

Plenary session on Thursday, 28 October / 11.00 – 13.30 (CET) – ONLINE

Title: „Smart Sustainable Cities“

Introduction:

We are living in an exciting time, in which the world calls for radical transformation towards a sustainable society. Urban regions in particular are confronted with huge sustainability challenges. Their future depends to a large extent on our ability to nurture sustainable urban development. However, sustainability challenges in cities are inherently complex and need integrated, multidisciplinary solutions. Practical approaches are needed for complex urban sustainability challenges and designing solutions for them. Establishing international cooperation in the field of professional education in close collaboration with companies and other organizations is of great importance.

In this Special Interest Group we want to bring together expertise and knowledge from various disciplines to realize a sustainable urban environment, explicitly including disciplines from engineering, economics/business and social sciences. Interdisciplinary approaches are needed, even system changing approaches. This asks for innovative activities from education and from research to market with a new focus on innovation-related activities, such as piloting, demonstration, test-beds, and support for public procurement and market uptake.

Within the Higher Education Institutes of the CARPE network, many groups are working on sustainability related topics. However, the expertise of these professors, researchers and lecturers are not fully exploited if it comes to acquiring new opportunities for externally funded research projects. This special interest group aims at developing a community among CARPE partners involved in sustainability research and education, to shape a joint approach and system change towards sustainability, and to explore how to get the most benefits out of our cooperation.

Aim of the session is:

- To learn how each university works on the theme Smart Sustainable Cities in education and multidisciplinary research projects
- To explore how our cooperation could be organized, aiming at the development of integrated sustainable solutions for economic, social and environmental problems in urban areas?

Agenda

- Welcome and introduction to the session (Moderator: Martijn Rietbergen, COE Smart Sustainable Cities, HU – co-lead Jari Hietaranta TUAS)
- Presentation on expectations and past collaboration
- Presentation of **the handbook Smart Sustainable Cities**, as result of international cooperation
- Discussion on how to collaborate in the future