



V I L L E D E
G E N È V E

To the Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Elected
Leaders of local governments

Geneva, 19th March 2013

Objet

**7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns, 17 - 19 April 2013
Final programme and invitation to participate in the Mayors Session, the Gala dinner
and the Geneva Opera Evening**

**Sandrine Salerno
Vice-Mayor**

Dear Mr./Madam Mayor,

This letter is following up on the message sent on February 5, 2013, which you may have already responded to. If not, please allow me to renew our invitation to the 7th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns held in Geneva from 17 to 19 April 2013.

In the context of the European crisis, the 2013 edition of the event will focus on the opportunities provided by a green and socially inclusive economy and specifically address topics such as governance and finance for sustainable development.

The full programme is now published on the website www.sustainablegeneva2013.org and **we would like to draw your attention to the following conference highlights:**

Wednesday 17 April 2013, afternoon: Mayors Session at the United Nations

The Mayors Session will address a topic which directly concerns locally elected officials: **the financing of public services in times of crisis.**

Organized at the UN European Headquarters in the Palais des Nations, this session will debate the issues confronting political leaders when revenues decrease and population needs increase. A representative panel of local governments including Milan, Thessaloniki and Freiburg-im-Breisgau will demonstrate that sustainable public finances are possible and that in the face of economic and financial crises long-term solutions can be identified.

Wednesday, 17 April 2013, from 19:00: Gala dinner

A Gala dinner will take place in a luxury hotel in the international district. Local governments' representatives, influential representatives in the field of economy and decision-makers of the Geneva area will be present at this event.

Thursday, 18 April 2013, from 19:00: Exclusive opera evening with the Geneva diplomatic community ("Geneva Opera Pool")

This exclusive evening taking place at the Geneva Opera will be dedicated to the international diplomatic community of Geneva. Together with special guests from the Swiss Confederation United Nations and Geneva local authorities, you will have the opportunity to attend the famous opera "Madama Butterfly" by Giacomo Puccini and mingle during a buffet at the intermission of the show.

We would be delighted to welcome you to these three remarkable events.


To register and secure your place at the conference, including the Mayors session, the gala dinner and the Geneva Opera Pool, please complete the online registration form available on the Conference's website by 31 March 2013 (<http://www.sustainablegeneva2013.org/?lang=en>) or directly via the following link: http://register.sustainablegeneva2013.org/online_registration.php.

Should you unfortunately not be able to take part in these activities, we would be delighted to welcome elected colleagues or administrative staff interested by this conference.

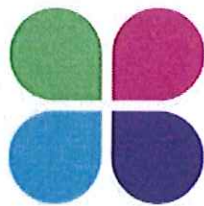
For more information on the Mayors session, the gala dinner and the Geneva Opera Pool please contact Mr. Etienne Lézat, Conference project manager, by phone: 0041 22 418 2292 or by email at: etienne.lezat@ville-ge.ch.

I look forward to meeting you during this exciting European event in Geneva.

Yours sincerely,



Sandrine Salerno
Vice-Mayor



GENEVA 2013
*7th European Conference on
Sustainable Cities & Towns*