"SMART CITIES, an opportunity for the citizen"

12 December 2013 6:30-8:30pm
Center for Architecture New York

The spread of smartphones and internet based applications is creating amazing possibilities for citizen interaction with their governments. Mobile telephony is booming in the developing word. In Africa, smartphones are taking the place of money or physical address, and is giving access to services beyond imagination only some years ago.

Cities and their governors are quickly taking advantage of the possibilities IT offers to improve their services to the citizen and the way they communicate with their constituencies. The purpose of this meeting is to exchange ideas for future projects in the field of digital solutions that could make cities more inclusive, integrated, compact, connected and responsive to the citizen's needs.

The event will take place preceding the meeting of the Global Taskforce of local and regional governments at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The #GTF2016 is a movement of local government association that is working for the recognition that mayors and governors have in achieving development at world scale in a moment where all the national governments representatives are discussing what the world development agenda will be after year 2015.

The Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, The American Institute of Architects New York Chapter and the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) will join to host this event and bring together the perspectives Spain and the Seychelles. Two different contexts with many common questions as how to better deliver the mandate that Mayors have in regard to the people.

Organized with the support of:

Proposed Agenda

6h30	Opening Center for Architecture
6h50	Welcome remarks: **Lance Jay Brown**, FAIA, ACSA Distinguished Professor, Spitzer School of Architecture, City College of New York (CCNY); President Elect, AIA, New York
7h00	Panelists: **Jacqueline Moustache-Belle**, Mayor of Victoria, Seychelles and Co-President of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
7h10	**Íñigo de la Serna**, Mayor of Santander, Spain, and currently the President of the Spanish Networks of Smart Cities and the Cities for Climate, and the President of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP)
	Moderator: **James McCullar**, FAIA, Co-Chair Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, JamesMcCullar Architecture; Past President, AIA, New York
7h30	Debate with the public
7h45	Closing Remarks: **Urs Gauchat**, Dean, College of Architecture & Design, New Jersey Institute of Technology
7h50	Cocktail
8h30	Closing Center for Architecture

Organizers

The Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, represents a collaboration with the United Nations, professional, academic and other institutions organized to promote frameworks for sustainable development and exchanges of best practices with a new found optimism about our urban future.

The Consortium is committed in support of the United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-HABITAT) Agenda and the Goals 7 (Ensure environmental sustainability) and 8 (Develop a global partnership for development) in the Millennium Development Goals through bringing together the different stakeholders of UN member countries for conferences and dissemination of innovative policies and solutions applicable to both developing and developed regions of the world. Its programs are meant to appeal to a broad audience that includes central and local governments, Non-Governmental Organizations, planning and design professionals, academicians, the private sector, students and the general public. http://www.consortiumforsustainableurbanization.org/

The American institute of Architects New York Chapter (AIA NY), founded in 1857, the AIA New York Chapter is the oldest and largest chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The Chapter's members include almost 5,000 practicing architects, allied professionals, students, and public members interested in architecture and design. The AIA New York Chapter is dedicated to three goals: design excellence, public outreach, and professional development. To fulfill its mission, the Chapter sponsors an array of initiatives, programs and exhibitions that explore topics interesting to the architectural profession, including housing, planning, historic preservation, and urban design. The Chapter coordinates the activities of more than 24 committees and works with its charitable affiliate, the Center for Architecture Foundation, to provide scholarship and educational opportunities for students and the general public. Each year, the AIA New York Chapter also hosts a

Design Awards Program to recognize design excellence in three categories—architecture, interior architecture and projects. In addition, the Chapter publishes a magazine, Oculus, and an electronic newsletter, eOCULUS. http://aiany.aiany.org/

UN-Habitat, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to help countries to transform their cities into safer, healthier and greener places, able to provide better opportunities for everyone, including the urban poor. UN-Habitat is based in Nairobi, Kenya and implements sustainable urban projects all over the world. UN-Habitat has the specific mandate within the United Nation System to act as a focal point for local governments, including regional, provincial, federal and other territorial governments. The Local Government and Decentralization Unit supports local government and their associations, working closed with both central and territorial governments to establish mechanisms of dialogue, to exchange of best practices and to support projects for the empowerment of local and regional governments through a fair distribution of responsibilities and resources. http://www.unhabitat.org/categories.asp?catid=365

Biographies

Íñigo de la Serna is currently the mayor of Santander, Spain. He earned a civil engineering degree from the University of Cantabria (Spain) in 1971 and has since served as Chief of Staff of the Regional Minister of Environment in the Government of Cantabria (1993-2003), town councilor of Santander for environment, water, and beaches (2003-2007 sessions). He is currently the President of the Spanish Networks of Smart Cities and the Cities for Climate, President of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP), and a member of the Commission for Sustainable Development on the Council of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe.[1]

In his time as mayor, de la Serna has transformed Santander into a "Smart City" by installing an innovative technological system that collects massive amounts of real-time data around the city, and allows residents to access the information via a cell phone app. Ten thousand sensors have been placed around downtown Santander; they constantly measure light, pressure, temperature, humidity, and the movement of cars and people. Residents can download an app that turns their mobile phone into a sensor as well. The information is compiled in a lab at the University of Cantabria and made available to the public via an app called "Pulse of the City." Residents use the information to learn of traffic jams, where air pollution is thick, when public buses will arrive and much more. They can also report data (like where a new pothole has formed) back to the lab. Tourists can point their phones at landmarks and are instantly told the site's history. The city is becoming smarter, too; for example, sensors in parks can tell how much rain has fallen and adjust the watering system so that no water is wasted. De la Serna believes that Smart Cities "are the future" and that transforming all cities worldwide into Smart Cities "is not an option, it's obligatory." He believes that soon the technology can be used to increase cities' transparency and even provide statistical data like demographic changes to residents, all through the use of mobile phone apps.2

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[1] http://smarttofuture.com/speaker/inigo-de-la-serna-hernaiz/
[2] http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/santander-a-digital-smart-city-prototype-in-spain-a-888480.html

Jacqueline Moustache Belle is Mayor of Victoria, the capital city of Seychelles, an archipelago in the Indian Ocean. Born in 1961, she studied journalism, radio and television production in France, USA and Mauritius. She attended a course for Commonwealth Diplomats and on public relations. She has worked in the Ministry of Planning and Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Tourism and Transport, Seychelles Broadcasting Company and National Arts Council. Since 2012, she is Mayor of Victoria and President of the Association of Districts of Victoria. In October, she was elected Vice-President of UCLG, the biggest association of Mayors and Governors, representing the Africa continent.

Lance Jay Brown, FAIA, DPACSA is an architect, urban designer, educator and author. He is an ACSA Distinguished Professor in the Bernard and Anne Spitzer School of Architecture at the City College of New York, 2014 President-Elect of the AIA New York Chapter and founding Board Member of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization. He has served as assistant director of the Design Arts Program at the NEA and advisor to the WTC Site 9/11 International Memorial Design Competition. His numerous awards include: NY State AIA President's Award for Excellence in Non-traditional Architecture and AIA/ACSA Topaz Medallion for Excellence in Architectural Education. He is on the board of the AIA NY Chapter and co-chairs the AIA Design for Risk and Reconstruction Committee. Publications include: Learning from Lower Manhattan (2004), co-authored Urban Design for an Urban Century: Placemaking for People (2009), the co-edited and authored Beyond Zuccotti Park: Freedom of Assembly and the Occupation of Public Space (2012), and his co-authored book The Legacy Project: Via Verde, spring 2013

James McCullar, FAIA, is the principal of James McCullar Architecture in New York City and co-chair of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization. His work in urban housing and community design has been recognized through numerous awards, including a national AIA Honor Award in urban design for the Jamaica Market and the Pioneer in Housing Award from the AIA New York Chapter. In 2008 he served as President of AIA New York, where he led the chapter's response to the Mayor Bloomberg's initiatives for PlaNYC and the collaboration for the first "UN Conference on Sustainable Urbanization in the Information Age". He serves on the U.S. Board of Trustees for Fontainebleau Schools of Music and Fine Arts in Fontainebleau, France, which he attended as an undergraduate. He has taught architecture and community design at Kansas State University and the New Jersey School of Architecture. He holds degrees in architecture from Rice and Columbia Universities; and received a Fulbright for urban design in Paris, France. His thesis at Columbia was on the New York region.

Urs Gauchat is the Dean of the College of Architecture and Design and Professor of Architecture, New Jersey Institute of Technology and and founding Board Member of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization. Professor Gauchat transformed the School into an internationally recognized leader in the area of CAD (Computer Aided Design) and community development. Professor Gauchat is particularly interested in creating a bridge between the considerable resources of universities and the needs of communities. As a professional and academic he has a long standing interest and expertise in the field of housing and community building worldwide. From 1978-1998, Professor Gauchat was the President of Gauchat Architects, Inc. Professor Gauchat also served as a consultant to governmental and non-governmental agencies. Professor Gauchat holds a Master in Architecture from the Harvard Graduate school of Design.