

Programme Agenda

Circular City Hubs: Improving thriving, liveable, resilient urban centres

Tuesday, 14 December 2021

9:00 – 10:45 CET | 16:00 – 17:45 MYT | 19:00 – 20:45 Melbourne

Knowledge partners



Why cities are crucial to a circular economy?

Cities have a high concentration of resources, capital, data, and talent spread over a relatively small geographical area and are **centres for innovation hubs**. According to the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, by 2050 two thirds of us will live in cities, consuming 75% of the world's natural resources, producing 50% of global waste and over 60% of greenhouse gas emissions.

Cities also represent a **significant concentration of populations and human productive activity** as well as the **negative side effects generated**, such as **pollution and waste**. Making this **locus of habitation and productive activity more sustainable and circular would have an impact first and foremost on the quality of life of its citizens, especially the most vulnerable among them**. But it could have a **broader impact on the planet as a whole**.

Today's thematic webinar will focus on a **key locus of circular change: cities**. Whilst some national governments are still lagging on sustainable development action, cities have taken the initiative and implemented a range of **circular measures**, seeking to become **fit for the 21st century**. **IURC cities and city leaders** will examine how we can take full advantage of the wealth of opportunities in cities to create a system that can **work long-term for the economy, society, and the environment**. The key experts from **Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Finland** from the **IURC Asia & Australasia network** will also share how we can use our current resources to re-design cities from within as vibrant systems that operate and provide **better public services** more efficiently, improve how **buildings are used, re-imagine food smart cities** and **protect the well-being of citizens**.

Addressing critical barriers and enablers of circular economy strategies in cities unlocks the potential of circular economy in cities and requires coordination across **people, policies, and places**. Critical barriers stem from having to change mindsets and habits towards different production and consumption pathways and new business and governance models (**people**). It requires a holistic and systemic approach that cuts across **sectoral policies**, and a functional approach that goes beyond the administrative boundaries of cities and closes, narrows, and slows loops at the right scale (**places**) (OECD, 2021). Today, **city leaders and experts will share recommendations on how Circular City Hubs can play an innovative role in this transition and how IURC Asia & Australasia cities can work with Europe and other regions to make this happen on the ground**.

City Leaders and Circular Economy Experts



YBhg. Dato' Sr Hj Rozali bin Hj Mohamud
Mayor of Seberang Perai, Malaysia

Dato' Sr Hj Rozali bin Hj Mohamud, is the **first Mayor of Seberang Perai City Council (MBSP)**. He is the **Fellow of the Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (FRISM)**; and a **Registered Valuer and Registered Estate Agency with the Board of Valuers, Appraisers and Estate Agents Malaysia**. He is the **Lead Auditor and Internal Auditor for ISO9001**; the **Chief Information Officer (CIO) for Seberang Perai City Council**; and is given the responsibility in developing initiatives and strategies to realise the **Seberang Perai Low Carbon and Smart City**. He also formulated the **MBSP Strategic Plan 2018-2022, Low Carbon City Greenprint 2022, Seberang Perai Climate Action Strategy** and initiated the **Seberang Perai Circular Economy Road Map (CER)** for the waste sector which aims to diversify economy sectors in the city and to provide opportunity for young entrepreneurs to explore new ideas through Innovative Smart Solutions. Furthermore, he has been elected by **ICLEI - Local Government For Sustainability** as an advisor for the **Global Executive Committee (GEXCOM) ICLEI** in the **Portfolio of the Climate Action and Low Emission Development** for the term 2021-2024. Since 14 October 2021, he has been appointed as the **Vice President for the World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WeGO)** for the term of 2021-2023.



Professor Usha Iyer-Raniga
Australia

Professor Usha Iyer-Raniga works at the **School of Property and Construction Management, RMIT University**. She is co-leading the **One Planet Network's Sustainable Buildings and Construction Programme (SBC)**, the **United Nations 10 Year Framework of Programmes** on Sustainable Consumption and Production (UN 10FYP SCP) aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 12. The work directly impacts SDG 11 on Sustainable Cities and Communities. She is also a member of the **Chartered Institute of Building (MCIQB)**, the **Green Star Associate (GSA)**, and the **International Education Association of Australia (MIEAA)**. She is a reviewer and a scientific committee member for national and international referred journals and refereed conferences. She is on the editorial board for refereed journals and has worked on Special Issues. Usha has served as an expert panel member and a panel judge at Victorian, national and international scales. She has also served as a Board member for various NGOs and industry/educational bodies. Usha Iyer-Raniga has published a total of over 150 publications, including research/consulting reports.



Dr. Wijarn Simachaya
Thailand

Dr. Wijarn Simachaya is the current **President of the Thai Environment Institute (TEI)** and the **Secretary-General of Thailand Business Council for Sustainable Development (TBCSD)**. He is the **Chairman of the Circular Economy under the Bio-Circular-Green Economy Model**, the current national agenda. His various responsibilities in the past dealt with natural resources and environmental plans, strategy development, pollution control plans as well as international cooperation on natural resources and environmental issues. He was also a former Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment and represented the Ministry at various **UN, sub-regional, and ASEAN/ASEAN Plus 3** forums. Under the ASEAN Framework, he had played an important role in developing the **ASEAN Haze-Free Road Map by 2020** and the **Bangkok Declaration on Combating Marine Plastic Debris in ASEAN region**, endorsed at the **ASEAN Summit in June 2019**. He worked as a leader of green growth and government reform strategy development for Thailand. Moreover, he served as a chairman of the long-term national strategy (the 20-year plan) on natural resources and environmental management, including water resources and sustainable forest management, together with pollution control and environmental governance for the Ministry. He currently works with various government agencies, international organisations, public-private agencies, civil society organisations and communities on the ground to develop **environmental management models** for the country and moving towards sustainable development.

City Leaders and Circular Economy Experts



Ganjar Setya Pribadi
Bandung City, Indonesia

Ganjar Setya Pribadi is working for the **Communication and Information Technology Division of the Bandung City Government, Indonesia**. He has been involved in the **Bandung Smart City Team** since 2017. At a young age, he has managed to bring Bandung City to achieve urban development awards in digitisation at the national and global level. Recently, he received the award **“Top 3 of Future Leader” at the 2020 Government Official Award of the Ministry of Administrative and Bureaucratic Reform of Indonesia**. One of his remarkable achievements is **“Badami Food Sharing”**, a **digital platform for sharing and donating surplus food as a solution to reduction of urban food waste**. Through support and strong commitment from multi-stakeholders, Badami continues to grow. As per April 2021, Badami has shared surplus food to more than 1,500 people, saving more than 700 kg of food **that would otherwise go to the landfill**. Badami also became one of the initiatives selected to be showcased by the **Milan Urban Food Policy Pact (MUFPP) committee** as part of the **Milan Pact Awards 2020**.



Ms. Niina Ruuska
City of Turku, Finland

Niina Ruuska currently works in the **Climate and Environmental Policy Unit in the City of Turku, Finland**, as a project manager in two projects. In the **Circular Turku project**, her team is implementing the **resource-wisdom road map**, ensuring the **transition towards circularity is fair and inclusive** and streamlining the circularity efforts with the **biodiversity protection goals** in Turku. The **IKLU-project** on the other hand targets the **business clusters** in the Turku area to support the **carbon-neutrality goals**. She is also a co-leader tasked with developing business models for **Smart City solutions in the H2020-project RESPONSE – integrated solutions for energy positive and resilient neighbourhoods and cities**.

Moderator



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Agenda Programme

Time (MYT)	Programme
16:00	Opening Remarks: Mr. Francesco Floris, Head of Trade and Economic Relations – The EU Delegation to Malaysia
16:05	IURC Cities: Seberang Perai’s Pilot Action Collaboration with Portuguese Cities City Leader: YBhg. Dato’ Sr Hj Rozali bin Hj Mohamud, Mayor of Seberang Perai, Seberang Perai City Council, Malaysia - Key city updates accompanied by a video montage
16:20	Pathways for Circular Built Environments CE Expert: Dr. Usha Iyer-Raniga, Professor, Sustainable Built Environments, Co-lead of One Planet Network’s Sustainable Buildings and Construction Programme - Recommendations for transitioning to circular built environments - Links to the Sustainable Development Goals - Case studies: Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean
16:37	Towards Bandung Smart & Sustainable Cities: Urban Regenerative Food Systems During Covid-19 Recovery through Digital Solution City Representative: Ganjar Setya Pribadi, Communication and Information Technology Division of Bandung City Government and Co-founder of Badami Platform - Badami: A digital platform to share and donate surplus food as a solution to reduction of urban food waste - Involvement from various stakeholders in raising public awareness and empowering communities - Challenges and lessons learned
16:55	How Thailand is Applying a Bio-Circular-Green Economy in Its Urban Agenda City Leader & Expert: Dr. Wijarn Simachaya, President of Thailand Environment Institute (TEI), Former Permanent Secretary for Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, and Chairman of Circular Economy Sub-Committee under BCG Economy Model Committee - Thailand BCG Economy Model - Circular economy - Big Rock Project on Urban Plastic Waste Management
17:10	Circular Turku Road Map – Towards a Resource-wise City in 2029 City Leader: Ms. Niina Ruuska, Climate and Environmental Policy Unit, City of Turku, Finland - The Circular Turku Road Map: How it was drawn and how to proceed now - How to make the transition fair and inclusive - Integrating climate plan and biodiversity protection to circular economy
17:25	Fireside Chat – Interactive Discussions with Experts
17:45	Closing Remarks by Mr. Pablo Gándara, Team Leader of IURC Asia & Australasia

Registration

<https://bit.ly/CircularCityHubs>

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#IURC2021





What is IURC?

As the second phase of the [International Urban Cooperation programme \(IUC\)](#) (2017-2020), the [International Urban and Regional Cooperation programme \(IURC\)](#) is a programme of the European Union (EU) promoting decentralised multi-city cooperation on sustainable urban development, building partnerships between EU and non-EU cities at global scale. Through thematic online workshops and onsite field visits, local governments will be enabled to implement pilot projects engaging research, civil society & business partners.

Based on the capitalisation of results and lessons learned from the previous phase, the new programme optimises the added value of international cooperation, transforming IURC into a global network of reference for urban and regional innovation.

Financed under the [Partnership Instrument](#) and jointly implemented by the [Service for Foreign Policy Instruments](#) and the [Directorate-General for Regional and Urban Policy](#) of the European Commission, this EU programme will contribute to the objectives of the [UN New Urban Agenda](#), the [Agenda 2030](#) (SDGs), the [Urban Agenda for the EU](#) and the European Commission's priorities for a "[Stronger Europe in the World](#)" with the [European Green Deal](#) and the [NextGenerationEU](#) (post COVID-19 recovery plan) at the centre.

IURC Asia & Australasia works in nine countries, namely **Australia, India, Indonesia, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Thailand and Vietnam.**

Asia & Australasia

Sustainable and innovative cities and regions

How does it work?

The project facilitates knowledge exchange through a combination of online tools and face-to-face support such as study visits, participation in thematic and networking events or capacity building. The cooperation is developed as:

- **Pairings / work groups:** Cities from the EU and one regional country hold bilateral/multilateral study visits creating synergies and added value.
- **Thematic clusters / networks:** A group of cities sharing similar topics of cooperation working either within the Asian / Australasian region or beyond (global network). IURC topics include green deal, urban renewal, public space, culture, innovation and economic growth among others.

Planned **activities** include:

- 85 cities from the EU and Asia / Australasia to be involved in **thematic clustering, training and networking** events.
- Delegations from 46 EU cities to undertake thematic study visits to the region.
- Delegations from 39 non-EU cities to undertake thematic **study visits** to the cities in the EU.
- Publication of 10 **thematic reports**.
- Elaboration of a **knowledge platform** with case studies from across the globe.



Where to find IURC?

The IURC Asia & Australasia project team is coordinated from **Bangkok** with focal points in **India** and **Japan**. The team will be supported by national experts / teams in all countries of activities, **providing cities with administrative, logistical and technical support, coaching and mentoring services, financial liaison** to pairing cities, as well as to other national or regional institutions interested in cooperating with the IURC Asia & Australasia project.

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