

1st Meeting of UNAI SDGs Hubs in Athens – Greece

Strengthening efforts to achieve 17 Sustainable Development Goals

An initiative – proposal of UNAI SDG7 Hub in support of Resilient Cities (A call for alliance with municipalities)

In the frame of the global efforts for the implementation of the “2030 – Agenda for Sustainable Development” and the current global socio-economic uncertainties, UNAI SDG7 Hub suggests that the UN Academic Impact (UNAI) community can contribute to the development of Resilient Cities worldwide through the promotion of the “2030-Agenda for the Sustainable Development”, by UNAI SDGs Hubs.

In this context and in view of the role that Energy plays in everyday activities, the UNAI **SDG7 Hub** proposes the development of an **alliance with municipalities and market forces** in support of the development of **Resilient Cities**, based on the partial aims of SDG7 and their interconnection with **SDG11, SDG17** and all the other **SDGs**.

“Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” is the “hard core” of the proposed alliance. It will contribute, to the green transformation of their economies, the development of resilient cities, and provide solutions in favour of the most vulnerable social groups suffering from poverty and discrimination, in both developed and developing economies

The alliance should be built on concrete proposals, reflecting the local conditions.

UNAI SDG 7 Hub proposes a few indicative initiatives that in cooperation with local municipalities can be adapted to local conditions:

1. **“Energy Poverty”** based on a “Structured Policy Dialogue” targeting the Securitization of micro-financed loans associated with RES, leading to leverage of an initially allocated fund.
2. **Tree planting** of urban and peri-urban areas as part of efforts to i) decrease CO2 emissions, ii) decrease the thermal island and the energy consumption for conditioning, iii) exercise REDD+ activities.
3. **“Circular Economy”**
4. Expand **LED use in public lighting**, small scale **vertical axis wind generators**, **geothermal fields** exploitation
5. **Demonstrative introduction** of production and use of **H₂** by municipalities vehicles.
6. Introduction of **electromobility in small-range ferry boats**.
7. Development and introduction of **artificial intelligence (AI) systems in forest fires** (early detection, spread protocols for forest fires, remote-controlled stable ground firefighting systems, use of drones and remotely controlled vehicles for forest fire extinguishing 24 hours per day)

United Nations Academic Communities can play a significant role in transferring and spreading innovative solutions for Resilient Cities.

Funding for these programs should be sought from pools of excess wealth in international, national, public, and private bodies.

The banking sector is such a body and should be requested to allocate a minimum percentage of its net annual profits to the hubs for specific actions in vulnerable and disadvantaged social groups.

UNAI Hub SDG7 considers that the forthcoming UNAI HUBs SDGs meeting in Athens (Greece) offers a unique opportunity for thorough discussion among the participants.

