

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: 30th September 2013

EMBARGO: Immediate Release

Delegations from more than 60 communities set to gather in Xiamen, China for LivCom finals

Representatives of more than 60 communities from around the world will gather in Xiamen, China, 28th November- 2nd December 2013 at the finals of the UN-backed International Awards for Liveable Communities (LivCom).

Delegates will make the case for their towns and cities over four days of judging before a panel of world renowned experts in the field of municipal and environmental management.

The winning communities in the global awards scheme for civic environmental achievement will be announced on Monday 2nd December.

Organisers of the event, which has the support of UNEP, say a continued growth in community focus on sustainability has sparked not only growing entries but increasing innovation in projects designed to resolve challenging issues in the spheres of socio-economic, built and natural environments.

Finalists this year reflect a wide geographic spread with a growth in new communities making their debut at the finals.

After a special award was made two years ago to Medellin in Colombia, for its efforts to tackle socio-economic and environmental issues linked to an historically strong drugs culture, the awards have increasingly seen the rise of progressive solutions to tackle global community problems.

Founder and chief executive Alan Smith said: “We are looking forward to a highly competitive, educational and informative finals event with some of the leading innovators in the world going before the judges.

“As well as sharing knowledge, these awards are a unique way of recognising the outstanding efforts being made by individuals committed to finding innovative answers to their communities problems.”

A total of 42 towns and cities, 52 Sustainable Projects and six Bursary Award

applications have reached the finals.

ENDS

Note to editors:

The International Awards for Liveable Communities (The LivCom Awards) was launched in 1997 and is endorsed by the United Nations Environment Programme, with which it partners an MoU.

LivCom is non-political, embracing all nations and cultures, and over 50 countries are represented within the Awards. LivCom Awards are made annually in three categories covering Whole Cities, Sustainable Projects and a Bursary Award.

The LivCom Awards are the only forum in which International best practice may be observed and developed, and participation in the Awards is an investment in the future of a community. Observers are welcome to attend.

LivCom Awards 2013

Finalists

Venue: Xiamen, China, 28th November to 2nd December 2013

Category A: Population up to 20,000

Agueda, Portugal

Birdhill, Republic of Ireland

Ewang Community, Yilan County, Chinese Taipei

Fu Xing Community, Ruisui Township, Hualien County, Chinese Taipei

Guan-Fu Community, Taichung City, Chinese Taipei

Inis Oirr, Republic of Ireland

Jiantan Township, Taipei City, Chinese Taipei

Julianstown and District Community Association, Republic of Ireland

Learmont Community Development Group Ltd, Northern Ireland

Longshan Community, Tainan City, Chinese Taipei

Pinxi District, New Taipei City, Chinese Taipei

Togo Community, Houbi District, Tainan City, Chinese Taipei

Zhuzihu Community, Taipei City, Chinese Taipei

Category B: Population 20,001 to 75,000

City of Coral Gables, USA

City of Grande-Synthe, France

Community of Szentes Town, Hungary

Cyberjaya, Malaysia

Dashu District, Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei

Goseong-gun, South Korea

Jiaoxi Township, Yilan County, Chinese Taipei

Jihlava, Czech Republic

Marathon Municipality, Greece

Municipality of Kaposvar, Hungary

Grand Xi-Chuan Community, Taichung City, Chinese Taipei

Utena City, Lithuania

Wanli District, New Taipei City, Chinese Taipei

Wiener Neustadt, Austria

Category C: Population 75,001 to 150,000

Bruges, Belgium

Daya District, Taichung City, Chinese Taipei

Gushan District, Kaohsiung City, Chinese Taipei

Royal Commission of Yanbu, Saudi Arabia

Sanxia District, New Taipei City, Chinese Taipei

Category D: Population 150,001 to 400,000

Muharraq Town, Bahrain

City of Miami Beach, USA

East District, Tainan City, Chinese Taipei

Hualien County, Chinese Taipei

Tamsui District, New Taipei City, Chinese Taipei

Category E: Population over 400,000

City Government of Pasig, Philippines

Donetsk City Council, Ukraine

Miaoli, Chinese Taipei

New Taipei City Government, Chinese Taipei

Regional Administration of Sardinia, Italy

Seo-gu, Daejeon Metropolitan City, South Korea

Suwon City, South Korea