INNOVATIVE CITIES OF OPPORTUNITY
(A report on World Cities Summit 2016)

www.worldcitiessummit.com.sg
The biennial World Cities Summit is an exclusive platform for government leaders and industry experts to address liveable and sustainable city challenges, share integrated urban solutions, and forge new partnerships. It is a global platform to explore how cities can better govern and build up resilience through policy, technology and social innovations.

Key highlights of the Summit include the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize Lecture, the annual World Cities Summit Mayors Forum and Young Leaders Symposium.

Visit www.worldcitiessummit.com.sg to find out more.

The World Cities Summit Mayors Forum is an annual by-invitation only global event for city leaders to discuss pressing urban issues and share best practices with one another. The peer-to-peer platform invites mayors and senior leaders from international organisations and the industry to exchange experiences in developing integrated urban solutions, building economic and environmental resilience, engaging with communities and sustaining a high quality of life.

Started in 2010, the 7th edition of the WCS Mayors Forum this year has sealed its position as a must-attend forum for mayors and city leaders from around the world.

The Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize is a biennial international award that honours outstanding achievements and contributions to the creation of liveable, vibrant and sustainable urban communities around the world. Visit www.leekuanyewworldcityprize.com.sg to find out more.

The Prize was announced in March 2016 and the Laureate city, Medellin, delivered the Prize lecture at the Summit to an attentive audience. This year’s Special Mention cities - Auckland, Sydney, Toronto and Vienna - presented their cities’ unique urban initiatives at the Prize Forum.

The World Cities Summit Young Leaders is a select group of change-makers from diverse sectors who shape the global urban agenda at the annual World Cities Summit Young Leaders Symposium. The annual by-invitation only meeting harnesses the collective wisdom and experience of the Young Leaders and presents valuable networking opportunities to discuss common challenges and shared solutions in urbanisation.

Started in 2014, the WCS Young Leaders Symposium has carried its momentum into the 3rd edition with energetic discussions and the active sharing of ideas to better the cities where the Young Leaders are from.

Park Won-soon
Mayor, Seoul
Metropolitan City, South Korea

“ It was a meaningful occasion to deliberate about how to make cities more liveable and how to improve the quality of life of citizens ”

Martin Haese
Lord Mayor
Adelaide, Australia

“My time spent at the World Cities Summit was incredibly valuable. The Summit was a fantastic opportunity to learn from other global cities and to build relationships with other city leaders.”

Celia Wade-Brown
Mayor, Wellington,
New Zealand

“I found the experience informative and enjoyable. It was a great opportunity to share Wellington’s success stories with other Mayors and Summit attendees, and learn about the approach other cities around the world are taking to planning, governance, resilience and innovation.”
The 5th World Cities Summit convened one of the largest gatherings of the world’s top policymakers and industry leaders as 107 mayors and city leaders from around the world met to share ideas and strategies for building innovative and sustainable cities. They came from the Americas, Africa, all over Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Oceania to discuss actionable steps to shape the urban environments of the future.

DRIVING CHANGE THROUGH THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Tharman Shanmugaratnam
Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies, Singapore

Dr. Joan Clos
Executive Director, UN-Habitat

H.E. Eng. Adel Bin Mohammad Al Melhem
Mayor Al Hasa, Saudi Arabia

Zheng Yunfeng
Executive Vice Mayor, Xiamen Municipal Government, China

Laurence Tubiana
Ambassador for Climate Change Negotiations & Special Representative for the 2015 Paris Climate Conference

Isabelle Kocher
Chief Executive Officer, ENGIE

Ahmed Aboutaleb
Mayor, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Olaf Scholz
First Mayor, Hamburg, Germany

Dr. Oswar Muadzin Mungkasa
MURP, Deputy Governor of Jakarta for Spatial Planning and Environment, Indonesia

Bart De Wever
Mayor, Antwerp, Belgium

Ahmed Aboutaleb
Mayor, Rotterdam, Netherlands

Olaf Scholz
First Mayor, Hamburg, Germany

Isabelle Kocher
Chief Executive Officer, ENGIE

125 COUNTRIES & REGIONS REPRESENTED

- WORLD CITIES SUMMIT (WCS)
- SINGAPORE INTERNATIONAL WATER WEEK (SIWW)
- CLEANENVRO SUMMIT SINGAPORE (CESS)

SECTOR REPRESENTATION AT WCS

GOVERNMENT 53%
BUSINESSES 33%
IOs & NGOs 4%
ACADEMIA 1%
OTHERS 8%

TOP 5 CHALLENGES CITIES CURRENTLY FACE

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOB CREATION
FINANCING INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS
HOUSING SUPPLY AND AFFORDABILITY
AGEING POPULATION

TOP 4 AREAS CITIES ARE HARNESSING NEW TECHNOLOGIES FOR

- ENABLING FASTER COMMUNICATIONS AND DELIVERY OF PUBLIC SERVICES
- IMPROVING TRANSPORTATION FLOW AND MANAGEMENT

CHALLENGES AND FOCUS AREAS FOR MAYORS
((Collated from surveys at the WCS Mayors Forum))

Figures accurate as of 3 September 2016.

*Excluding Singapore
New ways to exploit the opportunities of rising global urbanisation were at the centre of discussions at the 5th World Cities Summit, held from 10 to 14 July 2016 in Singapore with the theme “Liveable & Sustainable Cities: Innovative Cities of Opportunity”. Over 1,100 delegates and speakers, including 107 mayors and city leaders, gathered to discuss the changes and challenges, both entrenched and emerging, as well as the opportunities to co-create innovative urban solutions across the public, private and people sectors in their cities.

The Summit, held under the patronage of the Prime Minister of Singapore, was attended by more than 21,000 visitors and participants, including ministers, mayors, government officials, industry leaders and experts, practitioners, academics, as well as representatives from international organisations.

Innovative Cities of Opportunity

INNOVATIVE CITIES OF
OPPORTUNITY

The problems and issues raised, and the solutions shared, highlighted the global need to focus on governance, technology and social innovations to build resilient, liveable and sustainable cities of the future. Besides established thematic tracks on urban governance and long-term planning and development of hard infrastructure, the Summit this year also placed the spotlight on the softer aspects of a sustainable and liveable city in particular, how heritage and culture can be integrated into the urban planning and design of cities.

Overall, the Summit’s shared vision, encapsulated in a liveability framework, is for cities to:

- Provide a competitive economy that generates and sustains income as well as creates opportunities for growth;
- Prioritise a sustainable environment through planning that reduces the long-term negative impact of economic development; and
- Offer a high quality of life enriched by a vibrant economy, rich culture, in harmony with nature.

The current state of the world calls for urgent, more enlightened responses. As Dr Joan Clos, Executive Director of the United Nations and Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) observed, when people move from rural to urban areas, their total energy consumption goes up tenfold. Hence, renewable solutions are needed to adequately provide for a doubling of the global urban population. In the past, urbanisation was viewed as something to be slowed down or avoided. Then priorities shifted to focus on identifying and addressing the needs of urban populations but these needs are infinite. Instead, it would be more sustainable to look at urbanisation as a tool for development and increasing wealth for the larger population, since 80 per cent of world GDP comes from urban centres.

In response to these challenges, the Summit identified key areas of action for cities as contributions to the New Urban Agenda to be adopted at Habitat III:

1. Using integrated plans made for 15 to 50-year timeframes that aim to balance long-term sustainable development against short-term needs;
2. Building-in flexibility into urban plans in order to adjust better to changing social and economic conditions over time;
3. Implementing and evaluating these plans, while making efforts to leverage systemic innovations in technology, to produce a better living environment;
4. Learning to work better with multiple levels of government; and
5. Strengthening urban governance, with sound institutions and mechanisms that empower and include various stakeholders.

Also featured was a full-day track on Innovations For A Smart City. Besides adopting new technologies to build greater resilience, cities are also looking to renew and revamp the way in which they engage their people and involve them in co-creating solutions for a better living environment, going as far as promoting participatory budgeting and monitoring of government by citizens.

For new initiatives to take off and be sustained, citizen engagement is essential for creating not only liveable and sustainable cities, but also resilient ones. Medellín, Colombia – the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize 2016 Laureate – shared at the Prize Lecture on how leveraging co-creation and the collective inputs of its citizens have helped tackle its most pressing issues, improved the economy, as well as its citizens’ employability and quality of life. The four Special Mention Cities – Auckland, Sydney, Toronto and Vienna – further demonstrated how open community engagement and social integration have contributed to their successful urban transformations.

These and other success stories and new ideas for solutions to some wicked problems and emerging issues affirm, once again, the value of networks such as the World Cities Summit for best practices to be shared across a family of cities with growing needs to better enhance the lives of their residents.

Among the many shared insights from the Summit, several key ideas stood out:

1) Long-term vision and planning is the foundation for everything else

2) Inclusive development brings everyone along

3) Social cohesion holds everything together

4) Sustainability hinges on sustained public education

5) Cities should also exercise leadership nationally and regionally

6) Smart cities must adapt to technology and a louder citizen voice

7) Cities should invest more in the “fourth space” of social capital and culture
More cities would be more liveable if they could tackle the persistent problems that come with a few entrenched features of city leadership that is often more short-term and stretched than it should be. These include frequent changes of mayors through the electoral system, clashes of plans made at different levels of government, and fragmented component designs for fundamental aspects of a city such as transport and housing.

From a global perspective, the need for more coordinated planning is becoming even more urgent, as the view of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) is that the world faces some major issues such as the rise of informal, less coordinated urban planning, less land being allocated to streets; less access to arterial roads; and unaffordable housing. At the national level, a country like China has a better chance of succeeding in sustainable and proper urban planning because national level, a country like China has a better chance of succeeding in sustainable and proper urban planning; and in instalments through China’s Five-Year Plans. As for cities, terms of office for mayors can be as short as two years, and it is very rare for a mayor to stay in charge for over 20 years, like Michael Haupl of Vienna, Austria, which was accorded a special mention at the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize 2016.

Indeed, building cities “takes good planning, systematic implementation over the years, many terms of government and many decades”, in the words of the WOC Mayors Forum Chairman, Singapore’s National Development Minister Lawrence Wong. On top of this, Singapore has a “national attitude” of decisive action, as seen in areas such as fostering social cohesion in public housing, with policies that promote a sense of community. Governments should gather the political will to decide on the “what” of city development, leaving the “how” to professionals to do the best job – this was the advice of Dr Liu Thai Ker, Chairman of the Centre for Liveable Cities, Singapore.

To realise longer-term visions and plans, two main steps are important. One is community buy-in – city planners need to ensure that projects are well-supported by citizens, and reflect the community’s vision (based on consultation), so that whoever is the leader will be committed to serve the community. In Toronto, Canada, a newly elected city leader wanted to cancel a waterfront project, but a petition by 7,000 residents caused him to reconsider, and the project survived.

Another key factor is legislative backing – making laws to support a plan can be a great help. In Auckland, New Zealand, master plans have statutory authority, so newly-elected leaders are required to implement them. The plans are reviewed every six years, but reviews do not change their core elements, only how they are implemented.

City work requires long-term vision and implementation. An example is how Singapore became a Garden City.

Lawrence Wong
Minister for National Development
Singapore

Good city governance comes out of very strong social and institutional capital, with an understanding that organisation is the main tool.

Dr Joan Clos
Secretary-General
United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III)

2) Inclusive development brings everyone along

Inclusive development, of late, has to be more inclusive in its agenda, and pay more attention to global trends such as rapid ageing and growing inequality. As more societies are facing an increasingly larger proportion of older citizens, cities must adjust to accommodate greater demands on healthcare quality and costs, how to engage and include the elderly in meaningful city living, and how to ensure that an older workforce is integrated as an asset rather than as an optional add-on.

Social capital and social support will be vital to the wellbeing of the elderly and society in general, said Singapore’s Deputy Prime Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam, who is also the Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies. New strategies will be needed to give people good jobs and secure their lives improve. They must feel that the social and economic models employed include and benefit them. In Asia, there is still social mobility despite rising income inequality, but elsewhere in the developed world, economic stagnation has aroused socio-political dissatisfaction. With the disruptive, restructuration of globalisation and technology, this will require government intervention and a strong social compact to fill in the gaps that the market system has left, and will continue to leave along the way.

At a practical personal level, higher life expectancy also means that much more financing will be needed to fund retirement. For example, 20 per cent more will be needed in Singapore, according to estimates by experts like Mark Whatley, Senior Consulting Actuary and Director, Benefits, South East Asia at Willis Towers Watson. A lot more long-term public education is needed to raise awareness about the various schemes and options that are available to support retirement.

Within cities, inclusiveness can be about by bridging gaps of wealth and socio-economic status. In Medellín, Colombia – laureate of the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize 2016 – the city’s model of a liveable city (what it calls “a city for life”) emphasises inclusion in both hard and soft facets, that have dramatically transformed a city once infamous for crime and violence. The hardware aspects include the Metrocable cable car and Ayacucho Tram that connect – literally and figuratively – rural villages and mountain communities to the city, the egalitarian public bicycle system EnCicla, and even electric escalators, now a “medium for inclusion” no longer just seen in airports and malls. For the software aspect, education is a means for equality, hence the focus on giving a greater proportion of Medellín’s children access to education.

In other cities like Seoul, South Korea, inclusiveness is also about finding new ways to engage citizens to imbue a deeper sense of ownership, even as a new normal of low economic growth has exacerbated the dismantling of communities with pervasive relocation. New initiatives include more welfare support (with plans to double the number of welfare officials by 2018) and support centres, programmes for young people to tap their creativity and to inspire them, providing larger spaces like the Seoul Innovation Park to generate and gather ideas for civic development, and supporting small-scale research projects for citizens to conduct their own collaborative studies on urban issues.

Inequality and violence are directly related, hence there is a global need to fight against exclusion and poverty.

Aníbal Gaviria Correa
Former Mayor
Medellín, Colombia

Seoul now needs everyday democracy at a local level, or neighbourhood democracy... and open communication is a starting point.

Dr Kim Soo-hyun
President
Seoul Institute, South Korea

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Questions over social cohesion are gripping many societies around the globe. Increasingly, trigger incidents like terrorist attacks stoke latent divides in societies along fault lines such as race and nationality, surfacing fresh tensions over old issues including social inequality and immigrant assimilation. To Singapore’s Ambassador to Large Prof Tommy Koh, the Brexit referendum of June 2016 – in which a public referendum led to Britain’s move to leave its membership of the European Union – is a reminder of the importance of social inclusivity and ensuring that ordinary people can truly benefit from the trickle-down effects of globalisation. In response, catering more to the needs of groups such as the elderly is a new priority area for organisations such as the Asian Development Bank, which is exploring more public-private partnership projects in social aspects such as elderly care in China, said Amy Leung, Deputy Director General of the Bank’s East Asia Department.

Cultural authenticity means that we understand the characteristics of the people and the places, to enable a connection between the place and the people.
5) Cities should also exercise leadership nationally and regionally

Instead of lamenting having to deal with the hurdles of differences between state and other levels of government, cities can seize the mantle of leadership and advance their agendas at home and even abroad. Rather than trying to translate national commitments to the local level, cities can make themselves seen as part of a virtuous cycle of development, where successful local municipalities become better able to contribute to discussions at the national level.

Cities, being more self-contained, can be more nimble and innovative than central governments, who have to balance more priorities nationally, including spreading resources and attention to other cities as well. Cities can leapfrog these constraints, as well as the political dynamics of nationalised entities, also because it is easier for them to establish a social compact socially. Indeed, cities have historically been at the forefront of innovation in infrastructure hard and soft. While the 19th century was the century of empires and the 20th was the century of nations, the 21st century will be the century of cities, as suggested by Peter Brabeck-Letmathe, Chairman of Nestlé.

Cities such as Auckland, New Zealand, are showing that, sometimes, smaller projects can make a bigger overall difference, in what is called “urban acupuncture” – modest projects that are within easier reach and can bring about significant transformation to the city, with extended national impact. Examples include the Wynyard Quarter development that opened up the waterfront to all citizens, and converting a motorway ramp into a bright pink walkway and cycleway to promote a car-light society.

Another example – of moving ahead of its time for place-making impact. Examples include the Wynyard Quarter development contributing to national development, suggested Ahmed Aboutaleb, Mayor, Rotterdam, the Netherlands. This often requires initiative and some lobbying effort by mayors.

Cities can also show leadership through culture, as place-making goes well beyond culture for culture’s sake. Cities can also lead the way in strengthening the city's connections to the region and the world.

6) Smart cities must adapt to technology and a louder citizen voice

In the development and success of smart cities, the counterpart to technology is civic participation – active input from citizens will be crucial as citizens attuned to the use of smart technology can, for example, help solve transport issues by providing the real-time ground information that is then applied in big data analysis.

Mayers can use technology to simulate scenarios for cities, and, with the help of partners including government agencies and technology companies, use big data to improve urban planning, for example, using mobile data to model flows of people to quantify the infrastructure needed. This was the experience of Seoul, South Korea, as shared by Mayor Park Won-soon, in the development of a new Night Owl bus service to serve commuters between midnight and dawn. Understanding the details of the true demand from citizens was the key factor as a force for innovation to revamp and improve public services.

In smart cities, technology can also enable and galvanise social shifts. Dr Cheong Koon Hean, CEO of Housing & Development Board, Singapore, shared how the Republic’s public housing agency already has hundreds of ongoing and longstanding community engagement initiatives, some with seed funding for residents to get together with neighbours to organise activities amongst themselves. The next stage is to use technology to help build communities, such as with gaming technology to nudge behaviour that is civic and sustainable, applying big data analytics to understand citizen behaviour better, and data mining (including from counter inquiries, hotline calls and emails) to improve public services.

With such initiatives, the voice of citizens in urban development can only grow in influence. Governments cannot be dependent on to provide all the answers, because today’s problems are complex and need the input of citizens and other parties. For example, governments should not try to intervene to determine whether more people should migrate to cities, this should be left to people themselves and to the market. As Desmond Lee, Senior Minister of State (Home Affairs and National Development), Singapore, noted, the 21st century is a century of cities and people, as the voice of the people has become louder with advancements in media and technology that can galvanise greater action much faster than before.

In some cities such as Delhi, India, participatory budgeting might take a longer time but can be an added powerful means to create the future. It is important to let people know the limits to resources, so that communities understand the priorities when they have a say in how to spend the budget. It also promotes autonomy and self-reliance, and allows for representation of minority communities, to overcome the susceptibility to populism in the electoral process.

It is important to consult the community, and come up with a document that reflects their vision, so that it does not matter who the leader is who happens to come into power, because the leader has to implement the community’s vision.

Louise Kerr
Executive Manager Development
City Planning Development & Transport
Sydney, Australia

It is precisely because the future is unpredictable that we should let citizens take charge of innovation... they should decide what the future should be and how to get there.

Dr Fang Jin
Deputy Secretary-General
China Development Research Foundation

Be at the table if you don’t want to be on the menu.

Laurence Tubiana
Ambassador for Climate Change Negotiations
Special Representative for the 2015 Paris Climate Conference

We cannot wait till the laws are written; we have to help to write the law ourselves.

Ahmed Aboutaleb
Mayor
Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Culture, arts and heritage give character, soul and a sense of identity to urban life, and constitute the critical “fourth space” in urban life. All cities already have a focus on the third space, not the home or workplace, but the human spaces where people interact, such as playgrounds, parks and common areas. New, liveable cities should also pay attention to the fourth space – that of social capital and culture, involving art and heritage. In this way, any new influx or incoming cultural element is not merely alienating but becomes part of the landscape and social network. This has to be a bottom-up development for these spaces that are central to Singapore’s urban strategy, noted Deputy Prime Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam.

Culture matters because “a city is a state of mind”, in the words of the US urban sociologist Robert Park, as quoted by Prof Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large, Singapore, and former Chairman of the National Arts Council and National Heritage Board. The citizens of a city are united by a body of customs, values, attitudes and sentiments. This is the outlook of cities such as Heng Kong and those in Australia that actively promote and profile culture as part of the total environment for liveability, by “animating the space” through activities such as street art and performances, encouraging cycling, picnics and playing games.

Culture is not only for attracting tourists and foreign investment, but also for citizen engagement. Toronto – which won a special mention for the Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize 2016 – used to be a backwater to Montreal, but is today Canada’s largest city. It is frequently ranked highly in international studies, for example, first for quality of life in a Pwc study in 2016. With 4,000 new housing units built annually, the intensification of Toronto’s core is a deliberate plan, with laws passed to declare large parts of the city as “green belts” where no development can take place. “Indeed, a city without a culture cannot truly be called a city at all,” said Duncan Pescod, CEO at the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority of Hong Kong SAR. The fourth space should be designed and developed not by bureaucrats but in collaboration with the people who will be using it. History and culture can play important roles in the rejuvenation of cities and in transforming ordinary cities into great cities. Place-making goes beyond culture for culture’s sake. The idea is to create stronger, more resilient communities for truly liveable and sustainable cities.

We learned, during our journey, that if you want people to visit your city, you should strive to be authentic. Prof Tommy Koh Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Singapore

Life, spaces, and then buildings, in that order please.

Dato’ Maimunah Mohd Sharif President of Municipal Council of Seberang Perai Penang, Malaysia

The Life Articulated Units, Unidades de Vida Articulada (UVA), provide spaces where social, communal and municipal organisations can come together to promote and develop sports, recreation and culture. They are multi-purpose spaces that serve as locations for diversification and development of community activities, entrepreneurship and social initiatives. They effectively contribute to the creation of new centres in the territory. They also guarantee the infrastructure necessary for developing different sports and carrying out different cultural activities, while encouraging the coordination of these activities with the community’s needs.

The UVAs have transformed their surroundings and the landscape of every neighbouring, the city and its districts, creating a solid and new urban-rural social fabric.

With the development of HafenCity on the Elbe waterfront, Hamburg is setting new standards. On an area of 157 hectares, enlarging the existing city area by 40 percent, a lively city with a maritime air is taking shape, bringing together workplace and residential uses, culture and leisure, tourism and retail facilities, quite unlike downtowns dominated by offices and shops.

What sets it apart from other major urban international development projects on the water is that the area is at a very central location and the high expectations of quality reflected, for instance, in its fine-grained mix of uses, standards of urbanity and ecological sustainability, and its innovative development process. With its many shops, cafes and restaurants, the western section already has more than 2,500 residents and attracts a growing number of visitors. There are now more than 11,000 people working in HafenCity as a whole, employed by more than 500 companies.

As a wholly owned subsidiary of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, HafenCity Hamburg GmbH was set up to manage the development of HafenCity. It is responsible for the “operational city and port areas” fund, which holds land owned by the City of Hamburg on the site of HafenCity. Proceeds from sales of this land go to finance most of the public investment, particularly roads, bridges, squares, parks, quays and promenades.

CITIES SHOULD INVEST MORE IN THE “FOURTH SPACE” OF SOCIAL CAPITAL AND CULTURE

HAMBURG, GERMANY: HAFENCITY

MEDITÉN, COLOMBIA: LIFE ARTICULATED UNITS (UVA)

HAMBURG, GERMANY: HAFENCITY

CITY OF RIKUZENTAKATA, JAPAN: BUILDING RESILIENCE AND INCLUSION

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND: THE AUCKLAND PLAN

For decades Auckland was held back by fragmented local governance and a lack of effective long-term planning. This changed in 2010, following a decision to merge eight councils into one ‘super city’, with the development of a single vision and 30 year spatial plan – The Auckland Plan. It was developed in partnership with the New Zealand government, business, Maori and input from thousands of Aucklanders.

The Auckland Plan sets long-term economic, social and environmental goals which include:

• High quality urban planning and design standards based on a ‘quality compact city’
• Investment in a world-class public transport system, with an urban rail link that will double the capacity of the rail network
• A global investment and tourism strategy
• Transformation of key parts of the city – including a major redevelopment of Auckland’s stunning waterfront area

Sitting alongside the Auckland Plan is a suite of detailed tools that enable focused decision-making, such as the Economic Development Strategy, City Centre Master Plan, Waterfront Plan, the land and resource management plan The Unitary Plan, and the Southern Initiative – a programme of investment and actions to bring about change in an area of high social need.
Over S$18.71 billion dollars worth of business deals were announced at the World Cities Summit (WCS), Singapore International Water Week (SIWW) and CleanEnviro Summit Singapore (CESS) which also saw more than 21,000 participants at the three events. Companies recognise the value WCS brings, and were actively participating during the week. This year saw a 60% increase in the number of sponsors at WCS.

With over 31,000sqm of exhibition space featuring different country and themed pavilions, it was the preferred global platform for companies to showcase new and cutting-edge solutions for smart nations and urban environments. The City Solutions Singapore (CSS) saw over 21,000 attendees from 125 countries and regions and acted as a catalyst for investors to seek new partnerships and business opportunities with over 1,000 participating companies.

With the focus on “Better Living, Strong Communities, More Opportunities”, the Singapore pavilion this year saw the participation of 18 government agencies. Visitors enjoyed an immersive and engaging experience, whilst gaining insights into Singapore’s development and challenges of becoming a smart-enabled and sustainable city via live demonstrations and highly interactive media displays.

The pavilion centered around Singapore’s progress to be a Smart and Sustainable City - where technology and innovative solutions play a key role in improving the quality of life, strengthening businesses and helping government agencies to serve citizens better. Showcasing the people-centric approach to rally citizens, industries, research institutions and agencies to co-create innovative solutions, the displays ranged from innovations impacting how we travel, how and where we live, our daily transactions and how we support the lifelong needs of our citizens. It also presented collaborative efforts among various government agencies in the areas of R&D, urban development, ICT infrastructure, policy-making, capabilities building and ecosystems development involved in the continuous transformation of Singapore into a safer, more liveable and sustainable place to live, work and play.

Visitors were encouraged to share their experiences of common challenges and discuss collaborative opportunities as we journey towards realising Singapore as a Smart and Sustainable city.

An unrivalled week in Singapore that gathered top notch leaders from across the fields of city development, urban planning, innovative water and environmental solutions, the World Cities Summit was the platform for companies to share their thought leadership and practical, innovative solutions. World Cities Summit offers a premium outreach channel to a targeted group of decision makers, and many companies benefitted from their active participation as sponsors with premium positioning and exclusive networking opportunities with mayors and city leaders.

As an integrated expo, the CSS focused on water, urban and environment solutions, making it the international marketplace of choice for stakeholders across the value chain of sustainable development.
Strategic collaborations and partnerships were established at WCS 2016 through numerous Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing ceremonies and announcements. Some of these included:

- Three new agreements inked by the Housing & Development Board (HDB) for collaboration with industry partners including a S$10 million contract with the NCS consortium sealing a 4-year collaboration to develop a comprehensive digital master plan and Smart Hub to guide HDB’s efforts to boost liveability, efficiency, safety and sustainability for HDB towns and estates.
- A research collaboration between HDB and 3M Singapore to study new and creative ways to soften the impact of noise in Singapore’s high-rise, high-density environment.
- Opening of ENGIE Lab Singapore as a hub for energy innovation and technology in Southeast Asia, focusing on smart energy systems, industrial energy efficiency and gas technologies.
- S$200 million funding boost under the Research, Innovation and Enterprise 2020 plan to further R&D in the Singapore water industry over the next five years.
- A MOU between Sino-Singapore Guangzhou Knowledge City Investment and Development Co., Ltd (GKC Co) and Siemens Ltd China to jointly develop the Smart Eco Technology Demonstration Centre.
- A research collaboration between HDB and 3M Singapore to study new and creative ways to soften the impact of noise in Singapore’s high-rise, high-density environment.
- S$3 billion Integrated Waste Management Facility, co-located with the Tuas Water Reclamation Plant, to transform the management of solid waste and used water in land-scarce Singapore.

Co-located Events

There were over 30 co-located events at WCS 2016, organised by sponsors, partners and public sector agencies. These activities attracted a wide range of urban stakeholders who added to the depth and breadth of discussions on urban issues. Networking was enhanced with different profiles of participants along the urban solutions value chain contributing to the buzz of the week.

Site Visits

Half-day tours hosted by Singapore’s public sector agencies offered World Cities Summit participants first-hand perspectives on how policies and ideas have been successfully implemented, providing a behind-the-scenes look at real issues for unique, practical learning experiences. Ten site visits were organised along the themes of:

- Biodiversity
- Green City
- Heritage in a City
- Integrated Planning
- Sustainable City

Student Tours

Curated tours of exhibits at the summit offered some 450 students, youths and educators an immersive and engaging experience. The tours provided insights to the urban development of cities around the world, as well as the opportunity to trial, learn and discover smart-enabled and sustainable solutions which involved automation, sensors and monitoring devices, virtual simulations, data analytics and the Internet of Things.
The significance of the World Cities Summit in bringing together government leaders, top business executives and experts attracted international media from all over the world to report on the Summit, as well as to feature mayors and their cities.

International broadcasters including Bloomberg and Channel NewsAsia, were onsite to conduct interviews and do live crosses from the Summit. In-studio interviews by BBC and Al Jazeera were also conducted with key speakers and spokespersons.

**HEADLINES FROM AROUND THE GLOBE**

- **INDIA**
  - Mayors, policy makers discuss global terrorism at Singapore Summit
    - The Times of India

- **COLOMBIA**
  - Medellin wins Lee Kuan Yew World City Prize in Singapore
    - El Tiempo
  - Medellin wins world award for transformation
    - Natamerica
  - Medellin won the world urban transformation award
    - Medios30.com

- **ROMANIA**
  - Timisoara mayor goes back into the world. Destination: Singapore
    - Times Online

- **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**
  - The city that shrinks poverty
    - The Mark News
  - New Global Platform: Helping City Leaders Achieve Smart City Goals
    - Meeting of the Minds

- **MALAYSIA**
  - HPE rolls out Future City initiative to APAC
    - Digital News Asia

- **UNITED KINGDOM**
  - Dying cities can be brought back to life and here’s how, says World Bank
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**ATTRACTION INTERNATIONAL COVERAGE**

The significance of the World Cities Summit in bringing together government leaders, top business executives and experts attracted international media from all over the world to report on the Summit, as well as to feature mayors and their cities.

International broadcasters including Bloomberg and Channel NewsAsia, were onsite to conduct interviews and do live crosses from the Summit. In-studio interviews by BBC and Al Jazeera were also conducted with key speakers and spokespersons.
Set up in 2008 by the Ministry of National Development and the Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) has as its mission “to distil, create and share knowledge on liveable and sustainable cities”.

CLC’s work spans four main areas — Research, Capability Development, Knowledge Platforms, and Advisory. Through these activities, CLC hopes to provide urban leaders and practitioners with the knowledge and support needed to make our cities better.

For more information, please visit [www.clc.gov.sg](http://www.clc.gov.sg)

The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) is Singapore’s land use planning and conservation agency. Our mission is “to make Singapore a great city to live, work and play”. We strive to create a vibrant and sustainable city of distinction by planning and facilitating Singapore’s physical development in partnership with the community.

URA’s multi-faceted role includes being the main government land sales agent. Through the sale of State land, we attract and channel private capital investment to develop sites to support economic and social development. As the place manager for Marina Bay, we promote exciting activities within Marina Bay in collaboration with other government agencies and private stakeholders. To create an exciting cityscape, URA also actively promotes architecture and urban design excellence.

Visit [www.ura.gov.sg](http://www.ura.gov.sg) for more information.
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