



United Nations Secretary-General's Climate Action Summit

"Sustainable Cities: Hubs of Climate Action and Innovation"

Dinner hosted by

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

United Nations Human Settlements Programme

Government of Kenya and Government of Turkey

Monday, 23 September 2019, 18:00 – 20:00

South Dining Room, UNHQ, New York

While cities are economically and socially vulnerable to climate change impacts, they are also responsible for 70 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions. With the Paris Agreement paving a path to low-emission climate-resilient development, cities are squarely in the driver's seat accelerating our collective movement on this path to sustainability. Cities nurture innovation, ingenuity and leadership. We need to fully utilize their power and valour to preserve life on our planet by slowing down climate change and reversing environmental degradation.

As major engines for economic growth, cities and associated industries serve as a testing field for new business models, circular economy concepts and resource efficiency based product designs that are both climate- and environmentally-friendly and economically attractive. Innovation, as the key link between the conservation of resources and the high quality of life for all city inhabitants, provides the immense opportunity for private enterprises and intrepid entrepreneurs to develop break-through solutions to address the most pressing environmental challenges while also increasing their revenues.

Strengthening municipal finance, supported by robust legal and regulatory frameworks, transparency, accountability and improved capacities, as well as multi-stakeholder and public-private partnerships, can be an effective means to mobilize a variety of resources to finance sustainable urban development and city climate action.

The Infrastructure, Cities and Local Action track's focus is on scaling up ambitious commitments on low-emission and resilient infrastructure, in particular land-based transportation, buildings, water and waste systems and the requisite private and multilateral development bank financing.

The evening reception, as the main social gathering event on the occasion of the SG's Climate Action Summit, will provide an opportunity to celebrate cities' climate leadership, share success stories and initiate new partnerships. It will feature a lively and engaging debate by Heads of State and Government, candid voices of youth, and thought provoking thematic conversations steered by heads of intergovernmental organizations, mayors and high-level officials.



Abu Dhabi 8-13
February 2020



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

www.unhabitat.org/wuf