



Embassy of the
Federal Republic of Germany



The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Cairo and the Ministry of Environment of the Arab Republic of Egypt

have the pleasure to invite you to the 72nd Cairo Climate Talks (CCT) Panel Discussion

Sustainable Infrastructure: Post-Covid-19 Paths to the SDGs

on Wednesday, 2nd of December 2020 at 5:30 pm (Cairo time)
Virtual CCT via Zoom (Please register [here](#))



Egypt has ambitious plans for the future with multiple national mega projects being implemented across the country including the new administrative capital, the new city of El Alamein at the North Coast and the Suez Canal Economic Zone. These projects are vital to ensure the economic and livelihood needs of a growing population that has exceeded 100 Million in 2020. But how can we make sure that while we realise the needs for modern life, we do not compromise the environment we equally need to protect in order to survive?

Shifting from urban planning to sustainable infrastructure development is at the very core of protecting our environment and our limited resources. In his TED-talk [7 principles for building better cities](#), urban planner Peter Calthorpe points out that while “we’re solving for climate change, we’re going to be building cities for three billion people. That’s a doubling of the urban environment. If we don’t get that right, I am not sure all the climate solutions in the world will save mankind because so much depends on how we shape our cities.”

Sustainable infrastructures shape cities’ ways of engaging with their citizens’ needs; available resources, available space and how to replenish rather than exhaust the direct natural surroundings.

Such planning does not only benefit the earth’s health (and thereby human’s economic, social and physical wellbeing), but also offers economic opportunities, increases in efficiency and quality of food production, energy and water safety, reduced pollution, increased citizens health and participation, as well as benefits to community coherence and resilience.

The Covid-19 crisis has shown us how health shocks have long and often unexpected ripple effects similar to environmental shocks. According to the UNDP [“the pandemic presents both an enormous challenge and tremendous opportunities for reaching the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\).”](#)

Urban developers and the SDGs have long recognised that to face and solve those challenges, we need to join forces between different disciplines and fields. Research centres and development projects are drafting new paths forward to mitigate future shocks by ensuring community engagement in building cities that are climate resilient, slow down climate change and enable citizens to contribute solutions.

The 72nd Cairo Climate Talks will engage its audience in an impactful dialogue on how to shape humane and sustainable urban spaces.

The discussion will be opened by

Philippe Maupai

Head of the Science Department at the Embassy
of the Federal Republic of Germany in Cairo

Eng. Samah Saleh

Manager of the Sustainable Development Unit at the Ministry of
Environment of the Arab Republic of Egypt

Panelists

François Menguelé

Head of Capacity Building through
Urban Infrastructure Development
Project (CBUID) at GIZ

Dr.-Eng. Hassan Elmouelhi

Senior Researcher & Project Leader
at the Urban Development
Department TUB Campus El Gouna

Walid M. Abdel-Rehim

Deputy Director at the
KfW Cairo Office

Prof. Dr. Heba Abouelfadl

Associate Professor at the
Department of Architecture
Alexandria University

Moderator: Marwa Barakat, Urban Researcher and Development Practitioner



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



Implemented by

