

# SlimCity Overview

September 2009



## SlimCity: Partnership and Action

SlimCity is a World Economic Forum Industry Partnership initiative that provides a risk-free marketplace where **cities and the private sector** can exchange best practices to deliver resource efficiency within cities throughout the world. The focus of this exchange is on the sustainable development of all aspects of a city to achieve reduced carbon emissions and increased resource efficiency across all sectors, involving the following industries: Energy, Mobility, Engineering & Construction, Chemicals, Real Estate and Information Technology. Cities are the key to the global challenges of our time – they are the centres of consumption and are emerging as the centres of policy change.

## Multistakeholder Meetings – The Basis for Action

The core activities of SlimCity are action-oriented, multistakeholder meetings focused on implementing solutions relating to specific sets of issues in which cities are engaged. The objectives of these meetings are to identify practical solutions that overcome the barriers to implementation and, where appropriate, identify the policy changes required at the local, national and international levels.

## Who Is Involved?

The SlimCity initiative brings together senior public sector figures who impact a city's development with the senior executives of innovative private sector organizations. The current Steering Board includes the chairpersons and/or chief executive officers of **Arup**, **Bombardier Transport**, **CH2M Hill**, **Cisco**, **Duke Energy**, **Fluor Corporation**, **Hertz**, **Siemens** and **GDF Suez**. The Mayors Advisory Board includes the **Governor of Rio de Janeiro**, **Governor of the State of Mexico** and the **Mayors of Milan and San Francisco**. These key participants are supported by

leading experts where appropriate, including four of the Forum's Global Agenda Councils: Sustainable Construction, Sustainable Energy, Future of Transportation and Urban Management and Future of Real Estate.

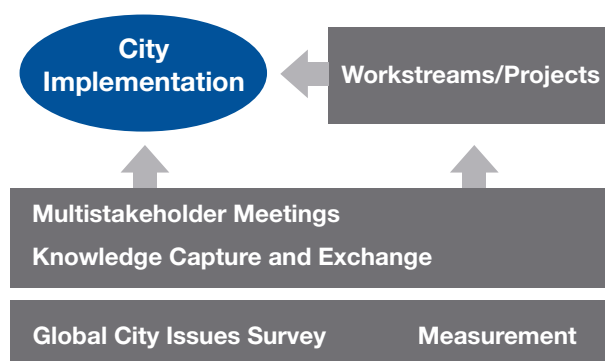
## Workstreams and Knowledge Activities

The SlimCity initiative is structured with three cross-sector workstreams that focus on specific issues, coordinated by an overall project management office. The purpose of the workstreams is to dive deeper into issues that mayors and private sector chief executives identify as a priority. The three workstreams are:

- **Smart Energy** – addressing more intelligent, cleaner and more efficient energy systems, offering new services and more choice to consumers. This workstream is driven by the Energy and IT Industry Partner communities
- **Sustainable Buildings** – addressing the full lifecycle of buildings from materials production through design and construction to operations, retrofitting and recycling, and building codes that influence implementation. This workstream is driven by the Chemical, Engineering & Construction, and Real Estate Industry Partner communities
- **The Future of Urban Mobility** – addressing the development, integration and operations/maintenance of all forms of urban mobility, with a focus on sustainability, access and demand management. This workstream is driven by the Mobility Industry Partner communities

## Key Accomplishments to Date

*SlimCity Knowledge Cards*: At the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2009, SlimCity launched the first edition of the *SlimCity Knowledge Cards*, a tool developed in collaboration with **Arup** to help guide the in-depth exploration of the current workstreams by presenting solutions and best examples that are implemented at the city level.



*City Issues Survey 2008:* To provide a clear focus for engagement between cities and the private sector, SlimCity developed a [City Issues Survey](#) in 2008, in collaboration with the global city network ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives). The survey helped identify sets of issues that are common throughout the world, and clusters cities by common issues to facilitate more focused dialogue.

### Activities Planned for 2009

In 2009, the SlimCity Initiative will use the Knowledge Cards to initiate in depth detailed follow up discussions with the mayoral offices of a select group of cities, including Barcelona, Chicago, London, Melbourne, Milan, and San Francisco.

- In 2009, [Smart Energy](#) is developing a whitepaper, in cooperation with the resource partner Accenture and a task force of engaged companies, focusing on the enabling potential of smartgrids in building a low-carbon energy system. The whitepaper will be leveraged in the context of the World Economic Forum's SlimCity and other relevant events.
- [Sustainable Buildings](#) is distributing the best examples from the knowledge cards on how to catalyse more sustainable buildings. Further, the workstream will work with rating agencies to help develop common metrics for buildings.
- [The Future of Urban Mobility](#) is restructuring its portfolio to launch a programme labelled "Transport in Motion", which will include the following three workstreams: 1) Smart Energy and Mobility, on the transformation of the automotive sector: the resurgence of the electric vehicle and linkages to the smart grid; and the development of alternative fuel technologies; 2) Tuning Transport, on the challenges related to the institutional, physical and economic integration of all transportation modes for both freight and passenger services, aiming to construct a world with seamless transition across modes and boundaries throughout the whole passenger/good travel cycle; and

3) Revitalizing Urban Mobility, on urban transport challenges related to demand management, aiming at mobility enhancement, public transport financing and regulation, and use of physical resources, with a focus on the linkages of urban transportation in urban management/planning, financing, technology, infrastructure construction, investment and institutions. A series of workshops and events, of which the upcoming event in San Francisco is a part, will take place throughout the year under the "Transport in Motion" programme.

These initial city dialogues are expected to issue specific follow-ups that will be driven by each relevant industry sector in partnership with city mayoral offices.

### Calendar of Activities for 2009

#### SlimCity core activities:

- 7-8 April, SlimCity Workshop on Compliance, Ethics and Anti-Corruption, Chicago, USA
- 16 May, Young Global Leader/SlimCity: Future of Cities, World Economic Forum on the Middle East 2009, Dead Sea, Jordan
- 27 May, Review of the SlimCity Knowledge Cards and Workshop on Best Practices, Melbourne, Australia
- 2 June, Real Estate and Engineering & Construction Cross-Industry Strategy Meeting, New York, USA
- November, Review of the SlimCity Knowledge Cards and Workshop on Best Practices, London, United Kingdom
- City workshops with Tokyo and Milan (to be confirmed)

#### Industry-specific related activities:

- 12 September, "Energy Sector Transformation: Unleashing the Potential of Renewable Energy, Clean Transport Fuels and Smart Grids", Private Session, Annual Meeting of the New Champions 2009, Dalian, People's Republic of China
- 30 September – 1 October, "Smart Grids: Accelerating Investments", Energy Fall Strategy Meeting, New York, USA
- 21-22 October, "Smart Grids and Electric Vehicles: Exploring Applications in San Francisco" Workshop, San Francisco, USA
- November, Urban Mobility, India Economic Summit, New Delhi, India

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