


Achieving SDGs in times of global crises



Side Event 17

Launch of the Global Observatory for Sustainable Proximities

 5 JUNE 2023, 18:15 – 19:15

 UNDSS Training Room

SUMMARY

The objective of the event is to launch the Global Observatory of Sustainable Proximities as a global common space for reflection, exchange, and action around the theme of urban proximity. The event will include keynotes from member state senior representatives. The official launch consists of a brief panel with the Observatory founding partners from IAE Paris Sorbonne Business School Chair ETI, UN-Habitat, UCLG and C40 outlining the aspirations for the work ahead.

The Observatory was formally initiated by the Chaire ETI, UCLG, C40 and UN-Habitat at the World Urban Forum in 2022 and is officially launched during the United Nations Second Habitat Assembly in 2023. Through the Global Observatory of Sustainable Proximities, major global urban actors join forces by placing the theme of proximity at the heart of urban strategies. This global initiative allows us to jointly drive large scale change by informing urban strategies in cities worldwide. It will develop joint proximity principles, indicators, and measures; build a global centre for knowledge sharing and capacity building, gather a global network and support city implementation; besides boosting further international research.

Its raison d'être is simply that current complex and systemic issues call for collective and collaborative efforts. We need to go beyond geographical, cultural, and disciplinary borders to create a global common space for reflection, exchange, sharing of good practices and inspiration. The Global Observatory of Sustainable Proximities online platform <http://sustainableproximities.org> will go live during the launch.

Organizer(s)

IAE Paris Sorbonne Business School Chaire ETI, United Cities and Local Governments, C40 Cities, UN-Habitat

Moderator

Catherine Gall, Executive Director, Chaire ETI IAE Paris Sorbonne Business School, France

Speaker(s)

Mr Carlos Moreno, Professor, Chaire ETI IAE Paris Sorbonne Business School, France

Mr Berry Urbanovic, Mayor of Kitchener and UCLG co-president, Canada

Mr Raf Tuts, Director Global Solutions Division, UN-Habitat, Kenya

Ms Alice Kaumba, Regional Urban planning expert, C40 Cities, Kenya



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