LAND INFORMATION SYSTEMS FOR SMART CITIES

08 – 09 May, 2014 Geneva, Switzerland

at

GEOSPATIAL WORLD FORUM 2014

ORGANISED BY

Geospatial Media and Communications

United Nations Economic Commissions for Europe

INTRODUCTION

A *smart city* addresses the facets of urban life: urban economy, transport and mobility, environmental management, people (human capital, social inclusion), housing and living conditions, and urban governance. Smart cities depend on innovation, especially in information and communication technologies (ICT), in urban planning and management.

A smart city creates a sustainable socio-economic environment with minimum waste and the efficient use of resources.

Smart cities include people centred development, which includes education and learning, social inclusion and measures to meet needs of vulnerable groups such as youth and the elderly.

Smart cities promote more efficient transport and mobility. New ICTs allow, for instance, commuters to access information on public transport schedules and drivers to be alerted of heavy traffic with suggestions of alternate routes.

Smart cities also support entrepreneurship, creating an environment conducive of creativity and the smooth running of businesses.

Land administration systems (LIS), which rely extensively on the use of ICTs, are a key component of a smart economy. Well-formulated LIS enable local authorities to generate revenues for urban development, maintain safety and security, manage utilities and implement many other important urban management tasks. If local authorities do not know the ownership and function of each parcel and real estate property, they cannot generate sufficient revenues for urban management or deliver services capably.

The development of LIS promotes public participation in decision making at the city level. When an efficient LIS is in place, people can access online information on their properties' tenure, pay their property and land taxes conveniently, and register ownership of property faster. They can also express concerns about issues such as non-functioning utilities and safety problems to the authorities and expect a quick response.

53% people worldwide live in urban areas

1.5% of the world's land accommodates about one-sixth of the world's population

Nearly 2 billion new urban residents are expected in the next twenty years

1.3 billion tonnes of municipal solid waste are produced per year. This is projected to reach 2.2 billion tonnes per year by 2025

Cities account for 70 per cent of global GDP

No country has grown to middle-income status without industrialising and urbanising

(Source: World Bank)

Land Information Systems for Smart Cities

Geospatial Media and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) will organize a two-day **Dialogue Forum on Land Information Systems for Smart Cities.** The forum will take place on 8 and 9 May 2014 in Geneva, Switzerland. This event is a part of the Geospatial World Forum, a biannual international conference and exhibition, which supports dialogue geospatial technologies and their role in promoting economic and social development. Organised in India (2007, 2009 and 2011), the Netherlands (2012 and 2013) and now in Switzerland (2014), this global platform brings together more than 1000 delegates from over 80 countries deliberating on geospatial technologies and their role in promoting sustainable development.

FORUM OBJECTIVES

- Showcase examples of LIS which lay a sound foundation for smart cities
- Present success stories from authorities who successfully implemented smart city approaches
- Share information on the wide range of software, services and technologies available for developing sound smart information systems for smart cities
- Brainstorm on possible future steps to promote effective and modern land administration and the implementation of smart city approaches.

SPEAKERS & PARTICIPANTS

The speakers will include representatives of governments, academia and the private sector representing various sectors, including urban planning and management, land administration, housing, energy, environment and disaster risk reduction.

PROGRAMME

Opening Session, 8 May 2014, Thursday, 9:00 – 11:00

This session will include presentations by ministers and mayors who will report on the development of LIS and their role in supporting smart cities in their countries.

Session 1. Land as the basis of smart city management, 8 May 2014, Thursday, 13:30 – 15:00

The session will focus on definitions of smart cities. Information on smart cities' programmes and projects and those programmes' definitions and approaches used will be presented.

Session 2. Land information systems for urban planning, 8 May 2014, Thursday, 16:00 – 17:30

Experts from different countries will discuss the use of urban planning and design for sustainable development of settlements and communities. Specific issues will include care for the elderly and the smart planning of key infrastructure like hospitals, schools and recreational areas.

Session 3. Land Information systems for energy efficient housing, 9 May, Friday, 9:00 - 11:00

According to the International Energy Agency, improved energy efficiency in buildings, industrial processes and transportation could reduce the world's energy needs in 2050 by one third, and will help control global emissions of greenhouse gases. In this session, experts in housing and energy will share their knowledge and experiences on how LIS can support housing energy efficiency and help cities to decrease their carbon footprint.

Session 4. Smart cities supporting efficient transport management, 9 May, Friday, 13:30 - 15:00

At the core of the success of any city development programme is its transportation system. Experts will discuss how a city can provide a safe, affordable, fast and efficient transportation system which enables its citizens and visitors to lead better lives.

Session 5. Smart cities for environmental conservation and disaster risk reduction, 9 May, Friday, 16:00 - 17:00

Disasters are not random; they are the convergence of hazards and vulnerable conditions (UNEP 2013). Experts will discuss how, with more efficient and planned management and re-development, cities can contribute not only to protecting the environment in a sustainable way, but also to reducing the risks and consequences of disasters.

Concluding Panel Discussion, 9 May, Friday, 17:00 - 17:30

Session chairs will report on the thematic sessions of the two day programme.

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