



**Sustainable Cities – Investing in Energy Efficient and Climate Resilient
Urban Development: Global Perspective
Hilton Istanbul Conference and Exhibition Centre
7 November 2012, 10.30 am-12.30 pm**

SESSION BACKGROUND

Context

Growing cities and their impact on the sustainability of lives as well as infrastructures are one of the most pressing challenges facing humanity today. With half of the world population now living in cities, rising to an estimated 70 percent by 2050, cities represent not only a threat but also a business and economic opportunity. Cities are the engines of economic growth, centers of social activism, innovation, and wealth.

Due to the high concentration of population, consumption patterns in key sectors such as transport, industry, waste disposal, and energy use, cities contribute to as much as 70 percent of all greenhouse gases emissions. Cities are also very vulnerable to the consequences of a changing climate, such as rising sea levels, increases in storm frequency, heat waves, and salinization of groundwater sources.

Objectives

Cities are at the center of finding innovative solutions to tackle climate change. This session will showcase cities in both developed and developing countries that have been at the frontline in taking actions to address the dual challenge of mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and reducing the risks and vulnerability of their own people and infrastructure to the adverse impacts of climate change. It will provide an opportunity to share best practices, give information on how to tackle exiting challenges such as financial constraints, and provide policy guidelines in support of sustainable urban development.



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Moderator: **Ms.Lin O’Grady** *Deputy Director, Municipal and Environmental Infrastructure, EBRD*

10:30am-10:40am	Introduction
10:40am-11:00am	Keynote address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Mr.Alex Nickson, Climate Change Adaptation Strategy Leader at the Greater London Authority (GLA)</i>
11:00am-11:50am	Panel Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Honourable Dorin Chirtoaca, Mayor Chisinau, Moldova.</i> ▪ <u>Mr.Dayo Mobereola</u>, Managing Director, LAMATA ▪ <i>Dr. Do Tu Lan, General Secretary of the Viet Nam Urban Forum Executive Board, Ministry of Construction. She will discuss practices on urban adaptation to climate change in Viet Nam.</i>
11:50am-12:20pm	Question and Answer Session
12:20pm-12:30pm	Summary and Wrap up of key Issues