

AGENDA*



5 October 2020

(Central European Summer Time)

<https://hopin.to/events/bridge>

11:00 – 11:40

Opening Ceremony

During the opening ceremony, distinguished dignitaries will share their vision on how cities have the potential to lead sustainable economic recovery efforts from the COVID-19 crisis.

Master of Ceremonies: **Mr. Kai Bethke**, Director, Department of External Relations, UNIDO

Statements by:

Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations (*written message*)

Mr. LI Yong, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Mr. CAI E-Sheng, Chairman, Finance Center for South-South Cooperation, Hong Kong, China

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director, UN-Habitat

Mr. ZHAO Houlin, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union

Mr. Ernst Woller, First President of Provincial Parliament of Vienna, Austria

Mr. Pirouz Hanachi, Mayor of Tehran, Iran

Ms. Anna Lisa Boni, Secretary General, EURO CITIES

* Draft agenda, as of 3 October 2020.

11:40- 12:00	<p>Virtual Networking <i>Participants are invited to utilize the ‘networking’ feature in the event platform and interact with other participants</i></p>
12:00-13:00	<p>Bridge Townhall: 1-on-1 interview with Carlo Ratti Innovative economic recovery: Accelerating digitalization for smarter cities</p> <p>Lockdown and social distancing measures in the trail of the COVID-19 crisis have disrupted our normal ways of living, working, and communicating. Digitalization has proven to be instrumental to overcome some of these difficulties, helping local governments to respond to ever-changing exigencies in terms of governance, social services, commerce, work and health. Promoting behavioural shifts and applying technology-based smart city solutions to managing the effects of COVID-19 are of continued importance to urban economy, even beyond the crisis.</p> <p>The townhall interview will focus on how recovery and a successful transition into smart cities rests upon the creation of a collaborative and innovative environment of in cities, which can drive the fourth industrial revolution forward and facilitate the early adoption of technologically advanced and environmentally- friendly industrial solutions for cities’ development.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p><i>Mr. Carlo Ratti is an Italian architect, engineer, inventor, educator and activist. He is a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he directs the MIT Senseable City Lab, a research group that explores how new technologies are changing the way we understand, design and ultimately live in cities. Ratti is also a founding partner of the international design and innovation office CRA-Carlo Ratti Associati, which he established in 2004 in Torino, Italy and now has a branch in New York City, United States. Ratti was named one of the "50 most influential designers in America" by Fast Company and highlighted in Wired Magazine's "Smart List: 50 people who will change the world."</i></p> <p><i>Ratti has been featured in Esquire Magazine’s "Best & Brightest" list and in Thames & Hudson's selection of "60: Innovators Shaping our Creative Future. "Blueprint Magazine included him as one of the "25 People Who Will Change Architecture and Design, "Forbes listed him as one of the "Names You Need To Know."</i></p> <p>Interviewer: Mr. Kai Bethke, Director, Department of External Relations, UNIDO</p>

13:00 – 13:15	<p>Virtual Networking <i>Participants are invited to utilize the ‘networking’ feature in the event platform and interact with other participants</i></p>
13:15-14:45	<p>Mayors Roundtable: Session 1 Inclusive economic recovery: Driving business innovation and job creation for liveable cities</p> <p>In many cities, economic decline during the COVID-19 crisis has followed income lines, with repercussions on citizens’ well-being and access to basic services. Women and girls have been disproportionately affected, as they are much more likely to work in precarious and low-paid employment and to be employed in exposed professions such as caregiving or nursing. The business sector has been significantly impacted, with the largest decline observed in micro-, small- and medium-size enterprises (MSMEs).</p> <p>Nevertheless, the sector has played an important part in responding to the pandemic. During the crisis, most cities witnessed a migration to the cyberspace. Many MSMEs adopted innovative solutions to restore or repurpose their production to provide much needed goods and services, such as emergency medical supplies. Digitalization enabled teleworking and new forms of virtual collaboration. New delivery methods and innovative e-commerce and payment solutions were developed in response to cities’ lockdowns to reach customers in isolation.</p> <p>MSMEs will also be protagonists in the recovery efforts, as the sector drives innovation and creates a large share of jobs in cities. Four long-term trends will characterize the new normal on the horizon: an emphasis on building resilience, embrace of digitalization opportunities, greater inclusiveness and sustainability. The Fourth Industrial Revolution affords MSMEs a unique opportunity to achieve this paradigm shift. Innovation clusters and strong innovation ecosystems are key to implement this deep technological modernization. They are not only a source of quality employment, but they also enable practice-oriented research, including the necessary cross-sectoral collaboration to develop innovative solutions to cope with the current disruptions and build more resilient cities.</p> <p>In this session, mayors will discuss strategic approaches taken in their cities to pursue innovation, shared prosperity and job creation, especially for MSMEs, women and for protecting vulnerable groups.</p>

	<p><i>Focus:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share the actions undertaken by cities to support inclusive recovery, especially in the areas of women and youth employment and support to small businesses. • Highlight examples of response and recovery measures taken by cities to leverage the disruptions created by the crisis to promote inclusive, gender-responsive, sustainable 4IR transition. • Discuss the potential of city-based initiatives to improve the enabling ecosystem for MSMEs; promote innovation, inclusivity and partnerships; secure investment in digital infrastructure; ensure local access to advanced technologies; develop local digital skills and attract talent. • Explore the role of cities as launch pads for the digital transformation of MSMEs. <p>Moderator: Mr. Bernardo Calzadilla Sarmiento, Managing Director, Directorate of Digitalization, Technology and Agri-business, UNIDO</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <p>Mr. Ullrich Sierau, Mayor of Dortmund, Germany</p> <p>Ms. Maria Isabelle Climaco, Mayor of Zamboanga, Philippines</p> <p>H.E. Sheikh Hisham bin AbdulRahman Al Khalifa, Governor of the Capital Governorate, Kingdom of Bahrain</p> <p>Mr. Bakytzhan Sagintayev, Mayor of Almaty, Kazakhstan</p> <p>Mr. WANG Xinwei, Vice Governor of Henan Province and Mayor of Zhengzhou, China</p> <p>Mr. Naina Andriantsitohaina, Mayor of Antananarivo, Madagascar</p> <p>Mr. Ernst Woller, First President of the Provincial Parliament of Vienna, Austria</p> <p>Mr. ZHANG Yong, Vice Mayor of Shenzhen, China</p>
14:45 – 15:00	<p>Virtual Networking</p> <p><i>Participants are invited to utilize the ‘networking’ feature in the event platform and interact with other participants</i></p>

15:00 – 16:30

Mayors Roundtable: Session 2

Green economic recovery: Re-thinking urban development models for sustainable cities

Cities are engines for growth, as they are home to the great majority of a country's productive, industrial and manufacturing activities. The COVID-19 crisis severely affected them as lockdown measures were applied in the great majority of countries. The dramatic economic downturn however brought an immediate positive environmental impact on urban centres, alleviating the usual high toll in terms of pollution and environmental degradation. This process encouraged planning for sustained recovery coupled with decisive, targeted, collective action to maintain a positive trend from the environment point of view. The crisis thus provides a unique opportunity to expand investments in an equitable green transformation, which will create lasting solutions, reduce the risks of future crises, and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Technological and business innovations can play an instrumental role in identifying and developing green solutions for the post-pandemic world: from redesigning mobility, through resource optimization, to securing supply chains for goods and services, the potential for environmental sustainability is considerable. Moreover, risk mitigation strategies for businesses can be aligned with equitable green economy: aiming to rebuild and mitigate future risks, enterprises attribute more value to local resources and markets.

Cities are recognizing this opportunity for accelerated environmental improvements, social inclusiveness and sustainable economic growth, by strengthening innovation clusters and ecosystems, as well as fostering smart production, quality infrastructure and effective partnerships.

Mayors will present concrete response and recovery initiatives linking economic growth with sustainable development and a green transformation, including green development, waste management and circular economy in cities.

Focus:

- Discuss effective institutional frameworks and policies, including green procurement and public-private partnerships for harnessing stakeholders' potential for enhanced greening of the cities economies in the post-pandemic world.

- Present examples of cities’ economic recovery plans, highlighting successful co-design and synergies with businesses deploying green technologies.
- Pave the way for key stakeholders to address COVID-19 related urban development challenges, through eco-design solutions, bringing circular economy integration to life in companies, cities and within digital/physical networks.

Moderator: **Mr. Stephan Sicars**, Managing Director, Directorate of Environment and Energy, UNIDO

Panellists:

Mr. Yousef Al Shawarbeh, Mayor of Amman, Jordan

Ms. Rosy Senanayake, Mayor of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Ms. Manal Awad, Governor of Damietta, Egypt

Mr. Milan Trivić, Deputy Mayor of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mr. Kong Vitanak, Deputy Governor of Sihanoukville Province, Cambodia

Mr. Abderrazak Bouziri, Deputy Mayor of Tunis, Tunisia

Mr. Carlos Mario Marin, Mayor of Manizales, Colombia

Mr. Gabor Kerpel-Fronius, Deputy Mayor of Budapest, Hungary

16:30 - 16:45

Closing Remarks

Remarks by: **Mr. Ciyong ZOU**, Managing Director, Directorate of Programmes, Partnerships and Field Coordination, UNIDO