Eight Annual Arcadis & UN-HABITAT

Shelter Academy 2018

Adapting & Mitigating Climate Change
Options for Cities

3 September – 7 September
Amsterdam & Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Adapting to climate change and improving the resilience of cities are among some of the greatest challenges facing city leaders around the world. Creative approaches are required to build awareness across government and communities to better design, build and finance our cities to withstand frequent extreme weather events and other side effects of climate change. A fundamental first step towards realizing this goal is learning and capacity building. This is particularly the case for cities in low and middle-income countries which are especially vulnerable and urgently need access to cutting edge adaptation, mitigation and finance tools.

It is widely recognized that for cities to prosper, they must build strong linkages with an increasingly globalized economy and undergo important changes in their urban infrastructure to stimulate business growth, create job opportunities, provide services and better living conditions to its citizens. By taking a balanced approach that addresses urban planning, economic and environmental issues, this innovative program will provide senior officials and political leaders from UN-Habitat Partner Cities with an unrivalled opportunity to share common challenges, learn from best practices, prepare a practical response for their communities, and finally the opportunity to form the important partnerships that are necessary for the successful implementation of these responses.

The Shelter Academy has been set-up to focus on actual participant-driven case studies with Arcadis and UN-Habitat experts on hand to provide additional advice. During the course of the Academy, participants will have the opportunity to increase their knowledge on urban development challenges related to climate change and learn how cities are responding. The program is designed to use some of the unique features of The Netherlands as a living class room with technical visits to get a hands-on perspective on critical concerns such as: coast protection, water management and urban development. Support will be provided to develop action plans for each participant so that participating cities are better prepared to manage climate change and city development.
The Academy aims to increase knowledge of and improve responses to urban issues related to global climate change through improved economic, environmental and urban planning.

Case studies provided by participants will form the basis of the practical sessions so that participants will be able to learn from each other as well as benefit from the support of Arcadis and UN-Habitat’s network of experts who will support implementation of priority actions.

The official language of the Academy will be English.

**Target Audience**

The 2018 Academy is aimed at UN-Habitat Partner Cities. Participation is targeting (but not limited to) high-level local officials (including Mayors and senior level decision makers and policy makers) from mid-sized municipalities, in the Africa, Asia and Pacific, as well as the Latin America regions.

It is anticipated that these participants will be able to act as ‘multipliers’ within their own organizations and regions, communicating best practices and key lessons learned from the Academy to colleagues and counterparts. The Academy aims to host a limited number of participants. No facilities will be provided for others than the invited participants.

We have selected a logo comprising three elements: a roof, the Arcadis logo and the UN-Habitat logo - the roof being the international symbol of Shelter. Beneath the Shelter symbol, the Arcadis and UN-Habitat logos are positioned next to each other, to symbolize the equality and balance of a partnership in which we strengthen each other to reach our common goal.
Checklist of Requirements

We ask potential participants to prepare and submit the following items by **May 1st 2018**:

1. A completed copy of **Section 1 and 2 of the Registration Form** together with a photocopy of your passport (photograph page) e-mailed to: uni@unhabitat.org. A letter of invitation to facilitate your visa application will then be forwarded to you upon your selection.

2. **Section 3 of the Registration Form**, the one page problem analysis of your chosen case to be addressed within the Shelter Academy. The problem analysis should include a short description of the current local situation from a technical and socio-economic perspective; the persons involved and any relevant urban policies that exist.

Selected participants are to further submit the following items by **June 5th 2018**:

3. A PowerPoint presentation, which will be presented at the Shelter Academy e-mailed to: Jolijn.posma@arcadis.com. The power point should include more general information on the urban challenges within your city and specific information on the case study to be address within the Shelter Academy.

4. Background documents relevant to the case study such as relevant policy documents, maps, photographs of the area, technical documents, etc.

---

**Shelter Academy**

shelter@arcadis.com

The Shelter Academy is part of Arcadis’ commitment to the World Urban Campaign which is undertaken jointly in partnership with UN-HABITAT’s Research and Capacity Building Branch. This annual event, now in its eight year will provide leading cities from around the world with balanced approaches to realizing the goal of sustainable development by sharing expertise and know-how through South – South and North – South exchange. By focusing on the needs of senior local government officials and political leaders, the Academy will seek to impart knowledge and understanding of key trends – as well as the tools and solutions needed for responding effectively to urban challenges – while supporting practical development measures that address the needs urban citizens.