



United Nations

— HABITAT III —

SIDE EVENT REPORT

Submitted by Lead Organization	
Name of the lead organization	Ihobe, Public Agency for Environmental Management - Basque Government
City and country where the lead organization is based	Bilbao, Bizkaia - Spain
Title of the event	Transformative actions to create productive, sustainable and resilient cities - The Basque Declaration
Date	10/17/2016
Room number	R20
List of partner organizations	ICLEI, Local Governments for Sustainability European Secretariat Freiburg, Germany
Number of attendees	81-100
Percentage of women participating	51-60%
Background information on the event (themes, issues, context).	In an urgent call for a transformation of our societies, 800 delegates from local governments and civil society adopted The Basque Declaration at the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities and Towns in April 2016. Organised in the Basque Country from 27-29 April 2016, the conference gathered city leaders, urban decision makers, stakeholders and civil society representatives from 40 countries all over the world to discuss the future of urban sustainable development. Since the conference, the declaration has been endorsed by many more cities and organisations. The Declaration presents 15 pathways in order to achieve a socio-cultural, socio-economic and technological transformation on the local and global level, and will instigate new and impactful collaborations that will undoubtedly help shape our future. It is a strong call for social justice, inclusion of all citizens, a focus on marginalised groups and a liveable planet for these and future generations. Organisations, governments and civic society are invited to join the movement and endorse the Declaration at: www.basquecountry2016.eu The Basque Declaration is the next step in a movement that started over 20 years ago. In 1994 Mayors of European cities and towns approved the ground-breaking Aalborg Charter and kicked-off the European Sustainable Cities & Towns Campaign. Inspired by the results of the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro and the results of the EU Urban Environment Expert Group, the Campaign developed into the first large scale local government movement based on clear commitments and with a strong supporting structure. In 2004, following the UN Rio+10 Summit in Johannesburg the Aalborg Commitments were created to support cities to develop their commitments and discuss indicators and management systems for their implementation and monitoring. In 2016 the Basque Declaration will trigger the transformative actions necessary to make those commitments a reality.
Concise summary of the event proceedings, including key points discussed	Focus of the side event The side event discussed the potential of The Basque Declaration for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Methodology The session introduced The Basque Declaration presented by ICLEI, the importance of the local and regional governments' cooperation led by the Basque Government and finally the transformative actions showcased by cities to inspire others to share their experience on urban local sustainability. A facilitated panel discussion as well as questions from the floor was the second part of the session.
Recommendations that emerged from these discussions.	Interest to check how the Basque Declaration can be applied in other areas of the world, and how the transformative actions can be replicated
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 1st speaker at your event.	Ania Rok, Polish, Coordinator Governance and Social Innovation, ICLEI Europe
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 2nd speaker at your event.	Ruud Schuthof, Dutch, Deputy Regional Director, ICLEI Europe
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 3rd speaker at your event.	Roberto San Salvador, Spanish, Director of the Deusto Cities Lab, Professor of the University of Deusto
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 4th speaker at your event.	Pekka Sauri, Finish, Deputy Mayor, Helsinki, Finland and Chair of the ICLEI European Executive Committee
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 5th speaker at your event.	Oliver Weigel, German, Head of Division Urban development policy, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Germany
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 6th speaker at your event.	Albert Edman, Swedish, Strategic development officer, City of Umeå, Sweden
Dissemination of the outcomes of your event?	Website news http://www.irekia.euskadi.eus/en/news/35062-basque-declaration-cities-and-regions-showcase-their-transformative-actions-habitat-iii http://www.irekia.euskadi.eus/en/news/35011-the-new-sustainable-cities-platform-and-the-basque-declaration-habitat-iii-quito http://www.irekia.euskadi.eus/en/news/34963-iriarte-the-basque-government-within-the-global-network-regional-and-local-governments-contributes-the-new-urban-agenda-implemented-effectively http://www.iclei.org/details/article/the-new-sustainable-cities-platform-launched-at-habitat-iii.html http://www.iclei-europe.org/news/?cmd=search&direct_search_param[month]=201610#n90afc147 http://us5.campaign-archive1.com/?u=a3a47048051ae2f2024de7834&id=6d20668c0c&e=346791d08b http://www.iclei-europe.org/newsletter/2016/october-2016/ http://www.iclei-europe.org/news/?cmd=search&direct_search_param[month]=201609#n580ee614 News bulletins http://www.udalsarea21.net/documentos/2016-11-1.html Social media – Twitter: @sustain_cities @iclei_europe @udalsarea21 @ihobe_eus