

Activity Announcement

Study Tours to 15 cities that take the lead in URBAN Innovation

In November last year, UCLG and Metropolis along with the city of Guangzhou co-sponsored the 2nd Guangzhou International Award for Urban Innovation. This second cycle attracted 259 entries from 177 cities worldwide. Of these entries, 15 were elected by an independent Technical Committee as outstanding initiatives. All fifteen local authorities were invited to a present their initiatives during an international conference on learning from urban innovation after which an international jury selected the five award-winners. As disclosed in our previous communication, our Community together with the Guangzhou Award Secretariat and Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation are planning to **conduct a series of study tours to the fifteen short-listed cities and local authorities**. The study tours will include scholars, local & regional officials as well as media from around the world. These 15 cities will be our target destinations for the months to come starting in April 2015. The purpose of these tours is to compile more in depth case studies and documentation and to promote peer learning within the UCLG network. **The Community cordially invites you to join us in this endeavor.**

Why you should be part of this project:

1. To gain **FIRST-HAND KNOWLEDGE** on the best practices selected by the GZ Award
2. To **CONNECT** with Community members and expand your learning and knowledge sharing networks
3. To benefit from **EXPERT ADVICE** on urban management for your city or organization
4. To better understand and apply urban innovation to problem solving
5. To interact with and enjoy new experiences with experts and your peers from different cultures!

The proposed study tours plan for 2015 can be found on the next page. Your ideas and suggestions to improve this project are very welcome. Should you have any queries, please feel free to contact UCLG Community on Urban Innovation Secretariat in Guangzhou at community@guangzhouaward.org.

Acting as an integrated learning platform, **UCLG Community on Urban Innovation is dedicated to decentralized cooperation and peer learning**. We would like to thank you for your constant support. Also, it is never too late to join our Community and interact with our members.

Study Tours Plan for 2015

No.	Time	Venue	Name of the Initiatives
1	April	Christchurch (New Zealand) Melbourne (Australia)	1.Christchurch: Our Ever Evolving City 2.4°C Cooler – Using green infrastructure to build a climate resilient prosperous Melbourne
2	May	Buenos Aires (Argentina) Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)	1. Buenos Aires City’s Collaborative Roundtable for Innovation and Creativity 2. Rio Operations Center: integrating data and monitoring utilities in a truly intelligent system
3	June	Boston (United States) Antioquia (Columbia)	1.Youth Lead the Change: Participatory Budgeting Boston 2.Educational Parks: innovating the educational system in Antioquia.
4	July	Eskişehir (Turkey) - Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates) Dakar (Senegal)	1.Cherish the Memory of the City...Eskisehir City Memory Museum 2.Estidama 3.Darkar Municipal finance program: Accessing the Power of Capital Markets to Improve the Quality of Life for the Urban Poor
5	September	Gwangju (Korea)	GHGs Emission Program in Household Carbon Bank in Gwangju
6	September	Jakarta (Indonesia)	The Pluit Reservoir Revitalization Project
7	October	Bristol (United Kingdom) Hamburg (Germany) Linköping (Sweden)	1.Smart City Bristol 2.The International Building Exhibition IBA Hamburg and its Climate Protection Concept “Renewable Wilhelmsburg” 3.Linköping - Carbon Neutral 2025-where ideas come to life

NOTE:

1. Preliminary Research

* All participants for the study tour are supposed to pre-study the related initiatives before the trip.

2. Field Trip

* All study tour will composed by on-site visit to the projects and thematic seminars/workshops, co-organized by the local governments, UCLG Community on Urban Innovation, Guangzhou Award Secretariat and Guangzhou Institute for Urban Innovation.

3. Findings and Reports

* Every participant should compile a final report on the project research. All findings and reports should be submitted to the Guangzhou Award Secretariat, which will publish the results of the research.

4. Expenses

* Participants take this tour (s) at their own expense.