



URBANSHIFT CHINA CITY ACADEMY – GREEN AND THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOODS TRAINING

CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

Date and time: Tuesday – Thursday, 1 - 3 July 2025, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Location: Opening Ceremony at Centre for [China-Europe Cooperation \(CCEC\)](#), with the rest of the sessions at LANRUN Room #1, 6th floor, [Projoy Hotel Tianfu](#)

Languages: Mandarin Chinese and English (Simultaneous Interpretation)

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OVERVIEW

The UrbanShift Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods City Academy is an immersive, action-oriented course designed to address the diverse challenges of **climate change, resource depletion, and widening social inequalities** in Asian cities. Emphasising the **neighbourhood approach** as a scalable and adaptable framework to deliver integrated outcomes, the City Academy will help answer some difficult questions:

- **Why to (re)focus on neighbourhoods?** Thinking through a historical lens
- **Where to start?** Understanding the framework for action in both old neighbourhood regeneration and new neighbourhood development
- **What to prioritise?** Delivering climate, livability, and economic benefits
- **How to deliver?** Getting the governance, finance, and monitoring right

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

Participants will leave the Academy with:

- **Transformative thinking on neighbourhood potential and urban development**
- **Understanding of the structure and processes to deliver the neighbourhood approach**
- **Knowledge of catalytic real-world case studies and peer networks**
- **Elements of diagnosis of their neighbourhood challenges and solutions¹**

¹ for participants presented in the Neighborhood Clinic sessions

AGENDA

DAY 1: TUESDAY 1ST JULY

08:50 - 10:45 Opening Moderator: Shu Zhu, Regional Director & China Representative, ICLEI East Asia Secretariat	
08:50 - 09:15	Departure from Projoy Hotel Tianfu to CCEC <i>The shuttle bus will depart at 9:00 sharp. Please gather in the lobby at 8:50</i>
09:15 - 09:45	Group Photo and Mini-tour of CCEC
09:45 - 10:00	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emani Kumar, Deputy Secretary General, ICLEI -Local Governments for Sustainability <i>(Confirmed)</i> • Bai Wei, Director of the International Cooperation Department, China Center for Urban Development <i>(Confirmed)</i> • Lanlan Yuan, Deputy Director of the Administrative Committee of Chengdu High-Tech Zone <i>(Confirmed)</i>
10:00 - 11:20	Setting the Context: UrbanShift Activities on Integrated Climate Action in Asia <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Bank China <i>(TBC)</i> • Qian Wang, Officer-in-Charge, UNEP China Office <i>(Confirmed)</i> • Xiaoqian Jiang, Climate Lead & Sichuan Project Lead, Sustainable Transition Center, WRI China <i>(Confirmed)</i> • Alyssa Chenault, UrbanShift Global Manager, ICLEI World Secretariat <i>(Confirmed)</i> • NIUA <i>(Confirmed)</i> • Bappenas (joining virtually) <i>(Confirmed)</i> • Ding Rui, Deputy Chief Planner, Professor-level Senior Engineer, National Registered Urban and Rural Planner, Chengdu Institute of Planning and Design <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:20 - 11:30	UrbanShift City Academy Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siqiao Yuan, Program Manager, ICLEI East Asia Secretariat <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:30 - 11:45	Departure from CCEC to Projoy Hotel
11:45 - 13:00 Lunch Break	
Question 1: Why to (re)focus on neighbourhoods? <i>Thinking through a historical lens</i>	
13:00 - 13:45 Ice-breaker Moderator: Elsa Lefevre, Programme Management Officer, UNEP	
13:00 - 13:45	Snapshot of My Neighborhood Moderator: Elsa Lefevre , Programme Management Officer, UNEP <i>(Confirmed)</i>
13:45 - 15:15 Masterclass Moderator: Serge Salat, President, Urban Morphology and Complex Systems Institute (UMCSI)	
13:45 - 14:45	The Lost Art of City-making – Why Neighbourhoods Matter Again? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serge Salat, President, UMCSI <i>(Confirmed)</i>

14:45 - 15:10	Discussion
15:10 - 15:25 Coffee Break	
Question 2: Where to start? <i>Understanding action framework in both old and new context</i>	
15:25 - 16:40 Framework for Action Moderator: Jingjing Jiang, C40 Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods China Project Manager, C40 China	
15:25 - 15:55	Expert Framing: C40's Green and Thriving Neighborhood Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camille Tallon, Manager for Urban Planning and 15 Minute City, C40 Cities <i>(Confirmed)</i> • Jing Hou, Deputy Head of Sectoral Programme, C40 China <i>(Confirmed)</i>
15:55 - 16:10	City Presentation – Old Neighbourhood Regeneration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dengqiang Zhao, Deputy Party Secretary and Deputy Director of the Residents' Committee, Angong Community, Chengdu, China <i>(Confirmed)</i>
16:10 - 16:25	City Presentation – New Neighbourhood Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Xiyue Wang, Deputy Director, Solid Waste Management Division, Yangzhou City Environmental Sanitation Management Office <i>(Confirmed)</i>
16:25 - 16:40	Q&A
16:40 - 16:55 Closing of Day 1 Moderator: Elsa Lefevre, Programme Management Officer, UNEP	

DAY 2: WEDNESDAY 2ND JULY

Question 3: What to prioritise? <i>Delivering climate, livability, and economic benefits</i>	
09:00 - 09:20 Neighbourhood Clinic #1 Moderator: Elsa Lefevre, Programme Management Officer, UNEP	
09:00 - 09:20	Neighbourhood Challenges: Presentation and Peer Feedback <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Representative <i>(TBC)</i>
09:20 - 10:40 Theme #1 People-centred and Nature-positive Public Space Moderator: Yassine Moustanjidi, Urban Planning Expert, UN-HABITAT	
09:20 - 09:35	Expert Framing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yassine Moustanjidi, Urban Planning Expert, UN-HABITAT <i>(Confirmed)</i>
09:35 - 09:50	Case Study of Beijing, China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qi Qi, Engineer, Beijing Climate Change Management Affairs Center <i>(Confirmed)</i>

09:50 - 10:05	Case Study of Shijiazhuang, China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yan Zhang, Director, Shijiazhuang Municipal Bureau of Natural Resources and Planning <i>(Confirmed)</i>
10:05 - 10:20	Case Study of Puducherry, India <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Muthamma Amavasai, Commissioner cum Secretary to Government, Public Works and Planning and Research, Government of Puducherry, India <i>(Confirmed)</i>
10:20 - 10:40	Q&A
10:40 - 10:50 Coffee Break	
10:50 - 11:55 Theme #2 Low-carbon and Bioclimatic Built Environment Moderator: Serge Salat, President, UMCSI	
10:50 - 11:05	Expert Framing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serge Salat, President, UMCSI <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:05 - 11:20	Expert Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chuanzhi Liang, Deputy Division Chief, CSTID-MoHURD <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:20 - 11:35	Low Carbon Pilot of the Qingdao - Sino-German EcoPark <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feng Jia, Deputy Director, Ecological Planning & Construction Department, Qingdao Sino-German Ecopark Management Committee, China <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:35 - 11:55	Q&A
11:55 - 12:50 Lunch Break	
12:50 - 14:05 SimCity Studio Moderator: Wei Huang, Consultant, UNEP, and Camille Tallon, Manager for Urban Planning and 15 Minute City, C40 Cities	
12:50 - 13:05	Group Activity Introduction and Set-up
13:05 - 13:35	Group Activity
13:35 - 14:05	Activity Report Back and Discussion
14:05 - 15:10 Theme #3 Green and Circular Local Economies Moderator: Wei Huang, Consultant, UNEP	
14:05 - 14:20	Expert Framing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wei Huang, Consultant, UNEP <i>(Confirmed)</i>
14:20 - 14:35	Circular Economy Programme "Pansa-nopen Tayo", Baguio City, Philippines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Carantes Cosep, Project Development Officer, City Planning, Development and Sustainability Office, City Government of Baguio, Philippines <i>(Confirmed)</i>

14:35 - 14:50	Case Study of Shenzhen, China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yahui Li, Shenzhen Yantian District Bureau of Ecology and Environment, China <i>(Confirmed)</i>
14:50 - 15:10	Q&A
15:10 - 15:25 Coffee Break	
Question 4: How to deliver? <i>Getting governance, finance, and monitoring right</i>	
15:25 - 16:30 Theme #4 Governance and Community Leadership Moderator: Elsa Lefevre, Programme Management Officer, UNEP	
15:25 - 15:40	Expert Framing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elsa Lefevre, Programme Management Officer, UNEP <i>(Confirmed)</i>
15:40 - 15:55	Case Study of Guangzhou, China <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wei Gao, Guangzhou Municipal Ecological Environment Bureau, China <i>(Confirmed)</i>
15:55 - 16:10	Governance for Green Infrastructure and Neighbourhood Sustainability, Quezon City, Philippines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Villaroman, City Government Department Head III, Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability Department, Quezon City, Philippines <i>(Confirmed)</i>
16:10 - 16:30	Q&A
16:30 - 16:45 Closing of Day 2 Moderator: Mingming Wang, Head of Program Development, China, C40 Cities	

DAY 3: THURSDAY 3RD JULY

09:00 - 09:45 Neighbourhood Clinic #2 Moderator: Camille Tallon, Manager for Urban Planning and 15 Minute City, C40 Cities	
09:00 - 09:45	Neighbourhood Challenges: Presentation and Peer Feedback <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Janis Louis Hilario Esparcia, Assistant City Administrator for Operations, City Administrator's Office, City Government of Davao, Philippines <i>(Confirmed)</i> • City Representative <i>(TBC)</i>
09:45 - 11:15 Theme #5 Financing Neighbourhood Transformation Moderator: Jing Hou, Deputy Head of Sectoral Programme, C40 China	
09:45 - 09:50	Expert Framing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jing Hou, Deputy Head of Sectoral Programme, C40 China <i>(Confirmed)</i>
09:50 - 10:05	Expert Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beibei Gu, Deputy Director, Shanghai Jinsinan Institute of Finance <i>(Confirmed)</i>

10:05 - 10:20	Lincoln Institute of Land Policy's Video on Land Value Capture
10:20 - 10:35	Q&A
10:35 - 10:45 Coffee Break	
10:45 - 11:00	Break-out Group Discussion Moderator: Jing Hou , Deputy Head of Sectoral Programme, C40 China <i>(Confirmed)</i> Jingjing Jiang , C40 Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods China Project Manager, C40 China <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:00 - 12:00 Theme #6 Carbon Accounting and Results Tracking Moderator: Camille Tallon, Manager for Urban Planning and 15 Minute City, C40 Cities	
11:00 - 11:15	Expert Framing • Camille Tallon , Manager for Urban Planning and 15 Minute City, C40 Cities <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:15 - 11:30	Expert Presentation • Luole Xie , Deputy Secretary General, China Association of Building Energy Efficiency (CABEE) <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:30 - 11:35	Commentary • Serge Salat , President, UMCSI <i>(Confirmed)</i>
11:35 - 12:00	Q&A
12:00 - 12:30 Closing and Certificates Hand-out Moderator: Elsa Lefevre, Programme Management Officer, UNEP	
12:00 - 12:10	Closing Remarks • Elsa Lefevre , Programme Management Officer, UNEP <i>(Confirmed)</i> • Mingming Wang , Head of Program Development, China, C40 Cities <i>(Confirmed)</i>
12:10 - 12:30	Certificates Hand-out
12:30 - 13:30 Lunch Break	
13:30 - 17:00 Site Visit	

Partners

This Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods City Academy is led by the UN Environment Programme. Given their contribution on this topic and partnership under UrbanShift, UNEP has extended an invitation to C40 Cities to support. The City Academy is also benefiting from the in-depth expertise and guidance of Professor Serge Salat, President of the Urban Morphology and Complex Systems Institute and is being delivered in close collaboration with UN-Habitat.

