

## World Future Council | Fact Sheet Cities and Climate Change: Sustainable Urban Living

### The Challenge

Cities are primary agents of climate change burning most of the world's fossil fuels. But they are also its primary victims. Many have already suffered dramatic flooding. Policies designed to support sustainable urban living are now a priority for the World Future Council. It is clear that sustainable development requires sustainable urban development.

- 80% of people in developed countries live in cities
- 50% of people worldwide live in cities
- Cities use 3% of the world's land surface
- Cities use 80% of global resources

### Our Goal

The World Future Council Commission on Cities and Climate Change was set up to improve climate protection and resource efficiency in cities through improved city planning and implementation of renewable energy policies.

### Our Strategy

We focus on raising awareness on the inter-linkages between climate change, air and water pollution and offering policy advice on sustainable urban living. The Commission is developing a framework for measuring the sustainability of cities with regard to climate change, identifying practical



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solutions for production, consumption, transport and waste management and drawing up policy recommendations to mitigate climate change impacts.

### Target Group

Decision makers in cities with populations between 0.5 and 5 million.

### Activities

#### Written reports

Key questions on the future of sustainable cities will be discussed such as measures to accelerate the switch to renewable energy in cities.

#### Conferences and strategy workshops

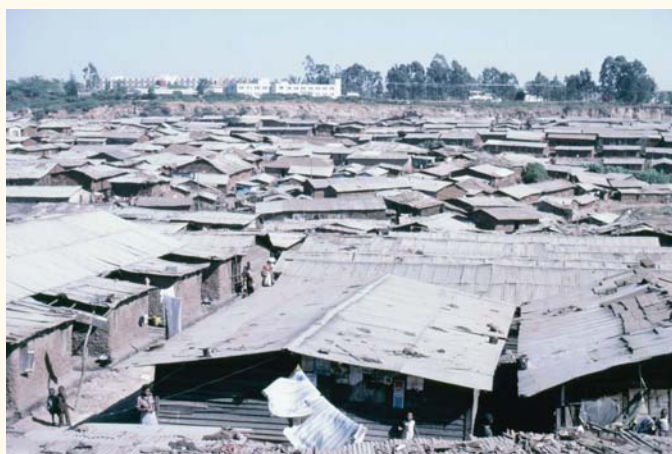
The World Future Forum in partnership with e-Parliament, a global network of parliamentarians from more than 120 countries, will organise two-day workshops on cities and climate change in different regions of the world.

#### Media and advocacy work

Gaining public support for action on climate change and sustainable urban living is a vital component of this project

### Committed Councillors

The World Future Council Commission on Cities and Climate Change is an ongoing cooperation between the World Future Council and the Hafencity University (HCU) of Hamburg. It comprises twenty experts including: Prof. Peter Droege (*Director Asia Pacific of the World Council for*



*Renewable Energy, Australia*), Nicky Gavron (*Former Second Mayor of London*), Dr. Hartmut Grassl (*Former Head of the Max Planck Institute*), Dr. Ashok Khosla (*President of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature*), Prof. Dr. C. S. Kiang (*Dean of the Beijing College of Environmental Sciences*), Dr. Eric Martinot (*Institute for Sustainable Energy Policy, Tokyo*), Henning Thomsen (*Head of the Danish Architecture Centre, Copenhagen*). The Commission is honoured to have as its patron Dr. Anna Tibaijuka (*Head of UNHABITAT – the cities organisation of the United Nations*).

### Project Management and Evaluation

The World Future Council strives for excellence in the conduct of its projects and aims for optimum effectiveness, efficiency and improvement. The Cities and Climate Change Project Manager will evaluate the goals, activities and budget at regular intervals against specific indicators. An evaluation report will be compiled and reviewed by the Board of Directors of the World Future Council, whose recommendations are presented to the Annual General Meeting.

### About us

The World Future Council brings the interests of future generations to the centre of policy making. Its 50 eminent members from around the globe have already successfully promoted change. The Council addresses challenges to our common future and provides decision-makers with effective policy solutions. In-depth research underpins advocacy work for international agreements, regional policy frameworks and national lawmaking and thus produces practical and tangible results.



World Future Council | P.O. Box 11 01 53 | D-20401 Hamburg

Visit our website and subscribe to our newsletter: [www.worldfuturecouncil.org](http://www.worldfuturecouncil.org)

For more information please contact

Lars Knöpke | Director Donor Relations | +49 (0)40 3070914-17 | [lars.knoepke@worldfuturecouncil.org](mailto:lars.knoepke@worldfuturecouncil.org)

Stefan Schurig | Director Climate & Energy | +49 (0)40 3070914-27 | [stefan@worldfuturecouncil.org](mailto:stefan@worldfuturecouncil.org)