

45th ISOCARP Congress

LOW CARBON CITIES

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WORKSHOP 5:

The Management and Delivery of Low Carbon Cities

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*papers presented at the ISOCARP 2009 Congress in Porto are in bold

The Workshop 5 was about capacity building and about organising and financing the management and delivery of *Low Carbon Cities*.

The challenging task to achieve *Low Carbon Cities* will place great burdens to public authorities and institutions, developers, local communities and individuals - that will be all directly affected. In short period of time they will have to move beyond the present pilot schemes to comprehensive low carbon management that will need to become the “norm”. The necessary restructuring of existing urban areas and upgrading and retrofitting of buildings to secure a much better energy performance will be even more challenging.

How should these necessary tasks need to be best managed and delivered towards *Low Carbon Cities*?

- How well equipped is the (traditional) planner to cope with this new mode of development?
- How should planners need to be engaged with decision and policy makers and local communities to secure schemes that are both low carbon and meet people needs?



Institutional Context for management and delivery of *Low Carbon Cities*

Policies and planning instruments for management and delivery of *Low Carbon Cities*



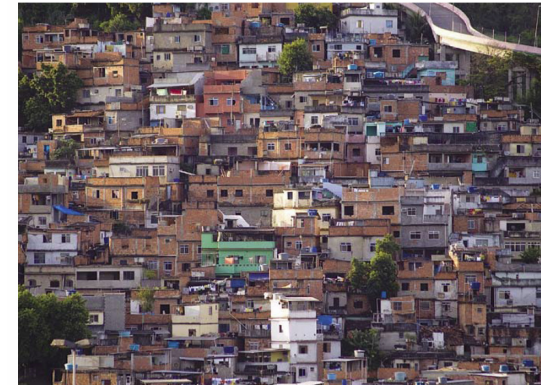
Local capacities and skills for management and delivery of *Low Carbon Cities*



Towards sustainable management and delivery of zero-carbon cities?

What is the appropriate level for action towards *Low Carbon Cities* – should this be the (inter)national, regional or the (intra)city level?

- **Multi-level approach and cooperation is needed urgently!**
- **International organisations** need to be responsible for recommendations, standards and monitoring as well as dissemination of information and benchmarking.
- **Common but differentiated roles and responsibilities are needed between developed and developing countries.**
- **Central government policy** is essential for success but implementation depends on particular **local governments** (municipalities) policies and other public and private actors.
- The **national urban policy** needs to address also the geographical, morphological and functional characteristics of urban areas and not only the administrative structure.
- Spatial and urban planning need to be strengthen at the **regional level.**
- **Cross-border cooperation** between cities and regions need to be supported by financial resources and projects of common interest.
- **Change of life-styles and consumer patterns** (mostly in developed countries) are urgently required.



أحد مشروعات تنمية ريو دي جينيرو، المبنى هناك تكبراً كبيراً للتوترات الاقتصادية السلبية في البرازيل على معدلات عدم المساواة



What are the innovative practices, new approaches to management, finance and delivery of *Low Carbon Cities*?

- Climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, energy efficiency measures and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions need to become part of land use, economic, housing and transport policies at all levels of governance.

POLICY TYPE:	INSTRUMENTS
International level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy recommendations, standards, monitoring, evaluation, benchmarking, publications, media - Pricing the localities for carbon emissions per capita and GDP level - Subsidiarity approach for developing countries
Institutional change, management and advocacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Size and function of municipalities and regions - Special agencies: especially for urban revitalisation - Advocacy, partnerships, networks and policy dialogues - Information, targets, benchmarking and »league tables«
Economic intervention: direct investment, taxation or subsidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision and upgrading of infrastructure: transport, energy, utilities and social facilities - Subsidies towards urban revitalisation - Development and environmental taxes - Property taxes - »Trading« in development permits
Regulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Efficient spatial (land use) and urban planning - Restrictions on specific land uses - Density controls and »urban boundaries« - Development controls - Environmental impact assessments

John Maynard Keynes
(1883-1946)

"The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money" (1935)

Governing

Planned economic development

Emphasis on national markets

Public leadership

Municipalities as societal builders

Strong municipal control

Municipal technical services

Municipal societal services

Adam Smith
(1733-1790)

"An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations" (1776)

Governance

Market economy and the invisible hand

Individual freedom and preferences

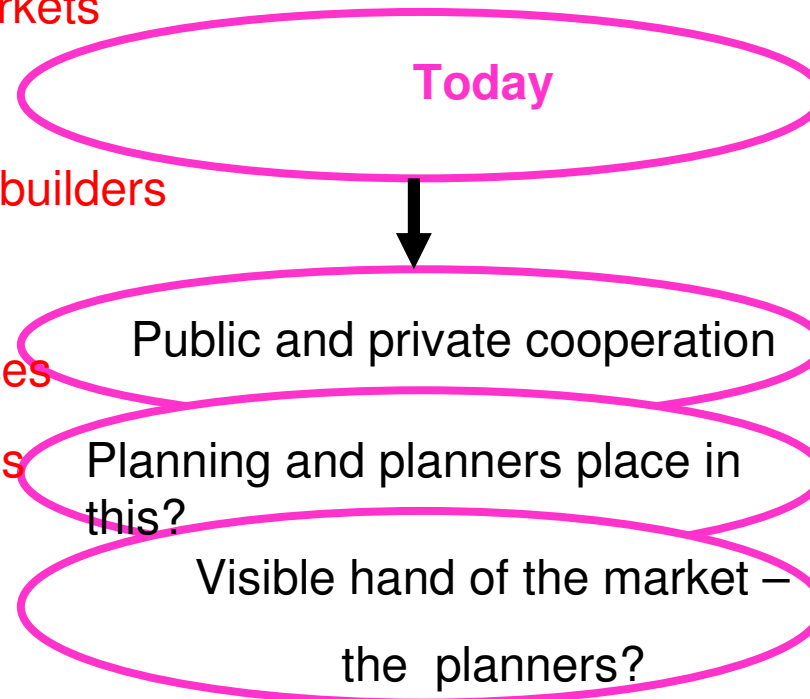
Global markets

Municipality as a service function

Planning as facilitator for the market

Privatisation of public services

Services provided by private and public



- **Implementation of spatial planning and other laws** and by-laws at the local level is the most important issue.

- Enhance the **political interest** over the complexity of the Low Carbon City issue.

- Greater understanding of the **science and technology** that need to be put at community service.

- **Training of municipal planners** how to introduce and “translate” low carbon policies in land use plans and local sectoral policies in order to strengthen the ability of local government to manage and deliver Low Carbon City.

- **Local government** facilitates action through persuasion, education and provision of incentives to local inhabitants and businesses.

- Municipalities influence people’s day-to-day lives and can promote **behavioral changes and life-style patterns**.

- Development of **regional cooperation** (formal or informal) between municipalities in land use and building standards.

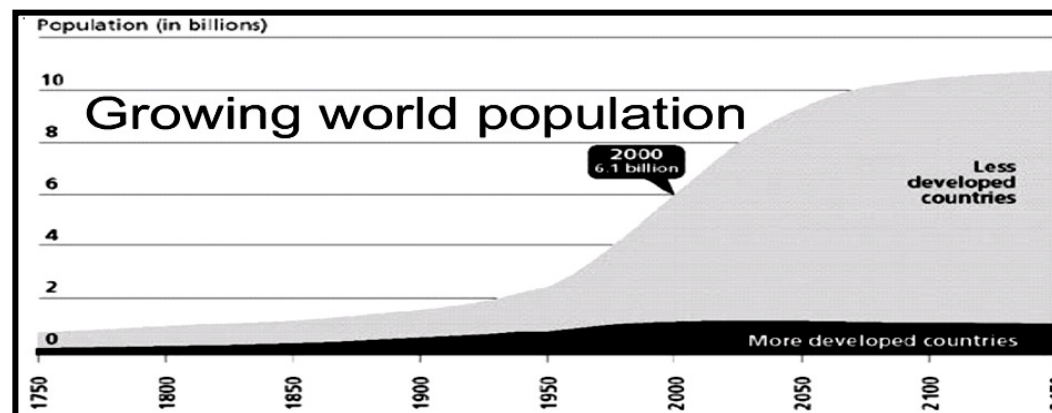
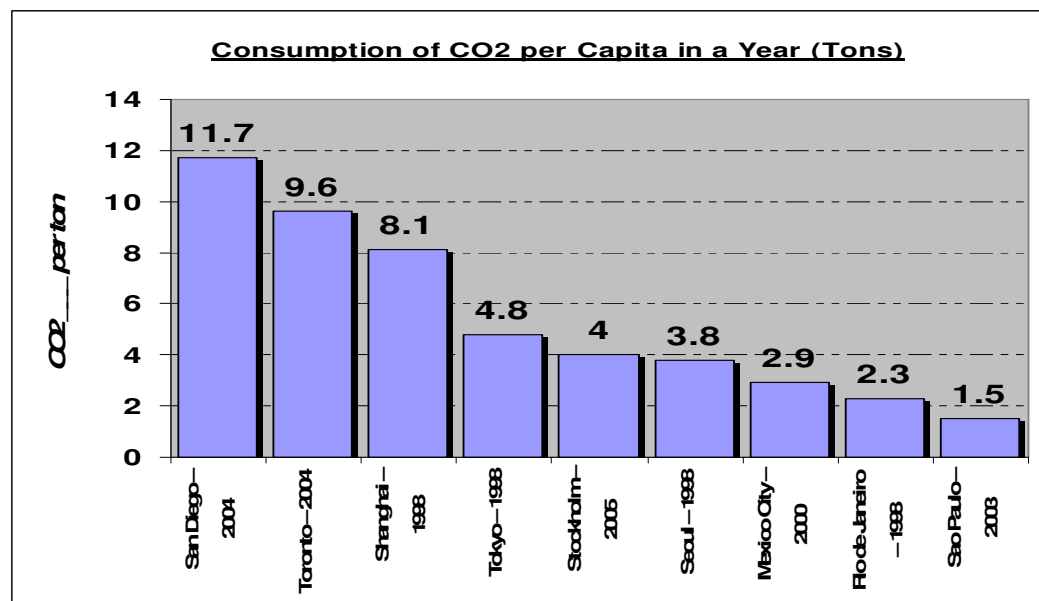
- **Public awareness** through the involvement of the civil society in environmental issues.

- Incorporating the environmental issues in the curricula of all **education levels**.

- Promotion of **spatial planning studies** at universities world-wide.

- The role of **ISOCARP** and planners associations at the (inter)national level.

What are the skills needed to plan, manage and deliver **Low Carbon Cities**?





“Cities and local authorities have the potential to influence both the causes and consequences of climate change. They can also contribute to national and international strategies to prevent unacceptable climate change impacts. The cities need to provide leadership and direction and implement practical initiatives for the communities and citizens they represent. In a participatory manner, they can develop local strategies towards a sustainable future, addressing climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation through good governance, urban planning and management including the application of new building codes and other appropriate laws designed to ensure minimal GHG emissions. It is therefore imperative that urban planning looks at climate change as an opportunity to reassess itself and the models that it has promoted across the globe in the past, and looks at responses that fully recognises the mistakes of the past and the new trends in city growth.”

Cities and Climate Change: the Perspectives of UN HABITAT, ISOCARP, Review 05, 2009.