



Global Observance of World Habitat Day 2019

Monday, 7 October 2019

Frontier technologies as an innovative tool to transform waste to wealth



< **7-10
billion**
tonnes of urban
waste every year

The world's cities produce every year 7 – 10 billion tonnes of solid, liquid, domestic, industrial and commercial waste. Managing waste properly is essential for building sustainable and liveable cities, but it remains a challenge for many developing countries and cities.

This year, World Habitat Day is calling attention to the issue of waste, wishing to change the discourse into a positive one, where waste is presented as an opportunity to bring about wealth and change in the communities and cities where we live.

UN-Habitat is calling for you to share your innovative solutions and best practices that transform waste to wealth. The objective is to collate the best solutions and innovative practices from around the world and present these at World Habitat Day for practitioners to take home and be inspired to replicate them.

WHO

- Everyone who is passionate about solving the challenges of waste management by using the opportunities it offers!

WHAT

- Innovative technologies/solutions/ideas/approaches that change the way we think about, use and treat waste (solid, liquid, domestic, industrial and commercial). The submissions should support the 5R (rethinking, refusing, reducing, reusing and recycling) and opportunities that transform waste to wealth.

WHY

- Lack of adequate waste management has resulted in excessive air, soil and water pollution, threatening public health, ecosystems and biodiversity, as well as accumulating immense quantities of waste in the world's oceans. At the same time sustainable waste management presents opportunities. From innovating waste management through the 5Rs, cities can resolve not only the challenge, but also create employment, promote economic growth, improve health and ecosystems – which in turn contributes to happier, greener and healthier cities – and can create enormous savings for cities and municipalities.

In this context, new frontier technologies and innovative solutions can present important circular economy opportunities for cities and human settlements. Therefore, this year's World Habitat Day, taking place 7 October, will be celebrated under the theme "Frontier technologies as innovative tools to transform waste to wealth".



Outcome

The best 20 submissions will be published and showcased as part of World Habitat Day. Other relevant submissions will be published on the UN-Habitat website and shared with Waste Wise Cities Campaign.



The best 20
submissions will
be published
and showcased



Criteria

- 1 Potential to sustainably impact the lives of many people, especially vulnerable groups as urban poor, women, youth, disabled, informal workers
- 2 Environmentally friendly, socially acceptable and economically feasible
- 3 Localizing the Sustainable Development Goals
- 4 Contributing to achieve the New Urban Agenda
- 5 Scalable
- 6 Innovative



How to submit

Please send the following documents by 6 of September 2019 to **wastewisecities@un.org**

Strictly maximum 2 page concept note including

- description (goal, target groups, possible target indicators)
- status of the proposal (designing phase, implementing phase, operational phase)
- financial budget (capital investment and operational cost)
- focal person and organisation

supporting high-resolution material as pictures, videos, sketches, audio, etc.