



Supportive environments
for sustainable living



DRIVERS, PASSENGERS OR BYSTANDERS? The role of local governments in addressing societal challenges

Training workshop - programme overview

Many European cities have made tremendous progress in integrating sustainability issues into their political and administrative procedures: there are sustainability departments and officers, strategies and targets, reports and indicators. However, as local sustainability processes become more institutionalized, they also risk becoming disconnected from the very local communities whose quality of life they are to be addressing.

The training focuses on the role of local governments in local transitions towards sustainable lifestyles and a low-carbon society. Participants will be introduced to the idea of transitions for a better understanding of how change happens. More importantly, the participants will have the chance to experience themselves a transition management process as one of the means of addressing societal challenges and influencing the direction of change. Setting out on a journey into the year 2050, the participants will explore the future of urban governance and reflect on the role that they as local government representatives, but also as citizens, can play in bringing about more sustainable cities.

Moving from traditional public participation approaches to co-creation, where efforts of the local administration are aligned with those of local community actors, can bring about a leap in terms of sustainable development. If well used, creativity and knowledge found at grassroots level have the power to turn a city around. In the current climate of austerity European cities simply cannot afford to neglect these valuable resources.





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Day 1: SUSTAINABILITY CHALLENGES

12:00	Lunch
13:30	Welcome Introduction of participants and programme
14:10	Sustainability transitions in the urban environment Introducing key concepts
15:20	Break
15:40	Sustainability transitions and governance How does change happen?
17:10	Break
17:30	It's your turn! Identifying local challenges
18:30	End of Day 1
19:30	Dinner

Day 2: A JOURNEY INTO THE FUTURE

09:00	Envisioning urban governance in 2050 Interactive exercise
12:30	Lunch
13:30	Mapping pathways World Café session
15:00	Break
15:20	Experimenting towards the future Interactive exercise
17:10	Sustainability urban governance in 2050 Common reflection





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18:20 End of Day 2

19:00 Dinner

Day 3: UNDERSTANDING THE PROCESS

09:00 **From the content to the process: What did we do and how?**
Group discussion

10:50 Break

11:15 **Learning for sustainable development**
What can I take for myself and for my organization?

12:40 **Wrap-up and conclusions**

13:00 Farewell lunch

