

NEWSLETTER OCT 2016

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Cluster Director invited to join UN Expert Panel

Professor Steffen Lehmann, Co-Director of the **Cluster for Sustainable Cities** at the University of Portsmouth, has been invited by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN-ESCAP) to join the Expert Group “Urban Nexus and Implementation of urban- and resource-related SDGs”. The first meetings will be held in November 2016 at the UN Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. The outcomes of the meeting will support the development of a key research publication titled “Conceptual Framework of Urban Nexus and its linkages to urban-related global agendas”, as well as building a network of experts on integrated resource management/urban nexus, in the region. The Urban Nexus project is now in its second phase (2016-2018), and is being implemented by UN-ESCAP, in partnership with GIZ and ICLEI. The nexus approach seeks to integrate planning and management processes of the key sectors of energy, water, waste and food to support the long-term sustainable development of rapidly growing cities. The importance of such an inter-sectorial approach was recognized in Rio+20 outcomes, as well as in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and again in the draft New Urban Agenda of Habitat III.

Professor Lehmann said “I am deeply honoured to have been invited and to be able work with the various UN bodies for the last ten years and look forward to join the panel as one of 12 selected experts. The Urban Nexus project has developed a strong conceptual framework to explore the inter-linkages between the various sectors and makes significant contributions towards achieving the urban- and resource-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). I am now looking forward to intensive and interactive discussions across all the sessions, as well as substantive outcomes to be developed at the first meetings in Bangkok.”



The UN building in Bangkok, which is the Asia-Pacific region's headquarter under the administrative direction of the United Nations.