



shaping healthy communities

Canberra, AUSTRALIA, November 24th, 2016

The international 'Think and Do' Tank **Urban Synergies Group** is promoting the event '**Urban Talks: Emerging issues from Grassroots to International**' to reflect and debate on the **New urban Agenda**.

Our founder, Gregor H. Mews, would like to share outcomes of the **Habitat III Conference** and critically reflect on the opportunities for implementation of this global agenda on grassroots and professional level.

When: Tuesday, 29th November 2016 at 5.30pm

Where: Smith's Alternative, 76 Alinga Street, Canberra, City, 2601

Why is this event important?

Cities today occupy approximately 2% of the total land, but:

1. They are responsible for 70% of the Economy GDP;
2. Use over 60% of the global energy consumption;
3. Produce 70% of the greenhouse gas emissions;
4. Generate 70% of global waste;
5. Rates of physical inactivity, overweight and obesity are alarmingly high and increasing in middle-income countries.
6. Depression will be the second leading cause of disease worldwide.

The average Australian lifestyle overshoots earth's carrying capacity, but that is not new. We need to identify non-traditional ways to accelerate this process if we want to sustain urban

civilisations. For that we need you - as professionals, as well as, active citizens.

A call for action!

The agreed Draft of the New Urban Agenda will define how we will build cities over the next 20 years. It is a shared vision of transforming urban systems that shifts our traditional efforts towards inclusion of formerly atypical agents (civil society, academics, vulnerable groups etc.). This collaborative “bottom-up” approach is essential to the success of creating healthier cities for all. This event is a first step to engage in a non-traditional way openly with everyone who is interested in shaping healthier communities and implement the New Urban Agenda.

Together we will discuss the New Urban Agenda, reflect what that means for cities in Australia and explore opportunities for implementation. Also we will launch locally our publication on “Right to the City” as an awareness rising, as well as, crowd-sourcing tool that directly enables healthier environments where it matters the most.

The New Urban Agenda document can be downloaded here: <https://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/>

Best wishes,

Urban Synergies Group

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