### Urban Policies and Practices Addressing International Migration

#### Description of event:
International migration has come to the forefront of the development debate with a new emphasis on the urban impacts and responses. Transnational migration has beneficial effects on both sending and receiving countries, but it also raises problems at the political, social, economic and spatial level, since most international migrants add to the low-income population and often have cultural, social and religious traditions different from the host country and cities. Local governments are seldom prepared to cope with the ad hoc policies needed to integrate people with different cultural, social and religious traditions into the urban society. International migration encompasses virtually all dimensions of urban policy-making, including the informal economy, education, health, housing and urban safety. It also has an important urban governance dimension as it relates to the issues of participation in local politics and systems of governance.

UN-HABITAT’s Global Campaign on Urban Governance has recently initiated, in collaboration with the Università IUAV di Venezia, a research project to help develop urban policies and programmes that promote positive values of urban citizenship, with particular reference to transnational migrants in an urban setting.

The objectives of this joint networking event are, therefore:

- to share and debate the interim research findings on “Urban Policies Addressing International Migration”
- to inspire municipalities to adopt inclusive approaches to address issues related to International Migration

#### Name of organisation:
UN HABITAT (Urban Governance Section)

#### Description of organisation:
The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT, is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all.

#### Partner organisations:
Università IUAV di Venezia.

#### Confirmed speakers:
- Mr. Paul Taylor (Facilitator), UN-HABITAT
- Mr. Antonio Morabito, Consigliere di Ambasciata (Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Rome, Italy
- Rt Hon John Battle, Member of Parliament, UK
- Ms. Patrizia Paoletti Tangheroni, Member of Parliament, Italy
- Mr. Raf Tuts, UN-HABITAT
- Mr. Marcello Balbo, IUAV, Venice, Italy
- Mr. Michael Leaf, Vancouver, Canada
- Mr. John Crush, Johannesburg, South Africa
- Mr. Tito Alegria, Tijuana, Mexico
- Mr. Haris Gazdar, Karachi, Pakistan

#### Contact information:
Mr. Raf Tuts
UN-HABITAT
raf.tuts@unhabitat.org
POLICIES AND PRACTICES ADDRESSING INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

ADDRESS

Università IUAV di Venezia
dipartimento di Pianificazione
Santa Croce 1957
30135 Venezia - Italia

E-MAILS
marcello.balbo@iuav.it
marconi@iuav.it

UNIVERSITÀ IUAV DI VENEZIA
dipartimento di pianificazione

UN-HABITAT

URBAN POLICIES AND PRACTICES ADDRESSING INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION
One of the new challenges globalisation raises to urban management is the increasing number of international migrants moving to cities of developing countries and their impact on urban governance. Although there is growing perception that urban cultural diversity is a desirable outcome of globalization, most international migrants add to the low-income population and are particularly affected by urban exclusion. Furthermore, local governments in developing countries are seldom prepared to cope with the ad hoc policies needed to integrate people with different cultural, social and religious traditions into the urban society. Such policies should aim to encourage mobility and temporary vs. permanent migration, strengthen civic identity, deal with the cultural differences and the resulting discriminatory reactions from local residents, promote participation and representation, and fight the social and economic exclusion that often expose migrants to illegal activities contributing to raising urban violence.

In this context, the Università IUAV di Venezia, in collaboration with UN-HABITAT, is carrying out an international research project on Urban policies addressing transnational migration with the aim to help developing strategies to promote positive values of urban citizenship. Based on a comparative analysis of case studies, the research is investigating issues, policies and instruments geared to the integration of transnational migrants, in a selected range of cities with different social and economic characteristics.