



## Call for Participants - Connective Cities Covid-19 Response Dialogue

### Covid-19 and municipal waste management: response to the pandemic and post-pandemic outlook

On the 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2021

Connective Cities and its partners invite municipal practitioners to a two-day **Covid-19 Response Dialogue** on **Covid-19 and municipal waste management** to be held **virtually on 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of November 2021**.

The event brings together municipal experts from Germany with international urban practitioners to discuss municipal waste management during and after the pandemic.

Two main aspects of waste management and Covid-19 will be covered during the event:

**1)** The importance of a more circular economy, including a more sustainable approach to (re-)use of resources, recycling and the creation of jobs and **2)** the adaptation of operation practices due to the pandemic and its experiences.

Both aspects can be better dealt with if gender-sensitive strategies are considered. Therefore, the exchange will give special attention to the gender perspective.

#### Objectives of the response dialogue

The overall goal of the direct exchange of experiences between municipal practitioners is to improve the responsiveness and resilience of municipal actors in and after the current pandemic. This is to be achieved through the following steps:



The presentation of **examples and good practices** from German and international municipalities in promoting a more circular economy and in adapting their operation practices during the pandemic and with a post-pandemic perspective (Day 1),



**Peer-to-peer consultations** on current challenges which enable the direct exchange of ideas for practical solutions that can be applied in the different regional contexts (Day 2).

#### Participation and contact

We welcome the participation of urban practitioners working in local initiatives on this topic in or with municipalities. There are several possibilities to actively participate in the event:

##### Day 1 – Presentation of good practices:

- A) **Present a good practice** on the topic from your municipality or
- B) Actively take part in the expert discussion by contributing your expertise **without** presenting a good practice of your own.

##### Day 2 – Peer to peer consultation:

- A) **Bring forward your own local challenge** on how to increase resilience of municipal waste services/ implement actions towards a more circular economy or
- B) Actively take part as an expert in a peer-to-peer consultation by exchanging ideas on how to tackle the challenges presented by other colleagues.

**Please send us an e-mail** with your function and organisation/municipality specifying with which one of these options you would like to engage in the event. As mentioned above, we specifically encourage the presentation of gender-sensitive initiatives.

Participants from municipalities with partnerships in developing and emerging countries are welcome to include their partner municipality in their e-mail to us.

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The **deadline** to apply for participating in the event is **21<sup>st</sup> October 2021**.

### Background

The Covid-19 pandemic does not simply affect cities around the world, it affects them in a wide variety of areas and topics. In addition to public health care functions, municipal services must be maintained during the crisis and local governments must ensure their own ability to function. The pandemic remains dynamic and new challenges continue to emerge.

In 2020, the international community of practice for sustainable urban development *Connective Cities* started its series of online events on Covid-19-related topics in cooperation with committed municipal stakeholders. In 2021, Connective Cities continues to offer a series of events to support municipal actors to exchange experiences in dealing with this challenging situation and focusing on the post-pandemic recovery.

### Connective Cities at a glance

The international exchange platform for sustainable urban development Connective Cities has been bringing together international urban practitioners from city administrations, civil society, academia and the private sector since 2013. Connective Cities is a cooperation project between the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the Association of German Cities and Engagement Global with its Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW).

More information on past and upcoming activities can be found on our website: <http://www.connective-cities.net>

| Factsheet: The two-day response dialogue at a glance |  |
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| <b>Date and place</b>                                | 9 <sup>th</sup> and 11 <sup>th</sup> of November 2021, virtual event   |
| <b>Time and duration</b>                             | Day 1, 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2021: 13:00 – 16:30 CET<br>Day 2, 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2021: 13:00 – 16:30 CET  |
| <b>Thematic focus</b>                                | The event will concentrate on strategies which municipal actors can adopt to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increase resilience of municipal waste services during and after the pandemic;</li> <li>- promote a more circular economy, including a more sustainable approach to (re-)use of resources, recycling and the creation of jobs;</li> <li>- adapt their operation practices due to the pandemic and its experiences.</li> </ul> |

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| <b>Expertise</b> | <p>During the two online sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Selected German and international practitioners will present their good practices on implementing strategies in the waste sector in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic and its recovery;</li> <li>- All urban practitioners participating in the sessions will actively pool their expertise and advise “challenge presenters” on possible solutions to their challenges.</li> </ul> <p>Participation in both online sessions is strongly recommended to enable in-depth exchange of expertise.</p> |
| <b>Language</b>  | <p>English and German<br/>(Translation into more languages can be provided on demand)</p>   |

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