

UTM Global Innovation Summit 2024 & UTM annual conference

Planning for a sustainable future: cities designing urban transitions

Date: Time: all times are in CEST/ UTC+2

Place: Brussels, Belgium

Borschette Centre, rue Froissart 36,

Room 0.D

Or Connect Online: get the links upon registration

[Register here](#) for both in-person and virtual attendance

Join the Urban Transitions Mission (UTM) of Mission Innovation (MI) for an insightful event dedicated to exploring the transformative power of urban planning and design. The annual [UTM Global Innovation Summit](#) will delve into innovative approaches that aid cities across the world in their partway to a net-zero resilient future, through prioritising resource efficiency, people-centered design, and digital interconnectedness.

Discover how cutting-edge urban planning strategies are revolutionising cities, making them more sustainable and livable. Policymakers and technical experts from cities across the world will share their experiences, challenges and the most impactful and innovative solutions applied in their communities. Experts will share their knowledge on maximising resource use, integrating green technologies, and fostering community engagement. Additionally, we'll examine the role of digital technologies and solutions in creating interconnected urban ecosystems that enhance resilience, inclusiveness, and effective access to essential services.

The second day of the UTM Global Innovation Summit coincides with the Annual Conference of the Urban Transitions Mission Centre (UTMC). These sessions, co-hosted by the UTM and the UTM Centre, will take participants through the current and upcoming support offered to the UTM community by the Centre. Services offered by the Platform, the Finance Helpdesk and much more will be introduced to the audience to explore new unmissable opportunities for knowledge sharing.

The event will include two sessions dedicated to exploring participatory budgeting and to discussing how to leverage collaboration across national, regional and local level to support the goals of the Paris Agreement.

Whether you are an urban planner, policymaker, or simply passionate about the future of our cities, this event will provide valuable perspectives and practical solutions for building vibrant, resilient urban environments. Join us and be part of the movement shaping the cities of tomorrow.

To ease your stay in Brussels find all logistics information [here](#), where you can also find the [COMMUNICATION TOOLKIT](#) of the event, thanks to which you'll be able to promote the Summit across different platforms, and engage your audience and networks with ready-made templates and resources – including key messages!

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Agenda – 7 October

09:00	Welcome and icebreaker
09:10	<p><i>Moderator: Andy Deacon, Co-Managing director, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM)</i></p> <p>Opening remarks – Rosalinde van der Vlies, Clean Planet Director, European Commission</p>
09:20	<p>Setting the scene: designing sustainable pathways for our urban futures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Giulia Maccagno, Senior Economist, Head of the City Climate Finance Gap Fund EIB Technical Secretariat at European Investment Bank (EIB) Siir Kilis, Vice-chair, International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) – Working group III (online)
09:50	<p>UTM in Action: designing resource-efficient and clean energy systems in cities</p> <p><i>Chair: Vida Rozite, Energy Policy Analyst, International Energy Agency (IEA)</i></p> <p>Interactive discussion focused on city action towards clean and resilient urban energy systems – sector coupling, renewable energy systems (RES) integration, integrated planning, digitalization, and governance will be the main themes.</p> <p>A setting the scene with experts will be followed by polling and participant interventions sharing challenges, opportunities and experiences.</p> <p>Insights and inspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fulya Aydin Kandemir, Dr Researcher, Climate Change Department, Antalya (Turkiye) Jason Grant, Senior Energy Resilience Program Manager, Miami-Dade County (US) Amrutesh Aurangabadkar, Deputy Municipal Commissioner, Ahmedabad (India) Rohit Sen, Head of Sustainable Energy,, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) Sem Oxenaar, Associate, Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)
10:55	Break
11:15	<p>UTM in Action: designing people-centered cities</p> <p><i>Chair: Christoph Gollner, DUT, Coordinator PED Transition Pathway</i></p> <p>Interactive exercise and discussion on how to build the city of the future, through integrated and holistic planning with a focus on mobility & access, and on design of space to ensure inclusive, healthy and resilient communities.</p> <p>Welcome: Orsolya Küttel, Driving Urban Transitions Partnership, CEO, JPI Urban Europe</p> <p>Setting the scene</p> <p>Umamaheshwaran Rajasekar (Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructures)</p> <p>Inspirations from the world followed by Reflections & Panel Discussion</p> <p><i>Moderation: Christoph Gollner, DUT, Coordinator PED Transition Pathway</i></p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - João Dinis, Director Casa Ambiente, Cascais (Portugal) - Abu Mahama Antuonogwen, Metropolitan Development Planning Officer, Sekondi-Takoradi (Ghana) (online) - Liv Öberg, Circular Economy Lead, Umeå (Sweden) <p>Q&A & open discussion</p>
12:20	Energizer
12:30	<p>UTM in Action: designing smart & connected cities</p> <p><i>Chair:</i> Anvita Arora, Executive Director, Transportation & Infrastructure, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC)</p> <p>Cities are leveraging digitalization to improve services and infrastructure efficiency but face risks like cybersecurity and privacy breaches. This session will address the challenges and opportunities of digitalization, focusing on sustainable smart city design and governance. It will also explore solutions for managing integration, interoperability, and data to mitigate vulnerabilities while enhancing urban systems. The session will include lessons learned from new and rapidly urbanising areas.</p> <p>Inspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Donna R. Tabangin, City Planning, Development and Sustainability Coordinator, Baguio City (Philippines) - Nisreen Daoud, Manager of sustainable development and Amman resilience unit, Greater Amman (Jordan) (online) - Daniel Reyes, Urban Affairs Advisor for the Mayor and the Council, Puerto Montt (Chile) - Luis Neves (CEO, GeSI - Global Enabling Sustainability Initiative) (online) - Benjamin Jance IV, Head of Research & Innovation, GCoM
13:30	Lunch break
14:30	<p>UTM in Action: brokering solutions and connecting innovation leaders & providers</p> <p>This session comprises three parallel workshops. Participants will be divided in 3 breakout-rooms, and are asked to join a workshop of their choice. The workshops focus on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data and digital solutions for evidence-based planning and policymaking – contributions by Google EIE and T-Systems Room 0.B <p>The workshop "Data and digital solutions for evidence-based planning and policymaking" will focus on providing participants with insights on how data access and forecasting can drive effective policy making in cities. Participants will explore real-life examples of data-driven decisions and their impacts on urban development, sustainability, and quality of life. The workshop will include interactive discussions, case studies, and demonstrations of how digital solutions can inform urban policy making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Birgit Ahlers (Global Lead Geo Sustainability) and Vanessa Bruns (Research Manager), Google EIE

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- Jason Grant, Senior Energy Resilience Program Manager, Miami-Dade County (US)
- Daniel Reyes, Urban Affairs Advisor for the Mayor and the Council, Puerto Montt (Chile)
- Fulya Aydin Kandemir, Dr Researcher, Climate Change Department, Antalya (Turkiye)
- o Stefan de Haas and Frank Ruttloff (online), T-Systems
 - Francisco Walker, Leader in Urban Innovation of the Corporation “La Fábrica”, Renca (Chile)
 - Aksinia Sinko, Project Manager, City Development Agency, Zhytomyr (Ukraine)

2. **Scaling up investment through public private collaborations** – contributions by World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD), Signify, and KPMG, with the support of the UTMCI

Room 0.C

The workshop “Scaling up investment through public private collaborations” will focus on exploring the potential of public-private partnerships in accelerating investment in urban transitions solutions and infrastructures. Innovative business models and blended finance options will be presented and discussed with the audience. The exchange will focus on new approaches for collaboration to speed up market uptake of innovation and derisk impact investment in cities.

- o **Untying the public-private knot:** Roland Hunziker, Director, Built Environment & Member of the WBCSD Extended Leadership Group
- o **Scaling up investment:** William Hynes, Managing Director, KPMG Future Analytics
- o **Shedding light on new business models:** Mario Giordano, Head of Public and Government Affairs, Signify
- o **Insight from cities**
 - João Dinis, Climate Action director, Cascais (Portugal)
 - Mark Atherton, Greater Manchester (United Kingdom)
 - Niina Ruuska, Senior Specialist, Nature City and Circular Economy, Green Transition, Turku (Finland)

3. **Keeping the city cool** – hosted in collaboration with the UK government

Room 0.A

The workshop “Keeping the city cool” will explore how cities can plan and adopt effective strategies to tackle extreme heat and its consequences in cities. This session, co-organized with the UK government, will shed light on exemplary measures, the potential of urban planning, as well as challenges to address to mitigate the impact of heat in cities. Lessons learned from the real-life experience of Greater Manchester in implementing actions and measures for cooling will provide the basis for this exchange.

- **Interactive discussion – Cities planning for extreme heat** – moderated by Climate Services for a Net Zero Resilient World (CS-NOW)
 - o André Neto-Bradley, Dr., Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), UK Government
 - o Interactive discussions in three groups on:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Simulating building performance to understand extreme heat – Daniel Zepeda Rivas, Dr., University College London (UCL)</i> ▪ <i>Designing policies and measures for adapting to heat – Ellie Voke, Senior Consultant – Climate Action Planning & Transparency, Ricardo</i> ▪ <i>Connecting the local with the national on tackling extreme heat – Chris Thorpe, Principal Technical Consultant, Ricardo Energy & Environment</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City and citizen perspectives on extreme heat – moderated by Climate Services for a Net Zero Resilient World (CS-N0W) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Greater Manchester – Robyn Smith, Project Manager for Low Carbon and Environment, Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and Ellie Voke, Ricardo</i> o <i>Mumbai – Nikhil Sunil Mene, Engineer</i> - ideas generation session – Keeping cities cool through urban design – moderated by CS-N0W
16:00	Break
16:20	<p>Urban Transition: reality-check</p> <p><i>Moderator: Sean Goulding Carroll, Editor – Cities and Buildings, Foresight</i></p> <p>Panel of selected mayors and city leaders. The conversation will focus on urban planning and design needs (data, technologies, multi-level support, finance, etc.). Panellists will be invited to share real life, practical examples of one core need and how they have/are/will be tackling the challenges ahead and elaborate on key ingredients and political drive necessary to make urban transitions happen at pace and scale required.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anna Lisa Boni, Deputy Mayor, Bologna, Italy</i> • <i>Artem Semenikhin, Mayor, Konotop, Ukraine</i> • <i>Carolina Leitao Álvarez-Salamanca, Mayor, Peñalolen, Chile</i> • <i>Cristina Smolenschi, Vice-Mayor, Strășeni, Moldova</i> • <i>Tommaso Ferrari, Ecological Transition and Mobility Councillor, Verona, Italy</i>
17: 30	<p>UTM looks ahead: Stocktaking & way forward</p> <p>Participants discuss the results of their workshop and key messages from the panel. Through a moderated discussion the UTM community defines and shares action points and outlook for 2025. Key announcements from UTM are shared with the UTM community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cities TCP join forces with UTM: Lieven Callewaert, co-founder, YesAndMore - UTM bridges gaps in innovation: Piero Venturi, Director, Hydrogen Mission - New & rapidly urbanising cities: Anvita Arora, Executive Director, Transportation & Infrastructure, KAPSARC - Resilience of Infrastructures: Umamaheshwaran Rajasekar (Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructures – CDRI) - Digital solutions: Birgit Ahlers, Global Lead Geo Sustainability, Google
17:50	Closing remarks
18:00	End
18:30–20:30	Mingling and exchanging; reception for UTM community at NH Hotel Berlaymont

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Agenda – 8 October

09:00	Welcome and icebreaker
09:10	<p>A brand new day: setting the scene</p> <p><i>Chair: Urban Transitions Mission Centre (UTMC) and UTM</i></p> <p><i>Philippe Froissard, Head of Unit Head of Unit, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, European Commission</i></p>
09:20	<p>The Urban Transitions Mission Centre (UTMC) – your needs, your platform, our support</p> <p>Chair: UTMC</p> <p>Walkthrough of the UTM Centre platform and its features, showcasing funding opportunities, innovative best practices, knowledge sharing, capacity building, and peer exchange to accelerate climate action implementation in cities.</p>
9:45	<p>UTM In Action: investing in your future</p> <p><i>Workshop on participatory budgeting and citizen's engagement</i></p> <p><i>Chair: UTMC</i></p> <p>Via a gamification exercise this workshop delves into the use of participatory budgeting techniques to involve citizens in decision-making. An open discussion and simulation of participatory budgeting using a card deck, developed by the city of Helsinki– Omastadi – will provide you insights and suggestions on how to carry on a similar exercise in your community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mariam Chakroun, project manager, ENoLL</i> • <i>Nicola Iezza, Manager, UTM F&F Helpdesk</i> • <i>Kirsi Verkka, Development Manager, Helsinki (Finland)</i> • <i>Francisco Walker, Leader in Urban Innovation of the Corporation “La Fábrica”, Renca (Chile)</i>
11:00	Break
11:15	<p>Unlocking NDCs 3.0 through multi-level governance and action</p> <p><i>Chair: Andy Deacon, co-managing Director, Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy (GCoM) and Rohit Sen, Head, Sustainable Energy, ICLEI World Secretariat</i></p> <p>A fireside chat led by representatives from leading city networks and initiatives. This will feature a panel discussion involving pioneering UTM cities and representatives from national authorities, focusing on what successful multi-level governance looks like in the run up to the NDC 3.0s due in 2025.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anna Lisa Boni, Energy Transition and International Relationship Counsellor, Bologna (Italy)</i> • <i>Ahmet Ertürk, Head of Cultural and Social Affairs Department, Gaziantep (Türkiye)</i> • <i>Tommaso Ferrari, Ecological Transition and Mobility Councillor, Verona (Italy)</i> • <i>Carlos Ribeiro, Executive Director – Laboratório da Paisagem, Guimarães (Portugal) (online)</i>

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12:30	Stocktaking and way forward <i>Giorgia Rambelli, Director, Urban Transitions Mission</i>
13:00	Lunch break and change of venue
14:00	UTM Finance and Funding Dialogue <i>Roundtable on system innovation: Mobilising funding as aggregated purchasing power for cities</i> <i>Chair: Elli B. Tzatzanis-Stepanovic, FFG, UTM coordinator</i> Venue: GCoM, Bd Charlemagne 1, 1000 Brussels <i>The Finance and Funding Dialogue shall: 1) Increase awareness of existing funding programs for cities, 2) Discuss new ideas for multilevel collaborations across funding agencies, private and public investors, and cities, and 3) Raise interest of funding agencies in participating in the Driving Urban Transitions (DUT) partnership</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priscilla Negreiros, Lead of the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA) • Olle Dierks, Head of large-scale investments, Chairman of Team Sweden Smart Cities, Viable Cities • Orsolya Küttel, Strategic Coordinator, Driving Urban Transitions (DUT) Partnership, Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG), Austria • Marie-Carmen Bex, Deputy Director-General, Brussels Institute for Research and Innovation, INNOVIRIS, Belgium • Barbara Goffin, Brussels Donut Coordinator, Doughnut Economics, Belgium • Gustaf Ulander, Skellefteå Municipality, Sweden • Georg Eichler, Climate Fund Klagenfurt, Austria
18:00	End

Study tour to the to Signify's Outdoor Lighting Application Center (OLAC)

8 October

The programme continues for selected cities...

For the cities participating in the OLAC Study tour: Meeting at 12:20 in the CCAB Lobby to go together to the Train station.

Please note: the train departs at 13:17 from Brussels Midi.

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Join the discussion!

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We'd love for you to share your experiences and highlights during the event on social media! Engage with fellow participants, post your thoughts, and capture memorable moments using the official event hashtag **#UTMSummit2024**.

Don't forget to tag us and follow our accounts for updates:

- Twitter: @UTM_MI @UTMCProject
- LinkedIn: @urban-transitions-mission @urban-transitions-mission-centre

Feel free to download [COMMUNICATION TOOLKIT](#) and help spread the word!

Let's keep the conversation going online and make this event even more exciting!

Keep updated on the event page: <https://urbantransitionsmission.org/global-innovation-summit-2024/>

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