



WALCC

World Alliance for Low Carbon Cities

» *Newsletter*
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Leading research, industry insights, and practical application at the 9th WALCC forum



WALCC Chairman, professor Kang

This autumn, the Alliance's biannual forum, themed in innovation and justice in city transformation and human services, brought a wealth of expertise and experience from a remarkably broad array of places and sectors to provide Alliance members and curious attendees an engaging update of the leading trends and developments in those fields and an opportunity for in-depth discussion and interaction with leading experts and practitioners.

The opening address delivered by the Permanent Secretary of the Finnish Ministry of the Environment Ms. Hannele Pokka conveyed the significance of international cooperation and multi-party partnerships in today's urban innovation efforts. Professor Sven-Olof Isacson (Lund University) former Chairman of the Commission for a Socially Sustainable Malmö provided a good example of integrating multi-stakeholders' perspectives in assessing urban development which resulted in improved health, welfare, and justice for its residents.

Dr. Yang Yansui (Tsinghua University Graduate School at Shenzhen) discussed the challenges and opportunities presented by the considerable growth of China's aged population in the development of nursing home and elderly care services, referring to experiences learned from European countries. Those grand challenges call for innovative approaches. Prof. Marjolein Caniëls (Open University of the Netherlands), meanwhile, detailed the Netherlands' active approach to bolstering regional innovation through a combination of flexible and clear policy measures, tactical guidance, and fostering productive chemistry within the ecosystems. Alongside these insights into international innovation efforts, Dr. Mikael Paltschik (Associate Professor, Hanken School of Economics) offered an expert assessment of the role which cities play as orchestrators of innovation and dynamic value constellations.

In addition to these expert perspectives on the forum's key themes, the forum also presented three examples of these themes in practical application, in the form of ambitious research and development initiatives. The concepts addressed in three of the four mini-workshops form the core of corresponding initiatives under development: Mobility as a service vs. automotive industry in Systemic Change in Urban Mobility, Ageing as a catalyst for social innovations in Orchestrated Health and Wellbeing, and Health as platform for urban development in Reframing City Districts.

The forum also featured the Alliance's annual meeting and a meeting of its administrative board which set the course for the Alliance's development in the coming year. Among the activities planned for 2016 are the biannual forums, held in **Chongqing, China in May 14-15** and **Turku, Finland October 5-7**. In addition to the biannual forums, the Alliance will host an assortment of smaller events.

For further details on upcoming events and the Alliance's activities and those of its members, please visit our website www.walcc.org and follow us on Twitter [@walccorg](https://twitter.com/walccorg)



Member achievements

Bob Galyen awarded China's Friendship Award

Bob Galyen, President of Global Business Development at WALCC member organization Amperex Technology Limited, was honored to receive the China "Friendship Award" from the Peoples Republic of China's Central Government in September 2015. The Friendship Award, has been awarded to 1,399 foreign experts since its founding in 1991. The national award emphasizes the significance of foreign experts to the Chinese government in promoting the country's development.

Mr. Galyen is recognized as one of the top executives in the energy storage world with experience in technology and business operations of small and large corporations. Working at Amperex Technology Limited in NingDe City, Fujian Province, Mr. Galyen continues his four decades

of work in the energy sector, focusing on energy storage and battery development. He has also received the title of "National Distinguished Expert" under the 1000 Talent Plan, a Chinese government-initiated global-talent program, and is active in a number of industry organizations and committees.



Bob Galyen, President of Global Business Development, Amperex Technology Limited

Member activities

Systemic Architectures for Sustainable Urban Innovation

Funded by the Finnish innovation support agency Tekes, the two year SASUI project will conclude at the end of this year. This project revealed a need for a new, methodological approach to conducting urban planning and development projects which addresses the needs of local residents through a truly inclusive partnership model. This model must bring together public, government entities with both the local residents whose desires guide planning and the corporate partners, construction companies and architecture agencies among others, who carry out the development. The roles and tasks of different stakeholders must be clearly outlined and configured in a way which enables a fluid and cooperative process which proceeds with transparency and methodical efficiency in order to ensure a mutually satisfying, sustainable result. The project's research of the urban infill projects in the Tammela area of Tampere and Espoo's T3 area (Otaniemi, Keilaniemi,

Tapiola), suggested that the major challenge in conducting such urban infill projects was in conveying the city's goals to residents in an engaging manner. While densification and energy efficiency are crucial objectives in achieving sustainability, they are primarily relevant for city planners and legislators but they have no strong emotional attraction for the citizens.

In an effort to continue the research conducted within the SASUI project, founding Alliance member, the Synocus Group, together with partners from the Universities of Tampere and Turku, Tekes, Finnish national broadcaster Yle, B&M Architects, the rental housing association of Tampere (VTS), and Tampere area housing construction, rental, and service company YH Kodit, have developed the Reframing City Districts (ReCiDi) project. If the project gains Tekes funding, it will build on the evolving conceptual framework developed in the SASUI project, continuing to study urban development practices in Finland (Tampere and Turku) and abroad (Malmö serves as a benchmark).

Members of the Alliance's board (Administrative board members in bold):

- **Professor KANG, Feiyu** (Tsinghua University), chairman of the board
- **Professor KONG, Ying** (Tsinghua University), vice chairman
- **Johan Wallin** (Synocus Group) vice chairman
- CHEN, Jianxiang (Leo King Environment Group)
- FAN, Xin (Tong Fang Company)
- MAO, Daqing (Vanke)
- **Antti Paulanne** (Schneider Electric)
- Lennart Svensson (Region Skåne)
- **Hanna Uusitalo** (KONE)
- ZENG, Robin (ATL)