

## GENERAL FRAMEWORK

### INTRODUCTION

The city profile has been changing since the dawn of the third millennium, challenged by the huge accumulated shortage in knowledge. This has been realized so clearly in the spread of Information & Communication modern technologies such as the internet. The vast developments in this field deeply affected the method of global communication. Also the contemporary communities are experiencing changes imposed by the knowledge era, a matter that generated the 'Knowledge Communities' which had its impact on the city as an urban entity. Today, technological advancements in several areas such as information and computers, are invading cities so clearly that some of them are called 'electronic cities'.

### SIGNIFICANCE

This symposium is organized to shed light on the issue of transition of cities into the economy that depends on knowledge, especially that they are challenged by variables of globalization and the digital revolution. The significance of the symposium stems from the need to exchange expertise and experiences among cities in the field of production and dissemination of knowledge. The symposium is an opportunity to review and utilize the most recent applications for the development and enhancement of provision of services and easy procedures in cities.

### OBJECTIVES

Through discussions and study of the papers presented, the symposium aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To shed light on the importance of Knowledge-based Economy in achieving competitiveness among cities.
- Review the available solutions and alternatives for the development of knowledge production and dissemination process.
- Determine the applicable steps needed for transition into Knowledge-based Economy.
- Define the challenges and difficulties that face cities in their endeavor to depend on Knowledge-based Economy.
- Exchange international best practices and experiences among participants.
- Review the latest developments in the field.

## THEMES & TOPICS

### A- **Knowledge Based Economy:**

The concept of Knowledge cities is the most progressing modern dimension in knowledge based economy where human advancements do not rely on acquiring quantities but rather on partnership, in future human innovations. This theme focuses on the basic concepts of knowledge cities and on the real status of the cities in light of the new variables.

### B- **The Role of Technology in Building Knowledge Cities:**

ICT revolution, the knowledge epoch and smart societies, are terms derived from the advancements in digital systems and technology. Now their role has appeared in re-inventing the economic concepts which include the change in the profile of cities and communities. This theme will focus on presenting the role of tools and means of ICT techniques in establishing Knowledge Cities.

### C - **Knowledge Indicators:**

The knowledge capital has become one of the paramount development sources, and specialized institutions have emerged in several urban regions to monitor the development and mobility of the knowledge capital. This occurs through monitoring several knowledge indicators such as, translation vitality, patent law, export of knowledge production and other. Indicators that measure the standard and mobility of knowledge development.

### D - **Knowledge and Development:**

The role of knowledge and the knowledge capital has been a paramount vehicle in the advancement of the economic development and both the developing and advanced economies. This theme seeks finding out the relationship between knowledge and the development process, and try to build-up a scientific model that illustrates this relationship.

### E - **International and Regional Experiences:**

Several cities and institutions have started adopting and developing special strategies for knowledge management as well as the concept of knowledge transition which aims at transferring their communities into smart ones and their cities to knowledge cities. The symposium will devote this theme to reviewing international experiences with the aim of learning and disseminating the best practices in this field.



Arab Urban  
Development  
Institute

3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on

# Knowledge Cities

17-19 November 2008 Istanbul - Turkey



Istanbul  
Municipality

## CONFERENCE CONTENT:

- Referred research papers.
- Open discussions among participants.
- Workshops and thematic breakout groups.
- Experiences and best practices of cities, municipalities, and regional and international institutions.

## SCIENTIFIC PARTICIPATION:

Interested researchers are kindly requested to submit an abstract not exceeding 300 words explaining the topic and research methods of the proposed paper, as well as the results and their contribution to the conference. The abstract should reach the secretariat by the deadline below. Researchers will be notified of acceptance of their abstracts so as to prepare their full papers and submit them to by the prescribed date, to be assessed by the technical committee. Full papers must not exceed 30 pages (double spaced) including references, illustrations and photos. An electronic version and a hard copy of the full paper should reach the secretariat by the specified deadline.

## TARGET AUDIENCE:

- Mayors and senior officials in the cities, municipalities, relevant government agencies, NGOs and the private sector.
- Researchers and specialists in the fields of Knowledge Economics, Knowledge Management, urban development, education, social studies and welfare, Information Technology.
- International organizations and public and private institutions.

## ORGANIZERS:

- Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI), the scientific arm of Arab Towns Organization.
- Istanbul Municipality, Turkey.

## DATE AND VENUE:

The Symposium will be held during 17-19 November 2008, in Istanbul turkey.



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## REGISTRATION:

Prospective participants are kindly requested to complete the attached Registration Form and dispatch to the Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI) with the appropriate registration fees as follows:

- \* S.R.2625 (US\$ 700) for participants from member towns and municipalities of the Arab Towns Organization.
- \* S.R. 3000 (US\$ 800) for other participants.

The registration fees will cover the conference proceedings, attendance of all sessions, receptions and tours. Speakers will be exempted from the registration fees. Other participants are expected to cover their travel and accommodation expenses. Special rates will be negotiated with hotels. Please contact the desired hotel directly to arrange for accommodation.

## CORRESPONDENCE:

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