Many cities, as local governments, are taking pioneering approaches for sustainable city management. However, innovative practices are not shared enough among the cities of the world. This side event aims to provide a platform to encourage more cities to be included in local actions for global solutions to manage sustainable cities and to promote international cooperation between cities.

“Economically Productive, Environmentally Sustainable, and Socially Inclusive”

Nearly half of the world population lives in urban areas and this ratio is expected to grow. In order to achieve Sustainable Development, building sustainable cities is indispensable. Sustainable cities should consider the three pillars of sustainable development, i.e., economic, environmental, and social. Sustainable cities should be economically productive, environmentally sustainable, and socially inclusive. Also, they may have to be resilient to climate change and natural disasters.

Currently various activities to build sustainable cities have been taking place around the world. “Future-City” Initiative, promoted by the Government of Japan, for example, is trying to realize human-centred cities that create new values to resolve the challenges of the environment and super aging. As committed in the “Tohoku Smart Community Initiative towards the reconstruction of the Disaster-affected Areas” at the International Energy Seminar in Fukushima in March, people suffered from the Great East Japan Earthquake are trying to rebuild resilient communities utilizing recent development of technologies such as renewable energy.

Desirable future cities may consist in following elements: human-centred cities focusing on each individual including women, children, and the elderly; green (low-carbon) cities with advanced environmental technologies such as renewable energy, energy-saving technology, eco-buildings; smart cities equipped with smart basic infrastructure, such as smart grids; sound material-cycle cities working on sustainable consumption and production including 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle); and resilient cities against natural disasters and climate change.

At the end of this event, GOJ with its partners will launch the initiative of the “Future Cities We Want”. The initiative will envisage providing the platform for cooperation with national and local government, international organisation, and civil society. A special meeting to deepen the initiative will be announced.

This side event aims
- To formulate common concepts of “Future Cities”;
- To establish a platform coordinating existing frameworks;
- To build a international network of local governments and city leaders, and bridge the gap between them and international fora;
- To propose a mechanism mobilizing resources including private financial resources especially in the developing countries;
- To promote regional cooperation for knowledge sharing, accumulating experiences, and transferring technologies.
Keynote Speakers, Presenters and Panelists (as of June 6)

[Keynote Speakers 11:05-11:15]

Mr. Shuzo Murakakami
Professor emeritus at the University of Tokyo Previously served as visiting professor at the Technical University of Denmark and professor at Keio University. Held Chairman posts for the Central Examination Committee for Architects, Ministry of Transport; etc. His main research areas include architecture and urban environment, and sustainable environment engineering.

Mr. Masato Nobutoki, City of Yokohama
Graduated from Urban Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering of Tokyo University, his career includes Mitsubishi Corp., Japan Association and Tokyo University as Project Professor, before joining the City of Yokohama in 2007 to work as Director General in charge of urban management strategy in the Urban Management Bureau. He's been in the Climate Change Policy Headquarters since 2009.

[Presenters 11:15-11:50]

Ms. Lamia Kamal-Chaoui, OECD
Advisor to the OECD Secretary General. Previously, was the Head of the Urban Programme at OECD where she advised national governments and sub-national authorities and animated the work of the OECD Working Party on Urban Areas. She conducted an extensive programme of work on urban issues, including a series of Metropolitan Reviews (e.g. Milan, Madrid, Cape Town, Toronto, Stockholm, etc.), National Urban policy Reviews (e.g. Korea etc) and thematic reports.

Mr. Yannick Glemarec, UNDP
Joined the UN in 1989, Yannick has held increasingly responsible positions with UNDP Country Offices. appointed UNDP Executive Coordinator for the Global Environment Facility and Director of Environment Finance in New York in June 2007. In this present capacity, he has primary responsibility for the operational management of 1,000 projects and activities in over 140 countries.

Mr. Daniel Hoornweg, World Bank
Lead Urban Specialist with the World Bank's Urban Anchor. Dan is a municipal engineer with more than 25 years experience working with some 500 cities in more than 50 countries. Dan now leads the World Bank's programs on sustainable cities.

Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, UN-ESCAP
Ambassador Chung was the chief negotiator for climate change representing Korea since May 2008, and proposed the idea of NAMA Registry and carbon credit for NAMA. He contributed as a lead author for an IPCC special report on technology transfer and received a personal copy of 2007 Nobel Peace Prize as contributor to the IPCC Nobel Peace prize 2007.

Mr. Arab Hoballah, UNEP
As Chief of Sustainable Consumption and Production/SCP in UNEP since 2005, his main responsibility is looking for mainstreaming Resource Efficiency and SCP policies at various levels, in particular through a series of sectors. He also spent 14 years in the UNEP Regional Seas programme in the Mediterranean Region. He holds MSc in Economic Tools and Prospective Analysis, a MSc in Law and International Relations and a PhD in Economic Development.

Ms. Yamina Saheb, IEA
Joined the International Energy Agency where she heads the Sustainable Buildings Centre. This role includes conducting research and analysis on the use of policy instruments to reduce energy consumption in the buildings sector. She regularly presents papers and analysis results at international conferences and has contributed to a book published on sustainable cities.

Mr. Masahiko Horie, GOJ

Ms. Chikako Takase, UNCRD
Director of UNCRD since February 2012. Joined the UN in 1984, she has worked at as Economic Affairs Officer, including Division for Sustainable Development (DSD). Before joining UNCRD, she served as Deputy Chief of the Policy Coordination Branch, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

[Panelists 11:50-12:25]

Mr. Kenji Suzuki, Tokyo Met. Gov.
Director for International Environmental Cooperation in the Environment Bureau since 2010. Joined Tokyo Metropolitan Government in 1989, worked mainly on international relations of local governments in, e.g., TMG Research Institute and Governor's Headquarter Office. Currently, she is committed to disseminating TMG's challenges and experiences in climate change advising global solutions with local actions.

Mr. Mohamed Abushabab, UAE
Deputy director for energy and climate change at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, leading the UAE’s international climate change and UNFCCC. Also manages the UAE’s initiatives in the Clean Energy Ministerial and G20 clean energy and energy efficiency group, and serves as the government lead on the Global Sustainable Cities Network, founded by the UAE with China, Denmark, and Sweden. Prior to this position, he was stationed at the permanent Mission of the UAE to the United Nations in New York. He graduated from the American University.

Organized by Government of Japan (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cabinet Secretariat)
Co-Organizers:
City of Yokohama, Tokyo Metropolitan Government and other local municipalities that are actively involved in building sustainable cities
C40, CITYNET, ICLEI