



GFCC

Global Federation of
Competitiveness Councils

Inclusiveness, Innovation, Sustainability and Resiliency in the City Landscape

Based upon the GFCC Foundational Global Competitiveness Principles

Released at the 2016 Global Innovation Summit at Imperial College London

The Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils (GFCC) is a network of leaders from competitiveness organizations around the world. The GFCC believes that acting globally is now a prerequisite to economic competitiveness nationally.

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The Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils (GFCC) is a network of leaders and organizations from around the world committed to the implementation of competitiveness strategies to drive innovation, productivity and prosperity for nations, regions and cities. The GFCC develops and implements ideas, concepts, initiatives and tools to understand and navigate the complex competitiveness landscape.

For more information, please visit www.thegfcc.org.

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Inclusiveness, Innovation, Sustainability and Resiliency in the City Landscape

The Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils (GFCC) and Imperial College London are pleased to present a set of principles to support Inclusiveness, Innovation, Sustainability and Resilience in the City Landscape.

Since its inception, the GFCC has reviewed its foundational *Global Competitiveness Principles* regularly to adapt to critical productivity and prosperity challenges—and opportunities—facing GFCC members. Originally launched in 2010 and endorsed by more than 30 national competitiveness organizations, the GFCC's foundational *Principles* offer an overarching framework for national policies and programs aimed at fostering innovation, competitiveness and prosperity in the 21st century.

The *Principles* provide an important framework as countries, regions and cities strive to be competitive, grow their economies and become more prosperous. The *Principles* emphasize key competitiveness drivers such as investment in research and development; education and training for all citizens; sustainable and responsible development of natural resources; strong intellectual property rights; open trade; and a stable, transparent, efficient and fair environment for business investment, formation and growth.

GFCC members and participants of the GFCC 2015 Global Innovation Summit have co-created the 2016 edition of the *GFCC Competitiveness Principles*—in short: they result from a deep nearly year-long conversation involving key global competitiveness, business, technology, entrepreneurship, policy and thought leaders. *GFCC Competitiveness Principles* 2016 emerge from a global co-creation process and reflect a variety of perspectives within our network. They incorporate two additional focal points.

First, the 2016 Principles recognize the growing relevance of cities—54 percent of humanity already lives in cities, which account for 80 percent of the world's economic output. We are addressing competitiveness at the city level in this edition of the Principles, and connecting that to the national and global dimensions of productivity and prosperity.

Second, the 2016 *Principles* recognize the importance of sustainability as a competitive advantage. Greater efficiency in how cities, regions and nations use natural resources and consume energy can lower company costs and improve living standards around the world.



This year's GFCC *Competitiveness Principles for Inclusiveness, Innovation, Sustainability and Resiliency in the City Landscape* set forth policies to strengthen cities' abilities to compete globally and, through that, create value and drive prosperity for all their citizens—at the local and national level.

The GFCC envisions these *Principles* will encourage new policies recognizing the role of cities in the knowledge economy, and support cities and nations in their efforts to grow and develop sustainably, resiliently, safely and inclusively. We hope their implementation can help drive momentum in already established global innovation hotspots, and serve as a framework for cities and nations striving to grow and leapfrog in their development cycle.

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles O. Holliday, Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Charles O. Holliday, Jr.

Chairman

Global Federation of Competitiveness Councils

Global Competitiveness Principles

<p>1. Promote growth and the seamless operation of cities through public-private partnerships, citizenship engagement and excellence in governance.</p>	<p>The coordination of technologies, standards, regulation, investments, policies and initiatives is critical for the seamless operation and continuous evolution of cities. Public-private cooperation is a key tool for cities. Private sector participation in investments, policy formulation, decision making on technologies, standards and regulation models is essential for cities to perform and meet the needs of their citizens.</p>		
<p>2. Leverage innovation and the local innovation ecosystem as key elements for city evolution and prosperity.</p>	<p>In order to prosper, cities must create, grow and nurture diverse innovation ecosystems. Local innovation capabilities and innovation-based businesses are essential for future value creation and prosperity. They emerge in environments that combine world-class STEM, business and creative capabilities, favorable business/entrepreneurship regulation, openness and trust, top-notch research and creative infrastructures, capital availability and effective connectors.</p>		
<p>3. Develop future-oriented talent locally, leverage diversity and invest in wellness and freedom as sources of competitive advantage.</p>	<p>Innovation and value creation depend on the availability of a diversified and high-skilled talent pool. Investments in the development of the local talent pool and the attraction of global professionals are complementary. Openness and quality of life are key attributes in the global competition for talent and should be highlighted in global competitiveness strategies for cities.</p>		
			
			
			
			

4. Connect globally and create value through engagement across geographies, boundaries and borders.

Cities account for most of the economic activity around the globe and, by far, innovation capabilities. Value creation can be unlocked and innovative ventures scaled up through regional, national and global connections, which allow for market, business resources and capital access. Cities should seek and promote connections systematically, working in concert with players in different levels.



5. Recognize, protect and promote local knowledge assets—from IP to brands.














Investments in innovation, technology development and creative industries are highly dependent on the existence of frameworks that protect assets and allow for return on investments. Talent and companies look for places around the globe where such conditions are available. It is essential for cities to establish and enforce regimes for the protection and allocation of property rights.



6. Design and implement innovative urban infrastructures oriented toward seamless operation, engagement and adaptability.

Emerging and disrupting technologies allow for new concepts and models for urban infrastructures. Energy, water, waste, transportation, telecommunications and other urban systems can be made more resilient, adaptable, efficient and cost effective via innovative design and new technologies. At the same time, the incorporation of innovative concepts and technologies creates new opportunities for business and can promote innovation at the local level.



<p>7. Leverage cities as global hubs for people, ideas, trade and capital.</p>	<p>Physical infrastructure—ports, airports, rail stations—and soft infrastructure such as festivals and fairs, regulatory regimes, and exchange programs serve as platforms to catalyze the flow of talent, capital, ideas and trade. Modern, resilient and adaptable infrastructures are essential components of a city's competitiveness strategy.</p>		
<p>8. Maximize energy efficiency and the use of natural resources.</p>	<p>Efficiency in the utilization of energy and natural resources has become a competitive advantage, with positive impacts in costs, quality of life, innovation and global branding. Energy and natural resources productivity in urban solutions can be leveraged by design, via the adoption of innovative technologies, business concepts and smart regulation.</p>		
			
			
<p>9. Put in place innovative, seamless and efficient regulations, in order to catalyze investment and attract global talent.</p>	<p>Clarity, stability, transparency and efficiency in regulation and government process are key enablers for investment and the attraction of global entrepreneurs. Cities play a vital role in regulating business operations and can leverage their global standing and promote local innovation with forward-looking regulatory environments that create favorable conditions for the experimentation and deployment of new technologies.</p>		
<p>10. Benchmark performance and practices globally against high-performing, diverse and healthy innovation hotspots.</p>	<p>Competition is growing around the world—citizens and business demand better life and operating conditions. In order to be competitive and offer world-class services and opportunities, cities should benchmark performance, costs and practices globally, in a structured and systematic way. There is a lot of room for learning and the deployment of best practices needs to be facilitated and accelerated.</p>		
			

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

	<p>1 NO POVERTY End poverty in all its forms everywhere</p>		<p>2 ZERO HUNGER End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p>		<p>3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p>
	<p>4 QUALITY EDUCATION Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p>		<p>5 GENDER EQUALITY Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</p>		<p>6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p>
	<p>7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</p>		<p>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p>		<p>9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation</p>
	<p>10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES Reduce inequality within and among countries</p>		<p>11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</p>		<p>12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</p>
	<p>13 CLIMATE ACTION Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*</p>		<p>14 LIFE BELOW WATER Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</p>		<p>15 LIFE ON LAND Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</p>
	<p>16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</p>		<p>17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development</p>		

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