective manner?
2. Production and consumption patterns come together and can be harmonized at urban scale. What is the role of government, industry and other important sectors in accomplishing this?
3. Resilience is a concept that is entering the policy vocabulary in a strong manner; how can urban policies reflect this natural phenomenon of responding to disasters and negative pressures through resilient responses that many times are at scales not easily discernable by government?

### Moderator

- Salim Rouhana  
The World Bank, USA

### Speaker(s)

- Simone Ariane Pflaum  
City of Freiburg, Germany
- Dr. Arab Hoballah  
UNEP, France
- Prof. Paul James  
University of Western Sidney, Australia

### Session 10D: Workshop on Social Networking

Hosted by American University of Beirut and IUSD

This workshop is focused on understanding the role of local social networks in universities in addressing environmental challenges in regional cities

### Session 12: Panel Session: Ecocities: Past, Present and Future: Creative Leadership in Education

In opening the last day which targets the future of Ecocities, the plenary panel will present the dynamic role that academic institutions can play in transforming society and developing a more sustainable and collaborative future... Both presentations are practical examples for policy makers throughout the world, and promise an exciting start to the final discussions.

### Areas Addressed:

1. Universities can play a transformative role in their own surroundings; can university actions on their campus emerge as stimuli for changes beyond the academic boundaries?
2. Neighbourhood level actions seen as pilot experiences can grow to urban strategies for entire urban areas; what has worked in making this leap from neighbourhood to Ecocity?
3. Can faculty, staff and students of a university be seen as change agents for more sustainable urban development? What are helpful incentives to promote such champions?

### Speaker(s)

- Leadership and Education  
Chancellor Linda Katehi  
University of California, Davis, USA
- The Swiss Paradigm  
Dr. Yves Flueckiger  
University of Geneva, Switzerland

## 3.1 Main Programme

### Session 13: Financing Future Cities, A Debate

There are robust methods for both kick starting, as well as gradually evolving the development of ecocity strategies. The role of government, structural scientists, planning experts and the financial sector are all interwoven into a strategy that can organize the many resources and challenges into a viable plan. What are the lessons mayors and planners can take away? This debate will set the stage for the answers.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. There are advantages to starting a “new town” from the ground up- and also challenges such as lack of historical roots and culture. What are the lessons that can be taken from this approach, and are they useful to more evolutionary strategies?
2. Ecocity principles are sometimes at odds with development imperatives. More green space for an advocate may mean less profit or less service capacity for another. How can these be reconciled, and what are mechanisms that can facilitate dialog?
3. Governments and industry have different roles to play in the financing of future cities in different parts of the world. How can partnerships and other forms of collaboration help ensure strong implementation and healthy and vibrant urban forms?

#### Moderator

- Dr. Rafik Ibrahim Rezk  
Advisor, Urban Planning, RAK, UAE

#### Speaker(s)

- Dr. Pengyu\_Zhu - Masdar Institute
- Dr. Wolfgang Streitenberger  
European Commission, Belgium

### Session 14A: Visionary Cities: Imagining Tomorrow's Cities Today

An intimate dialog between global visionaries can unlock practical ways to approach the future. In order to prepare for the long haul, today's vision of tomorrow must be sharp and practical. The speakers are known for their predictive prowess, and will lay down their roadmap to future success for Ecocities.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. How important is the reality check of the marketplace when articulating a vision for the city of the future? Must we be constrained by the practical pressures of pricing, subsidies and profit, or are there ways to reach a new balance between competing priorities in the Ecocity of the future?
2. Masdar is well known for its pioneering statement of rebalancing carbon emissions at urban scale and providing strong architectural statements for the region. What is next in the evolution cycle?
3. The urban imperative is clear at global scale, yet the manner in which urban settlements develop is not harmonized. What is the most appropriate policy forum on which to engage in a debate and create conclusions that government, industry and residents alike can take and use tomorrow?

#### Moderator

- Prof. Dr. Mohammad Atef  
Masdar Institute, UAE

#### Speaker(s)

- Richard Register  
Ecocity Builders, USA
- Anthony Mallows  
Masdar City, UAE
- Dr. Alexandre Hedjazi  
University of Geneva, Switzerland

## 3.1 Main Programme



### Session 14B: Budgeting Natural Resources: A Challenge for the Century

As the reality of short supply and inefficient practices of natural resources use are realized, the concept of natural resource budgeting is increasingly taking hold as a planning and policy shaping tool. Strategies for its development, operation and use in policy will be explored as the “NextGen” tool for Ecocity managers.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. What are new creative ways to gather data regarding natural resources over time that can make a difference at urban scale?
2. Budgeting for resources implies quantifiable data, but also value judgements about the comparative worth of natural resources; are there ways to derive such judgements that would be accepted by decision makers?
3. Urban, national and regional budgeting for natural resources are very different and can involve different policy leadership as well as different policy options. Are there ways to integrate or at least harmonize these three scales in a way that Ecocity strategies can advance?

#### Moderator

- Prof. Thomas Andersson  
IKED & Intentac, Sweden

#### Speaker(s)

- Ahmed Al Hashmi  
Ministry of Environment & Water, UAE
- Najib Saab  
Arab Forum for Environment & Development (AFED), Lebanon
- Dr. Ibrahim Abdel Gelil El Sayed  
Arabian Gulf University (AGU), Bahrain

### Session 14C: Urban Mobility: Balancing Demand with Innovation

City designs must adapt to the increasing demand for services and amenities such as comfortable living, easy commutes and closeness to nature. In the future, instead of finding ways to simplify transportation solutions to the mobility challenge, there is an emerging view that innovation, technology and sound planning can make the Ecocity approach a preferred alternative when demand is aligned with supply in an anticipatory mechanism which is ecologically sound and sustainable.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Can we imagine today the transport vehicle of the future? And will its existence change the parameters for urban mobility?
2. Inter-urban and intra-urban mobility are two dimensions of the same desire to enable urban dwellers to reach their destination. How can these two different outcomes be approached jointly in an efficient manner?
3. Shifting transport modes and aligning origins and destinations in creative ways are two ways to achieve urban mobility. How have these and other policy options been funded and pilot tested in different urban environments, and how can full implementation be encouraged?

#### Moderator

- Dr. Ayman Smadi  
Greater Amman Municipality, Jordan

#### Speaker(s)

- Hussein Abaza  
Ministry of Environment, Egypt
- Himadri Das  
World Resources Institute, India

## 3.1 Main Programme

- Patrick Mallejacq  
IFSTTAR, France

### Session 14D: One Planet Solutions - Global Case Studies

Balancing the ability of nature to sustain needed activities with the development imperative of many cities is a difficult debate in all regions of the world. We start the conversation with global case studies which highlight the degree of divergence between the two, and show creative paths to resolving the challenge.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Arcology is a word that embodies both architecture and ecology and is the foundation for the concepts behind Arcosanti. How can the many lessons from Arcosanti be useful by existing towns and Ecocities today?
2. Leadership at the urban level can drive ecological concepts, but can it be sustained through changes in mayors and other officials? What are mechanisms that can help secure a long term strategy for ecological living at urban level?
3. What is the role of intermediate organizations at national and international level to promote the sharing of new practices and the sheltered introduction of new ideas elsewhere?

#### Moderator

- Sue Riddlestone OBE  
Bioregional Development Group, UK

#### Speaker(s)

- Jeff Stein AIA  
Arcosanti, USA
- Mathis Wackernagel  
Global Footprint Network, Switzerland
- Alberto Barandiaran Gomez  
Ministry of Environment (MINAM), Peru

### Session 15A: Living Buildings, Structures and Materials

The futuristic visions of buildings that are in tune with nature and find ways to improve the coexistence potential will be addressed in this workshop. Starting from materials and expanding the discussion to plans and construction options, the way the building blocks for cities is changing will give rise to new and more dynamic cities for the residents.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. How can creative new approaches to use of local materials and techniques become more “mainstream” and not be seen as impractical and one-off?
2. Private ownership, land use laws and the planning discipline are oft times at odds when visionary architects, planners and policy makers unveil visions for the future. How can implementation strategies be both informed by the past and also break new, creative ground?
3. Are there global repositories for the knowledge gained in individual efforts to design and build with liveability, resilience and sustainability as the aim? And how can policy makers access them and use their content?

#### Speaker(s)

- Prof. Hisham El-Kadi  
University of Salford, UK
- Dr. Paul Downton  
Architect, Writer, Urban Evolutionary, Australia
- Rashid bin Shabib  
Brownbook Magazine, Cultural Engineering, UAE

## 3.1 Main Programme

### Session 15B: Green Urbanism

The two complementary processes of developing an Ecocity will be discussed- coming from a hierarchical, top down perspective of a central authority with resources and staying power that can develop and implement a plan from scratch, and a more organic approach that cultivates an ecocity strategy over time and from the neighborhood level outward.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Since BEatley wrote the book “Green Urbanism” at the turn of the century, experiences of urban leaders have grown around the concepts of interdisciplinarity and reduced consumption of natural resources. What are some of these experiences, and how can they inform the policy choices ahead?
2. Strategies revolving around carbon emissions are being explored at global, regional and local levels. Is there a common outcome from the intersect of these three scales?
3. Transport strategies at local level are directly tied to carbon emission measurements; can mobility goals be served while sustainability measures are improved?

#### Moderator

- Dr. Marwa Abdel-Latif  
IUSD, Egypt

#### Speaker(s)

- Tahar Tolba  
University of Mons, Belgium
- Himadri Das  
World Resources Institute, India
- Sanjay Sridhar  
C40 Cities, Regional Director, South and West Asia

### Session 15C: Education for Tomorrow’s Ecocitizens

Everyone agrees that educating the children of today is the best strategy to guarantee a stronger, more sustainable tomorrow. But what are the lessons to transmit? And are there new engagement strategies that educators, parents and governments can deploy to assure that the next generation is up to the challenges that ecological pressures will put on future Ecocities? Regional and national strategies reflecting a diverse universe of opinions from different parts of the world will be on display, highlighting the successful integration of youth into the equation of sustainability.

#### Areas Addressed:

1. Greening a university campus can be a powerful example for replication to the surrounding communities. How can such examples be promoted globally?
2. Young people from kindergarten through university can become powerful advocates for sustainable patterns of development. Are there mechanisms to reach this “k-16” group in a consistent manner and provide harmonized information regarding sustainable living?
3. Organizing curricula for sustainability, but also developing sustainability interventions in other disciplines is the foundation for interdisciplinarity approaches; how can such efforts overcome barriers of academic tradition and independent behaviour of individual disciplines?

#### Moderator

- Dr. Yves Flueckiger  
University of Geneva, Switzerland

## 3.1 Main Programme

### Speaker(s)

- Dr. Amine Bensaid  
Mundiapolis University, Morocco
- Chancellor Linda Katehi  
University of California, Davis, USA

### Session 15D: One Planet Solutions: Measuring for Impact

Returning to “one planet” solutions where the demands and resource supplies are in balance requires the development of measures that are both quantifiable and understood by the non-scientific community. Viable approaches include a national level statistical approach and a community-based, “ground level up” approach. The importance of measures and the relationship of such measures to actual decision-making is a topic of high priority to the Ecocity movement.

### Areas Addressed:

1. It is said that one cannot manage something that is not measured. How is the science of natural resource measurement progressing, especially when contrasted with the demands for informing policy makers?
2. By definition, natural resources are a global good, but measured by individual nations or region; is there uniformity in definitions, semantic ontologies and other needed descriptors so that data are interoperable and sharable across political and other boundaries?
3. Can the on-going United Nations initiative for measuring progress towards Sustainable Development Goals inform urban leaders and provide a common approach to demands and supply requirements?

### Moderator

- Maria Cordiero  
Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi, UAE

### Speaker(s)

- Sue Riddlestone OBE  
Bioregional Development Group, UK
- Dr. Yaser Abunnasr  
American University of Beirut, Lebanon
- Katherine Brekke  
ICLEI, Germany

In order to maintain the programmatic creativity and outcome-based networking that started in ECWS15, the organizers hope to establish a data base of papers presented and issues discussed as a way to bridge and transition the Abu Dhabi event with its successor Summit in Melbourne in 2017.

## 3.2 Side Events

The full program was supplanted by several important side events that allowed presentations of contributions not necessarily tied to the program flow; even though these side events were in a sense competing with the main program, they were extremely well attended on their own right, indicating the important contributions they made to the Summit outcomes.

### 3.2.1 Academic Papers

A Call for Papers and Presentations (CfPP) was issued early in 2015 and broadcast to hundreds of academic institutions and research organizations. This CfPP resulted in over 100 academic paper and presentation submissions. An Academic Committee and four subcommittees aligned with the Summit's subthemes was created to manage a peer review process. This process resulted in more than 40 papers being accepted for oral presentation during the Summit, and inclusion in a Proceedings publications (ISBN 978-9948-18-687-8) which will also be available for download as a PDF file.

The accepted papers covered a wide range of academic institutions in different regions of the globe; papers from the following nations were offered a chance to present:

Morocco, USA, UAE, Egypt, France, Nepal, Qatar, Canada, Switzerland, Spain and India  
The Academic Committee structure and its chairs and subtheme chairs was as follows:

#### Academic Committee co-Chairs

Dr. Costis Torgas, The George Washington University and  
Dr. Khaled Tarabieh, American University of Cairo

#### Subtheme chairs

Urban Design for liveability and resilience: Dr. Sahar Attia, Cairo University  
Urban Systems, footprints and metabolism: Dr. Jennie Moore, BC Institute of Technology  
Social Systems that facilitate Ecocities: Dr. Tarik Nesh Nash, Mundiapolis University  
Cities in balance with Nature: Dr. Kosmas Pavlopoulos, Paris Sorbonne Abu Dhabi University



*Academic discussions continue long after the presentations end!*

## 3.2 Side Events

### 3.2.2 Launch of the UAE National Blue Carbon report

UAE has supported a major initiative to develop one of the world's first efforts to use Blue Carbon strategies to guide their decision makers on climate change mitigation and the preservation of the UAE's coastal ecosystems. A major report was completed in 2015, and the ECWS15 was selected as the venue to officially release the report and its findings. This was done during Day 2 (October 12) of the Summit and resulted in several press articles and renewed interest in Blue Carbon efforts at national level.



*H.E. Dr. Rashid Ahmed Mohammed Bin Fahad, Minister of Environment and Water discusses importance of Blue Carbon findings*

### 3.2.3 Urbinsight Abu Dhabi pre-pilot

Urbinsight is an Ecocity Builders pilot program being implemented in urban environments around the world. Early adopters include Cairo, Casablanca, Medellin and Lima. Urbinsight allows the collection of data on household-level resource use of water, waste and other urban flows, and its aggregation at levels allowing comparison with supply-side data. This comparison offers insights for policy makers on ways to reduce unneeded consumption patterns and ways to engage urban dwellers in a sustainable future for their environment.



*Urbinsight training for Abu Dhabi youngsters*

The decision was made to conduct a "pre-pilot" effort using the on-going Sustainable Schools Initiative orga-

nized through Abu Dhabi's Environment Agency, and to present the results during the Ecocity World Summit 2015. School children were trained in using paper forms to track urban waste in their homes, provide the data to a centralized point of coordination and process it against other similar efforts elsewhere around the world. A side event was held during Day 3 of the Summit, and the school children were trained in how to look at the results with an eye towards changing their own families' patterns of consumption and recycling.

### 3.2.4 Simulation, 3D Demonstrators and Data Integration Platform: tools for sustainable low-carbon city policy makers

A remarkable side event was organized through the auspices of the French Embassy in UAE to showcase the advances made in visualization technologies that can help decision makers appreciate the impact of complex policies in the sustainability arena. Three major industry leaders (EDF, Dassault Systems and the Vivapolis initiative of the French government) were showcased, and implementations in Singapore, Santiago De Chile and Astana were reviewed. At the end, Senator Ronan Dantec from the Loire Atlantic region summarized the importance of these technologies as decision makers are preparing for the COP21 discussions in Paris at the end of 2015.



*Senator Dantec discusses importance of technology for COP21*

## 3.2 Side Events

### 3.2.5 AFED 2015 Report on Sustainable Consumption in the Arab countries

AFED (the Arab Forum for Environment and Development) presented the latest report titled “2015 Sustainable Consumption in the Arab Countries”. This marked the first public release for the organization, which also discussed early public opinion survey findings on consumption patterns as well.



### Arab Environment 8 Sustainable Consumption in the Arab Countries

The report highlights case studies from throughout the Arab region in vital issues including

- UAE ecological footprint initiative
- UAE lighting standards and sustainable use of electricity
- Solar PV development for utility-scale projects and solar rooftops: the case of Dubai
- Carbon abatement strategy of Dubai
- Solar energy in agriculture in Egypt
- DEWA 200 mw PV plant, Dubai
- Food Security and Sustainability Program, American University of Beirut
- Environmental footprints of Mediterranean food consumption and production patterns
- Consumers and sustainability
- Pathways to improve agricultural production and food needs: the Sidi-Bouzid case study
- Feeding Knowledge program of Expo Milan 2015
- The Mediterranean diet for regional sustainable development
- Sustainable food systems in FAO programs
- Saudi Energy Efficiency Center
- Efficiency regulations on car dealers in Saudi Arabia
- UAE vehicle/fuel standards
- An overview on SwitchMed program
- Implementation of Arab SCP plans
- Subsidies and consumption

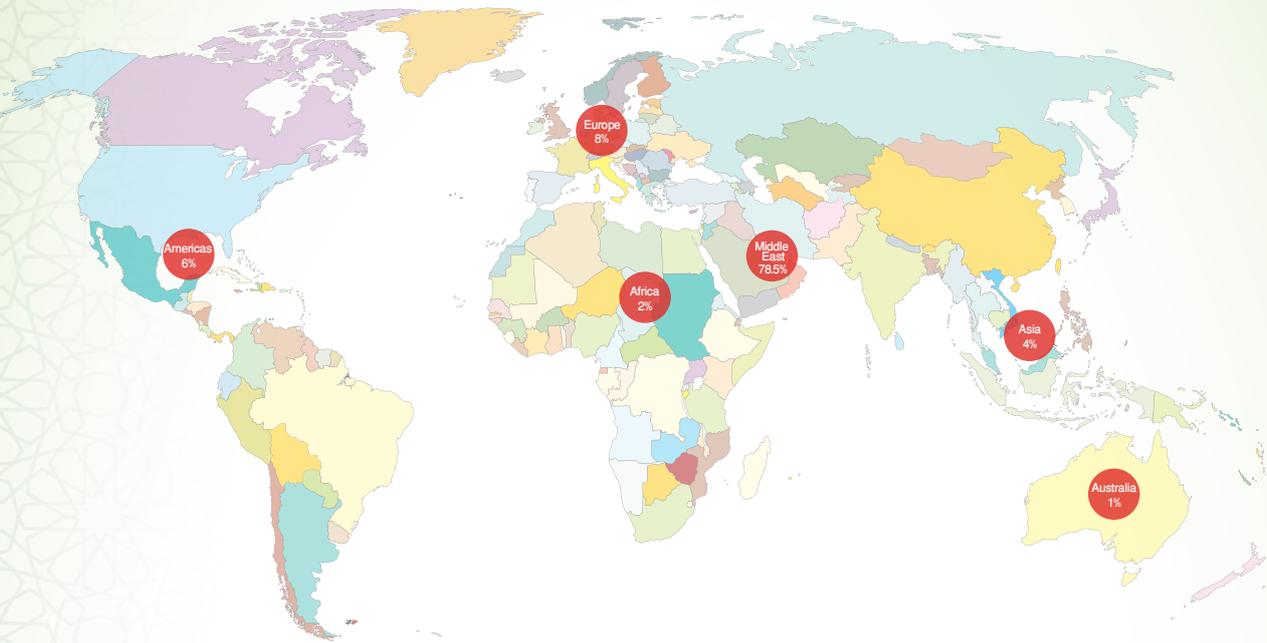
## 3.3 Outcomes of the Summit

A Call for Innovations was issued in the Spring of 2015 to universities, research institutions and entrepreneurs interested in Ecocity issues; this resulted in more than 50 submissions which were reviewed and prioritized by Dr. Mohammad Atif Omar from the Masdar Institute and Dr. Mohamed Salheen of Ain Shams University. The outcomes were presented during the Summit using two different platforms of presentations and workshops:

1. A series of Innovation Track paper presentations during Day 1 (October 11); presentations came from a broad range of nations including Nigeria, UAE, Egypt, Morocco, Lebanon, Italy, USA and India
2. A workshop on Masdar and Incubators on Day 2 (October 12), where selected teams presented their sustainable ideas and solutions to a panel of judges from industry, academia, start up accelerators and consultants. Topics included urban design for liveability and resilience, urban systems and social systems
3. A workshop on Scaling up Innovation on Day 2 (October 12) of the Summit that involved a panel discussion among innovation experts to explore the best innovative practices, processes, challenges and opportunities for businesses and governments.

# 4.0 Delegate Summary

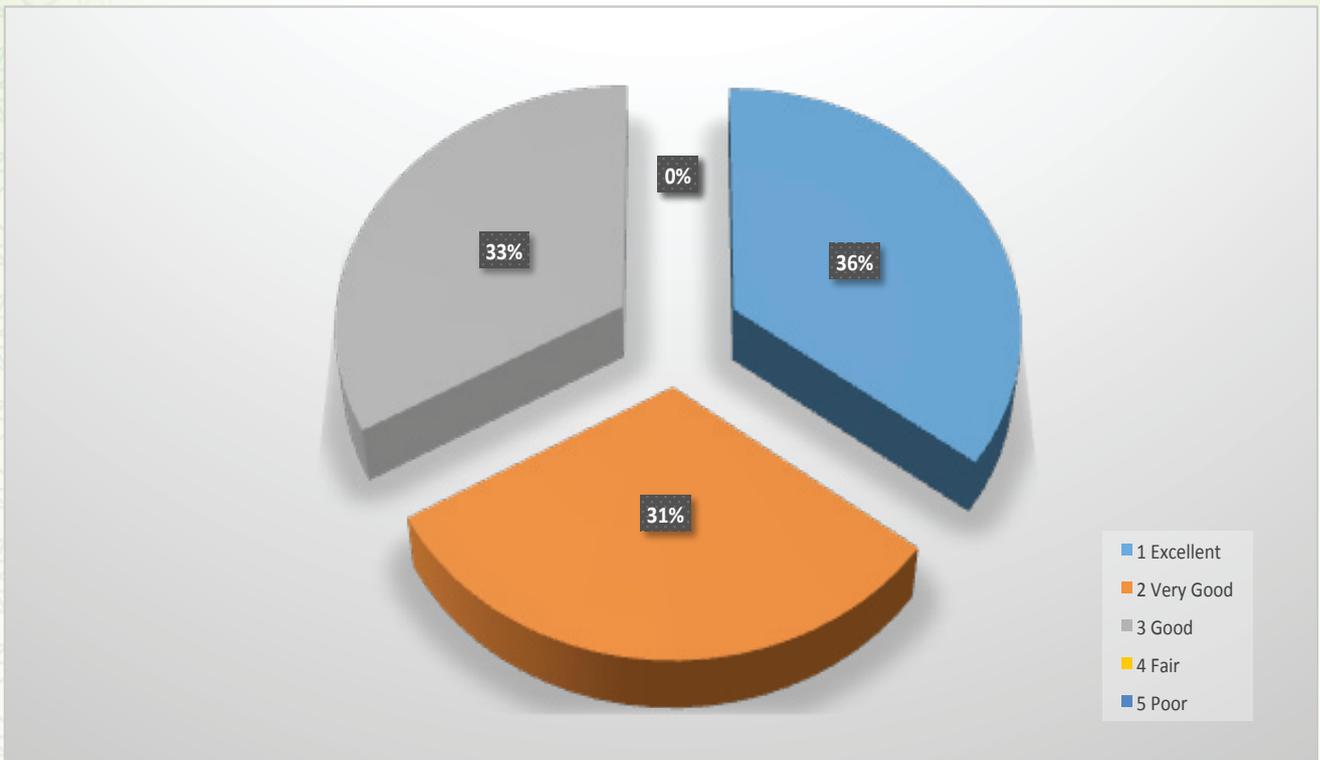
Total Attendees: 755



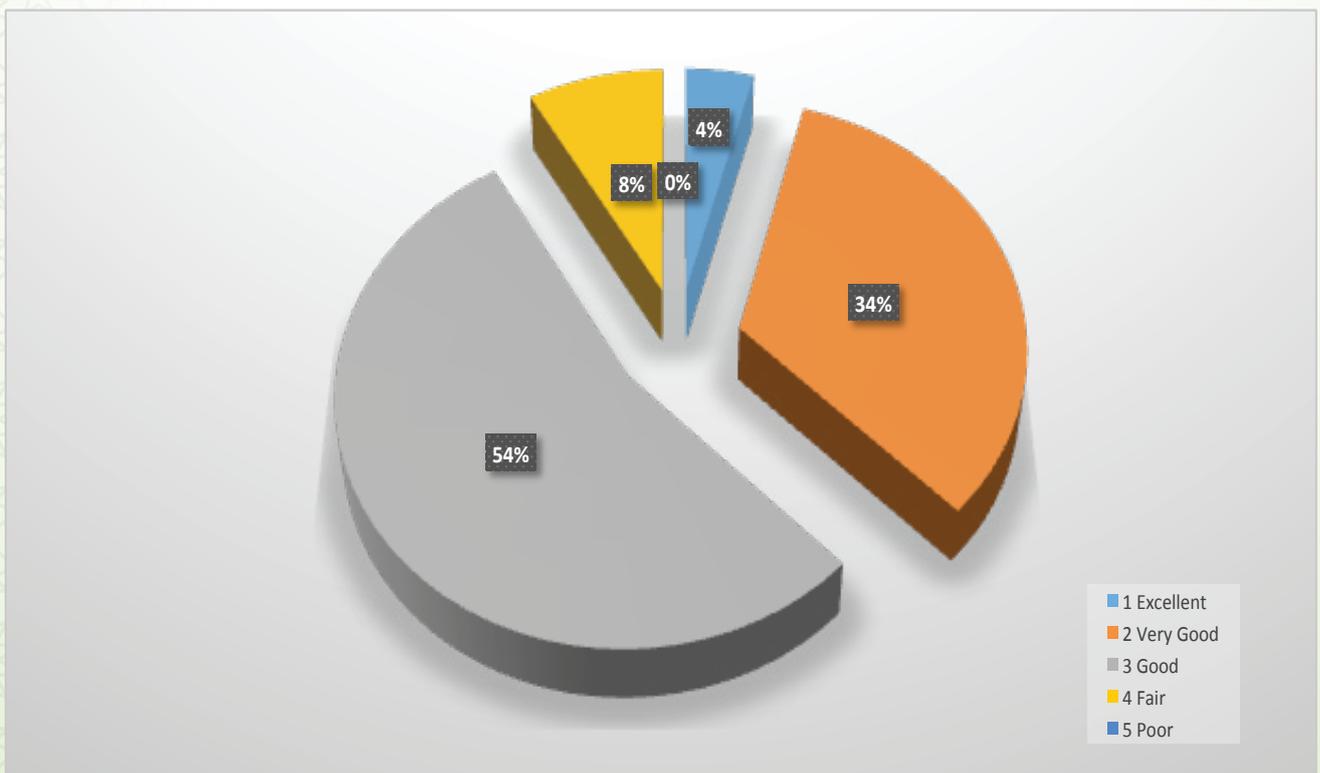
## 4.1 Delegate Evaluation

### Evaluation Analysis Graphs

Overall Quality of the Summit

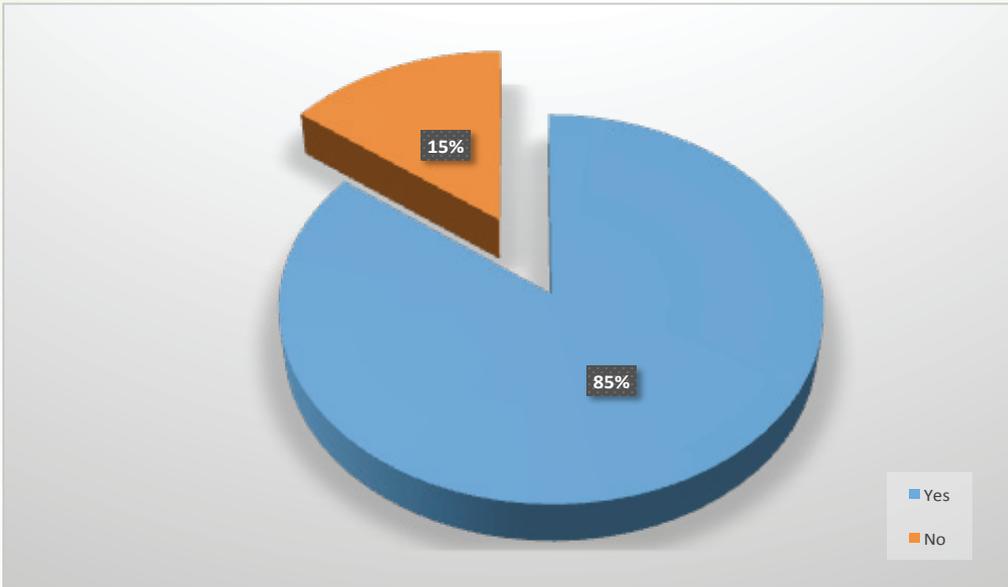


Overall Quality of the Session Room Set up

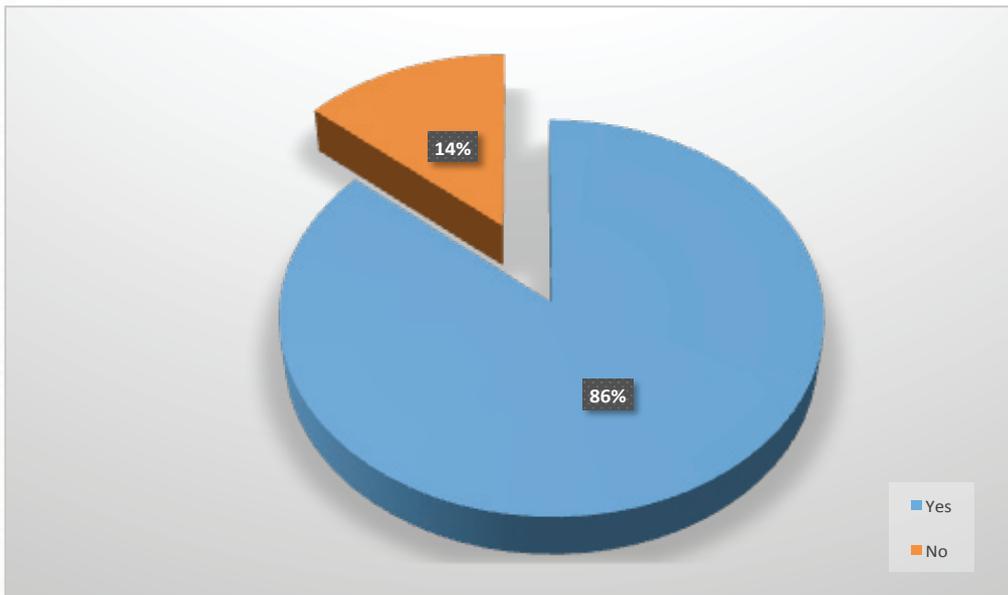


## 4.1 Delegate Evaluation

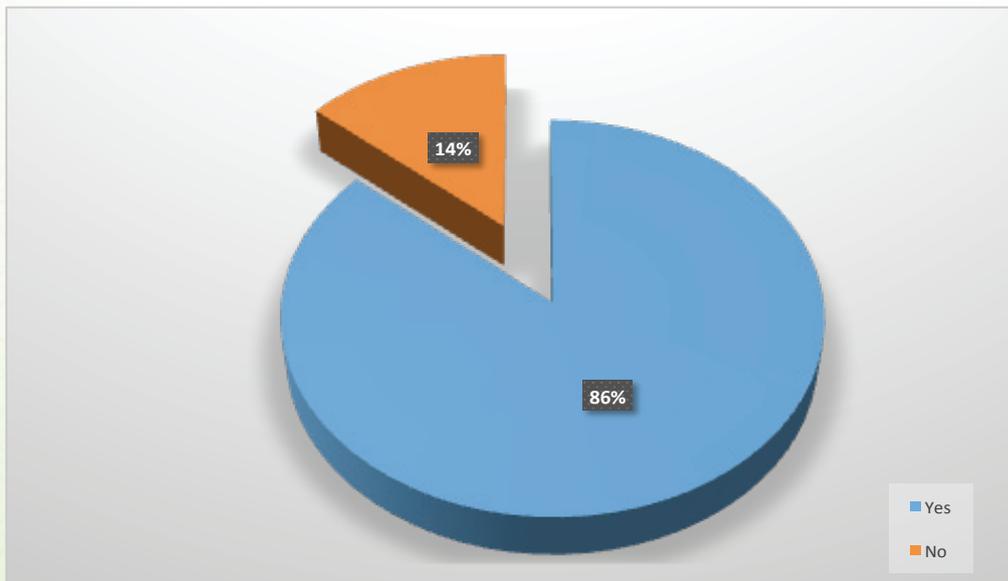
**Question 1:** The programme's objectives were clearly defined



**Question 2:** The programme met the stated objectives

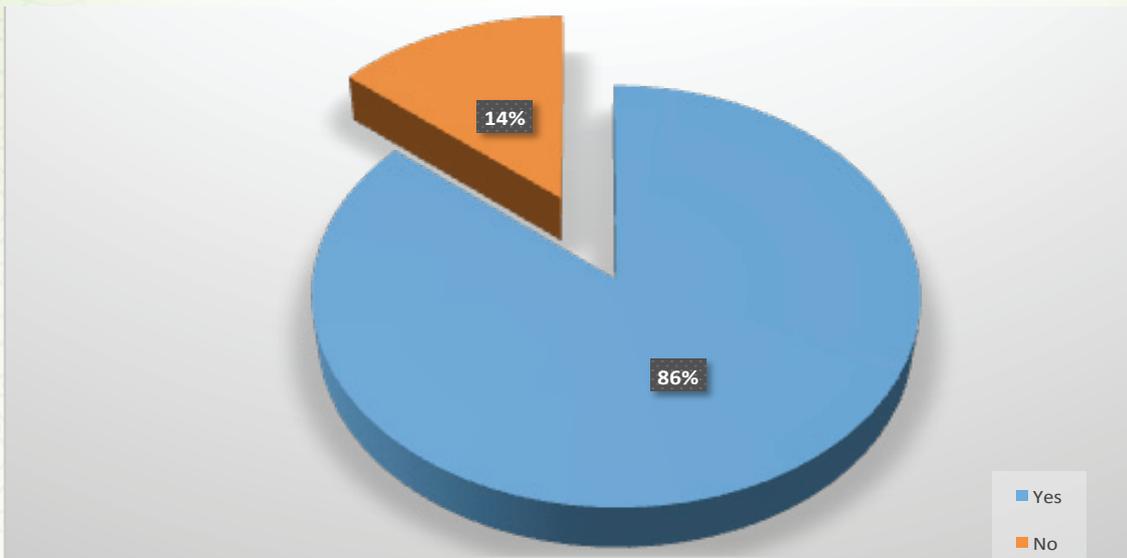


**Question 3:** The programme met my expectations

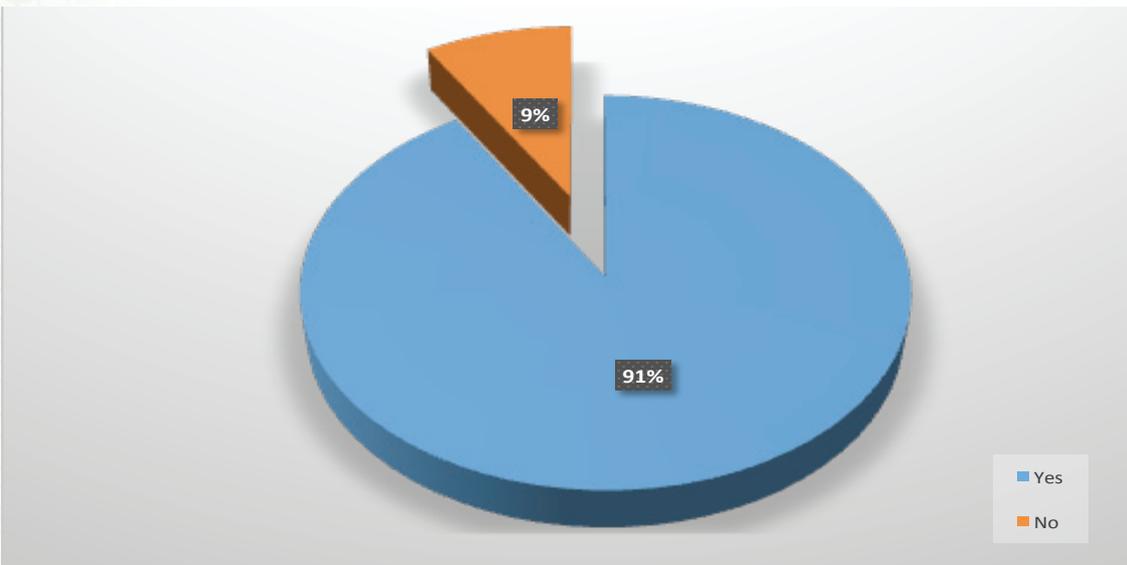


## 4.1 Delegate Evaluation

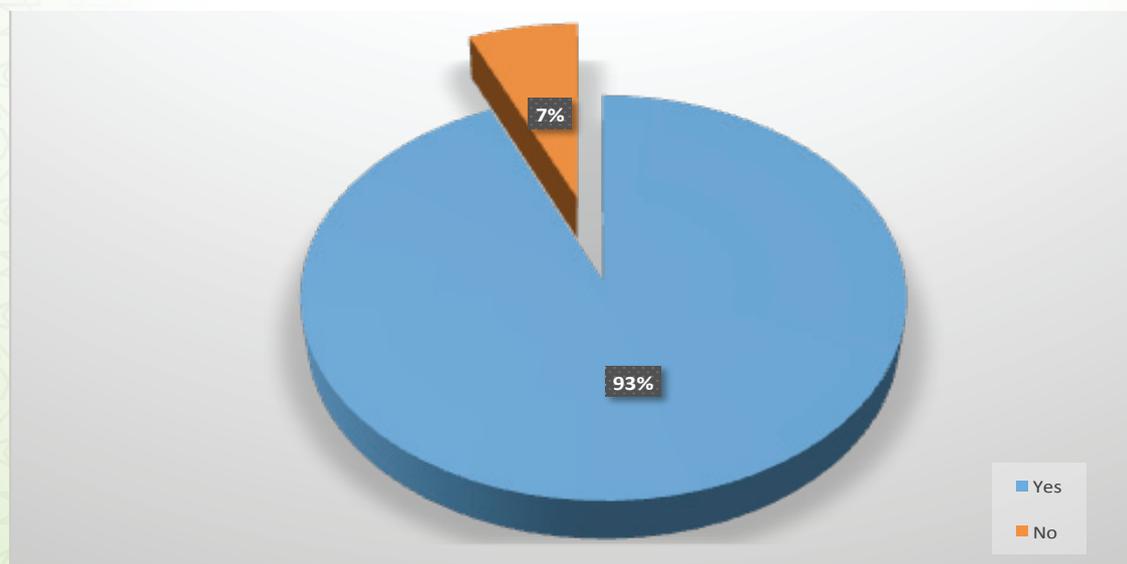
**Question 4:** Did you learn anything new?



**Question 5:** The programme was well organized



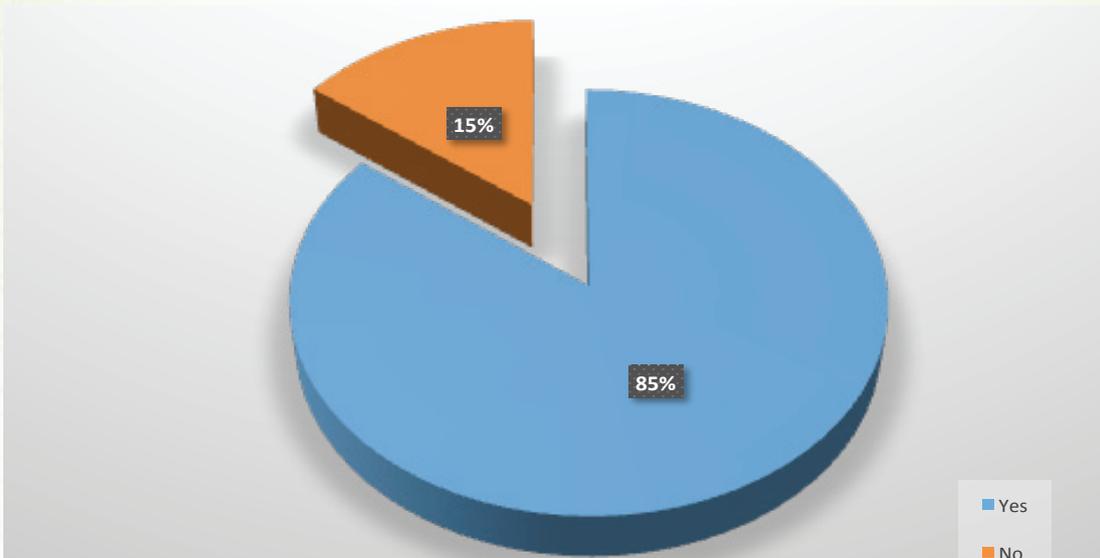
**Question 6:** Did the content of the programme match your expectations?



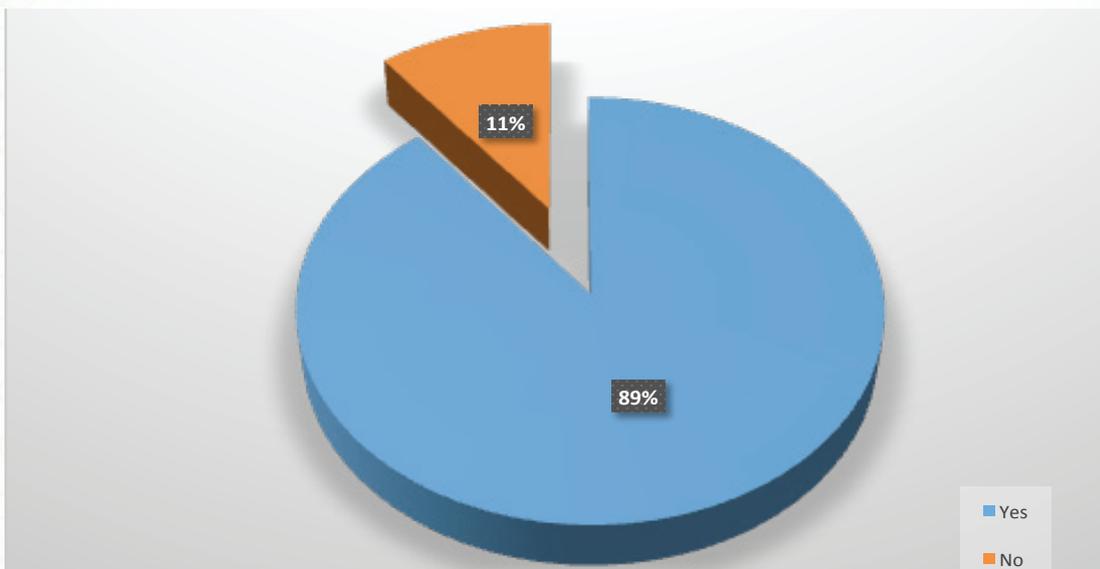
## 4.1 Delegate Evaluation

### Question 7:

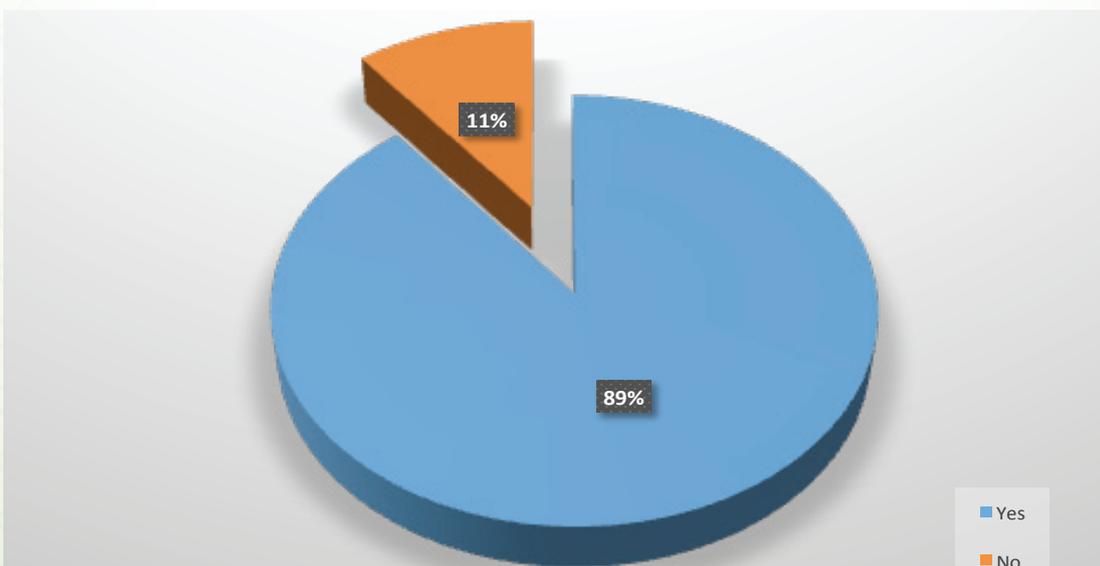
Would you recommend participation to your colleagues and friends?



### Question 8: Did you learn anything new?



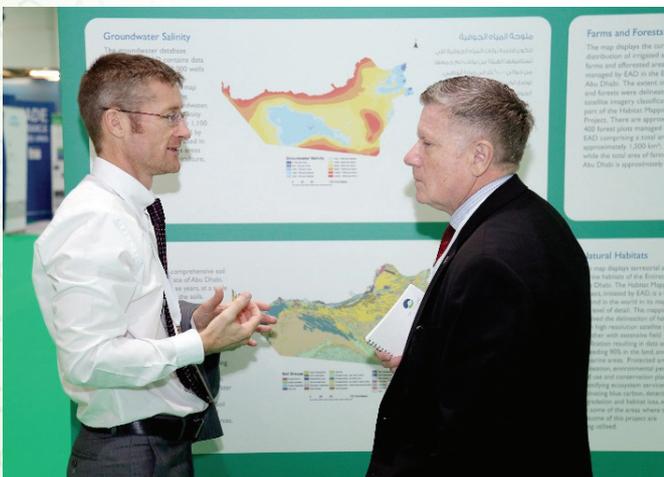
### Question 9: Your time at the Summit was maximized



# 5.0 Summit Snapshots



# 5.0 Summit Snapshots



# 5.0 Summit Snapshots





### Social Media Statistics

#### Facebook page overview

- **Total page likes: 8,556**
- **Follower demographics**
  - Egypt – 3,800
  - Tunisia – 1,919
  - India – 949
  - Morocco – 894
  - Jordan – 725
  - UAE – 64
  - KSA – 37
  - USA – 16
  - Lebanon – 10
  - Italy
- **Total posts: 80**
- **Total paid ad campaigns: 4**
- **Total boosted posts: 4**

#### Twitter page overview

- Total page followers: 177
- Total accounts ECWS follows: 109
- Follower demographics
  - UAE – 33%
  - USA – 19%
  - UK – 7%
  - Egypt – 6%
  - Spain – 3%
  - Canada – 3%
  - India – 2%
  - Greece – 2%
  - Australia – 2%
  - France – 1%
- Total tweets: 155

#### Facebook page activity – during ECWS

- Day 1: 5 posts
- Day 2: 4 posts
- Day 3: 4 posts
- Total page reach: 731 people
- Most popular pages: Timeline and photos
- Most popular post: First plenary session kick off with 381 people reached
- Post engagement
- Total likes: 34
- Total shares: 10

#### Twitter page activity – during ECWS

- Day 1: 7 tweets
- Day 2: 6 tweets
- Day 3: 6 tweets
- ECWS Twitter handle gained:
  - 56 new followers
  - 157 original mentions (not including retweets)
  - 1,762 profile visits

# Venue

## Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC)



Media Partners



Bringing **AFRICA** to the world



## Partners



## Academic Committee



## Innovations Committee



## Planning Committee



## Media Partners

