

International Eco-Cities Initiative

February 2013

Welcome to the first issue of the International Eco-Cities Initiative newsletter! The bulletin (published three times per year) provides information about our research, events and publications, and seeks to contribute to analysis and discourse on 'eco-cities' and sustainable urbanism of various kinds across the world.

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Bellagio Report: eco-city indicators, standards & frameworks

What are we to make of the recent flurry of 'eco-city' indicators? How do these compare internationally, and what is the prospect of arriving at global standards and frameworks? To address these issues, an international group of leading researchers, policy-makers and practitioners from 14 countries met in Bellagio, Italy, for a three-day conference. The event was funded and hosted by the Rockefeller Foundation (New York). The conference proceedings include the 'Bellagio statement' – a set of recommendations on future research and policy as agreed by the participants.

- [The full report is available here.](#)

Leverhulme International Network

At the centre of this new, three-year international research network (2012-2015) is a global comparison of contemporary eco-city frameworks. 'Tomorrow's City Today' is funded by the Leverhulme Trust (London) and involves eight partners: Clinton Foundation (Clinton Climate Initiative, New York), Delft University of Technology (Delft), Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (Daejeong), Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development (Dresden), Simon Fraser University (Vancouver), University College London (UCL), University of British Columbia (Vancouver), and University of Westminster (London/Co-ordinator).

- [Find out about the network's programme of research and workshop activities here.](#)

Publication: Eco-Cities in Pan-Asia

Across Asia, a series of national and international eco-city initiatives have been launched in recent years. The *Journal of Urban Technology* (volume 20/1; January 2013) special issue 'Eco-Cities in Pan-Asia:

international discourses, local practices' brings together seven papers by leading scholars aimed at providing an overview of, and critical insights into, contemporary eco-city initiatives across a variety of Asian national contexts. The special issue is the result of an international conference held at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore) in June 2011.

- [The journal can be accessed here.](#)

Annual Lecture: Professor William Rees

The 2012 Governance & Sustainability annual lecture was delivered by Professor William Rees (University of British Columbia, Vancouver), the originator and co-developer of 'ecological footprint analysis' (EFA). In his far-ranging and thought-provoking lecture, Bill Rees focused on 'Ecological Footprint Analysis and the Vulnerability of Modern Cities'.

- [Watch the full video here.](#)

Further Information

For more information about the [International Eco-Cities Initiative](#) please see our [website here](#).

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