



International Urban Development Association
Association internationale du développement urbain



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Congress statement

Cities play a pivotal role in national economic growth. Large conurbations, in particular benefit from a large and skilled labour force, economic of scale and the agglomeration of business activities, has the efficiency due to the clustering of firms of the given industry or related industries, as well as demand for intermediate and consumer goods located in one territory / geographical area.

However, the economic of scale alone is not enough to ensure the sustainable urban development. Cities need to be creative in order to find a balance between the economic growth, environment protection and social harmony.

Cities need to provide an ideal environment for innovation, entrepreneurship and knowledge-intensive activities. However, cities differ in their degree of success in building knowledge-based economies; some cities are better in stimulating innovation as compared to the others.

The 33rd congress took into account three main dimensions of innovations for sustainable development:

- The urban environment that could fosters innovation.
- The process of territorial innovation
- The management & implementation of innovation in the dynamics of urban development to create innovative solution supporting a sustainable urban future.

The notion of **suitable urban environment** for innovation includes:

- Promoting collaboration and exchanging idea between private, public and university / research centre.
- Provide support for entrepreneurship.
- Incentive on upgrading skills and capacity building.

- A more participative community.
- An efficient and competitive market which is expected leading to more innovation.
- Legal framework that supports innovation.

As Cities face different challenges and constraints, building an urban environment that supports innovation will be different from one city to another city.

The **process of innovation** itself can be apprehended from different perspectives:

- C (concept) & K (knowledge) theory according to which all existing knowledge has to be integrated in order to form a new concept.
- Crisis / opportunity that can lead to more creativity
- Multidisciplinary team and flexible organization that can speed up the innovation process.

One objective of the Congress was to share experiences on the **management of innovation** and the implementation of specific innovation in particular urban service areas.

- **Innovation as a global priority** and a driving engine of the city such as in the case of :
 - Taipei Creative Corridor that lumps all the useful links together in order to compete with other Asian Cities CBD.
 - Hsinchu knowledge based economy.
 - Transforming La Villette into a cultural park.
- **Innovation on urban services :**
 - How to achieve an effective multi modality in transportation (train, bus, car, bicycle and walking).

**KAOHSIUNG
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**TAIPEI
 INNOVATIVE URBAN
 SERVICES**



- How to economize mobility by optimizing inter modal transportation and developing more collaboration.
 - The use of technology for personal mobility, time based service and location based service for the rural and urban area.
 - Housing policy and health care policy for the poor to ensure social harmony.
 - Community carte system which promote the social inclusion.
- **Innovation on environment preservation:**
- Eco-city concept, to encourage pre-coordinated urban planning and development control and enhancing the biodiversity of the existing environment.
 - Green-building : an energy efficient building
 - Eco-roof: decreases the cost of heating and cooling, filtering air and increase habitat area.
 - Renewal energy : solar energy, ocean energy and wind energy.
 - Wetland to clean and filter the storm water.
- **Innovation on spatial planning:**
- Creative class always look for the centre, therefore city planning should accommodate the preference and requirement of the creative class in order to thrive economically.
 - The real centre of creative class is the concentration of activities, synergies and mixed use (live, work, play, cultural heritage, education at the same location).
 - Therefore the creative class always prefer the mixed use

cluster type development.

Debates focused on the relationships between the individual and the collective, between centralised and localised authority. In industrialised nations, the main urban services have been organised in a collective, centralised manner. Many countries have constructed and implemented a model of urban services for everyone, based on the idea of universal public service. This model implied strong authority roles, monopolistic positions, price adjustments, etc.

Under the effect of varied paths of development this model is difficult to maintain or is abandoned, thus resulting in a dual model of urbanism.

The current social developments, particularly noticeable in cities, challenge the previous methods or organisation, since problems are increasingly being managed at the individual level. Therefore, there is a need for technological innovation to respond to these developments.

Concerns about personal health and safety (because of climate change) find an echo in many cities around the world. Even if the expression of these concerns remains vague and varied, they still provide a favourable environment for technological innovations to emerge for the direct benefit of the citizens.

Our debates also tend to demonstrate that technological innovation is both a cause and an effect of urban development. It can play a leading role in forming the structures of our cities but it must also respond to new needs being expressed. What is essential is to use

technological innovation to promote the well-being of the global population, of which a very large majority will, in tomorrow's world, live in urban areas.

Finally, the innovation of urban development is a cycle, by creating the environment suitable for innovation; the territory/city will have competitive advantages to drive the economic growth and thus will have more resources to develop the city & its society becoming more innovative.

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