

## **URBAN SCIENCE WEEK 2025**

27 August 2025 -- The Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) will launch Singapore's [Urban Science Week 2025](#) convening world-leading researchers and practitioners to showcase how scientific principles are transforming city planning and management in a series of highly-anticipated lectures. Organised in partnership with NUS Cities and Future Cities Lab, the week-long event from 1 – 5 September 2025 highlights innovative research in urban heat mitigation, mobility patterns, public health outcomes, and social sustainability—demonstrating how data-driven approaches are creating more liveable cities.

2 During Urban Science Week 2025, insights from Singapore's experience as a living laboratory that has enabled researchers to rapidly prototype and validate solutions at the city scale will be explored. By combining advanced data-analytic models with real-world testing, local researchers have pioneered innovative approaches to urban development—from maximising the co-benefits of public health and social connectivity in mobility initiatives, to developing frameworks for regenerative cities that enhance rather than deplete natural capital.

3 The **Science of Cities** approach has proven particularly effective in translating research insights into practical policies, as demonstrated by Singapore's successful implementation of integrated green-blue infrastructure and evidence-based urban planning guidelines.

4 CLC's Urban Science Week will feature more than 30 distinguished speakers spanning diverse disciplines including urban climatology, data science, public health, transport engineering, sociology, and environmental psychology. By bringing together leading researchers, practitioners, and policymakers, the events aim to inspire the next generation of urban science innovations while fostering meaningful knowledge exchange between cities. Some notable speakers include:

- a) Professor Luis Bettencourt, Professor of Ecology and Evolution, University of Chicago
- b) Professor Marie Harder, Distinguished Professor, Fudan University
- c) Professor Dan Hill, Director, Melbourne School of Design, University of Melbourne
- d) Professor Stephen Goldsmith, CLC Visiting Fellow and Professor of Urban Policy and Director of Data-Smart City Solutions at the Bloomberg Center for Cities at Harvard University
- e) Dr Vo Trong Nghia, Founder & Principal Architect, VTN Architects
- f) Professor Alexander Zehnder, President, Triple Z Consulting

g) Key leaders from Singapore's universities and agencies – Professor Elaine Ho, Professor Subodh Mhaisalkar, Professor Thomas Schroepfer, Professor Christian Wolfrum

5 Key highlights of Urban Science Week:

a) **CLC Lecture Series - Shaping Liveable Cities: Capturing the Cross-Domain Benefits of Sustainable Mobility** (2 September 2025): This session will launch CLC's new research e-publication titled "Creating Liveable Cities: A Cross-Domain Approach to Sustainable Mobility", developed in collaboration with the Centre for Innovation in Transport (CENIT), Barcelona. Aligned with the Liveability Framework developed by CLC, the new publication introduces an evaluation framework that enables cities to identify and maximise co-benefits from mobility interventions, helping cities prioritise outcomes-based, cross-domain strategies that align transport planning with broader urban goals.

b) **NUS Cities Symposium** (3 September 2025): The symposium examines cities as complex, adaptive systems through the lens of urban science. By harnessing synergies across disciplines—from data science to social ecology—the symposium explores how integrated approaches can better address the interconnected challenges of urban systems and stakeholders. Guest-of-Honour Minister Ong Ye Kung (Coordinating Minister for Social Policies and Minister for Health, Singapore) will join thought leaders from academia, industry, and government in this annual gathering that advances urban science expertise and reinforces Singapore's position as a global leader in this emerging field.

c) **Future Cities: Science, Design, and Policy for Urban Transitions** (4-5 September 2025): A showcase of Singapore-ETH Zurich research collaboration at the National Design Centre (4 September) and CREATE Campus (5 September). The accompanying exhibition presents 13 research modules – spanning topics from circular futures, resilient blue-green infrastructure, adaptive mobility, architectural cognition in practice – highlighting Singapore's growing influence in urban science methodology and application.

Lead up to World Cities Summit 2026

6 The sharing / insights from Urban Science Week which is underpinned by the science of cities approach will continue to be explored further at the upcoming [World Cities Summit \(WCS\) from 14 – 16 June 2026](#). At WCS 2026, a specially curated Science of Cities Symposium will present a dynamic and interdisciplinary approach to view cities as a system of systems. With emerging technology and big data, new insights supported by scientific principles can provide evidence-based solutions for shaping liveable and sustainable cities. Delegates can look forward international academic researchers, urban practitioners and industry experts sharing their scientific knowledge, novel research methodologies and insights on tackling current and emerging urban challenges.

7 For further reading and references, CLC's research publications may be accessed here [Centre for Liveable Cities Knowledge Hub](#).

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### About Centre for Liveable Cities

Set up in 2008 by the Ministry of National Development and the then-Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, the Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) aims to distil, create and share knowledge on liveable and sustainable cities.

The CLC's work spans four main areas: Research, Capability Development, Knowledge Platforms, and Advisory. Through these activities, it hopes to provide urban leaders and practitioners with the knowledge and support needed to make our cities better.

For more information, please visit [www.clc.gov.sg](http://www.clc.gov.sg)

### About NUS Cities

NUS Cities is a university-wide, interdisciplinary entity hosted within the NUS College of Design and Engineering. It aims to be an open and inclusive collaborative platform for Education, Research, and Advisory Services with a core team of faculty, adjunct experts, and seasoned practitioners drawn throughout NUS as well as other universities and institutions internationally.

For more information, please visit <https://cde.nus.edu.sg/nuscities/>

### About Future Cities Laboratory (FCL) Global

Future Cities Laboratory Global (FCL Global) advances the science of sustainable cities and settlement systems—by design, in place, and over time. We bring a transdisciplinary approach and combine distinctive Asian and European perspectives to address this global mission. FCL Global is supported by Singapore's National Research Foundation, ETH Zurich, NUS, NTU, and SUTD and is part of the CREATE campus.

For more information, please visit <https://futurecitieslab.world/conference>

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