



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development

UN Climate Change Conference UK 2021/COP26, Glasgow German Pavilion: Cities Day - BMZ Side Event

“Cities built4climate - Shaping the global transformation in construction”

11th of November, 11:30 – 13:00

Background:

In the wake of rapid urbanization, the global building stock is expected to double in the next 30 years. The construction and operation of buildings already account for nearly 40% of global energy-related GHG emissions. The mere use of conventional building materials (concrete, steel, aluminum) is projected to consume three quarters of the CO₂ budget for the 1.5 degree target. In addition to the mitigation potential of the sector, the need for adaptation measures for the built environment is significant in the face of increasing extreme weather events and natural disasters. At the same time, we experience the rise of the urbanization of poverty: nearly a quarter of the world's urban population - almost 900 million people - live in informal settlements often under inhumane conditions. By 2030, three billion people are expected to live without access to adequate housing.

This makes it clear: a global turnaround for the buildings and construction sector is as important as never before. How we shape the built environment first and foremost in our cities and metropolitan areas is key to reach global climate and social development goals.

Key objective:

The aim of the event is to position German Development Cooperation (GDC) against the backdrop of the urgently needed transformation of the urban buildings and construction sector in the wider context of Germany's upcoming G7 presidency. To this end, the relevance, challenges and potentials for climate protection in the sector will be discussed with partners from ministries, UN networks and think tanks from the Global South as well as Germany. At the same time, the event is intended as a starting point of co-operation for the successful

implementation of two new BMZ support initiatives in the field of sustainable construction in cities.

Draft Programme

Moderated by Martina Otto (Head of Secretariat, Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction, UNEP)

11:30 – 11:40 Welcoming note by BMZ: “The role of sustainable buildings and construction within German Development Cooperation” (Dr. Heike Henn, Head of Directorate Climate and Energy, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development)

11:40 – 11:55 Setting the scene: “Shaping the global transformation in construction” (title tbc)
Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans Joachim Schellnhuber (Founder and Managing Director, Bauhaus der Erde)

11:55- 12:00: Introduction of panelists by moderator

12:00 – 12:50 Panel discussion

Panelists:

Ernest Dione

(Member of the UN One Planet Network for Sustainable Buildings & Construction & Senegalese Ministry of Environment) (tbc)

Dr. Heike Henn

(Head of Directorate Climate and Energy, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development)

Dr. Susanne Lottermoser

(Head of Directorate Urban Development, German Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community)

Prof. Edgar Pieterse

(Director, African Centre for Cities) (tbc)

Ana Claudia Rossbach

(Regional Manager Latin America, Cities Alliance)

Prof. Dr. Dr. Hans Joachim Schellnhuber

(Founder and Managing Director, Bauhaus der Erde) (tbc)

12:50 – 13:00 Wrap Up & Closure by Moderator