
Global urban and construction leaders join high-profile speaker line-up of Big 5 Global and LiveableCitiesX



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- His Excellency Robert Beugré Mambé, Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire to speak at the LiveableCitiesX Summit discussing the future of urban sustainability and development

- More than 300 speakers from 28 countries will share thought leadership and strategic insights on urban development and construction as Big 5 Global and LiveableCitiesX present five summits

- **Doha-Qatar | 4 November 2024:**

As urbanization accelerates globally, the need for innovative urban development and construction strategies has never been more urgent, with 80% of the world's population projected to live in cities by 2080, particularly in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia. From 26 to 29 November, Big 5 Global, along with co-located events LiveableCitiesX, GeoWorld and Future FM, will host five strategic summits, uniting 1,500 leaders from government and the private sector to shape the future of urban communities.

“As cities in the Global South face challenges like overcrowding and resource optimization, the Global North faces the complexities of aging populations and infrastructure, all which require immediate action. This calls for governments, national vision initiatives and the construction sector to work together and build liveable cities of tomorrow,” said Josine Heijmans, Senior Vice President, dmg events. “Big 5 Global, together with LiveableCitiesX, has established itself as the epicentre of thought leadership, uniting visionaries, innovators and policymakers to shape the future of urban development and set the agenda for sustainable growth and resilient

infrastructure.”

Regional leaders align with national visions

The urban construction and infrastructure sector across MEASA is booming, with \$6.75 trillion in projects underway. National visions like UAE Vision 2031 and Saudi Vision 2030 are key drivers, pushing forward urban development and economic diversification. Aligning with these goals, Big 5 Global Leaders’ Summit and LiveableCitiesX Summit will bring together global leaders from both government and private sectors to lead strategic discussions on innovation, sustainability and the future of urban development.

“The United Arab Emirates stands at the forefront of sustainable global leadership across all sectors, one of them being construction,” said His Excellency Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei, UAE Minister of Energy & Infrastructure. “Our commitment extends beyond dialogue to tangible actions, exemplified by our commitment to adopting global innovative solutions to improve the quality of life of the society. At this year’s Big 5 Global Leaders’ Summit, I look forward to addressing the significance of public and private sector collaboration in building a future-ready and greener industry as well as promoting collective partnerships, technology and advanced sciences.”

UAE-based speakers headlining the summits include H.E. Maysarah Eid, Acting Director General, Abu Dhabi Projects and Infrastructure Centre; H.E Dr. Saif Al Nasri, Undersecretary, Department of Municipalities and Transport, Abu Dhabi; Gurjit Singh, Chief Development Officer, Aldar Properties and Saeed Mohammed Al Qatami, CEO, Deyaar Developments.

Bringing expertise from Saudi Arabia, high-profile speakers from Red Sea Global, ROSHN, Osool Real Estate, Quality of Life Program Centre, General Authority for Survey and Geospatial Information will also join the summits.

International speakers shape global conversations

For the first time in the MEASA region, some of the globally renowned speakers will participate in the summits, bringing perspectives and real-life city use cases that align with global urban development and construction trends.

His Excellency Robert Beugré Mambé, Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire, the largest economy in the West African Economic and Monetary Union, (will be one such speaker delivering a keynote address at LiveableCitiesX Summit. Commenting on his participation, His Excellency said: “The future of our nations lies in building cities that are resilient and liveable, which demands a visionary approach that combines sustainable urban planning with robust infrastructure and

deep-rooted community engagement. I am honoured to participate in the LiveableCitiesX Summit, where we will share insights and shape the blueprint for a sustainable and thriving urban future for generations to come.”

Among renowned international speakers joining the summits are Lord Udny-Lister, UK Co-Chair, UAE-UK Business Council, who also served as the Chief Strategic Advisor to the former Prime Minister of the UK, Boris Johnson. Sandro Alex Cruz de Oliveira, Secretary of Infrastructure Paraná – Brazil, Infrastructure Secretariat of the State of Paraná; Lufuno Ratsiku, President, South African Council for the Project and Construction Management Professions (SACPCMP); and Prof. Carlos Moreno, Founder of the 15-minute City Concept and Scientific Director of the research lab “Entrepreneurship Territory Innovation”, IAE Paris-Sorbonne, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.

Commenting on his participation, Prof. Moreno said: “In the pursuit of sustainable and vibrant urban living, the proximity city concept has never been more relevant. This model is about creating cities that prioritize well-being, reduce carbon emissions and build a strong sense of

community. I am passionate about sharing this vision and collaborating with leaders at the LiveableCitiesX Summit to transform our cities into a place for everyone regardless of socio-economic background.”

For more information, visit www.big5global.com and www.liveablecitiesx.com.