

Global Town Hall

Where cities meet countries at Rio+20

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 4-6 June 2011

What?

The Global Town Hall shall be a **vibrant common space for dialogue and interaction** in the middle of the Rio+20 conference venue. It will host an **exciting, rich and diverse program** in which important actors from all parts of the world report about how local sustainability advanced over the past years, share and debate visions, launch initiatives, sign cooperation agreements and **get involved in the Rio+20 themes**. Discussions will address how local governments can best contribute to global targets for protecting global common goods, how to green the urban economy and how to improve global and local governance systems. Open space and an inclusive amphitheater style, with speakers seated in a central circle, will allow for **lively and participatory discussions**.



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Who?

The Global Town Hall is convened by ICLEI in cooperation with partners. **Local government associations**, UN agencies, national governments, business, the science community, NGOs and others are invited to join and contribute. **Delegates** at the conference will meet with mayors, experts, negotiators and others. Remote participation via video link will also be possible for those unable to travel to Rio de Janeiro. **Media** will be welcome at any time, and our partners and endorsers can use plenty of opportunities to present themselves. **Funders and sponsors are invited** to contribute financially and thus make their strong engagement for local sustainability visible.

Why?

By organizing a Global Town Hall at the central Rio+20 venue we provide local government actors with a forum where they can **interact** with the national negotiators, **debate** the conference proceedings with their peers, and **demonstrate** their commitments and achievements. This will show the variety of **exciting initiatives being undertaken at the local level** and clearly display the importance of including local action when talking about sustainable development globally. Only by taking the full range of local governments' activities into account can global sustainable development governance be effective and **global sustainability** goals achieved.



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Next?

The Global Town Hall will be a joint and open endeavor by many, for many. All those who wish to get involved in shaping the Global Town Hall – as participants, partners, endorsers or sponsors – are invited to get in touch with the ICLEI World Secretariat as soon as possible.