

The result and outcome of the meeting on
“Sustainable Future We Want”,
Special side event at the 7th OWG-SDGs

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Special Side Event at the 7th SDGs/OWG (Jan 2014)

“Sustainable Future Cities We Want”



- On 6th January, 2014, the Permanent Mission of Japan and France to the United Nations, and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in collaboration with OECD, UNCRD, UNDESA, UNDP, UNEP, UNHABITAT, UNIDO and UN Sustainable Development Solution Network (UNSDSN) hosted a roundtable meeting.
- The objective of the event was to seek a practical and realistic vision for “Sustainable Future Cities”, which can enrich the discussions on SDGs/Post-2015 Development Agenda through gathering practical views from various stakeholders in developing and developed countries and international agencies, and identifying practical challenges and opportunities to achieve this vision.

Chair's Summary

- **“Sustainable Future Cities”** should be places where all residents, through inclusive and equitable opportunities, feel satisfied with their level of well-being.
- Achieving an **adequate provision**—both in terms of scope and quality—**of all the services** that urban areas must offer requires a well-balanced interplay of the **three dimensions of sustainability**.
- **Well-designed master plans are a powerful tool** that can effectively guide integrated and innovative urban planning systems. They help urban planners achieve better land use, spatial concentration and infrastructure design. In addition, master plans can help officials visualize the outcomes of mid-term and long-term development strategies.
- Urban planners should recognize the benefits of using **standardized approaches**.

Chair's Summary (Cont'd)

- **Climate change resilience and disaster risk reduction** measures must be incorporated into urban planning.
- **The linkages between cities, suburban, peri-urban, and rural areas** should be carefully considered.
- The **challenges of urbanization are complex** and vary depending on the specific characteristics of each city.
- Addressing complex urban issues requires the **involvement of multiple stakeholders**.
- **Resource mobilization** is vital for achieving “Sustainable Future Cities”.
- **Setting targets and goals for sustainable urban development** as part of the global common agenda under the Post-2015 development agenda and/or Sustainable Development Goals is both appropriate and advisable.