



RELEASE:

Beijing district to focus on lifestyles and public participation aspects of zero-waste planning

As one of 16 zero-waste pilot cities and districts in China, E-Town is developing a roadmap to control the increase of solid waste generation

Beijing E-Town, China 09.11.2020. E-Town, an urban district in Beijing, China, will leverage its zero-waste pilot program to actively engage residents in improving the district's environmental impacts and social needs. In particular, E-Town is looking at how industries and education institutions can advance such a transition and how similar projects can provide local job opportunities.

"We are currently developing a roadmap to control the increase of industrial solid waste, completely utilize agricultural waste and prohibit illegal dumping of solid waste. Several incentives are designed to mobilize more participants, such as a point-based reward system in which citizens could collect points whenever they separate waste and recyclables", said Ms. YAO Jing, YAO Jing, Deputy Director-General of the Zero-Waste City Taskforce in E-Town.

E-Town is already exploring collaborations with different industries and public education institutions to accelerate this transition. Additionally, the district is looking into ways to design such zero-waste measures with all residents in mind, ensuring public acceptance and testing which waste fee models incentivize waste reduction. Not only do these actions help position E-Town as a zero-waste pioneer in China, but they also support the development of mechanisms for effective and continuous public participation in zero-waste strategies, hence contributing to a blueprint of tools that can be replicated in other areas.

In just 25 years, E-Town transformed from an agricultural area to an economic and technological development zone based on services and equipment manufacturing. But rapid industrial development also brought about air pollution, environmental challenges, limited utilities and social services.

While it has already made strides in tackling some of the most urgent environmental challenges, E-Town is now looking at former industrial hubs to advance its urban transition even further. E-Town is a part of the [Urban Transition Alliance](#), a city network and knowledge-exchange hub that supports industrial legacy cities from across the globe to identify common challenges,



share knowledge and develop solutions tailored to their individual transitions to a sustainable future.

“We are excited to support E-Town adopt an equity lens to its initiatives, ensuring that local citizens are brought into and benefit throughout the process. Knowledge exchange with other Alliance Members will play a central role, especially with cities such as Turku, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati that have experience in launching and implementing zero-waste initiatives. Baltimore’s know-how will instead help in analyzing E-Town’s zero-waste strategy through the lens of inclusive employment opportunities,” said Ge Liu, Senior Program Officer at the ICLEI East Asia Secretariat.

The Urban Transitions Alliance is an initiative led by [ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability](#), a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development, and supported by the [Stiftung Mercator](#), a German foundation committed to solidarity and equal opportunities.

You can find E-Town’s full Urban Transition Alliance 2020 challenge [here](#).

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About ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, ICLEI influences sustainability policy and drives local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development. ICLEI's Members and team of experts work together through peer exchange, partnerships and capacity building to create systemic change for urban sustainability.

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