



CITIES Forum 2017

Working Together for Better Cities

Rotterdam, 27-28 November 2017

#citiesforum2017



City of Rotterdam



3rd CITIES FORUM

Organised by the European Commission

**27 and 28 November in
the City of Rotterdam, the Netherlands**

Moving forward with the Urban Agenda for the EU towards a more sustainable urban development within cities all over the globe.

This two-day major event of the European Commission will bring together key stakeholders from European, national and local levels to debate the progress of the Urban agenda for the EU, the urban dimension of the Cohesion Policy, and the EU response to the urban dimension of the 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda.

On the first day, the partnerships of the Urban Agenda for the EU will touch base and organise a series of workshops throughout the city of Rotterdam. In addition a workshop will be organised on the Sustainable Development Goals (2030 Agenda) and how cities can contribute to achieve these goals.

From there, the SS Rotterdam, a former ocean liner, will host the Cities Forum on the afternoon of the first day with welcoming words and introductions of high level speakers.

On day two, the progress and future direction of the Urban Agenda and the urban dimension of the Cohesion Policy will be reflected against global urban policies, strategies and goals. That day a new platform will be launched assisting cities in improving their investment capacities. Mayors, Ministers, Commissioners and other high level speakers will reflect on their current challenges and will share their visions on the way forward towards better urban policy making and urban investments.

Other workshops will focus on the Covenant of Mayors, innovative & inspiring city examples and the human rights perspective in the Urban Agenda for the EU. A small exhibition will also be open to participants where urban organisations and networks host stands and engage and provide information on urban programmes and initiatives.





CITIES Forum 2017

Working Together for Better Cities

Rotterdam, 27-28 November 2017

#citiesforum2017



Draft Programme

27 November

10:30 – 11:00 **Registration & Welcome coffee on different locations in the City of Rotterdam**

Workshops in the City of Rotterdam & Site visit

11:00 – 16:00 – Partnerships of the Urban Agenda for the EU – workshops & site visits
– 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, its sustainable development goals and the New Urban Agenda – workshop & site visit

16:00 – 17:00 Transfer to the main venue SS Rotterdam

17:30 – 17:50 **Welcoming words and keynote by Ahmed Aboutaleb, the Mayor of Rotterdam**

17:50 – 18:00 **Welcoming words and introduction to the next day by a member of the European Commission**

18:15 – 18:30 **Keynote by Joan Clos, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)**

18:30 – 18:35 **Keynote by Tan Sri Haji Noh bin Omar, Malaysian Minister tbc**

19.30 – 21:00 **Dinner**

21:00 - **Music & Networking**



CITIES Forum 2017

Working Together for Better Cities

Rotterdam, 27-28 November 2017

#citiesforum2017



City of Rotterdam



28 November

09:00 – 09:45

Welcome coffee

09:45 – 10:00

Welcome word by the Moderator Eddy Adams

10:00 – 10:15

Keynote speech by Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič from the European Commission - *global energy transition and on the results of COP23 and the role of cities*

10:15 – 11:20

The New Urban Agenda

Start of the video capturing the workshops on the SDGs

Panel discussion

- Joan Clos, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- Eugenie Birch, President of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP) at the United Nations.
- Luis Cueto, deputy Mayor of the city of Madrid
- Mari Kiviniemi, Deputy Secretary-General of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- Mayor of a city outside of Europe tbc
- Anne Hidalgo Mayor of Paris tbc
- Jan van Zanen, Mayor of Utrecht tbc
- Representative from a Member State

Interventions during the panel with audience



CITIES Forum 2017

Working Together for Better Cities

Rotterdam, 27-28 November 2017

#citiesforum2017



City of Rotterdam



11.20 – 12:30

The Urban Agenda for the EU

Start of the video capturing the Urban Agenda for the EU and its partnerships

Panel discussion

- Julien Denormandie, Secretary of State, attached to the Minister of Territorial Cohesion, France
- Karin Wanngård, Mayor of Stockholm, Vice president of EUROCITIES
- Katrin Lompscher, Minister for urban development and housing, Berlin
- Joost van Iersel, President of the Section for Economic and Monetary Union and Economic and Social Cohesion, European Economic & Social Council (EESC)
- Kieran McCarthy, Councillor of the City of Cork and member of the Committee of the Regions
- Normunds Popenis, deputy Director-General, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- Giorgos Kaminis, Mayor of Athens tbc

Interventions during the panel with audience

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch Break

14:00 – 15:00

Improving the investment capacities of cities

14:00 – 14:10

Launch of the platform for City Investments, by Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič and Commissioner Corina Crețu from the European Commission and by Vice President Vazil Hudak from the European Investment Bank

14:10 – 14:50

Debate and on the platform for City Investments

- Corina Crețu, Commissioner for Regional Policy, European Commission
- Maroš Šefčovič Vice-President, European Commission
- Vazil Hudak Vice President Hudak from the European Investment Bank



CITIES Forum 2017

Working Together for Better Cities

Rotterdam, 27-28 November 2017

#citiesforum2017



City of Rotterdam



- Tanja Wehsely, Chair of the Committee on Financial, Economic and International Affairs of the Vienna City Council and Chair of the Economic Development Forum of Eurocities, Vienna
- Saskia Bruines, deputy Mayor of the city of The Hague

15:00 – 15:30

Press Conference on the platform for City Investments

16.00 – 16.40

Parallel Workshops

- The Covenant of Mayors: EU and global climate and energy objectives with and within cities
- Innovate, inspire and exchange; City examples that pave the way towards the future
- Human rights perspective in the Urban Agenda

16:50 – 17:45

The urban dimension of the Cohesion Policy

Panel discussion:

- Karl-Heinz Lambertz, President of the Committee of the Regions
- Jan Olbrycht Member of the European Parliament
- Nils Ušakovs, Mayor of Riga
- Michał Olszewski, Deputy Mayor of Warsaw
- Denitsa Nikolova, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works, Bulgaria

Interventions during the panel with audience (voting system and TOPI app)

17:45

Closing speech by Commissioner Crețu from the European Commission



CITIES Forum 2017

Working Together for Better Cities

Rotterdam, 27-28 November 2017

#citiesforum2017



City of Rotterdam

