

ANNOUNCEMENT

Pre ICLEI World Congress 2006

Researchers' Symposium on Sustainable Human Settlements and their Governance

Cape Town, South Africa
24-25 February 2006

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, together with the University of Cape Town, invite you to a Researchers' Symposium to be held on the 24-25 February 2006 prior to the ICLEI World Congress 2006 in Cape Town, South Africa. This event seeks to attract researchers from a wide range of disciplines involved in empirical and applied research in the field of Sustainable Human Settlements and their governance.

The objectives of the symposium are:

- ✎ To gather researches from across the world involved in research on urban sustainability and urban governance;
- ✎ To share information on new findings, theoretical considerations, innovative technologies, methods of enquiry and comparative studies on urban sustainability;
- ✎ To reflect on the interface between research and practice; and
- ✎ To discuss and debate mechanisms for improving the integration of research into local government implementation processes.

The University of Cape Town (UCT) will act as coordinator and institutional partner for this event. An Academic Advisory Committee, comprising academics from UCT, the University of Witwatersrand, North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus), University of Stellenbosch, as well as Simon Fraser University (Canada) has been convened, to provide guidance and scholarly input to the planning of this event. This committee will also be responsible for planning the conference programme and ensuring that the outcomes from the Symposium are presented at the ICLEI World Congress (27 February-3 March 2006).

The proposed structure of the 2-day symposium is as follows:

- ✎ Introductory Plenary Session including two key note speakers
- ✎ Parallel Sessions where researchers give formal presentations
- ✎ Evening Poster Session (Posters will be on display throughout the Symposium)
- ✎ Panel discussions on issues arising from presentations including research needs
- ✎ Workshop sessions to explore opportunities for research collaboration, networking, funding and support for future research events.
- ✎ Final Plenary Session

We seek submissions on a wide range of issues relating to the governance of human settlements including specific issues in natural urban resource management, urban resource consumption, production and distribution, pollution, climate change, adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk management etc. Papers of a theoretical nature are also welcome. Interested participants are also invited to submit their ideas or proposals for sessions in the programme. We anticipate that the key issues to discuss with local authorities will emerge from academic submissions and the structure of the ICLEI programme. The intention is to identify the main themes for the symposium once the abstracts have been reviewed.

All researchers wishing to present a paper or poster should submit an abstract of approximately 200 words in MS Word format to: iclei_ct@enviro.uct.ac.za by 30 November 2005. All abstracts will be reviewed by the Academic Advisory Committee and authors of selected papers will be notified of the outcome of the review process by 20 December 2005.

Participation will cost 100 Euro per person and will cover registration, teas and lunches. Registration for the Research Symposium together with the ICLEI World Congress can be done with the normal registration form for this event or via the internet, see: www.iclei.org/worldcongress2006.

Registration for the Symposium only can be done with the local hosts directly.

This 2-day Researchers' Symposium will be held at the Breakwater Lodge, V & A Waterfront, Cape Town. For further details regarding travel to and accommodation in Cape Town please refer to the ICLEI website: www.iclei.org/worldcongress2006.

For further details regarding the Researchers' Symposium, please contact

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www.iclei.org/worldcongress2006/researcher