



United Nations

## — HABITAT III —

### URBAN LIBRARY REPORT

Submitted by Lead Organization	
Name of lead organization	ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability
City and country where organization is based	Bonn, Germany
Title of Urban Library event	Fostering Renewables through Innovation: Ambitious renewable energy targets as essential for an integrated, resilient and transformative New Urban Agenda
Date of Urban Library event	10/18/2016
Name of partner organizations with information on city, and country where organization is based	100%Renewables, Bonn, Germany – Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Berlin, Germany – WBCSD, World Business Council for sustainable development, Geneva, Switzerland – REN21, Paris, France – IRENA, The International Renewable Energy Agency, Bonn, Germany – Municipality of Quito, Quito, Ecuador – Communitas, New York, United States – WWF, Washington D.C., United States
Number of participants	80
Percentage of women participants at the event	50%



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<p><b>Background information on Urban Library event (themes, issues, context).</b></p>	<p>Exploring options and adding a higher percentage of renewable energy (RE) in our energy supply is of crucial importance if we aim to achieve the 1.5° Celsius scenario called for in the 2015 Paris Agreement. Cities, towns and regions all over the world are making significant advances by committing to innovative and ambitious targets, policies, and actions, using efficient RE technologies. Several cities and regions have taken the lead, by committing to 100%RE for all activities and sectors. The advantages of transitioning to Renewable Energy are profound, helping to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduce greenhouse gas emissions;</li> <li>• increase resilience of the energy system and urban infrastructure;</li> <li>• develop a decentralized energy supply, ideally using local renewables;</li> <li>• create new job opportunities and support local business (especially Small and Medium-sized Enterprises);</li> <li>• retain capital in the region (as there is no need to pay for energy imports); and</li> <li>• stimulate opportunities for technological and social innovation.</li> </ul> <p>Yet these impacts are only possible through enactment of policies and regulations, as well as the use of incentives and finance models which enable action, engage stakeholders and lead to results. This networking event will address the key actors: local government leaders, national and international agencies, as well as energy experts. It will explore how we can anchor RE into the New Urban Agenda of Habitat III. We will also address national and international framework conditions needed to enable ambitious necessary local action which can support the implementation of the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement. Partnership is a central element in all of this.</p>
<p><b>Concise summary of the event proceedings, including key points discussed.</b></p>	<p>Presentations from key cities – Thimphu (Bhutan), Barcelona (Spain), Boulder (USA), Vancouver (Canada) followed by technical discussion by representatives of partners organizations questions from the floor. Cities presented their challenges, projects, learned lessons and stated key needs to advance further. Technical expertise presented their initiatives and discussed how together they can unlock the innovation capacity of cities, towns and regions to rapidly scale up the renewable energy roll-out.</p>
<p><b>Concise summary of the publication launched or promoted at the event.</b></p>	<p>No publications or new initiatives have been launched at the event. Various initiatives were promoted such as the 100% Renewables Initiative, WWF Earth Hours City Challenge and various city initiatives.</p>
<p><b>Name, title, and organization of the 1st speaker</b></p>	<p>Raymond Louie, Acting Mayor, City of Vancouver, Canada</p>



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<b>Name, title, and organization of the 2nd speaker</b>	Matthew Appelbaum, Councilor, City of Boulder, USA
<b>Name, title, and organization of the 3rd speaker</b>	Janet Sanz, Deputy Mayor and Deputy for Environment, City of Barcelona;
<b>Name, title, and organization of the 4th speaker</b>	Kinlay Dorjee, Mayor, Thimphu Municipality, Bhutan
<b>Name, title, and organization of the 5th speaker</b>	Filippo Boselli, Policy Officer, Climate, Energy and Cities, World Future Council for the 100% RE Campaign
<b>Name, title, and organization of the 6th speaker</b>	Tania Rödiger-Vorwerk, Deputy Director-General BMZ and Vice-President REN21
<b>Name, title, and organization of the 7th speaker</b>	James Goldstein, Research Director, Communitas Coalition and Senior Fellow, Tellus Institute
<b>Name, title, and organization of the 8th speaker</b>	Elizabeth Press, Director of Planning and Programme Support, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) Vera Rodenhoff, Head of Division, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety Carina Borgström Hansson, Global Lead of the Earth Hour City Challenge, WWF