

Report from Roundtable 1: Improving the Quality of Life of People

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- Mayors, as representatives of people in cities and local authorities have a **central role** to play to implement solutions to achieve the SDGs.
- Consultation and engagement of cities and local authorities **key** to achieve tangible results to improve quality of life of people.
- Mayors called for **more opportunities like the Day of Cities** to exchange experiences and discuss solutions to address the world challenges and achieve the SDGs.
- Not enough political commitment, **tools** needed for **better cooperation** between residents, different government levels, private sector, academia etc.



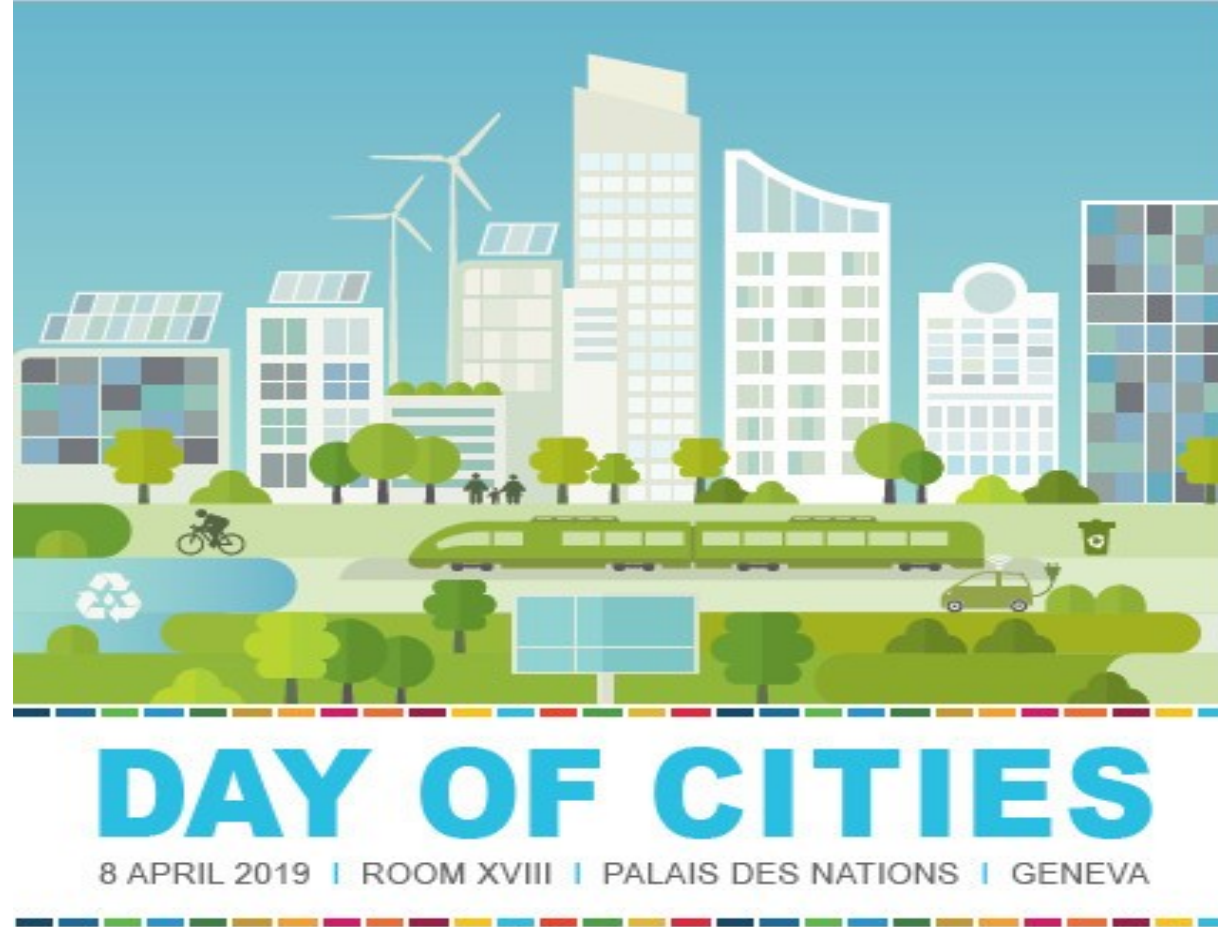
- Reducing emissions and making urban environments carbon neutral inextricably linked to **SDGs localization**.
- Focus on **adaptation strategies** to improve cities' resilience to natural and climate change related disasters.
- Importance of creation and maintenance of **quality and green public spaces and infrastructures** e.g. landscaping, urban forestry.
- **Reduction of number of cars** vis-à-vis promotion of safe and inclusive solutions for **sustainable mobility and public transport**.
- **Safe and inclusive food policies** to reduce food waste and related emissions.

DAY OF CITIES

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- New housing management solutions needed to increase **affordable housing provision** e.g. incentives for affordable rental, more accessible private market.
- Focus on **quality of construction and adoption of sustainable practices** e.g. building envelope, shading, energy recovery as well as need to draw on **local skills**.
- Better use and regulation of **digital technologies for sustainable development**.



Report from Roundtable 2: Improving efficiency of Urban Operations, Services and Competitiveness

**By Ms. Ingvild Gundersen Little,
National Coordinator,
The Norwegian WHO Healthy Cities Network**



Session 1:

Smart tools for road safety and sustainable urban mobility

- **Jelgava** focused on developing smart mobility (QR codes to access public transport info), interactive road signs and investment in electric bus infrastructure.
- **Celje** explained how the preparation of a sound integrated transport strategy is of great importance to cities focusing on all modes.
- **Burgas** highlighted the importance of stakeholder consultation, ensuring a passenger centric approach and ensuring that different levels of Government work together.
- **Ta'xbiex** explained the approach in Malta to move towards electro mobility and the projects that they are developing to support this and work towards carbon neutrality
- **Malaga** highlighted the importance of ensuring equitable, safe, clean and affordable transport solutions. Technology is a key driver to this.



Session 2:

Planning sustainable infrastructure for the future

- **Krimpen aan den IJssel** highlighted the importance of data-driven policy-making for sustainable transportation as part of its smart cities programme.
- **Tbilisi** emphasized that engaging its citizens and promoting dialogue is key to tackling issues of urban sprawl, environmental degradation and transport congestion and building a new future for the city.
- **Brest** developed a long-term urban development plan, “Brest: Simbio City 2050”, which sets priorities for the sustainable management of interconnected urban systems.
- **Kiskőrös** elaborated a smart city strategy that focuses on smart security, agriculture, aged care, environmental infrastructure, and local transport networks.
- **Satu Mare** explained how current plans and investments in the upgrading and expanding of pedestrian and bicycle routes are expected to reduce traffic, pollution and carbon emissions in the city.
- **Nicosia** recognized the need to increase urban density and set limits on the sprawl of cities in order to make investments in public transport systems viable.
- **Building Energy Exchange, NYC** highlighted its groundbreaking initiative to reduce carbon emissions from buildings in New York City by 60% by improving the energy efficiency of buildings.



Session 3:

A look into the future: developing policy instruments to improve the efficiency of urban services

- **Tampere** Focused on how they include all layers of society and stakeholders in developing policies. Innovation is also included, for instance for sustainable mobility solutions. Industry-driven solutions for sustainable growth are encouraged and used by the city.
- **Ufa** focused on how policies can be better identified using interactive maps to be used for city planning and also to prevent natural hazards.
- **Moscow** highlighted how digitalization can be used for services to citizens. This includes wide internet connection. Citizens can also comment to the policies through specific portals. Urban planning also benefit from that.
- **Turin Highlighted that policies' implementation benefitted from a master plan in place since 1995. The continuation of the master plan includes recovering of abandoned areas and making a liveable and environmentally-friendly city.**