

## City21, International observatory for sustainable cities



By 2050, 70 % of the world population will live in cities, generating 3 billion of new urban citizens, 90 % of them in developing countries. The more the urban population grows; the worse the effects on climate change get. Sustainable cities must generate more human development and contribute to the attractiveness of their territory while using less energy, resources, space...

→ **The dissemination of best practices is a key element of this mutation.**

City21, international observatory for sustainable urban solutions, aims to respond to this need. Its main objectives are to highlight exemplary initiatives and facilitate the exchange of experiences, in order to:

- Inspire local authorities, companies and urban designers.
- Develop green city markets

Each project holder such as local authority or company will be able to refer an exemplary project or add an exemplary solution to a previously published project.

### Powered by Construction21.org

Construction21, social media for sustainable buildings & cities, disseminates for free information and best practices on sustainable construction among the building sector practitioners. Since 2012, Construction21 offers an international benchmark of exemplary buildings and solutions, replicable and accessible in each local language and in English.

City21 will capitalize on this experience and propose case studies describing exemplary urban areas and solutions coming from the field. Each Construction21 platform will host a City21 section and benefit from the team capacity to manage multilingual contents published by the professionals themselves.

Today, the Construction21 network counts 10 national platforms (Algeria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Romania, Spain and Morocco) and an international one in English. The goal in 2020: To cover 50 countries from all continents in 2020, starting with Algeria, Middle-East, Brazil and China.

The Construction21 network has been visited by 300,000 professionals in 2014 and is expecting 1 million visitors in 2015. Both local and global, the platform Construction21 is now the reference tool to exchange best practices in green buildings and cities.

### Supported by R20, Regions of Climate Action

R20 is a coalition of partners led by regional governments that work to promote and implement projects that are designed to produce local economic and environmental benefits in the form of reduced energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions; strong local economies; improved public health; and new green jobs. These local actions can help the world achieve our shared global environmental and economic goals.

The association founded by Arnold Schwarzenegger R20 has signed a partnership agreement with the Construction21 network, to facilitate the development of City21 and new Construction21 platforms all over the world. A great way to broadly disseminate lessons learned from its projects worldwide.

## A collaborative development

City21 project is developed in partnership with stakeholders involved in green city issues:

- Cutting-edge companies operating on sustainable cities markets
- Scientists
- Cities and local authorities

in order to finance the development of the tool, to guarantee the quality of the data and the relevancy of indicators and also to ensure the mobilization of future contributors

## Launched during the COP21, deployment in 2016

- **4rd December 2015: Official launch during the COP21 at Le Bourget**, to benefit from the huge visibility generated by this worldwide event. The launching of the platform in English and French will be immediately followed by an intensive communication campaign on Internet and social media.
- **2016:** Data structure adaptation, progressive set up of the other national City21 platforms and publication of additional case studies, thanks to communication actions and personal assistance to contributors.

Construction21 network will organize from 2016 the **“Green City Solutions Awards”**, natural complement to the Green Building Solutions Awards, successfully ran for 3 years to highlight the most innovative solutions and their authors.

## City21 data structure

City 21 will display sustainable urban projects: cities, neighborhoods or districts. Any scale of urban project in any kind of context: urban, suburban or rural zones. Global projects and specific projects such as business parks, commercial zones, or campus. There will be described on a structured urban project web page as follows:

- **ID card:** Main characteristics of the project, such as the architectural program, main dates of the process, environmental and design approaches, CO2 emissions and savings. Investments and the keywords related to its general performance.
- **Territory:** Geolocation and quality description of the context.
- **Key figures:** Quantitative information about the size and scope of the project
- **9 thematic tabs :**
  - Governance
  - Quality of life
  - Local development
  - Mobility
  - Smart City
  - Resources
  - Biodiversity
  - Energy/ Climate
  - Buildings

Each tab will propose text fields to describe the strategy developed in the urban project on this particular topic and some quantitative indicators.

A specific area is also available to describe solutions and their stakeholders (ex: a smart grid or renewable energy system, a water or waste management solution, a specific process implemented to involve citizens in the project of the life of the area, a circular economy project....)