Industrial cities with extractive and manufacturing industries as backbone of their local economies are today required to define a new, low carbon and sustainable urban development path. Well-managed urban transitions towards sustainability allow industrial legacy cities to create vibrant, green economies and healthy local environments.

Representing the newly created Urban Transitions Alliance of industrial legacy cities, the European Green Capital 2017 and former coal mining city of Essen, the iconic “Steel City” of Pittsburgh will discuss with Huadu District of Guangzhou, the Ruhr Region as metropolitan area with a strong industrial legacy and with international organizations what challenges industrial legacy cities face and how their transition to sustainability can make them global leaders in low carbon development.

SPEAKERS

WILLIAM PEDUTO, Mayor, City of Pittsburgh, USA
SIMONE RASKOB, Deputy Mayor / Head of Environment Department, City of Essen, Germany
WOLFGANG BECKRÖGE, Head of Department for Geographical Information and Spatial Planning, Ruhr Regional Association, Essen, Germany
JIAN CAI, Deputy District Mayor of The People’s Government of Guangzhou, Huadu District, China
NICLAS SVENNINGSEN, Manager, Strategy and Relationships Unit, UN Climate Change Secretariat

Moderator: GINO VAN BEGIN, Secretary General, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability

Comments on the discussion from a finance and investment perspective provided by:

YUANJIANG SUN, Principal Communications Officer, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Beijing, China

URBAN TRANSITIONS ALLIANCE CITIES

UNITED STATES / Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Buffalo
CHINA / Beijing Huairou District, Shijiazhuang Yuhua District, Beijing Economic-Technological Development Area
GERMANY / Essen, Dortmund, Bottrop (tbc)

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