# Research is becoming the talk of the town

Involving today's citizens in shaping tomorrow's towns and cities.



An Initiative of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research

Science Year 2015

City of the Future

## SCIENCE YEAR 2015 CITY OF THE FUTURE



Dear Reader,

The sustainable development of our cities is an important task.

It involves discussing climate change adaptation, looking for strategies for the transition to renewable energy and seeking ideas to shape the living environment

for an increasingly ageing society. This applies especially to cities, where most of us live and where mobility policies are being tested, integrated living and working schemes tried out and new technologies developed. Citizens are a part of this process – they participate in local decision-making procedures, do voluntary work in their communities and are active in the field of environmental protection. But urban development also requires knowledge in addition to motivation and interest. Research is thus becoming an important partner in this area. Research findings are contributing to the development of the City of the Future.

We would like to make use of Science Year 2015 to present the strategies for sustainable urban development which German research is currently discussing. We invite you to find out more about the city of tomorrow on the MS Wissenschaft or to attend a science slam for urban visionaries. Children and young people can experience the City of the Future at school cinema weeks or study their local environment in specific activities.

We wish you interesting discussions during Science Year 2015 – City of the Future, enjoyable hours and lots of new insights. What does your City of the Future look like?

oliana Wase

Prof. Dr. Johanna Wanka

Federal Minister of Education and Research



# Research for urban development

Science Year 2015 – City of the Future shows how science, research and civil society are already contributing to shaping livable cities. Scientists are working with local authorities, associations, industry and with you, the local residents, to develop concrete approaches to solving societal challenges of the future. Very often these challenges are too real to be studied in laboratories or research seminars and it is we, the citizens, who provide the answers to questions regarding the city of tomorrow. Whether we live in large cities or in the country, in industrial areas, new residential developments or historic old towns, we will develop ideas so that society can succeed.

### Overview of the topics

Research perspectives and issues regarding the City of the Future are just as diverse as our cities themselves. Science Year 2015 – City of the Future is focusing on the following topics of urban development.



### **ENERGY, CLIMATE & RESOURCES**

How can we stop emissions of harmful greenhouse gases in towns that are growing more and more rapidly and how do we handle renewable resources intelligently?



# SUPPLY (LOCAL) IN CITIES & RURAL AREAS

How is the basis for food supplies changing against the background of a growing population? Food scientists and agricultural experts would like to join you in seeking examples of local and sustainable agricultural food production.



### **INNER CITIES**

The buildings and squares in our inner cities are places where we meet and interact. Inner cities will continue to provide identity and cohesion in the future.



## DISTRICTS, NEIGHBOURHOODS & BUILDINGS

Urban districts do not just consist of flats and houses – they are shaped by the local community: by newcomers, by long-time residents, by you!



### **MOBILITY & INFRASTRUCTURE**

Integrated and networked traffic systems and vehicles are the key to rethinking transport in the cities of tomorrow.



# LIVING TOGETHER IN CITIES & IN THE COUNTRY

Nothing is more constant than change. Societies are changing. Science and society are working together to seek solutions so that everyone involved can profit from such change.

# Science Year – City of the Future will provide an opportunity for everyone to join in

### Science Year on the Internet

Keeping track of events: numerous events for both young and old are taking place all over Germany in the coming weeks and months. The online calendar shows you precisely where and when. The Science Year website and social media will keep you informed about all the events. You will be able to find comprehensive information about the individual topics as well as exciting contributions from the (specialist) world of science.

www.wissenschaftsjahr-zukunftsstadt.de #Zukunftsstadt

### MS Wissenschaft is dropping anchor

The exhibition vessel embarked on its voyage in Dresden on 15 April and will travel along rivers in Germany and Austria over the next five months. Numerous universities and institutes have produced exhibits on various aspects of sustainable urban development, including mobility, nature in the city, new forms of living, energy and climate.

www.ms-wissenschaft de

# Researchers present their work to school students

Schools can contact the research exchange (Forschungsbörse) to invite scientists to present their research topics in the classroom. Science Year 2015 – City of the Future marks the sixth round of the research exchange.

www.forschungsboerse.de

# The City of the Future depends on your cooperation!

A city is more than just the sum of its residents – it also needs your commitment! Science Year 2015 – City of the Future depends on the initiatives of its partners in science, industry and civil society and supports them in publicising their events.

### Latest information - the newsletter

The newsletter provides up-to-date information about topics, dates and events in Science Year – City of the Future. All you have to do is register at:

www.wissenschaftsjahr-zukunftsstadt.de

### Contact

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### **Impressum**

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The Science Years are a joint initiative of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and Science in Dialogue (WiD). Their aim is to promote exchanges between the public and researchers.



