



United Nations

— HABITAT III —

URBAN LIBRARY REPORT

Submitted by Lead Organization	
Name of lead organization	United Nations Environment
City and country where organization is based	Panama
Title of Urban Library event	Better Cities, Better Lifestyles
Date of Urban Library event	10/18/2016
Name of partner organizations with information on city, and country where organization is based	Earth Charter, Canada / Stockholm Environment Institute, Sweden/ Despacio, Colombia
Number of participants	100
Percentage of women participants at the event	50%
Background information on Urban Library event (themes, issues, context).	<p>The vision for sustainable lifestyles is an essential element for the design and development of resource efficient and inclusive cities. The adoption of new and sustainable lifestyles needs to be enabled by city planning, efficient infrastructures as well as individual actions. Creating more sustainable ways of living means rethinking how we organize both our personal and community daily life, altering the way we commute to work or school, the way we shop and eat, dispose our waste and where we live - which in turn affects (or are affected by) the urban planning and management. This effort requires system thinking and integrated solutions to provide the “hardware” (regulatory frameworks, infrastructure, market signals, financial schemes, etc.) and “software” (information, values, beliefs, etc.) for radical transformation and behavior change. Enabling sustainable lifestyles is crucial for the construction of efficient, inclusive, sustainable and attractive cities. The side event gathered national and local policy makers and experts on sustainable cities and lifestyles to share latest findings and research understanding cities as metabolisms and enabling sustainable lifestyles as well as concrete initiatives, demonstrating the innovation capacity of cities.</p>
Concise summary of the event proceedings, including key points discussed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of holistic approaches of cities that enables the adoption of sustainable lifestyles. • Successfully examples of policies, initiatives and tools to empower citizens for sustainable lifestyles. • Main challenges in the transition to sustainable lifestyles.



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<p>Concise summary of the publication launched or promoted at the event.</p>	<p>“A framework for shaping sustainable lifestyles. Determinants and strategies” is the first evidence based document that presents findings from an sustainable lifestyle prospective that outline a global framework of what is a sustainable lifestyle and synthesizes recent science-based narratives on what determines lifestyles and how they could be better shaped to respond to sustainability challenges. The key domains of final consumption highlighted in this report are: food, housing, mobility, consumer goods and leisure, emphasizing that sustainable lifestyles imply more than material consumption alone and providing an understanding on how social impacts of lifestyles and consumption can be equally or even more problematic than environmental impacts. Also the publication define the main lifestyles drivers: income level, values, ability, awareness, knowledge, social norms and peers, media, market prices, technology, infrastructure and policies and institutional frameworks. Among other things, the report concludes that sustainable lifestyles do not always have to involve new ways of doing things, or be related to consumption. Traditional practices, old technologies, and communities living fulfilling lives without being heavily consumptive can be instructive towards formulating large-scale solutions</p>
<p>Name, title, and organization of the 1st speaker</p>	<p>Gerben van Straaten, The Netherlands, Author and Executive Director of Earth Charter hgvanstraaten@teamwalas.com</p>
<p>Name, title, and organization of the 2nd speaker</p>	<p>Laura Ome, Colombia, Lifestyles and Urban Mobility</p>
<p>Name, title, and organization of the 3rd speaker</p>	<p>Patricia Vilchis Tella, Research Associate</p>
<p>Name, title, and organization of the 4th speaker</p>	<p>Adriana Zacarias, Regional Coordinator Resource Efficiency, UN Environment</p>