

Call for participants - Connective Cities Dialogue Event

Inclusive cities: towards an urban and social development for all

Bonn, Germany, 7th – 9th May

The international exchange platform Connective Cities and its initiators, the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, the German Association of Cities and Engagement Global GmbH / Service Agency Communities in One World, invites municipal practitioners to the Dialogue Event **Inclusive cities: towards an urban and social development for all**, to be held in **Bonn, Germany** from **7th to 9th May 2018**.

The event is geared towards both German and international municipal actors working for an inclusive urban development. The **aim of the fully inclusive city – with a focus on the inclusion of persons with disabilities** - concerns both **internal functioning of the city administration** itself as well as **its actions in various areas of urban development**. Cities need to involve pressure groups, associations and other civil society actors in order to conceive inclusive public spaces, buildings and housing, inclusive education, transport, culture and sports or equal access to information and communication. All participants are expected to present their experiences, examples of good practices in their municipality, concrete challenges and needs they face. Connective Cities hereby offers an international peer learning format and a creative workshop environment for planning concrete local action.

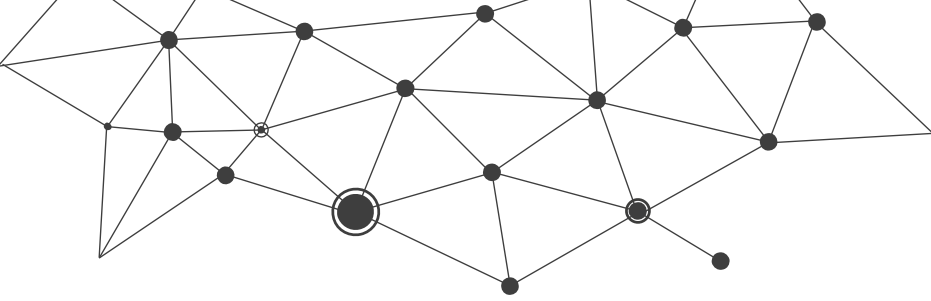
Connective Cities is organising the accessible event in collaboration with the City of Bonn, which plans to share its own experiences on this topic.

Background

Urbanisation is one of the 21st century's most transformative trends; more than 50 % of the world's population already lives in cities. By 2050 the world's urban population is expected to almost double. This development poses great potential for sustainable and inclusive development but also various challenges, especially for persons with disabilities and elderly persons. Around one billion people, 15 % of the world's population, live with a disability. About 80 percent of them live in developing countries. Persons with disabilities still face a lot of disadvantages and discrimination. People living with disabilities have to deal with various barriers in social, economic and political life. This is why an inclusive urban development is necessary for giving all people equal opportunities to participate in public life. A successful inclusion exists, if every person - with or without disabilities - can afford an equal participation everywhere: at school, at work, in residential areas as well as in recreational activities.

Political framework for municipalities

Inclusion is a human right enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The convention promotes the full inclusion of persons with disabilities. So far 174 countries have ratified the CRPD. Furthermore, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include several targets referring to persons with disabilities concerning access to public transport, buildings and public spaces as well as



affordable housing. Like the SDGs, the New Urban Agenda is based on the principle of leaving no one behind, too.

However legal anchoring alone is not sufficient. It takes more to change thinking and acting. Inclusion can only be successful if as many people as possible recognize that inclusion enriches the society in everyday life.

Thematic focus of the dialogue event

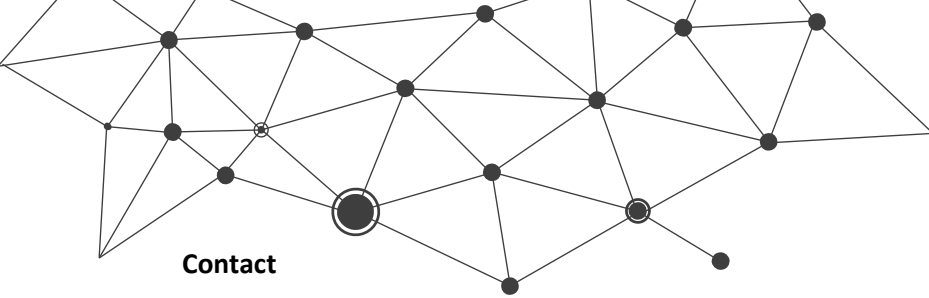
The Connective Cities dialogue in Bonn will therefore specifically focus on three aspects of inclusive cities:

- Inclusion as a cross-cutting task within the city administration
 - o Development and promotion of an inclusive mind-set within the administration
 - o Incorporating inclusion into the city administration through improved administrative structures and administrative actions
 - o Development of a inclusion strategy and organisation development
- Inclusive urban development: Participation and involvement of stakeholders outside of the city administration with a focus on persons with disabilities
 - o Ensuring regular participation and involvement of all relevant stakeholders (e.g. civil society, such as non-governmental organisations, external networks, partners from sports and culture, private sector) in relevant planning and implementation processes of social and urban development (ranging from inclusive budgeting, barrier-free urban spaces to inclusive skate parks or gardens of senses, etc.)
- Awareness raising and communication for an inclusive city for all
 - o Awareness raising measures within and outside the city administration to ensure an inclusive urban development

Objectives of the dialogue event

An involvement of experts from municipalities, civil society and their organisations, as well as research, academia and businesses provides the right platform to pool experiences to discuss challenges and generate ideas for an inclusive city in order to provide equal access to all areas of living for all people.

The aim of the exchange is to show the possibilities of any inclusive city in different local contexts, to check the regional applicability of the presented solutions and to discuss the respective challenges. The event in Bonn will foster learning among participants through presentation of good practices and project ideas that can be further communicated and implemented in the respective home communities or twinning schemes.



Contact

If you wish to participate and actively contribute to the dialogue event as well as if you have any queries about it, we encourage you to contact us.

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Factsheet: All information at a glance

Date	7-9 May 2018
Duration	2.5 days including site visits
Thematic focus	Participation and communication towards an inclusive city with a focus on three aspects of inclusive cities with a focus on persons with disabilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inclusion as a cross-cutting task within the city administration ○ Participation and involvement of stakeholders outside of the city administration ○ Awareness raising and communication for an inclusive city
Expertise	German practitioners look forward to presenting their experiences towards an inclusive city. International participants will share their knowledge and good practices on this topic. Both, German and international urban practitioners will also share and discuss their challenges.
Objective	Initiate a practice-oriented exchange between German and international practitioners active in a creating and improving an inclusive city; Launch collective knowledge process; Foster the development of joint project ideas.
Criteria for participation	Practical perspective and first-hand experience in municipal projects in creating inclusive cities. Presentation of a local good practice; Willingness to engage in an exchange about current needs and challenges in this thematic area.
Language	English, German; interpretation of further languages upon request
Accessibility	The Organisator guarantees barrier-free facilities during the event. In case you need any assistive devices due to your specific need, please contact Connective Cities.

On behalf of:



Implemented by:



In cooperation with:

**NACHHALTIGKEIT.
SUSTAINABILITY.
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BONN.**