

## Urban Foresight Conference for South Eastern Europe: The Ljubljana Forum 2011 successfully concluded.

Ljubljana Forum 2011 hosted 150 participants from 29 different states. Foresight ideas and good development practices from the region of South East Europe were presented. At the same time investors encouraged concrete cooperation among influential stakeholders in the field of development urban projects in the region. The many cases of good practice, presented in Ljubljana Forum, have shown that changes are possible, publicly desired and positive. We have to think smart and act smart, which requires thinking 'outside the box' to form creative ideas for creative projects, and acting in a manner that brings positive consequences not only today, but also for the future.

Ljubljana (PRWEB) October 17, 2011

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Mayor of Ljubljana, Mr. Zoran Janković on the round table of mayors emphasized that cities in South East Europe can be even more connected since cities in the region are mostly older than states with tradition of cooperation and connection. Futurist Jerome C. Glenn stressed the role of collective intelligence systems that will improve urban governance. Architect Boris Podrecca presented the creativity space of the region between Milano, Vienna, Belgrade and Adriatic sea with a realized architectural projects.

Anton Rop, Vice president of European Investment bank (EIB) emphasized that Slovenia still does not have a chance of borrowing a loan from EIB even though there are many new development projects in the region. The speakers of the conference were also Mr Ivan Curzolo from IPA funds for SEE, Ms Corinne Hermant Catalay from European Commission Directorate for Development of Regions, mayors of Podgorica, Zagreb and vice mayors from Budapest and Vienna that together with representatives of corporations present projects, good practice cases and open possibilities for establishment of development circle – more concrete project cooperation in the region of South East Europe.

Blaž Golob, director of Center for e-Governance development and initiator of the Ljubljana Forum said that new way of governance is needed for successful development of Danube region and prosperity of future of cities. He said, "Slovenia is positioned as a promoter of trends and developments and that is why the purpose of the conference is to connect projects, promoters of development of urban regions of South East Europe with knowledge and experiences."

On the 15th of October Global Day of Action at 15.00 the Millennium Project Node for South East Europe delivered 9 messages on improving governance of cities. Messages were consulted with the Millennium project nodes and participants of Ljubljana Forum.

Although "one size does not fit all" here are the general themes for improved governance:

1. Inclusion of the full-range of stakeholders and bottom-up participation in policymaking through a variety of means including social media as well as in-person public participatory methods
2. Integration of long-term foresight, use of the 15 Global Challenges of The Millennium Project as a framework to assess policy implications, setting and tracking of measurable goals for human security and sustainable development
3. Use of new development/wealth indicators beyond traditional GDP
4. Insistence on transparency to reduce corruption
5. Gender-balanced and age-balances
6. Use of collective intelligence systems to support knowledge-based governance, and identify and test innovations and emerging new practices
7. Transinstitutional approaches and multilevel governance alliances
8. Improve cities' building codes and zoning laws to encourage sustainable technologies
9. Commitment to knowledge sharing among the global community of cities.

Additional information:

<http://www.ljubljanaforum.org>

<http://www.cegd.eu>

<http://www.eea.europa.eu/pressroom/newsreleases/urban-sprawl-europes-ignored-environmental-challenge>

[http://ec.europa.eu/regional\\_policy/cooperation/danube/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperation/danube/index_en.htm)

The Millennium Project was established in 1996 as the first globalized think tank. It conducts independent futures research via its 40 Nodes around the world that connect global and local perspectives. Nodes are groups of individuals and institutions that pick the brains of their region and feedback the global results. It is supported by UN organizations, multinational corporations, universities, foundations and the governments of Azerbaijan, Kuwait, South Korea, and the United States

The [2011 State of the Future](#) is a comprehensive and informative overview of our global situation, problems, solutions, and prospects for the future, giving us the [world's report card](#)

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### Attachments



[Ljubljana Forum Content Analysis](#)



[Street to Policy Makers](#)

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[Jerome Glenn](#)



[Mr. Boris Podrecca, one of the best European architects in Vienna, Ms. Barbara Bulc President of Global Development Geneva, and](#)

[Mr. Glenn](#)



[15 Global Challenges](#)