The Global Platform for Sustainable Cities, or GPSC www.thegpsc.org, brings collaborators together to scale-up sustainable development solutions that promote an integrated approach to urban planning. Led by the World Bank and supported by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the platform comprises 28 cities across 11 countries and a wide range of collaborators. These collaborators include multilateral development banks, the United Nations, and various other institutions, experts and Knowledge Partners.

GPSC’s event in Da Nang will demonstrate how cities can respond to their development challenges by tapping into the platform’s practical knowledge, scalable solutions, and financing opportunities which encourage urban solutions for environmental benefits. During the event UN-Habitat will be welcomed as a GPSC Knowledge Partner, along with the announcement that the International Finance Corporation (IFC) will join GPSC as an Investment Partner. An overview will be given of GPSC’s activities since being founded in 2016, along with the platform’s next steps heading towards GEF-7. Lastly, a panel comprising representatives from a diverse range of GPSC’s collaborators will discuss how cities can further leverage the solutions offered by GPSC to advance global environmental benefits. We hope you can join us for this event in Da Nang.
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| **13:30 – 13:40** | **Opening Remarks**  
• Mr. Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Senior Director, Global Practice for Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience, World Bank |
| **13:40 – 13:50** | **GPSC’s Journey and Next Steps Forward**  
• Ms. Xueman Wang, Senior Urban Specialist and GPSC Program Coordinator, World Bank |
| **13:50 – 14:00** | **MoU Ceremony for UN-Habitat Joining GPSC as a Knowledge Partner**  
1. Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UN-Habitat and the World Bank.  
   • Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, Executive Director, UN-Habitat  
   • Mr. Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Senior Director, Global Practice for Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience, World Bank  
2. Remarks by UN-Habitat’s Executive Director |
| **14:00 – 14:05** | **Announcement of IFC Joining GPSC as an Investment Partner**  
1. Welcoming of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to GPSC  
   • Mr. Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Senior Director, Global Practice for Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience, World Bank  
2. Remarks by IFC’s Cities Initiative  
   • Mr. Patrick Avato, Lead of the Cities Initiative and Senior Operations Officer, IFC |
| **14:05 – 15:00** | **“Leveraging Urban Solutions for Global Environmental Benefits” Panel Discussion**  
Moderator:  
• Mr. Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Senior Director, Global Practice for Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience, World Bank  
Panelists:  
• A Senior City Representative from Vietnam  
• Mr. Josué Tanaka, Managing Director, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development  
• Mr. Philippe Schollès, Managing Director, United Nations Industrial Development Organization  
• Ms. Merete Villum Pedersen, Chief Technical Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Denmark; Representing the City of Aarhus as GPSC’s Knowledge Partner |