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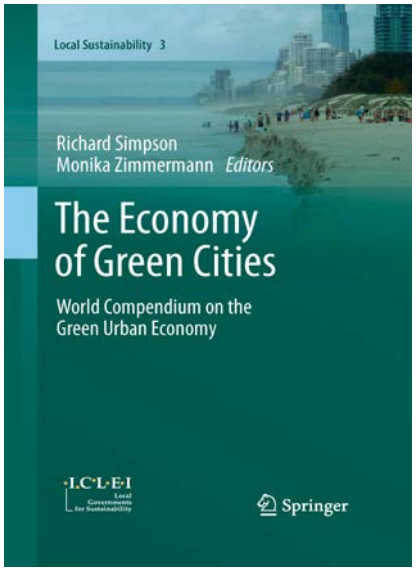

The Economy of Green Cities

A World Compendium on the Green Urban Economy

R. Simpson, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Bonn, Germany;
M. Zimmermann, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, Bonn, Germany (Eds.)

Green Economy is a key theme triggered by the process around the June 2012 Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development. The inclusive Green Urban Economy approach embodies a challenge to local government leaders and city practitioners to apply existing tools and methods in new ways to develop innovative approaches by engaging economic-environmental considerations and stakeholders in a much more active fashion.

This volume bridges the gap between the global promotion of the Green Economy and the manifestation of this new development strategy at the urban level. Green cities are an imperative solution, not only in meeting global environmental challenges but also in helping to ensure socio-economic prosperity at the local level.

Environmentalists must learn to understand the language and dynamics of the economy, and to combine important economic interests (such as cost savings) with ecological interests (such as saving of resources). Business and economic leaders must also understand and accommodate ecological interests to advance social improvement and sustainable development.

Contents: Foreword.- PART I: Agenda Setting for the Urban Future with a Green Urban Economy.- PART II: Setting a Green Economy Agenda for Cities.- PART III: Joining Forces to Accelerate Action.- PART IV: Strategies and Approaches for Greening Urban Economies.- PART V: Experiences and Examples from City Governments.- Index.

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