

THEMATIC SESSION 4: Resource Resilience

Session organized by the City of Johannesburg

Date: 18 July 2013
Time: 16:30 – 18:00
Venue: Ballroom 1

PROGRAM

Opening: Facilitator, **Rashid Seedat**, Head of Gauteng Planning Commission at Gauteng Provincial Government

Speakers:

- **Trevor Fowler**, Johannesburg City Manager
- **Feri Prihantoro**, BINTARI Foundation, Indonesia
- **Dr. Camaren Peter**, Sustainability Research Consultant and Senior Lecturer, School of Public Leadership, Stellenbosch University
- **Maíta Fernández-Armesto Sánchez**, Responsible for the Urban Resilience of Barcelona City

Summary of key issues by facilitator

Panel discussion and Questions from audience: Panelists

SUMMARY

Cities have to do more with less. Resilience is the capacity of a system to continually change and adapt yet remain within critical thresholds. In the era of global economic downturns city economies are disproportionately affected. Resource constraints are pushing city finances to the limit and with more to do, and less to do it with, cities have to be sustainable and resilient.

Economic growth is strongly inter-related with the demand for water, electricity and fuel. Managing limited natural resources and delinking economic growth from natural resource extraction is important. There are considerable challenges (cost of new technologies versus future benefit) and opportunities to be gained from such a transition. Bold action is needed for real impact to be felt.

Key issues to be explored in terms of future resource resilience include water supply, demand and quality; sources of energy and the extent of carbon intensity; addressing waste from an integrated perspective and lastly environmental sustainability.

BACKGROUND QUESTION

- What are the strategies in cities to address resource resilience in an integrated way?