



Federal Ministry  
of Education  
and Research



**Future  
Megacities**

Megastädte von morgen



# Invitation and Preliminary Programme

## **Future Megacities in Balance**

New Alliances for Energy- and  
Climate-Efficient Solutions

October 11-13, 2010 in Essen (Germany)

Igniting ideas!

# Meet the Hidden Champions!

The German Federal Ministry of Education and Research is pleased to invite you to its conference on Future Megacities in Balance. The conference offers a unique opportunity to learn about good practice from energy- and climate-efficient urban development and to engage in dialogues among various stakeholders.

The conference programme is designed to give ample room for exchange of experiences and active discussions. We want to ignite new alliances across all sectors that result in

- the development of common visions and strategies needed for non-technical innovations
- synergies via the mobilisation of additional resources for the implementation of sustainable solutions
- enhanced public acceptance regarding complex measures
- development and realisation of new technologies for efficiency gains

Join us in this exciting process – we are looking forward to meeting you in Essen, the Cultural Capital of Europe 2010!



# Programme Overview

**Saturday-Sunday, October 9-10**

Young Researchers' Symposium (upon special invitation)

**Sunday, October 10**

**6.00 p.m. Public Lecture:** Life in a Megacity

**Monday, October 11**

Solutions and Good Practice for Visionary Urban Development

**9.00 a.m. Morning Plenum:** Opening Ceremony and Keynote Speeches

**10.30 a.m.** Coffee Break

**11.00 a.m. Late Morning Plenum:** Panel on Focus Themes

**12.45 p.m. Lunch,** Exhibition – Guided Tour of the Exhibits

**2.00 p.m. Parallel Sessions:** Good Practice and Cooperation Examples

Smart Energy Systems

Valuable Urban Resources (Waste)

Valuable Urban Resources (Agriculture)

Sustainable Urban Planning and Building (Mitigation)

Sustainable Urban Planning and Building (Adaptation)

Intelligent Transport for Metropolises

Multi-Level Cooperation and Governance

World Café on Sustainable and Climate-Efficient Urban Structures in the Making

**3.30 p.m.** Coffee Break

**4.00 p.m. Late Afternoon Plenum (Keynote Speech and Panel Discussion):** Cities and their Potential for Global Climate Change Mitigation

Philharmonie – Saalbau, Essen

**7.00 p.m. Evening Reception and Dinner** including **Young Researchers' Award**

**Tuesday, October 12**

Triggering Urban Change through New Alliances

**9.00 a.m. Morning Plenum (Keynote Speech and Panel Discussion):** Stakeholder Cooperation for Sustainable Megacity Development

**9.45 a.m.** Coffee Break

**10.15 a.m. Morning Plenum** (continued)

**12.00 p.m. Lunch,** Exhibition – Guided Tour of the Exhibits

**1.30 p.m. Parallel Sessions:** Good Practice and Cooperation Examples

Smart Energy Systems

Valuable Urban Resources (Water)

Sustainable Urban Planning and Building

Intelligent Transport for Metropolises

Multi-Level Cooperation and Governance

Sustainable Financing

World Café on the Dos and Don'ts of New Alliances

**3.00 p.m.** Coffee Break

**3.30 p.m. Late Afternoon Plenum:** The Added Value of Research for Local Level Cooperation in Future Megacities

**5.45 p.m. Informal Get-Together**

**6.30 p.m. Lecture on Urban Development Practice in Essen and the Ruhr Metropolis**

**Wednesday, October 13**

Good Practice - Field Trips

Additional information on the conference themes is available on [www.future-megacities-2010.org](http://www.future-megacities-2010.org)

# Conference Themes

## Theme 1 Smart Energy Systems

A reliable energy supply is indispensable for sound urban development. As energy demands are rising in newly industrialising countries, side effects such as environmental pollution, growing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and unequal and limited accessibility to energy supply are becoming challenges for local actors. Thus, sustainable ways for the generation and transmission of energy are key for growing cities. Successful strategies should focus on conservation and efficient use of energy as well as on alternative and decentralised ways for energy production.

What are smart and reliable energy systems in different city contexts? How can they be created? What are the tasks of local stakeholders on their way towards a smart energy system?

## Theme 2 Valuable Urban Resources

With both population and consumption rising, the ecological footprints of most metropolises are increasing at high rates. Resource efficiency can improve the situation. In order to make a city resource-efficient, it is essential to establish closed waste, urban water and land cycles.

How to reduce the consumption of big cities and enhance their liveability at the same time? How to plan and manage

closed resource cycles? What can we do to valorise waste, improve availability and quality of potable water and how could we best harvest the high potentials of urban agriculture?



### **Theme 3 Sustainable Urban Planning and Building**

It has been widely recognised that cities are both curse and solution to climate change. Most man-made CO<sub>2</sub> emissions originate from urban areas. Yet, potentials for mitigation in cities are immense. At the same time, cities must not wait to adapt to climate change effects such as heat waves, flooding and other extreme weather events.

At the local level, mitigation and adaptation serve as two complementary strategies to combat climate change which must go together and should be combined in suitable ways. Spatial planning, building standards and urban management offer innovative solutions to respond to these challenges already.

What are the most promising low carbon city concepts, policies and strategies for a low carbon culture and for resilience in cities? How to reduce risks and vulnerability of urban areas? How do we generate learning structures which can easily respond to change? What are barriers to implementation?

### **Theme 4 Intelligent Transport for Metropolises**

Looking at emissions, air quality, energy and space consumption and health effects, it becomes clear that urban transport is not yet sustainable in most urban areas worldwide. In search for therapy many fast growing cities are aiming at adapting to motorised modes by focussing on more and wider roads and abolishing cycling and walking environments. In the light

of climate change and resource efficiency, smart intermodal solutions are needed that improve the effectiveness of the entire urban transport system and reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. A wide number of measures have already been implemented, ranging from transport and urban planning approaches, new mobility services to the implementation of entire efficient public transport systems.

How do we best organise a sustainable transport mix in big cities? Will good practice solutions work in other megacities and how can we transfer them? How can cooperation help and what sort of cooperation do we need?



## Theme 5 Multi-Level Cooperation and Governance

In some cities, sustainable urban development is already established as a policy field by respective local and regional decision makers and actors. In these cases, strategies on climate change and resource efficiency are high on the agenda, while others are only starting this process.

A powerful governance-structure as well as clear political leadership and administrative competences are important prerequisites for well developing metropolitan areas. For that, a culture of cooperation among local stakeholders and sectors can be a strong driver for agenda setting and implementation. Such processes should incorporate relevant actors from public and private sectors, academia and civil society. Moreover, experience tells us that appropriate participation of citizens is extremely important. When citizens realise that their participation and ownership can make a difference, they often seize action.

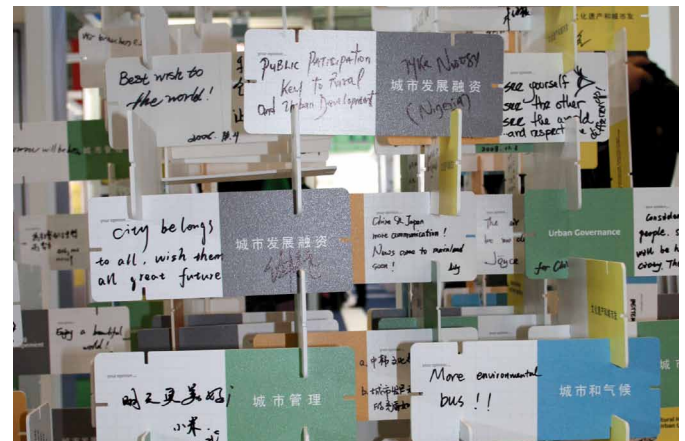
How can we govern for sustainable development? What are new successful forms of cooperative governance? How can we better combine top-down strategic and bottom-up implementation activities?

## Theme 6 Sustainable Financing

As urbanisation is accelerating, there is currently tremendous demand for investments in urban infrastructure worldwide. Due to additional effects such as climate change and scarcity of resources, future infrastructure networks must be planned anticipatory, adaptable and robust to hazards and changes. The need for today's investments offers the unique chance for sustainable and leapfrogging solutions that will pay off in the long run.

Only few cities are able to finance the necessary demand independently. Existing financing options are barely out of infancy.

Are the financing mechanisms right for the challenges cities are facing? How can international and national financiers support cities on their way towards sustainable development?



# Field Trips

**“High-tech instead of coal furnaces” – six expert-led field-trips in the Ruhr Metropolis are available in the context of the conference. Participants experience the Ruhr Metropolis and all its facets in an action- and knowledge-oriented manner. The challenges of living in a metropolis discussed during the conference will be vividly demonstrated to the participants.**

## **Field Trip 1 Waste and Water in Urban Areas**

Including sites like: The Ruhr area’s waste water discharge corporation, former Gasometer in Oberhausen, Emscher landscape park.

## **Field Trip 2 Experiencing Structural Change: the Example of the City of Duisburg**

Including sites like: Duisburg’s inner harbour conversion area, Europe’s biggest Inland Port, the Fraunhofer InHaus Centre on innovative building.

## **Field Trip 3 Modern Industrial Site Ruhr Area**

Including sites like: The Marl Chemical Park information centre, climate hull Mont-Cenis Academy, Centre for Fuel Cell Technology.

## **Field Trip 4 Smart Energy Systems – Housing and Environment**

Including sites like: Climate hull Mont-Cenis Academy, Science Park Gelsenkirchen an forestry station Rhine-Elbe, the Küppersbusch estate neighbourhood.

## **Field Trip 5 “InnovationCity Ruhr” – a contest by the “Initiative Ruhr”**

Including: Tendered urban development contest for the pilot project “Blue skies, green city” among Ruhr municipalities. Presentation on contest, concepts and one pilot area.

## **Field Trip 6 Highlight in the Cultural Capital „Essen“ – Between Tradition and Modernity**

Including sites like: “Villa Hügel”, former residence of the family Krupp, garden city “Margarethenhöhe”, development areas “Krupp Belt” and “University Quarter” in Essen.

# Exhibition

**Renowned companies from the field of sustainable urban development will present their innovative solutions and technologies in the exhibition center on the conference site.**

**Organisation/Publisher:**

Project Management Agency  
 c/o German Aerospace Center  
 Environment, Culture, Sustainability  
 Heinrich-Konen-Straße 1  
 53227 Bonn  
 Germany

**Conference Office:**

CD Werbeagentur GmbH  
 Burgstraße 17  
 53842 Troisdorf-Spich  
 Germany

**Venue:**

Zeche Zollverein  
 Gelsenkirchener Straße 181  
 45309 Essen  
 Germany  
[www.zollverein.de](http://www.zollverein.de)  
 Essen – Cultural Capital of Europe 2010  
 Directions from Essen main station: Straßenbahn/  
 Tram No. 107 towards Gelsenkirchen/Katernberg. Stop »Zollverein«

**Contact for Further Information:**

[contact@future-megacities-2010.org](mailto:contact@future-megacities-2010.org)  
[www.future-megacities-2010.org](http://www.future-megacities-2010.org)

**Registration:**

Registrations are open via: [www.future-megacities-2010.org](http://www.future-megacities-2010.org)  
 Please note: Number of participants is limited!



Early Bird (up to August 31st)		
	Participants	Project Members and Students
<b>Conference</b>	120 €	50 €
<b>Field Trips</b>	30 €	30 €

Late Fees (from September 1st)		
	Participants	Project Members and Students
<b>Conference</b>	240 €	100 €
<b>Field Trips</b>	60 €	60 €

This flyer is part of the public relations work of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research. It is available free of charge and is not for sale.