

# SEVILLA 2007

Fifth European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns  
*Taking the Commitments to the Streets*

21-24 March 2007, Seville, Spain

V Conferencia Europea de Ciudades y Pueblos Sostenibles  
*Llevando los Compromisos a la calle*

Cinquième Conférence Européenne des Villes Durables  
*Répandre les Engagements dans la rue*

Quinta Conferenza Europea delle Città Sostenibili  
*Portare gli Impegni nelle strade*



## Final Invitation

Organised by:

**NO SDO**  
AYUNTAMIENTO DE SEVILLA  
Medio Ambiente

**ICLEI**  
Local  
Governments  
for Sustainability

Co-organised by:





Dear colleague,

It is my pleasure to invite you to participate in the Fifth European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns, which will take place in the City of Seville from the 21-24 March 2007.



By sharing a debate with mayors, officials and experts from European local governments committed to the Aalborg Commitments and local sustainability, we can reflect, exchange and generate new ideas and interests that serve to make communities across Europe better places to live in.

One of the main goals of local authorities is to make their communities environmentally and socially sustainable. The construction of a sustainable society model must be taken into account in all government actions and programs. We consider it essential to not only consider the economical or social potential of present actions, but also to integrate the interests of future generations into our current decisions and plans.

In Seville, the "Strategic Plan Sevilla 2007" - a recently-approved General Plan on Urban Planning and Local Agenda 21 - designs an integrated concept for our city. Seville will become a city that, counting on the participation of citizens, will develop its identity from its neighbourhoods and plan its future development to create a sustainable city.

During your stay, you will discover Seville and see that our city is currently going through an important process of transformation and modernisation, all designed to make Seville into a more sustainable, beautiful and habitable city.

I heartily welcome all mayors, council leaders, officials and experts to Seville and look forward with interest to your contribution on key issues for the future progress of local communities in Europe,

Alfredo Sánchez Monteiserín  
Mayor, City of Seville

### Seville

With 700.000 inhabitants, Seville is both the largest city and the capital of the Autonomous Region of Andalusia. Internationally known for its history, its artistic legacy and its characteristic cultural features, its festivities, gastronomy and heritage, Seville is one of the most visited cities in Europe. The city is a meeting point for many events, one of the main references being the Universal Exposition in 1992.

Today, Seville is going through an important process of transformation with the aim of implementing guidelines that will enable Seville to become a more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable city.

For more information about the city of Seville please visit: [www.sevilla.org](http://www.sevilla.org)



### Statement by the European Sustainable Cities and Towns Campaign Partners



The European Sustainable Cities and Towns Campaign aims to support local governments across Europe in their efforts to mainstream sustainability best practice and to implement the Aalborg Charter and Aalborg Commitments in order to achieve tangible results in local sustainable development. To date, more than 2,500 European local governments from more than 40 European countries have signed the Aalborg Charter, the 1994 founding document of the Campaign; in addition, about 400 local governments have signed up to the Aalborg Commitments, joining herewith the Aalborg Process.

Attend the conference to learn more about the Campaign and to contribute to its further shaping and work. Learn about how we can support your local work and how you can participate in and contribute to experience exchange in this framework.

[www.sustainable-cities.eu](http://www.sustainable-cities.eu)



## Highlights

The Fifth European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns offers a unique opportunity to gain insight into the progress and achievements of European local governments in implementing the Aalborg Commitments and furthering local sustainability. The revised EU Sustainable Development Strategy, adopted by the European Council in June 2006, encourages municipalities, cities and towns to sign and implement the Aalborg Commitments and invites networks of all levels to support these activities. <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eussd/>

### Aalborg Commitments

By signing the Aalborg Commitments, local governments agree to set a number of sustainability targets incorporating existing LA21 or other sustainability action plans in dialogue with local stakeholders.

### Programme flow

The Sevilla 2007 Conference pursues three key aims to highlight, discuss and accelerate local sustainability in Europe with the Aalborg Commitments as a central mechanism for progress.

**Day 1** keynote speakers will anchor the Aalborg Commitments in light of the impacts of European policy-making and integration on local governments. The main focus will be on how to implement the Aalborg Commitments activities within existing strategies and structures and looking at successes achieved with a special emphasis on targets.

**Day 2** highlights the initiatives of local governments, networks and practitioners to meet the challenges set by the Aalborg Commitments. How to best start and maintain a local process towards this implementation? Panels open the floor for debate on ambitious policy-making to accelerate local sustainability.

**Day 3** focuses on how to achieve sustainable innovation in dialogue with citizens and will be followed by a series of parallel happenings related to communication strategies, tools and support for local governments.

### Future generations

Sustainability is a long term process, not all of us will be able to witness the results of our work. Young people of today and their children will inherit this world and must be involved in finding solutions for its future.

Twenty young delegates committed to sustainability advocacy will form a special group of invitees to follow the conference proceedings and will have the opportunity to exchange with policy-makers of today on common visions of the future.

### Inspiration for sustainability

Many local governments are willing to subscribe to the Aalborg Commitments to become more sustainable. Sometimes, however, they are faced with barriers on how to go about it or how to accelerate the process once a certain stage is reached.

The Sevilla 2007 Conference includes numerous sessions where you can learn from and exchange with other cities and towns, many of them presenting pioneering experiences. Also, you can find out and attend specific demonstrations of tools that can support you to address the particular problems of your town or city.

### Tools

The Sevilla 2007 Conference will provide hands-on demonstrations of recently developed tools which can effectively support you in your endeavour to accelerate sustainability in your city or town. Most of these tools, instruments and guidance have been developed by the European Sustainable Cities and Towns Campaign partners over the recent years, very often with the support of the European Commission.

**TIP:** bring your laptop as you will be able to access the wireless Internet anywhere in the venue – the perfect opportunity to become skilled in the various tools online.

### Communicating sustainability

#### Taking the Commitments to the Streets

Changing cities ask for a general support from their citizens. Local action brings results that should be embraced by society in order to make a real difference.

Experienced campaigners and practitioners aiming to develop broad public support for accelerated sustainability and better quality of life at the local level will share their experience on awareness-raising, involving citizens in target-setting as well as implementation activities, private public partnerships and new models of governance.



## Programme Elements

### Market Place & Posters

The Sevilla 2007 Market Place, an intricate element of the conference, will open on 21 March 2007 and close in the afternoon of 23 March 2007. You can organise a stand at an additional cost and/or showcase your project on a poster at no extra cost. Please visit [www.sevilla2007.org/exhibition](http://www.sevilla2007.org/exhibition) for further information.

### Side Events & Local Events

The Sevilla 2007 conference offers you the opportunity to organise your side event. The 20 and 25 March are free for your ideas! A seminar or a project, network or board meeting in one of the most beautiful and welcoming cities of Europe? Send us your proposals!

On Tuesday 20 March a whole range of local events are taking place. For more information please visit [www.sevilla2007.org/events](http://www.sevilla2007.org/events)

### Technical Tours

Taking the Commitments to the Streets! Come and see how Seville acts locally - several technical visits are planned in and around the city on Saturday 24 March. In the morning, a cycle tour will be organised to highlight the special efforts made for the local people.

### Social Events

The City of Seville invites conference delegates to come together in the most wonderful settings it has to offer. Join us for a cocktail reception, a dinner and other events in this magnificent historical town!

### Signing Ceremony

An official signing ceremony of the Aalborg Commitments is planned during the Closing Plenary on Friday 23 March 2007 – such a ceremony offers a perfect opportunity to sign up to the Aalborg Commitments. By signing the Aalborg Commitments, local governments will set tangible targets towards sustainable development, turning the visions and declarations in the Aalborg Charter into practical action. To help local governments the Sustainable Cities and Towns Campaign will provide practical guidance, project ideas and tools. Any European local government is invited to sign the Aalborg Commitments, irrespective of European Union membership. The document must be signed by the Mayor or an other authorised local government representative.

### Plenaries & Keynotes

2006 saw the EU Sustainable Development Strategy and the Thematic Strategy on Urban Environment pay tribute to 15 years of local governments committing to political targets. What are the impacts on local achievements? Targets being set, this conference wants to address how to build the paths for realising sustainability. Keynote speakers will specifically address climate impacts and resource saving as outstanding challenges for urban sustainability. Campaigning and communication experts will challenge delegates to ensure the public's support.

### Parallel Sessions

This conference has three streams of parallel sessions.

**Day 1 Parallel sessions A** – Find out which sustainability targets local governments have set in specific policy areas related to the Aalborg Commitments and what steps they have undertaken to achieve these.

**Day 2 Parallel sessions B and C** – Local, regional & national governments are working hard to implement sustainability in practical terms. Choose a theme and learn from local success cases and challenges faced. Also, some of the C sessions are dedicated to how to implement the Aalborg Commitments: the undertaking of baseline reviews, the development of a participatory target setting process, or the reporting and evaluation of the results.

**Day 3 Parallel happenings** – The parallel happenings on Friday offer a dynamic platform in which participants can learn more about the methods to take the commitments to the streets, ranging from communication methods to management tools.

### Mayors' Sessions

Mayors and City Council Leaders are invited to meet with their peers during special organised sessions that shall offer modalities to discuss on the political dimension of some of the sustainability themes in an open and relaxed atmosphere.

### Roundtables & Networking

To promote communication and networking among participants, a series of Round Tables and Networking sessions are planned on Friday.

**Roundtables:** If you have an idea, project proposal or concern which you want to share with colleagues, you can organise one of the 15-20 Roundtables on Friday morning. Visit [www.sevilla2007.org/programme](http://www.sevilla2007.org/programme) for more information.

**Networking:** If your network wants to have a forum or exchange with other networks you can organise one of the 5-8 networking sessions on Friday morning. Visit [www.sevilla2007.org/programme](http://www.sevilla2007.org/programme) for more information.



**Tuesday, 20 March 2007**

**09.30 Side events & local events**

**Wednesday, 21 March 2007**

**10.00 Conference Opening**

**Welcome**

*Alfredo Sánchez Monteseirín, Mayor of Seville, Spain*

*Cristina Narbona Ruiz, Minister of the Environment, Spain*

*Fuensanta Coves Botella, Councillor for the Environment, Regional Council of Andalucía, Spain*

*Heliodoro Gallego Cuesta, President of the Spanish Federation of Provinces and Municipalities and Major of Palencia, Spain*

**European Integration, cohesion and sustainability: 50 years of European policy-making and beyond**

*José Borrell, President of the European Parliament*

*Michel Delebarre, President of the Committee of the Regions and Mayor of the City of Dunkerque, France (invited)*

*Walter Veltroni, Mayor of Rome, Italy*

*Youth representative*

**12.00 The Aalborg Commitments: A Strong Vehicle for Action towards Local Sustainability**

*Chair: Gino Van Begin, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability*

**What can the Aalborg Commitments achieve in a city?**

*Henning G. Jensen, Mayor of Aalborg, Denmark*

**Bringing the commitments to the streets**

*Alfredo Sánchez Monteseirín, Mayor of Seville, Spain*

**13.00 Lunch & Official opening of the Sevilla 2007 Market Place**

**15.00 Parallel Sessions A: How local governments implement the Aalborg Commitments**

Showcasing concrete targets and action undertaken by European local governments to accelerate sustainability in the framework of the Aalborg Commitments (AC 1-10)

AC 1 - Governance	AC 2 - Management	AC 3 - Common Goods	AC 4 - Consumption	AC 5 - Planning & Design
<b>A1</b> - Integration and leadership – governing sustainable cities	<b>A2</b> - Integrated management systems: operating at the heart of the city	<b>A3</b> - Water: saving a natural common good with citizens	<b>A4</b> - 100 kg less waste as a local policy target	<b>A5</b> - Sustainable (re-) designing of districts
AC 6 - Mobility	AC 7 - Health	AC 8 - Local Economy	AC 9 - Equity and Justice	AC 10 - Local to Global
<b>A6</b> - Better mobility – less traffic	<b>A7</b> - Local action for health	<b>A8</b> - Sustainable local economies better prepared for competition	<b>A9</b> - Social inclusion and migration	<b>A10</b> - Global responsibility: ambitious CO <sub>2</sub> reduction targets

**17.00 Guidance to implement the Aalborg Commitments**

*Chair: Emilio D'Alessio, President Coordinamento Agende 21 Locali Italiane, ICLEI Executive Committee member and Deputy Mayor of Ancona, Italy*

**Sustainable development in Växjö and the Aalborg Commitments as a new driver**

*Bo Frank, Mayor of Växjö, Sweden (invited)*

**Moving from pioneering to mainstream**

*Multimedia presentation of some of some developed tools, co-presented by*

*Nuria Buenaventura i Puig, Delegate President for Environmental Affairs, Barcelona Provincial Council, Spain*

*Marta Szigeti Bonifert, Executive Director, Regional Environmental Centre, Szentendre, Hungary (invited)*

**Gateway to local sustainability resources in Europe**

*Bob Evans, Director of Sustainable Cities Research Institute, University of Northumbria, Newcastle, UK*



Thursday, 22 March 2007

### 09.30 Challenges for urban sustainability: Climate Protection and Resource saving

Chair: Oldrich Vlasak, Member of the European Parliament and Vice President of CEMR-Council of European Municipalities and Regions

#### A changing climate is changing cities - impacts of climate change on European cities and towns

Rajendra K. Pachauri, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (invited)

#### Resource efficiency is key to resilient local governments

Dennis Meadows, Honorary Member of the Club of Rome, US (invited)

#### Local Climate Action - Cities take the lead!

Nicky Gavron, Deputy Mayor of London, UK (invited)

#### National governments (re-) act – the example of Spain

Arturo Gonzalo Aizpiri, Secretary General for Climate Change and Pollution Prevention, Spain  
Representative of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), Spain

### 11.30 Parallel Sessions B: Initiatives and Projects to build Sustainable Cities

Local governments, networks and experts share their innovative initiatives and experiences on how to best start and maintain a

**B1** Baseline Review - Knowing where to start from

**B2** Target setting - Making progress measurable

**B3** Participation and policy – A new governance culture for the city of tomorrow

**B4** European Urban thematic strategy - Moving from tools to systems

**B5** Innovative planning and design methods and processes

**B6** Sustainable procurement

**B7** Sustainable Mobility: Urban Transport Plans

**B8** Integrated coastal zone management in the Mediterranean

**B9** Climate change: mitigation and adaptation

**B10** Urban sustainability strategies in new Member States

**B11** Mayors' Meeting

### 13.30 Lunch

### 15.30 Parallel Plenaries: Ambitious policy making to accelerate local sustainability

**Parallel Plenary 1**  
Does a sustainability planning process stand for efficiency and success?

**Parallel Plenary 2**  
Sustainable practices as an economic resource for cities

**Parallel Plenary 3**  
Designing for quality of urban life

**Parallel Plenary 4**  
Local government's crucial role to reach EU energy targets

**Parallel Plenary 5**  
Winning mobility solutions

### 17.30 Parallel Sessions C: Process and Cooperation

Local governments, networks and experts share their innovative initiatives and experiences on how to best start and maintain a

**C1** The whole cycle - The Aalborg Commitment implementation process

**C2** Evaluation and reporting

**C3** Local sustainability in Europe supported by regional and national programmes

**C4** Local action plans on climate change

**C5** Local energy policies - efficient and emission free

**C6** Inclusive and safe cities

**C7** Vibrant and sustainable local economies

**C8** Education for sustainable development

**C9** City-to-city co-operation towards urban sustainability also in L. America

**C10** Sustainable cities in the Mediterranean region

**C11** Mayors' meeting



**Friday, 23 March 2007**

**09.30 Taking the Commitments to the Streets: sustainable innovation and daily practice in dialogue with citizens**

The phoenix rises from the ashes!  
*Ilmar Reepalu, Mayor of Malmö, Sweden*

**Getting citizens on board**

Experienced campaigners and practitioners highlight how to best communicate and market urban sustainability; how to support citizens towards a sustainable lifestyle; and how to motivate all actors

**10.30 Parallel happenings**

Taking the Commitments to the streets			Tool demonstrations	Interregional support for local action	Roundtables
Communication and marketing	Campaigning	MDGs - half way through the timeline to achieve the goals	Walk around the tools expo and join the hands-on demonstrations of your choice.	Interested networks are invited to organise a forum or networking meeting in this timeslot.  <b>Interest expressed by</b> Adriatic Forum Comité 21 Italian Association LA21 MedCities Union of the Baltic Cities WHO - Healthy Cities	Networks and participants can propose roundtables to share initiatives, gain new members & partners and to discuss issues not covered in other programme elements.
	Involving young people	Daily sustainable practice			

**13.00 Closing Plenary**

*Chair: Jeremy Smith, Secretary General, CEMR-Council of European Municipalities and Regions*

Results of the conference and outlook including the Signing Ceremony of the Aalborg Commitments

**Conclusions**

*Antonio Serrano, Secretary of State of Biodiversity, Ministry of the Environment, Spain*  
*Alfredo Sánchez Monteseirín, Mayor of Seville, Spain*

**15.00 Spanish Lunch**

**17.00 Festival in Seville**

**Saturday, 24 March 2007**

**10.00 Bicycle tour**

The mayor of Seville invites you to ride a bicycle on one of the many new bike lanes in Seville.

**11.00 Technical visits**

10 - 12 tours, proposed and selected by Seville

**18.00 End of technical visits**

## Language

English and Spanish will be the main languages of the conference. Simultaneous interpretation will be offered in all plenaries and sessions.

All plenaries and some of the parallel sessions will in addition offer French and Italian interpretation.

## Conference Venue

FIBES Conference and Exhibition Centre  
Avenida Alcalde Luis Uruñuela, 1  
41020 Seville, Spain

[www.sevilla2007.org](http://www.sevilla2007.org)

## Conference Fee and Registration

Full Conference fee: 450 €

Reduced conference fee: 380 €

To register please download the registration form from the conference website [www.sevilla2007.org](http://www.sevilla2007.org) or book online.

## Conference Secretariat

ICLEI's International Training Centre (ITC)

ICLEI European Secretariat

Leopoldring 3

79098 Freiburg, Germany

Phone: +49-761/36892-20

Fax: +49-761/36892-29

Email: [sevilla2007@iclei.org](mailto:sevilla2007@iclei.org)

Or visit the website: [www.sevilla2007.org](http://www.sevilla2007.org)

## Climate Legacy Initiative

The ICLEI Climate Legacy is an initiative that attempts to reduce the environmental impacts of events and is directly linked to the implementation of the "Athens Call for Greening Events". The money generated through the ICLEI Climate Legacy initiative will serve to finance CO<sub>2</sub> reduction projects. For more information, please visit [www.iclei.org/itc/greening-events](http://www.iclei.org/itc/greening-events)

## Travel

Seville is well served by land and air links. You will find all relevant information on how to travel to Seville on the conference website.

## Accommodation

You can book your accommodation for the conference directly through our local host. More information is available on the conference web site.

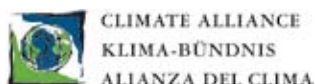
Partners of  
the City of Seville



The Sevilla 2007 Conference is co-organised with partners of the European Sustainable Cities and Towns Campaign



[www.sustainable-cities.eu](http://www.sustainable-cities.eu)



The Sevilla 2007 Conference is endorsed by

