

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT PROJECT FOR BUSINESS DISTRICTS

Findings

Since a major international trend is gathering strength and getting organised to save our planet,

Since we are now certain of the reasons for these serious malfunctions and about their consequences,

Since only a radical change in habits and lifestyles is likely to slow, and then halt, this fatal trend,

Since individual and collective awareness is finally taking shape,

Since economic development can - and must - contribute to Sustainable Development,

We,

The Business Districts,

Will move with determination to protect the environment, save on energy and upgrade the quality of life and living conditions in Business Districts,

Want to become major players in Sustainable Development as economic growth sources in the world's major cities,

Are launching an immediate action plan by way of this Charter, and are committing ourselves to the following:

PART I

Responsible resources management

Commitment N° 1 – *Increase medium- and long-term energy efficiency*

- We will save on the energy that we use, both in new construction and in refurbishing existing buildings.
- Without questioning the comfort and attractiveness of our installations, We, Business Districts want to diversify energy supplies and moderation in consumption. We emphasize the use of renewable energies and we stimulate innovation in those fields.

Commitment N°2 – *Control the water cycle, air quality and use of materials*

- We are deploying new reliable and appropriate infrastructures to control consumption levels for all kinds of resources.
- We take the entire water cycle into account in daily operation of the Business District, in its expansion or in establishing a new business district in partnership with all the players involved, and particularly with the neighboring communities.
- We agree on an air quality level inside and outside the buildings that is measurable and can be controlled.
- We make sure that throughout their life cycle, the materials and equipment needed for construction, destruction, rehabilitation and everyday operation of our buildings and of all infrastructures, as well as the use we make of them, have a minimum effect on our planet's resources.

Commitment N° 3 – *Reduce and recycle waste*

- We are limiting the pollution caused by our activities, are processing waste, and are ensuring efficient and effective waste recovery and recycling.
- In particular, we apply “clean job site” standards.
- Following a responsible purchasing policy, we take account of the lifetime of all materials and equipment used, preferring ones that can be recycled.
- We rely on selective sorting to make use and re-use of waste easier.
- We emphasize the use of substances known to be non-toxic for people and for the environment.

Commitment N°4 – *Develop a sustainable transport plan*

- We are upgrading the use of intermodal transport and its accessibility to all to guarantee an open stance and efficiency, for both freight and passengers.
- We are increasing the supply of reliable and convivial transport systems, so as to make it possible to satisfy all of the district's needs thanks to those systems.
- We develop and regulate access and parking for all individual transport.
- We emphasize clean transport systems and orderly traffic, and encourage research and innovation in this field.

PART II

Making human beings the heart of the Business District

Commitment N°5 – *Facilitate desegregation in terms of space and uses*

- We promote multi-purpose use of space.
- We are beginning to build high-rises for combined use – residence, leisure-time and economic activities – and favor re-conversion of existing high-rises.
- We favor a role for all in society, and are creating proper conditions adapted to the need to accommodate various kinds of companies and of populations.

Commitment N°6 – *Guarantee a high quality of life and secure surroundings*

- We watch over the safety and security of infrastructures, individuals, data and property, as well as the continuity and growth of economic activities by applying the most up-to-date prevention and protection technologies while respecting basic rights.
- We offer an appropriate healthy environment and public health facilities, particularly when it comes to managing sound pollution.
- We develop living surroundings meeting the population's desires and needs when it comes to the environment, cultural and sports activities, esthetics and conviviality.

Commitment N°7 – *Increase knowledge and make it easier to share*

- We promote the installation of networks for exchanging information, experience and knowledge.
- We encourage development of business incubators.

- We keep a close eye on societal needs (employment, training, social links, citizen commitment, etc.), so as to detect major changes in them and to update our strategies as a result.

Commitment N°8 – *Create a dynamic and stimulating professional environment*

- We consider the International Labour Organisation's rules and regulations as a minimum basis for labour relations.
- We take part in installation of the best standards and practices in connection with hygiene and safety-security, in all sectors that concern us.
- We keep tabs on skills, and create and lead professional networks so as to give rise to synergies and facilitate career accompaniment and professional mobility on site.

PART III **For responsible new practices**

Commitment N°9 – *Apply the notion of governance to Business Districts*

- We promote good corporate governance.
- We urge the companies established on the site to observe better governance practices, especially thanks to information for and concertation with all participants.
- We provide regular communication about the progress that we note and about the priority action focuses in relation to the present Charter.

Commitment N°10 – *Encourage cooperation between Business Districts*

- We are establishing exchanges, joint projects and partnerships.
- We support and accompany the development of emerging business districts.
- We take part in the programs launched in connection with the Sustainable Development Charter for Business Districts, and promote them.
- We help emerging business districts take part in all this.