



**8TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON
SUSTAINABLE CITIES & TOWNS**

BASQUE COUNTRY | BILBAO | 27 - 29 APRIL 2016

basquecountry2016.eu

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns

TRANSFORMATIVE ACTION: THE POTENTIAL FOR EUROPE

27-29 April 2016, Basque Country, Bilbao

Welcome Ongi etorri Bienvenidos



**8TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON
SUSTAINABLE CITIES & TOWNS**

BASQUE COUNTRY | BILBAO | 27 - 29 APRIL 2016



IBERDROLA

Welcome to the Basque Country!



Iñigo Urkullu
Lehendakari
Basque Government

Ongi etorri, Welcome to the Basque Country!

The Basque Government would like to thank ICLEI for giving our region the opportunity to host the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns. The Basque Country is proud to become part of the legacy of these conferences that have been held since 1994.

The Basque Country is well-known for having a friendly society that welcomes visitors with open arms. We have created a programme that will treat participants as our guests of honour.

This conference will be the opportunity to show Europe, and the world, the transformation capacity of a region of Southern Europe, such as the Basque Country, which has converted its weaknesses into strengths thanks to the commitment of its public sector and its municipalities working jointly on placing sustainability at the core of its policies.

With this conference, we would like to showcase the Basque model of participation. This way of working is based on interinstitutional coordination networks, such as the Udalsarea21 network of municipalities, in which over 200 municipalities work to turn sustainability into reality. We have local examples of excellence that bring us closer to the ideal model of the cities and towns of the future.

We shall share experiences and learn together. We hope that your time here will help you to explore new ideas, discover new cooperation opportunities and apply new ways of working that will allow urban areas to be transformed into more sustainable and liveable spaces for everyone.



Wolfgang Teubner
Regional Director
for Europe
ICLEI - Local
Governments
for Sustainability

On behalf of ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability I am very pleased to welcome you to the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns in the Basque Country. More so than ever before, today cities and urbanisation are sharply in the focus of European and international politics. Increasingly, local and regional governments are seen as key actors to solve global and regional challenges in many parts of the world.

With the globally applicable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement, two major global agreements for sustainable development have been reached in the past year that will now have to be implemented across all levels of governance. If taken seriously, these agreements will lead to a significant transformation of our societies. There is no doubt that in a highly urbanised world, cities will play a major role in this transformation and will have to take transformative actions themselves.

We are facing these challenges at a time when the economic and financial crisis still has a firm grip on Europe. We are asked to find answers to a massive migration movement caused by conflicts and widespread economic and social problems. A high unemployment rate and a lack of social balance in many European countries is raising doubts and considerable negative sentiments about the European Union and in some cases even provoking questions about the fundamental values of our free and open democracies. This conference will discuss how we can combine a societal transformation with the revival of an engaged civil society that forms the basis of a vivid and democratic Europe. I am looking forward to interesting sessions and discussions that will result in new ideas for the creation of sustainable and resilient cities, and a liveable and inclusive Europe.

#Basque2016

The **8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns** will focus on the pressing need for action by local governments to change unsustainable pathways and shape Europe's future. Following the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement adopted by 195 countries at the Climate Conference of the Parties (COP 21), this conference will be the flagship event in Europe in 2016 for discussion and experience exchange on urban sustainability.

The conference is hosted by **ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability**, the **Basque Government**, **Bizkaia County Council** and **Bilbao City Council**, with the involvement of **Udalsarea 21 - Basque Network of Municipalities for Sustainability**, and the support of **Araba County Council**, **Gipuzkoa County Council**, **Donostia/San Sebastián City Council** and **Vitoria-Gasteiz City Council**.



Cities and regions, key in the transformation of urban societies

Four weeks before the EU Urban Agenda will be released, and in the run-up to the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development HABITAT III, this conference will serve as a platform to learn more about what these and other political frameworks mean for cities, as well as to discover the support available to accelerate urban sustainability transformation.

The largest networking event on urban sustainable development in Europe

The conference will build on the legacy of the previous conferences in Aalborg (Denmark, 1994 and 2004), Lisbon (Portugal, 1996), Hannover (Germany, 2000), Seville (Spain, 2007), Dunkerque (France, 2010) and Geneva (Switzerland, 2013). At the conference you will meet with:

- Politicians and practitioners from local and regional governments
- Representatives of European and international institutions
- Members of the research community
- Business leaders
- Civil society

The Basque commitment to urban sustainability

The **Basque Country** reflects the capacity of European regions to transform, having changed from being focused on industry to embracing an innovative, service-based economy. Its newly adopted **Environmental Framework Programme 2020** shows a firm commitment to improving the environment and aligns with current European and international strategies on job creation, enhancing standards of living, and building a low-carbon economy.

The Basque Declaration

Participants will have the opportunity to adopt the **Basque Declaration during Plenary 3 on Wednesday 27 April 2016 at 12:30 - 13:00**. Following the achievements of the **Aalborg Charter** (1994) and the **Aalborg Commitments** (2004), the **Basque Declaration** will outline new sustainable pathways for our cities and towns, and acknowledge the need for a technological, socio-economic, and socio-cultural transformation of our societies, in order to ensure quality of life for our population whilst respecting the limits of our local and global ecosystems and available natural resources.

If you want to endorse the Basque Declaration, please contact basque2016@iclei.org



Follow the discussion on Twitter:
#BasqueDeclaration and join the Thunderclap



Programme overview

Conference venue: the Euskalduna Palace (see page 20)



8TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES & TOWNS

BASQUE COUNTRY | BILBAO | 27 – 29 APRIL 2016

Tuesday 26 April

- 15:00 **Registration opens**
- 19:00 **Welcome Reception at the Palace of Bizkaia County Council, Gran Vía 25, Bilbao**

Wednesday 27 April

- 08:00 – 09:30 **Registration**
- 09:30 – 10:00 **Opening Plenary**
- 10:00 – 11:00 **Plenary 1: The governance frameworks of transformative actions**
- 11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee Break**
- 11:30 – 12:30 **Plenary 2: Panel Governance frameworks and the needs of cities**
- 12:30 – 13:00 **Plenary 3: The Basque Declaration**
- 13:00 – 14:30 **Lunch**
- 13:00 – 16:00 **Mayors Session (invitation only) Torre Iberdrola**
- 14:30 – 16:00 **Breakout Sessions**
- 16:00 – 16:30 **Coffee Break**
- 16:30 – 18:00 **Subplenaries**
- 20:30 **Cocktail Reception at the Cuggenheim Museum, Bilbao**

Thursday 28 April

- 08:00 – 09:30 **Registration**
- 09:30 – 11:00 **Plenary 4: The Productive City - A concept for transformative actions**
- 11:00 – 11:30 **Coffee Break**
- 11:30 – 12:30 **Plenary 5: Innovation Market**
- 12:30 – 14:00 **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 22:00 **Mobile Workshops and social events in the Basque Country**

Friday 29 April

- 08:00 – 09:30 **Registration**
- 09:30 – 11:30 **Plenary 6: Urban Agendas and the political reality in European cities**
- 11:30 – 12:00 **Coffee Break**
- 12:00 – 13:00 **Plenary 7: Reviving the European spirit from the local level**
- 13:00 **Farewell Lunch and Drinks, open networking**

Wednesday, 27 April 2016

08:00 – 09:30 Registration

09:30 – 10:00 Opening Plenary

Conference Facilitator: Sally Kneeshaw

Welcome and introduction to the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns

- **Juan María Aburto**, Mayor, City of Bilbao, Basque Country
- **Åsa Karlsson Björkmarker**, Deputy Mayor, City of Växjö, Sweden, Member of ICLEI European Regional Executive Committee
- **Elena Unzueta**, Deputy for Sustainability and Environment, Bizkaia County Council
- **Ana Oregi**, Minister of Environment and Territorial Policy, Basque Government
- **Markku Markkula**, President, Committee of the Regions
- **Iñigo Urkullu**, Lehendakari (President), Basque Government

Youth Forum - 'Transformative Action and New Generations'

Representatives from the Youth Forum will take the stage to share their perspectives at the international event, including their expectations of local authorities in Europe and their generation's commitment to sustainability - both on the local and global level.

10:00 – 11:00 Plenary 1: The governance frameworks of transformative actions

The year 2015 has seen the release of key global policy frameworks affecting cities and urban areas, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement. The launch of the EU Urban Agenda will take place in 2016. How will these frameworks affect cities? How do they relate to one another? How can they support local climate action and sustainable urban development in European cities?

Keynote speaker:

- **Hans Bruyninckx**, Executive Director, European Environment Agency

Speakers:

- **Arab Hoballah**, Chief of Sustainable Lifestyles, Cities and Industry, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- **Daniele Violetti**, Chief of Staff, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- **Olivier Baudelet**, Team Leader, Urban Policy, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission

11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:30 Plenary 2: Panel - Governance frameworks and the needs of cities

What do the new global and European policy frameworks mean for transformative actions in cities? How can cities link up with, and benefit from them? City leaders, representatives from the United Nations and European Union, and civil society will discuss the needs of cities and the potential of the global and EU frameworks for accelerating the urban transformation.

- **Célia Blauel**, Deputy Mayor, City of Paris, France
- **Michał Olszewski**, Deputy Mayor, City of Warsaw, Poland
- **Arab Hoballah**, Chief of Sustainable Lifestyles, Cities and Industry, UNEP
- **Daniele Violetti**, Chief of Staff, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- **Olivier Baudelet**, Team Leader, Urban Policy, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission
- **Youth Forum Representatives**

12:30 – 13:00

Plenary 3: The Basque Declaration

The Basque Declaration, the outcome document of the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns, will be presented and adopted by the conference. Follow live comments on Twitter [#BasqueDeclaration](#)

13:00 – 14:30

Lunch

13:00 – 16:00

Mayors Session Torre Iberdrola, invitation only (please see page 12 for more details)

14:30 – 16:00

Breakout Sessions (these sessions will take place in parallel)

1 Healthy Cities

Sustainable development is not only a smart choice, it is a healthy choice as well. This session will focus on how making our cities more sustainable, e.g. in terms of mobility choices, adopting a holistic approach towards urban issues or green space development, can contribute to higher quality of life for the citizens. The Health in All Policy will be introduced as an approach to public policies across sectors that systematically takes into account the health systems implications of decisions. It seeks synergies and avoids harmful health impacts, in order to improve population health and health equity. After this introduction on the overall health integration, the session will go more into detail on including health in mobility policies and green space planning.

- **Matthias Braubach**, Technical Officer, WHO Regional Office for Europe
- **Torgeir Esig Soerensen**, Head of Parks and Streets Department, City of Stavanger, Norway
- **Christina Anderskov**, International Strategist and Sustainability Coordinator, City of Copenhagen, Denmark
- **Ana Bocio Sanz**, Public Health Technician, Agency of Public Health, Catalonia
- **Francesco Iacorossi**, Project Manager at the European & National Projects Unit, Mobility Agency, City of Rome, Italy

2 Citizen-powered Cities

The European Union has set targets of a 40% cut in greenhouse gas emissions compared to the 1990 levels and at least a 27% share of renewable energy consumption by 2030. These targets require a Europe wide energy transition. One strategy to achieve these goals is the idea of a 'citizen powered' energy transition. This session will discuss a local, decentralised and bottom-up energy transition and will look at the challenges and opportunities that this particular pathway creates at the local level.

- **Timothy Moss**, Professor, Integrative Research Institute on Transformations of Human-Environment Systems, Humboldt University Berlin, Germany
- **Jaroslav Klusak**, Energy Manager, City of Litomerice, Czech Republic
- **Albert Vendrell Roca**, Project Officer, Barcelona County Council, Spain
- **Anne Schiffer**, Energy Campaigner, Friends of the Earth Scotland, United Kingdom
- **Miriam Eisermann**, Head of Communications & Policy, Energy Cities
- **Peter Ulrich**, Officer, Governance and Social Innovation, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

3 Circular Cities

This session will focus on the role of the circular economy in relation to the transition towards urban sustainability. The session will explore what circular economy is, how cities can integrate it into their local agenda through public-private partnerships, and what role it will play in the EU Urban Agenda in the next years and beyond.

- **Lasse P.N. Olsen**, Mayor of the Environment and Energy Department, City of Aalborg, Denmark
- **Philippe Micheaux Naudet**, Project Manager, ACR+, Belgium
- **Asier Guisasola**, Engineer of Roads, Canals and Ports, Durango City Council, Basque Country
- **Simone Houtman**, Dutch Programme on Circular Economy, Dutch Ministry for Infrastructure and the Environment, The Netherlands
- **Kristina Apiñaniz**, General Director, Basque Cluster Association of Environmental Industries (ACLIMA), Basque Country

4 Green Climate Cities

This breakout session will focus on the newly developed Green Climate Cities programme for Europe (GCC Europe). GCC Europe is a comprehensive programme developed for local governments aiming to tackle the issues of climate change, from both a mitigation and adaptation angle. Through its integrated approach to local climate action, GCC supports local governments to scale up their efforts, align with global standards, report to global platforms, and improve their performance towards resilience and sustainable development.

- **Birgit Georgi**, Project Manager Regional Vulnerability and Adaptation, European Environment Agency
- **Giovanni Fini**, Coordinator, Environment and Energy Sector, City of Bologna, Italy
- **Päivi Kippo-Edlund**, Director of Environment Protection, City of Helsinki, Finland
- **Kata Tüttö**, Committee of the Regions' rapporteur on the Covenant of Mayors and Councillor of Budapest, Hungary
- **Gorka López**, Environment Officer, Balmaseda City Council, Basque Country
- **Giorgia Rambelli**, Coordinator, Sustainable Resources, Climate and Resilience, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

5 Well-fed Cities

The way in which food is prepared, supplied and grown in cities is receiving increasing attention. City-region food systems enrich urban biodiversity, increase resource-efficiency and resilience, and at the same time contribute to strengthening the local economy, improving health and food security.

Over 100 cities signed the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact on 15 October 2015 in the context of the Expo Milan (2015). The Pact was developed in co-operation with the City of Milan, a group of experts from the City Region Food Systems Collaborative and interested cities.

Through signing the Pact, local leaders commit to put food and food security high on their agendas. This includes urban food policies and plans, enhanced stakeholder participation, risk reduction strategies, sustainable diets, new school food programmes, promotion of urban and peri-urban food production and related urban-rural linkages, reducing food waste, utilising the potential of public procurement for sustainable production and to facilitate market access and many more actions to make food systems more sustainable, resilient and healthy.

- **Tunç Soyer**, Mayor, City of Seferihisar, Turkey
- **Henk Renting**, Policy Officer, RUAF Foundation
- **Cinzia Tegoni**, Project Manager Food Smart Cities for Development, City of Milan, Italy
- **Jorn Verbeeck**, Director, Environment and Climate, City of Ghent, Belgium
- **Nieves Cabello**, City of Zaragoza, Spain
- **Nils Hillerbrand**, Deputy Mayor, City of Linköping, Sweden
- **Peter Defranceschi**, Head of Brussels Office, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

6 Efficient Cities

The session focuses on the European Union's ambitious targets for the reduction of energy consumption of buildings in Europe. How can pathways be created towards a city with low emissions, and a green and inclusive urban economy? It will bring together stakeholders working on combatting this challenge in terms of: refurbishing existing building stock into nearly zero-energy and smart buildings; management tools to optimise energy use in real time; and integrating low emissions urban development and smart city strategies into existing Sustainable Energy Action Plans and processes.

Systemic renovation packages will be addressed that can be applied to public, residential and tertiary buildings, linking to the EU Smart City and Communities Lighthouse Initiative and the methodological framework on how to integrate low-carbon strategies into all sectors of urban planning and development. The newly developed OPTIMUS building management tool will be introduced through a brief demo session showing the functions and usage of the tool and how it has worked in the local context of three case study cities: Savona in Italy, Sant Cugat del Vallès in Spain and Zaanstad in the Netherlands.

- **Miguel Ángel García Fuentes**, Coordinator of the Smart City Lighthouse REMOURBAN, CARTIF, Spain
- **Haris Doukas**, Professor and Coordinator of the OPTIMUS Project, NTUA, Greece
- **Víctor Martínez**, Director, Territorial Area and Urban Quality, Municipality of Sant Cugat del Vallès, Spain
- **Simone Pflaum**, Head of Sustainability Management, City of Freiburg, Germany
- **Eduardo Miera Zabalza**, Project Manager, TECNALIA, Basque Country
- **Carsten Rothballer**, Coordinator, Sustainable Resources, Climate and Resilience, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

7 Shared Cities

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that over one million migrants, including asylum seekers, arrived in Europe by land and sea routes in 2015. This is just another chapter in a long story of people fleeing violence and hardship, seeking refuge and better future for themselves and their children. However, the scale of the recent flows has taken many EU countries by surprise, leaving a void that many cities and communities have taken upon themselves to fill.

Building upon experiences of a number of European cities, this session will explore the challenges and opportunities related to migration, addressing questions such as:

- ▶ How do we build cities based on shared values without compromising the diversity?
 - ▶ How can cities respond to social challenges related e.g. to the need for housing without compromising environmental standards?
 - ▶ What kind of infrastructure, social, political or technological, is needed to support the process of community integration?
- **Andrea Burzacchini**, aiforia GmbH, Agency for Sustainability, Germany
 - **João Afonso**, Municipal Councillor of Social Rights, City of Lisbon, Portugal
 - **Juan Francisco Iborra Rubio**, Local Coordinator of the Arrival Cities Project, City of Roquetas de Mar, Spain
 - **Hans Steiner**, Director, Office of Migration and Integration, City of Freiburg, Germany



8 Reflective Cities

The objective of this session is to look into the role of culture, sometimes referred to as the fourth pillar of sustainable development, in advancing (local) sustainability transitions.

The session will explore ways in which artists and cultural institutions are shaping the sustainable development agenda and practice, building on the global Agenda 21 for Culture process, ArtCOP21 initiative and the experiences of EU Capital of Culture cities.

The transformative potential of arts and culture lies in its ability to engage with values, identities and emotions, which is an important level to tap into when co-creating sustainable futures. At the same time, culture as a sector can lead the way in adopting sustainable solutions, reducing its environmental footprint and mobilising others.

- **Alison Tickell**, Director, Julie's Bicycle, United Kingdom
- **Albert Edman**, Strategic Development Officer, City of Umeå, Sweden
- **Katarzyna Mlynczak-Sachs**, Wrocław European Capital of Culture 2016, Poland
- **Eneko Garate Iturralde**, Internationalisation Manager, Donostia/San Sebastián, European Capital of Culture 2016, Basque Country
- **Jan Rydén**, Curator Experiment Stockholm Färgfabriken, Sweden
- **Joke Quintens**, Deputy Mayor, City of Genk, Belgium
- **Cristina Garzillo**, Coordinator, Governance and Social Innovation, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
- **Ania Rok**, Coordinator, Governance and Social Innovation, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

9 Water-secure Cities

Cities in Europe are facing more and more risks to their urban water systems. The European Commission and the Dutch Presidency of the European Union - in close partnership with the City of Leeuwarden and the Water Campus Leeuwarden - have therefore initiated a new urban water agenda for Europe to support cities in accelerating their political and practical responses to the challenges at hand. In June 2015, Ministers adopted the OECD Principles on Water Governance, which provide all levels of government with a comprehensive framework for designing and implementing effective, efficient and inclusive public policies for greater water security. What is the relevance of these political endeavours at local level? How do these relate to the Urban Agenda for Europe? Is urban water governance fit for the future? How can OECD Principles on Water Governance be applied across levels of government and water management functions to improve water management at the local level? What are cities doing already to manage their urban water cycle more sustainably?

- **Pieter Faber**, EU Representative City of Leeuwarden, Northern Netherlands, The Netherlands
- **Pavel Misiga**, Head of Unit, DG Environment, European Commission
- **Oriana Romano**, Policy Analyst, OECD
- **Eric Pfliegersdoerfer**, Responsible for Institutional Relations, EAU DE PARIS, France
- **Daniel Fernández**, Technical Director, Consorcio de Aguas Bilbao Bizkaia, Basque Country
- **Barbara Anton**, Coordinator, Sustainable Resources, Climate and Resilience, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

10 Nature-based Cities

Cities face a broad range of challenges, such as climate change, unsustainable urbanisation, degradation of natural capital and ecosystem services. There is also a growing recognition and awareness that nature-based solutions (NBS) can provide environmental, social, cultural and economic benefits and help solve or lessen the impact of such challenges. This session will explore the potential of urban green infrastructure to transform a city for the better and to contribute to making Europe as a whole more resilient, showcase inspiring examples, and address cities' needs against the backdrop of NBS-related policies and initiatives at European level.

- **Hanna Bornholdt**, Scientific Consultant, Landscape Architect, Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Directorate General of Nature Conservation, Landscape Architecture and Energy, Department of Landscape Planning and Urban Green
- **Eleni Myrivili**, City Councilor appointed for the Urban Sustainability Portfolio and Chief Resilience Officer, City of Athens, Greece
- **Margarita Parés i Rifa**, Head of the Department of Biodiversity, City of Barcelona, Spain
- **Toni Pujol Vidal**, Project coordinator; Ecology, Urban Planning and Mobility, City of Barcelona, Spain
- **Juan Carlos Escudero**, Head of Information & Innovation for Urban Sustainability Unit, Environmental Studies Centre (CEA), Vitoria-Gasteiz, Basque Country
- **Javier Peinado**, Head of Sector Natural Resources, Executive Agency for SMEs, European Commission, Belgium
- **Miren Onaindia**, Head of the Project "Ecosystem Services Assessment of the Basque Country" supported by the Bizkaia County Council, Basque Country

11 Accessible Cities

The aim of this session is to discuss existing opportunities for making our cities more accessible, with a focus on sustainable mobility solutions.

European cities are taking various measures to make urban mobility more sustainable and create improved environments with access to cleaner, safer and healthier modes of transport. This session will examine four different and innovative approaches being taken around Europe. The following panel discussion will address how cities can best introduce sustainable urban mobility measures, what gaps and needs exist and how urban mobility fits into the context of a post-COP21 framework.

- **Pamela Mühlmann**, Programme Coordinator, Smart City Vienna Agency, Austria
- **Macarena Redondo Ruiz**, Head of Service Planning and Urbanism, Araba County Council, Basque Country
- **Vicente Torres**, Lecturer on Urban Planning, Polytechnic University of Valencia, and Advisor on Sustainable Mobility for the City Council of Valencia, Spain
- **Hector Olabegogea**, Electromobility Program Manager, Irizar, Basque Country
- **Rebecca Karbaumer**, Sustainable Mobility Project Coordination, City of Bremen, Germany
- **Panagiotis Vlahodimitropoulos**, Public Transport Authority, City of Thessaloniki, Greece

16:00 – 16:30

Coffee Break

16:30 – 18:00

Subplenaries (these sessions will take place in parallel)

Subplementary A: Financing for the civic economy and local value chains

In many cities and regions new and innovative approaches towards a local and civic economy are growing, particularly in fields like renewable energy, food production, and housing. They are creating transparent and small scale investment opportunities, employment, and are also looking into the creation of added social value. New and innovative ways of supporting social innovation, and local and regional expertise clusters are becoming increasingly important as complements to the globalised economy. However, financing and risk mitigation are challenges often faced by such initiatives that generally lack the scale to get on the radar of financial institutions. The panellists will explore the potential of new civic and local economy approaches and the capacity and role of financial institutions to support them.

- **Oscar Huerta Melchor**, Policy Advisor - Regional Development Policy Division, Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, OECD
- **Eugenio Leanza**, Head of Division, JESSICA and Investment Funds, EIB
- **Markus Lewe**, Mayor, City of Münster, Germany
- **Dirk Vansintjan**, President of the European federation of groups and cooperatives of citizens for renewable energy: REScoop
- **Wigger Verschoor**, Project Leader for Sustainable Building, URGENDA Foundation
- **Lina Liakou**, Deputy Mayor, City of Thessaloniki, Greece

Facilitator: *Wolfgang Teubner, Regional Director for Europe, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability*

Subplementary B: Cities and Innovation

An urban infrastructure transformation (e.g. buildings, transportation, energy, and water systems) is needed to achieve a resource efficient, low-carbon and socially responsible society. This transformation will depend on the creative and innovative capacity of the public and private sector working together.

The public sector needs 'tailor-made' sustainable technological solutions to achieve transformation and better urban infrastructure. There is, however, a lack of know-how and skills on how best to do this. Current innovative and sustainable technological solutions being developed define a problem they can solve rather than solve a problem that is specified by cities. In other words the private sector talks about products and services and cities want solutions. In addition to this, cities are using procurement procedures to purchase 'off the shelf' solutions and they are not always willing or prepared to procure new sustainable technological solutions. This all adds up to a situation where urban infrastructure is supply-side driven and not demand-side driven.

The session will explore:

- ▶ How cities can trigger innovation to achieve urban infrastructure transformation
- ▶ How the public and private sector can cooperate better
- ▶ What framework conditions are needed to speed up the market introduction of new sustainable technological solutions

- **Markku Markkula**, President, Committee of the Regions
- **Janet Sanz**, Deputy Mayor for Environment, Urban Planning and Mobility, City of Barcelona, Spain and Vice President of Environment Area, Barcelona Metropolitan Area, Spain
- **Lan Marie Nguyen Berg**, Vice Mayor for Environment and Transport, City of Oslo, Norway
- **Fran Viñez**, Director of Strategic Projects, Innovation and Public Space, City of Bilbao, Basque Country

Facilitator: *Mark Hidson, Deputy Regional Director Europe, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability*

Subplementary C: Cities and Standards

Local challenges push cities towards more radical urban transformation; global, European and national commitments pull them towards higher levels of ambition. Integrated urban strategies and plans are key for realising transformation in cities' 'hard ware' (i.e. urban infrastructure) and also serve as platform for co-created sustainability projects and municipal service delivery. But how should cities know that urban development is on the right track? How can they know that processes implemented and services delivered are of high quality? In absence of references and legislative frameworks, various commitment and reporting systems and norms have been developed imposing requirements and indicators on cities. Not harmonised or embedded in the amalgam of legislative or administrative frameworks, their value might be limited, and they may cause confusion for cities. Recent developments include international standardisation that have presented definitions for sustainable or smart cities and indicator systems and agreements, such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals or the Paris Agreement, that may induce related monitoring, reporting and verification requirements for cities.

- **Iosu Madariaga**, Deputy Minister of Environment, Basque Government
- **Katrin Kowalczyk**, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB), Germany
- **Nico Tillie**, Director European Office, World Council on City Data
- **Jyrki Myllyvirta**, Mayor, City of Lahti, Finland

Facilitators: Liz Mills, Independent Policy Analyst, Associate of the Institute for European Environmental Policy and a UK expert for the development of ISO standards for sustainable cities and communities and Holger Robrecht, Deputy Regional Director Europe, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

Subplementary D: Smart and Sustainable Cities

Information and communication technologies provide new opportunities and innovative solutions to the challenges that confront cities today. Never in history has it been easier to collect large amounts of data and to distribute information than today. 'Smart City' is a buzzword of our times. Still it is not clear which solutions really contribute to making cities more sustainable, how safe or vulnerable large ICT-based systems may be, who will own, manage and act on the big data that is collected, and how cities can ultimately benefit from these developments.

- **Henriette van Eijl**, Policy Officer, Sustainable Urban Mobility and Smart Cities, DG Mobility and Transport, European Commission
- **Eneko Goia Laso**, Mayor, City of Donostia/San Sebastián, Basque Country
- **Íñigo de la Serna**, Mayor, City of Santander, Spain, and President, Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)
- **Agustín Delgado**, Director of Innovation, Environment and Quality, Iberdrola S.A., Spain
- **Søren Smidt-Jensen**, Head of Urban Development, Municipality of Frederikssund, Denmark

Facilitator: Stefan Kuhn, Deputy Regional Director Europe, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

20:30 Cocktail Reception at the Guggenheim Museum, Abandoibarra Etorb. 2, Bilbao

The conference organisers invite participants to celebrate the start of the conference at a cocktail reception in the Guggenheim Museum.



The reception will also mark 20 years of ICLEI's work on sustainable procurement and the launch of the redeveloped Procura+ European Sustainable Procurement Network. You can find out more about the Procura+ Network at the ICLEI Sustainable Procurement Exhibition Stand (number 8).



Source: Basque Government

Mayors Session



Source: Torre Iberdrola

Bilbao hosts Mayors Session

Wednesday 27 April 2016 (13:00 - 16:00)

European Mayors and representatives of the European Commission, the Committee of the Regions, and the European Environment Agency, will discuss local transformative actions and the impact of European policies.

Venue: Torre Iberdrola
Euskadi Plaza 5, Bilbao

Languages: EN/ES

Transport will be arranged between the Eukalduna Palace and the Torre Iberdrola

Thursday, 28 April 2016

08:45 - 09:30 Registration

09:30 - 11:00 Plenary 4: The Productive City – A concept for transformative actions

Resource-efficient cities ensure that their socio-economic development is significantly decoupled from resource exploitation and ecological impacts. Productive cities go beyond improving the efficiency of current or future urban systems, with the aim of becoming net productive systems in ecological, economic and social terms. This session explores how cities and urban regions can generate social and economic value based on their own resources whilst at the same time making local economies more resilient.

Keynote speaker: 'The productive city – sustaining resilient local economies'

- **Jeb Brugmann**, Founder, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, Managing Partner, The Next Practice Ltd.

Panel:

- **Yiannis Boutaris**, Mayor, City of Thessaloniki, Greece
- **Lutz Ribbe**, Vice President of the Sustainable Development Observatory, European Economic and Social Committee
- **Filippo Boselli**, Policy Officer, Climate and Energy Programme, World Future Council
- **Kristiaan Borret**, Chief Architect, Brussels Capital Region, Belgium
- **Åsa Karlsson Björkmarker**, Deputy Mayor, City of Växjö, Sweden

11:00 - 11:30 Coffee Break

11:30 - 12:30 Plenary 5: Innovation Market

The Innovation Market will be an interactive space of networking and exchange, where local, national and regional governments, non-governmental organisations, scientific and research organisations, and other stakeholders will present their initiatives, policy processes and research projects in line with the theme of the conference; Transformative Action: the potential for Europe. Participants will have the opportunity to learn from the initiatives presented through **Speed Presentations** (page 13), **Roundtable Dialogues** (page 14), and a **Poster Exhibition**.

Speed Presentations (11:30 - 12:30)

SPEAKER

ORGANISATION

PRESENTATION TITLE

Room: Barria 1

1	Victor Furundarena	CEDEMOS Center for Development of Sustainable Mobility	Integrated solution to foster urban cycling
2	Christina Anderskov	City of Copenhagen	Co-Create Copenhagen - Vision 2025
3	Ilkem Tunar	Nicosia Turkish Municipality	Direct democracy and citizen engagement
4	Elisabete Arsenio	LNEC	Sustainable Urban Mobility Planning Tool to accelerate urban sustainability transitions: sharing experiences between Europe and Latin America
5	Anne DuPasquier	Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development	New governance for sustainable urban development and quality of life
6	Isabel Loureiro	University of Minho	Guimarães: the city that continues to make history
7	Carsten Rothballer	STRATEGO Project	Enhancing heating and cooling strategies in Europe
8	Giorgia Rambelli	Mayors in Action	Cities and regions implementing the energy transition
9	Nicola Vatthauer	EUROCITIES	New Covenant of Mayors
10	Marco Boronat	Basque Government	Integrated and intermodal sustainable mobility, the challenge of cities

Room: Barria 2

1	Philipp Tepper	ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability	Success stories in Sustainable and Innovation Procurement
2	Jyrki Myllyvirta	City of Lahti	City of Lahti calls for smart & clean solutions
3	Bettina Schaefer	Ecoinstitut SCCL	Introducing SPP Regions
4	José Rafael Sánchez Ramírez	Southeast County Gran Canaria	Strategic Planning in the Southeast County Gran Canaria to fight Climate Change
5	Tineke Cartreul	City of Ghent	REFILL URBACT project: learning on temporary use and municipality organisational shift
6	Kacem El Hajji	Zenata Development Company	Zenata, a new sustainable city in Morocco
7	Irma Ventayol i Ceferino	Barcelona City Council	The +Sustainable Barcelona Map, a collaborative and transformative tool for community empowerment
8	Javier Vázquez Lamas	Santiago de Compostela City Council	Tropa Verde, the "green crew" of Santiago de Compostela. A success story of gamification and civic engagement on sustainability
9	Paul Ortega and Sebastien Vauzelle	Basque Government	Agenda for Sustainable Development and I-STEPS: A territorial perspective and multilevel approach
10	Claire Couet	European Green Capital Secretariat	European Green Capital Award



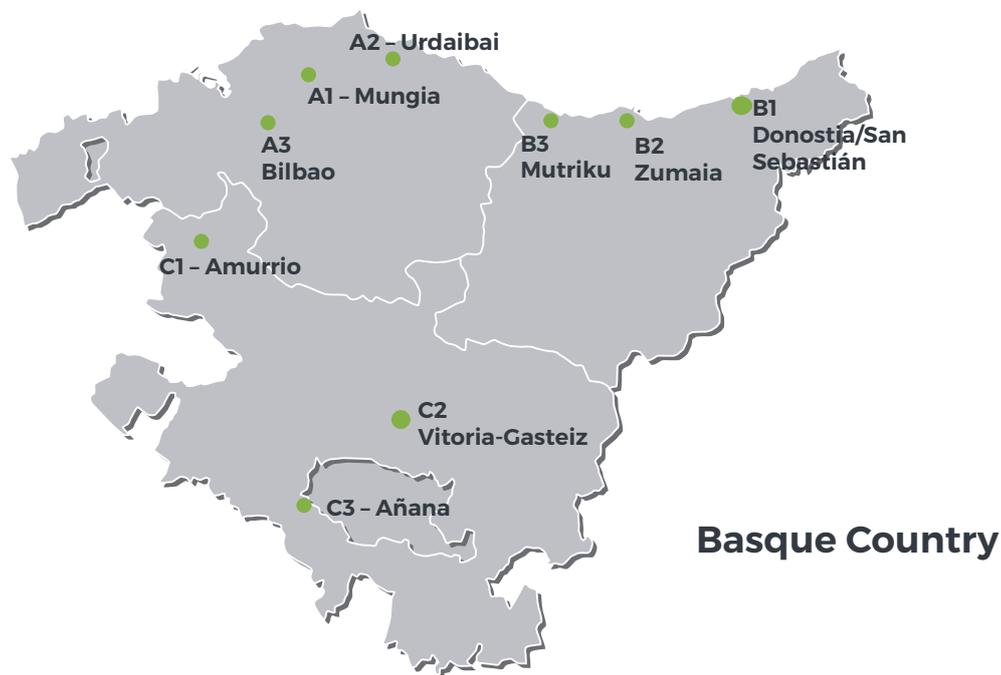
Roundtable Dialogues (11:30 - 12:30)

TABLE NO.	SPEAKER	ORGANISATION	PRESENTATION TITLE
1	Take Padding, Rosa Peek and Marije Geluk	PIANOo	Integrating strategic sustainability goals within government procurement services
2	Marta Olazabal and Elisa Sainz de Murieta	Basque Centre for Climate Change BC3	Bridging science and policy to support cities to mitigate and adapt to climate change
3	Teije Gorris	DTV Consultants/CIVITAS	How to get the best out of emerging developments for a sustainable and mobile city?
4	Lucia Ilieva	CSDCS	Sustainable Urban Development through Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans Networking
5	Igone Garcia	Tecnalia Research & Innovation	Comfortable urban places: a proposal for designing unique places that provide welfare. Practical Cases
6	Jaume Fons-Esteve	Autonomous University of Barcelona	City typologies of Europe – A tool to support urban sustainability studies and practices
7	Anna Esteve Traveset	Catalan Government	Circular Economy and Green Public Procurement (GPP) in the Catalan Government
8	Zacharias Brix Madsen	City of Aalborg, Center of Green Transition	The Green Agent on Mission Green Transition
9	Oscar Pelin and Per-Arne Nilsson	City of Malmö	Successful methods for sustainable innovation: Malmö Innovation Arena and innovation competition
10	João Dinis	ClimAdaPT.local: planning ahead	ClimadaPT: Municipal Strategies for Climate Change Adaptation municipalities
11	Walter Sancassiani	Focus Lab	Regional Multi-stakeholder Network for CSR projects in Emilia-Romagna Region
12	Marc Potard and Iñigo Aizpuru	IDOM City and Territory	Challenges in Urban Growth of Latin American Cities: Current Model vs Sustainable Model
13	Kain Glensor	Wuppertal Institute	Holistic impact assessment of innovative, positive incentive schemes
14	Carlos Oppe	Global Action Plan International	Empowering and engaging citizens
15	Simina Lazar	URBACT	URBACT on-going Call for Implementation Networks
16	Joaquin Fuentes	UNIDO	Sustainable Cities: platforms for industrialization
17	Peter Defranceschi	ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability	The benefits of sustainably sourced tropical timber
18	Alina Rocío Blanco Barros	Department of Sustainability and the Environment - Diputación Foral Bizkaia	An innovative way of environmental management with active and collective participation
19	Oriana Romano	OECD	Innovative water governance in cities
20	Mervyn Jones and Joan Prummel	Rijkswaterstaat	Circular Procurement for a Circular Economy
21	Wouter Floorizone	Province of Flemish Brabant	Local climate stakeholder engagement as a key to success for climate action
22	Anke Biedenkapp	Global Partnership Hannover e.V.	Maschsee instead of Maldives! Visiting Hannover you can reduce your carbon footprint

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

Mobile Workshops and social events in the Basque Country

Nine Mobile Workshops will be organised in the counties of Bizkaia, Gipuzkoa and Araba. As they will run in parallel, participants will attend the Mobile Workshop selected when registering. Following the Mobile Workshop, participants will remain in the county selected, and enjoy dinner in the three Basque capital cities: Bilbao (Frontón Bizkaia), Donostia/San Sebastián (Palacio Miramar) and Vitoria-Gasteiz (Artium).



A. Bizkaia



Source: Diputación Foral de Bizkaia

Mobile Workshop A1: Environmental management and sustainable development in Bizkaia – Waste, solidarity-based economy and social inclusion

The integrated management of municipal solid waste in Bizkaia has attained very high levels of efficiency, environmental co-responsibility and social inclusion. Proof of this is the recovery and treatment plants present in the Arraiz-Artigas waste eco-park (Bilbao) or the centre to recover bulky household waste known as the Kooperera Reusing Center (Mungia). This visit will showcase the positive action generated by these private-public partnership schemes to drive environmental sustainability, social innovation and solidarity-based economy.



Source: Diputación Foral de Bizkaia

Mobile Workshop A2: Urdaibai Biosphere Reserve – Sustainable development in a living cultural landscape

Located in the coastal area of Bizkaia, Urdaibai was declared a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 1984. It is a cultural and natural area that is home to 45,000 people, with a wide variety of economic activities and with the greatest landscape diversity of the Basque Country. During this visit, participants will discover the role of the Biosphere Reserves as areas that combine economic and social development, the preservation of the natural heritage, and the sustainable use of the services of the ecosystems.



Source: Basque Government

Mobile Workshop A3: The New Bilbao – Environmental and urban regeneration

In recent years, the city of Bilbao has been transformed and has undergone an urban development process, leading to the upgrading of industrial and port areas and its relationship with the Nervión River estuary as the engine to drive development. During the urban remodelling process, the urban land has been dissected to create areas that provide more accessible mobility and thus facilitate leisure and impromptu meeting places. During this visit, participants will go on a boat trip to see first-hand the clean-up, recovery and decontamination process of the banks of the river estuary, the urban development of the city, the current intervention in Zorrozaurre and related environmental impact.

Dinner in the City of Bilbao (Frontón Bizkaia). See page 18 for more details

B. Gipuzkoa



Mobile Workshop B1: Donostia/San Sebastián 2016 – Moving towards a sustainable culture

Named 'European Capital of Culture 2016', the city of Donostia/San Sebastián has a long track record in setting schemes to drive a sustainability culture. This visit will include a bike tour visiting in the main sustainable mobility projects. As the participants travel along the city's cycle lane network, they will have the opportunity to explore the city and discover the mobility strategies, such as the urban goods distribution process.



Mobile Workshop B2: Basque Coast Geopark – Cultural, geological and natural heritage

The Basque Coast Geopark is the territory located between the Bay of Biscay and the Basque mountains, comprising the municipalities of Zumaia, Deba and Mutriku. Considered by the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and the UNESCO as one of the planet's greatest geological outcrops, the more than 13 kilometres of cliffs along the flysch create an ongoing book where geologists can learn about over 60 million consecutive years of the Earth's history. During this visit, participants will discuss the management of the territory and will discover places of greatest interest: landscape is the main cultural and natural feature of this site that is part of the European Geopark network.



Mobile Workshop B3: Mutriku wave energy plant – Pioneering marine technology in Europe

The Mutriku wave energy generating plant is a marine energy facility, the first of its kind in Europe. The Mutriku plant demonstrates the viability of wave energy for supplying power, as it is currently able to cover the needs of approximately 100 households in the area. It is the first commercial plant in Europe to harness wave energy to generate electricity, and uses Oscillating Water Column (OWC) technology. This visit will offer the opportunity to see the coastal town of Mutriku and to learn first-hand the benefits of this plant, which has sixteen turbine chambers with a total installed capacity of 296 kW.

Dinner in the City of Donostia/San Sebastián (Palacio Miramar). See page 18 for more details
After dinner, participants in Gipuzkoa will be transferred to the City of Bilbao

C. Araba



Mobile Workshop C1: Sustainable Amurrio – The transforming capacity of small municipalities

Amurrio is a municipality with around 10,000 inhabitants, an important industrial sector and large woodland areas. The local council signed up to the Aalborg Charter in 2001, the Covenant of Mayors in 2012 and has recently joined the Compact of Mayors. The council has been involved in EMAS certification since 2003 and is an example of how small and medium-sized municipalities can address sustainable development in an integrated manner. During this visit participants will learn about its successful experiences, such as the Industrial Ecology project, the multifunctional management of the natural environment, sustainable mobility and the Aresketamendi Renewable Energy Park.



Mobile Workshop C2: Vitoria-Gasteiz, Green Capital – Regenerating constructed and natural areas

Designated by the European Commission as the 'European Green Capital 2012', Vitoria-Gasteiz has a track record of thirty years of environmentally-friendly schemes and a commitment to sustainable development policies. It is one of the European cities with the largest surface area of green and landscaped areas per person, an aspect that the participants will be able to see for themselves during the visit to the Salburua Park, the result of an intensive renewal process, and to the Ataria Wetlands Environmental Interpretation Centre. The visit through the urban area will showcase the regeneration of the built and public sphere as one of the core areas of the city's sustainability policies: the green frontage of the Europa Congress Centre, the renovation works in the Avenida Gasteiz and of Sancho El Sabio, and the refurbishment of the Santa Maria Cathedral.



Mobile Workshop C3: Añana Salt Valley – A unique cultural landscape in the world

Located in the Añana Salt pans, the Salt Valley is one of the unique historical, geological, archaeological, landscape and architectural phenomena in the world. This enclave has recently been awarded the European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage/Europa Nostra 2015 Award, has been declared a Site of Cultural Interest and is listed under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international importance. During the visit, participants will have the opportunity to visit the recovery project open to the general public that seeks to return to all its splendour a salt pan operation with over 7,000 years of history made up of thousands of salt production platforms.

Dinner in the City of Vitoria-Gasteiz (Artium). See page 18 for more details
After dinner, participants in Araba will be transferred to the City of Bilbao

Friday, 29 April 2016

08:45 – 09:30 Registration

09:30 – 11:30

Plenary 6: Urban Agendas and the political reality in European cities

With both the EU Urban Agenda and the Habitat III New Urban Agenda to be adopted in 2016, cities will continue to be in the focus of international policy processes. At the same time, they are challenged by the current fundamental crisis Europe is currently experiencing. How will these two agendas interrelate with the political reality in European cities? What guidance can they provide for cities, and what do city leaders expect from them? This session will shed light on how cities can use European and international policy processes for their transformation into resilient local communities.

Stories of local transformation:

- **Erion Veliaj**, Mayor, City of Tirana, Albania
- **Catarina Freitas**, Director for Environment, Climate, Energy and Mobility, City of Almada, Portugal
- **Gorka Urtearan**, Mayor, City of Vitoria-Gasteiz, Basque Country
- **Damien Carême**, Mayor, City of Grand-Synthe, and Vice President, Communauté Urbaine de Dunkerque, France

Speakers/panellists:

- **Nicolaas Beets**, Urban Envoy, Dutch Presidency of the European Union
- **Monika Zimmermann**, Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
- **Carles Llorens Vila**, Secretary General, ORU FOGAR

11:30 – 12:00

Coffee Break

12:00 – 13:00

Plenary 7: Reviving the European spirit from the local level

It is widely acknowledged that societal transformation demands innovative urban governance, a strong civic economy and social innovation. European Cities will have to find sustainable solutions to current challenges and create social and economic value for the benefit of the local population. How can this value be captured in Europe today? This outlook session provides inspiration for Europe's future - a continent that still has the potential to turn the current crises into an opportunity to reclaim its leading role towards sustainability.

- **Wolfgang Teubner**, Regional Director for Europe, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
- **Thomas Kastrup-Larsen**, Mayor, City of Aalborg, Denmark
- **Damien Carême**, Mayor, City of Grand-Synthe, and Vice President, Communauté Urbaine de Dunkerque, France
- **Youth Forum Representatives**
- **Ana Oregi**, Minister of Environment, Basque Government

13:00 – 14:30

Farewell lunch and drinks, open networking

Social Events



Source: Basque Government

26 APRIL - WELCOME RECEPTION - 19:00

COUNTY COUNCIL PALACE

Bilbao

Bizkaia County Council will open the doors of its Palace for the 8th European Conference of Sustainable Cities & Towns. Representatives of the Conference Organising Committee will welcome the conference delegates with a reception.



Source: Basque Government

27 APRIL - DRINKS RECEPTION - 20:30

GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM

Bilbao

The Guggenheim Museum, a lynchpin of the transformation of the City of Bilbao into a contemporary cultural and service metropolis, will be the location of the reception hosted by the conference organisers. The museum will open the galleries for a private viewing by the Conference delegates, who will have the opportunity to enjoy the exhibitions on display, along with a musical performance and a reception.



Source: Basque Government

28 APRIL - DINNERS AND SOCIAL EVENTS - 19:00

ARTIUM MUSEUM

Vitoria-Gasteiz

The City of Vitoria-Gasteiz, European Green Capital 2012, will welcome the Conference delegates at its Basque Museum-Centre of Contemporary Art, the Artium, located near the historical center of the city, and socially and economically dynamic areas. Representatives of Vitoria-Gasteiz City Council and of Álava County Council will showcase the Alava region, its culture, music and culinary heritage in a colourful event.



Source: Basque Government

FRONTÓN BIZKAIA

Bilbao

The recently refurbished Frontón Bizkaia has become one of the main venues for one of the Basque sports par excellence: Basque pelota. This unique building will host the Bizkaia social event by offering the Conference delegates the opportunity to discover firsthand about Basque history, culture and sport. During an event led by Bizkaia County Council, delegates will enjoy an exhibition game, a reception serving local products and the possibility to learn more about the age-old traditions of Bizkaia and the Basque Country.



Source: Basque Government

MIRAMAR PALACE

Donostia/San Sebastián

As part of Donostia/San Sebastián's celebrations of being the European Capital of Culture 2016, Donostia/San Sebastián City Council and Gipuzkoa County Council will welcome the conference delegates in Miramar Palace, where they will enjoy the taste of local products and a contemporary musical performance, try Basque musical instruments, and appreciate the views over the spectacular La Concha beach.

Please ensure you bring your conference badge to access all conference social events on 27-28 April

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Conference venue

The Euskalduna Palace, Avda. Abandoibarra 4, Bilbao

The 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns will take place in the **Euskalduna Conference Centre and Concert Hall**; one of the flagships of the new Bilbao of the 21st Century. Designed by architects Federico Soriano and Dolores Palacios as a vessel permanently under construction that stands in a dock on the site of the former Euskalduna Shipyard, the Conference Centre received the 2001 Enric Miralles award at the 6th Biennial of Spanish Architecture.

It is a 53,000 m² multi-purpose centre that stands in the heart of the city of Bilbao designed to host many different kinds of corporate, financial, institutional, social and cultural events. It is also the venue of the ABAO opera season, a major event in Spain and Europe and home to the Bilbao Symphony Orchestra, a magnificent ensemble whose first concert dates back to 1922.



Exhibition Area (Level -2)

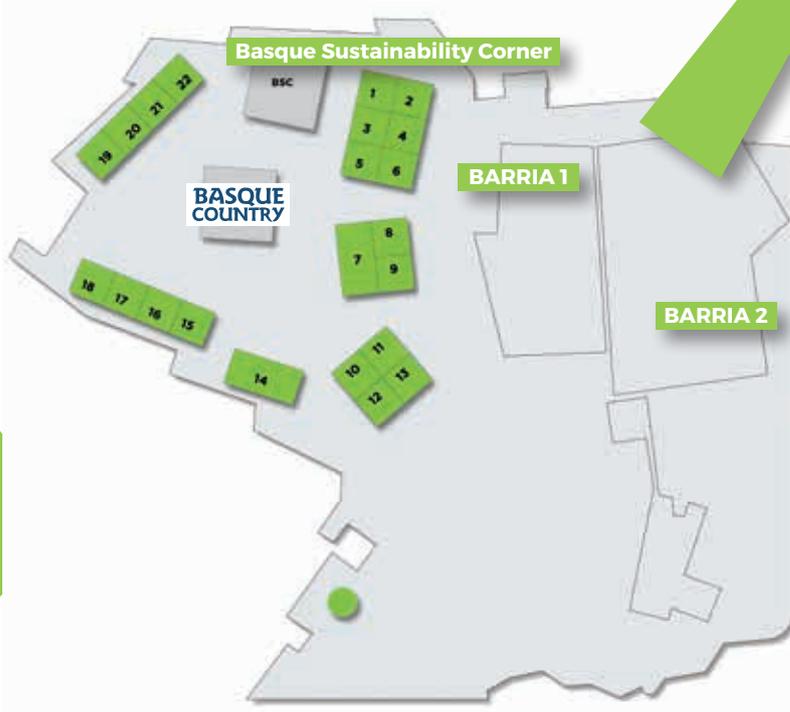


8TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE CITIES & TOWNS

BASQUE COUNTRY | BILBAO | 27 - 29 APRIL 2016



Allocation of stands



- | | | | |
|----|---------------------------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| 1 | GREEN CITY SOLUTIONS | 11 | energycities |
| 2 | URBACT Connecting cities Building successes | 12 | gaea21 |
| 3 | IKUSI VELATA | 13 | |
| 4 | EPSON EXCEED YOUR VISION | 14 | IBERDROLA |
| 5 | Factor CO ₂ | 15 | EVE Ente Vasco de la Energía |
| | BASQUE COUNTRY | 16 | Izarr e-mobility |
| 6 | navya | 17 | tecnalia Inspiring Business |
| 7 | ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability | 18 | aclima |
| 8 | 20 | 19 | Aalborg Kommune |
| 9 | OPTIMUS | 20 | CASCAIS |
| 10 | | 21 | European Environment Agency |
| | | 22 | UMEÁ KOMMUN |

BSC: Basque Sustainability Corner

#BASQUE2016: A GREEN EVENT IN A SUSTAINABLE CITY



A sustainable event is synonymous with coherence, respect and responsibility. It shows awareness of the need to change our habits and implement activities that contribute to transforming our cities and towns into truly sustainable spaces.

The **Basque Country** has a long track record in local sustainability, such as accessible quality running water, a public transport network and extensive pedestrian zones, locally produced culinary delicacies, energy-efficient buildings, companies that sustainably produce materials, a citizenry profoundly aware of waste management, and a public administration committed to green public procurement, supportive of the preservation of natural resources and energy savings. On top of this is the methodology **Erronka Garbia**, supported by the Basque Government as a commitment to maximise the reduction of the environmental impact generated by the organisation of mass events.

It is for this reason that, in line with the **Sustainable Events Guide** published by UNEP in collaboration with ICLEI, and following the guidelines of the Erronka Garbia model, the organising committee for the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities and Towns has established a series of measures with regard to mobility, energy, green procurement, waste, water and infrastructure that will reduce the environmental impact of the event as far as possible and help extend a culture of sustainability.

As a participant to the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities and Towns, in the course of the event in Bilbao, you will benefit from:

AN EFFICIENT VENUE

Euskalduna Palace, located right in the city centre, is one of the conference centres with the greatest number of quality certifications: its multifunctional structure, digital signage, use of renewable energy and waste management system make this infrastructure an example to follow.

100% LOCAL MENU

The Basque Country is a gastronomic reference point. This is reflected in the quality of its raw materials and the innovation in its cuisine. Attendees will enjoy varied menus prepared with local seasonal products in season with low environmental impact, with the water served coming exclusively from the tap.

SUSTAINABLE MEANS OF TRANSPORT

To facilitate access to the main Conference venue, all attendees to the event can enjoy a journey on foot through the streets of Bilbao, while their conference badge gives them free access to the Bilbao tram and use of the Irizar electric bus to commute from their hotel to the venue.

EXHIBITION AREA: RECYCLED SPACE

The stands as well as the furnishing for the exhibition area and lounge areas have been made of recycled and/or reused materials that can be reused for other purposes after the event.

RESPONSIBLE CONFERENCE MATERIAL

The printing of documents will be limited as far as possible and both the programme and badgets will be made of 100% recycled paper with different certificates, including the EU Ecolabel. Both the lanyard and the bag are made of organic cotton, and sustainable bottles will be available for water consumption.

HELP TO MAKE THIS A GREEN EVENT

Both the staff working at the event and the signage in the venue will inform the attendees on how they can contribute to make this a sustainable event through the recycling of materials used and the disposal of waste, as well as through sustainable transport. A survey will be distributed to collect opinions and suggestions for improvement, and the event will be monitored to determine the effectiveness of all the measures implemented to reduce environmental impact.



Help us to make this a sustainable event and fill up your #Basque2016 sustainable bottle at the venue water fountains. This eliminates waste from plastic bottles or disposable cups.

Conference Secretariat

The conference secretariat is located in the main entrance hall of the Euskalduna Palace, at the registration area, and offers the following services:

- Payment of the conference fee
- Attendance certificate
- General information about the conference

Contact

Tel.: +49 (0) 761 – 368 92 0 (until 22 April)

Tel.: +49 (0) 171 – 834 78 07 (as of 23 April)

E-mail: basque2016@iclei.org



Don't forget to follow the latest news on
Twitter: @sustain_cities #Basque2016

Internet access

Wireless internet access is available in all rooms of the conference venue, provided by Euskaltel.

Network: BASQUE2016

Password: BASQUE16

Conference languages

English will be the main conference language and simultaneous translation in Euskara and Spanish will be available for plenaries, subplenaries as well as Breakout Sessions 2 and 4.

Please ensure you bring your ID Pass or Passport to use the headsets available.

Organisers



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