

Fraunhofer's "Future Cities" convention – Urban Futures Innovations, strategies and processes for the city of the future

Today more and more cities are turning towards clean technologies and intelligent communication in their quest for a smart and sustainable future. They are all in search for answers to similar challenges to their societies, economies and natural resource bases.

Many successful **pilot examples** for smart district developments show the potential of the urban contribution towards solving pressing problems of our times. Yet many cities are struggling with the process of transformation and businesses have so far not been able to harness the full potential of the smart & sustainable city as a future market. Increasingly we start to understand: It's simply not enough to optimize today's mobility, energy or water infrastructures. **We need a new approach to urban design** and we need new tools for the city of the future. We have to rethink not only how we implement urban concepts, but also how they are planned.

Imagine we manage integrating renewable energies, storage systems, electric vehicles, car sharing systems and plus-energy houses together with integrated urban planning approaches (bike lanes, social housing, walkable city etc.). This would boost economic development and reduce our emissions and environmental footprints.

Imagine we manage to link energy, water, mobility and resource flows across different production companies in one district, creating green industry parks where companies share infrastructure, logistics, ICT, services or space. This would drastically reduce energy- and resource consumption and increase value creation for each of those companies at the same time.

On **November 25 / 26 2015** the Fraunhofer Convention »Urban Futures« will share the latest innovations and advances in smart and sustainable urban development with policy makers, business, city leaders, investors, researchers and smart city practitioners from around the globe. Successful examples will be shared and new alliances will be formed.

The Fraunhofer Morgenstadt Initiative will host this event together with the three EU Smart City lighthouse projects under Horizon 2020: Triangulum, GrowSmarter and RemoUrban.

Multipliers like ICLEI, the European Commission, the DStGB, DiFU etc. will co-host and co-create the event.

Learn!

At the convention you can learn about specific projects that show what will become possible in the next five or ten years through combinations of cutting-edge urban technologies, community innovation strategies, new forms of digital collaboration and the use of city neighborhoods as living labs.

Engage!

Leading national and international visionaries and innovators will cover the following topics and challenges in keynote speeches and in workshop and lab sessions:

- Technological solutions and innovations for the city of the future
- Sustainable community innovation strategies
- Digitalization of the city and its systems
- Research highlights from German and European flagship projects

Invest!

Mayors and decision makers across Europe will present their concrete demands and needs and be available to discuss investments into smart city development projects. A startup and brokerage lab will connect fresh ideas with powerful supporters and potential investors.

This highpoint in the Science Year 2015 event calendar also offers interactive platforms, an ideas competition for students and start-ups and live demonstrations of urban innovations.

Fraunhofer Convention: Urban Futures

Innovations, strategies and processes for the city of tomorrow

