

Cluster participates at an international Forum on the Future of Cities

Professor Steffen Lehmann, Director of the Cluster for Sustainable Cities at the University of Portsmouth, was invited as a speaker at the biannual **Langenburg Forum for Sustainability** to present on the topic of sustainable cities.

This prestigious by-invitation only event over two days (8-9 June) brought together 120 experts from government, business, science, academia and media with the goal to encourage and develop environmental and social sustainability practices. The founders of the Forum are Prince Philipp of Hohenlohe-Langenburg and former German Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Joschka Fischer.

Every two years, the event is hosted at Schloss Langenburg in South Germany, at the residence palace of Prince Philipp, and under the patronage of HRH the Prince of Wales. This year's guest of honour and keynote speaker was **Kofi Annan**, the 7th Secretary-General of the United Nations and 2001 Noble Peace Prize recipient.

Other participants included mayors and governors of cities from Europe, Asia and Africa; small and large enterprises from the tech-industry, mobility providers and leaders of non-governmental organizations with a focus on urban development.

Steffen presented on the topic 'Transforming Cities: How digitisation can support the planning of sustainable cities', and participated in the panel discussion on the complex theme, including what role digitisation plays in making cities more liveable and resource-efficient.

Questions that were explored included: How will smart urban planning change us as citizens? Which infrastructures and parts of cities can be modified best by using digital technologies? And which role does smart urban planning play for existing neighbourhoods?

For more information, see here: <http://langenburg-forum.de/?lang=en>



Speakers at the Langenburg Forum for Sustainability, Germany (8-9 June 2017)