

PRESS RELEASE



URBAN PROFESSIONALS JOIN FORCES TO IMPLEMENT A HOLISTIC APPROACH FOR CITIES

A GLOBAL INITIATIVE SUPPORTED BY NEW ISO URBAN SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT STANDARDS AND THE WORLD URBAN AGENDA

Quito, 14th October 2016

FIDIC represents two million highly qualified professionals from consulting engineering firms in more than one hundred countries. They are involved in planning, designing and monitoring the construction of a large variety of key investments in buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment that are often part of urban projects and constitute 70% of total investment. Based on their vast experience all around the world on these urban projects, consulting engineers recognize the urgent need for a holistic approach to cities so as to deal adequately with climate change and overcome a range of existing obstacles such as the management structures found in public utilities where services provided by local authorities are often in silo. FIDIC, the international federation of consulting engineers, and EFCA, the European federation, jointly published a white paper “RETHINK CITIES” summarizing their experience and advocating for such a global holistic approach. UN Habitat and UNEP joined FIDIC to publish “ABC for SC” a glossary for sustainable cities.

AFNOR and the ISO international technical committee TC 268

As a national standardization organization, AFNOR is the member for France of the international standardization organizations ISO, the International Organization for Standardization (for all sectors except the electro-technical and telecom sectors) and IEC, the International Electro-technical Commission, and is responsible for representing and defending the interests of France's industrial organizations.

AFNOR manages the ISO technical committee ISO/TC 268 "Sustainable cities and communities" which is responsible for standardization in the field of sustainable cities covering management system (ISO 37101), indicators and the "smartness" of vital infrastructures.

ISO/TC 268 comprises 27 participating members' countries with 22 countries as observers

On 13th July 2016, ISO/TC 268 published ISO 37101, an international sustainability management system standard for smart sustainable cities/communities that strongly supports the implementation of a holistic approach to urban projects. The implementation of this standard is currently being piloted in Hangzhou (China).

Urban professionals including architects, consulting engineers, town planners and city utility operators, are strategically well placed to contribute to the promotion and implementation of a holistic approach in line with the World Urban Agenda initiative. **FIDIC and ISO/AFNOR have therefore joined forces in a joint Habitat III side event in Quito (20th October 2016; 9:30 am to**

10:30 am), to present the new ISO urban sustainability management standard and to discuss with urban professionals the best way forward for implementing a holistic approach.

Panelists in the side event's round table from IWA, ISOCARP, IFHP, AdP villes en développement, IFLA and ICLEI, will identify action items to be considered and adapted in the light of the ongoing pilot programmes in Hangzhou and other cities which are being encouraged to participate. The aim is that urban professionals partner with these pilots through a link with the group of cities that will be organized by AFNOR to support the urban ISO standard.

Action items help implement a holistic global approach to cities through ISO sustainability standards in line with the World Urban Agenda initiative, include certification and training, the publication of guidelines and the development of specialized tools jointly with ISO, and by each partner according to its specific needs.

FIDIC and ISO/AFNOR will extend their cooperation to cover the following objectives:

FIDIC

will include and develop elements of the new World Urban Agenda adopted in QUITO in training programmes, notably the “FIDIC Young Professionals Training Programme” and the FIDIC Certified Consulting Engineers-programme, and in training sessions on the ISO 37101 sustainability management standard for cities/communities,

will develop related best practice tools and guidance for consulting engineers.

ISO/AFNOR

will promote in their activities the partnerships, including those with urban professionals, that are being established for testing the operation of implementation of standards,

will incorporate lessons learnt from these operational experiment of ISO 37101 by some cities, in the development of any further standards and related documentation or tools.

About FIDIC

The International Federation of Consulting Engineers was founded in Switzerland in 1913. It now represents more than 100 national associations and over 40,000 consulting engineering firms around the world, employing some 2 million professionals.

About AFNOR

The international AFNOR Group designs and deploys solutions based on voluntary standards around the world. The Group serves the general interest in its standardization activities and provides services in such competitive sectors as training, professional and technical information and intelligence, assessment and certification.

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