LUCI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
RABAT (MOROCCO)
31 OCTOBER - 3 NOVEMBER 2018
HIGHLIGHTS
The LUCI Annual General Meeting, the international forum for cities on urban lighting, gathered 250 city representatives from over 40 cities in Rabat (Morocco) on 31 October to 3 November 2018.

It was a unique event bringing together lighting professionals, cultures and communities from Africa, Asia and Europe.
The City of Rabat followed in the footsteps of Durham, U.K. (in 2017) and Seoul, South Korea (in 2016) as host of the event. This was the opportunity for the Moroccan capital, a UNESCO World Heritage city, to demonstrate how light is helping it move forward with major urban development projects such as "City of Light, Cultural Capital of Morocco".

The Mayor of Rabat, Mohamed Sadiki and Rabat’s Head of Public Lighting, Abderrahmane Medjoubi, were joined by prominent experts from the region – such as Abderrahmane Ifrassen of Rabat Région Aménagement, Mohamed el Haouri of the Moroccan Agency for Energy Efficiency (AMEE), Abdelaziz Adidi from the National Institute of Urban Planning and Urbanism (INAU), Hassan Radoine, Director of the National School of Architecture of Morocco, Vincent Thiesson, Lighting Designer at Agence ON and Mohamed Es-semmar from the Agency for the Development of the Bou Regreg Valley – to explain the urban development and lighting strategy of Rabat.

"The majority of Moroccan cities have the potential to reduce public lighting energy consumption by over 50%.”

Mohamed el Haouri, Director of Energy Efficiency, Moroccan Agency for Energy Efficiency (AMEE)

"The new development plan of Rabat aims to develop Rabat on five lines: Rabat, a site of exception; Rabat, a green city; Rabat a sustainable city; Rabat, a pleasant city to live in; and Rabat, a competitive city."

Abderrahmane Ifrassen, General Director, Rabat Région Aménagement

"The objective of our lighting strategy is to create an attractive city and a pleasant living environment. We are in a promising period for public lighting: the project "Rabat light city, Moroccan capital of culture" provides for the renovation of the entire public lighting network as well as highlighting the architectural and urban heritage of the city."

Abderrahmane Medjoubi, Head of Public Lighting Department, Rabat

"How can we draw from the past and create architecture and cities that project into the future, that are sustainable and resilient, and for the communities – that is the challenge that light must address."

Hassan Radoine, Director, National School of Architecture

LUCI MEMBERS: SEE THESE PRESENTATIONS HERE
Light – a tool to enliven shared heritage in cities

Drawing inspiration from Rabat as a UNESCO World Heritage site, the event was the perfect occasion for an international panel discussion on lighting heritage. Bringing together city representatives and lighting experts, the discussion addressed how light can be a tool to enliven heritage cities and create a shared heritage.

Panellists emphasised the importance of a long-term, politically-supported, city-wide strategy that reflects local people’s relation to the heritage, considers the overall vision and nocturnal landscape of the city, and takes into account all the different users and stakeholders. Light should be seen as an additional layer, one that does not simply illuminate the city’s heritage, but rather reveals and activates it.

"Today, the enhancement of heritage by light goes beyond the monument itself, it must also take into account the context in which it is inserted; the objective being the beautification of the night landscape on several scales."

Véronique Koulouris, Advisor in Architecture and Lighting Design, National Capital Commission of Quebec

"It’s not about designing the nighttime identity of a place, but finding the nighttime identity of a place – and putting it forward through light."

Nevena Kovacevic, Lighting Designer, Zenisk Studio & IALD Fellow

"Light should not only be used in touristic heritage areas, it must also exist elsewhere in other neighbourhoods, where it becomes a real element of identity and pride for the neighbourhood."

Thierry Marsick, Head of Urban Lighting Department, City of Lyon

"Heritage is not just about buildings, it is also traditions, stories, food, culture..and people!"

Carole Purnelle, Portugal Heritage Association & Artistic Director of OCUBO
A second international panel discussion discussed, from four very different perspectives, how urban lighting can help foster social cohesion.

Moderated by Cathy Johnston from the City of Glasgow, the discussion ranged from a city-wide policy perspective, to specific methods and ideas on involving communities, including examples of social research, community night walks and workshops.

“We aim to address Seoul’s inequality issues by implementing people-centred urban management design concepts and policies. Citizen participation is one of the most important factors when we implement public lighting projects.”

Young Su Kim, Director of Urban Light Policy Division, Seoul Metropolitan Government

“Before designing a lighting project in an area, we need to understand not just how the inhabitants use (and see) the public space, but also how they feel – what they sense, smell, hear.”

Isabelle Corten, Lighting Designer and founder of Social Light Movement

“Design is a way to collaborate and light is an universal language. It builds experience and has the capacity to include people and space in a unifying way.”

Christina Vildinge, Strategic Designer, White Arkitekter and Lecturer, University of Gothenburg

“Lighting can promote certain ideas of the “other” which can lead to, or mitigate, tensions in a community. Exploring the everyday, ingrained lighting practices of people could help us better understand this.”

Mikkel Bille, Associate Professor, Roskilde University
Cities worldwide share lighting projects

Major cities from around the world, such as Budapest, Moscow, Paris, Ramallah, Helsinki, Gothenburg, Strasbourg and Quebec, amongst others, shared their latest lighting projects and research initiatives in the AGM Open Conference sessions. Some of the popular topics included innovative smart lighting solutions, light and art, LED streetlighting retrofit projects and light pollution, just to name a few.
LUCI also elected a new Executive Committee to lead the network at the General Assembly on 2 November 2018.

The City of Seoul (South Korea) is the new President of LUCI and the City of Jyväskylä (Finland) has been elected as 1st Vice-President of the network. The City of Lyon is the 2nd Vice-President and the City of Gothenburg is the Treasurer of the organisation.

The General Assembly was also the occasion for LUCI members to discuss the network’s past and upcoming projects and events.

Mary-Ann Schreurs, from the City of Eindhoven, was given a standing ovation for her outstanding contribution as LUCI President from 2016 to 2018 and was made a Honorary member of the LUCI network.

LUCI Executive Committee 2018 - 2020
- Seoul (South Korea) – President
- Jyväskylä (Finland) – Vice President
- Lyon (France) – 2nd Vice President
- Gothenburg (Sweden) – Treasurer
- Albertslund (Denmark)
- Eindhoven (Netherlands)
- Glasgow (UK)
- Rabat (Morocco)
- Rotterdam (Netherlands)
A bright future for LUCI in the African region

This event was also the occasion to gather over 14 cities from Morocco and the wider African region, such as Abomey, Accra, Dar Es Salam, Fes, Kinshasa, Libreville, Kenitra and Mfou for feedback on recent LUCI events in the region (such as the 2017 Urban Lighting in African Cities conference in Dakar, Senegal, and this year’s Urban Lighting Training Session in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso).

It was also the opportunity to discuss the future of LUCI in the region: representatives of African cities and Mayors’ Associations reaffirmed the importance of public lighting for better quality of life and economic and social development. They called for more peer-to-peer training and capacity-building in this domain, as well as more partnerships and decentralized cooperation.

The development of LUCI activities in the African continent is one of the priorities of the network, which took a historic step at this AGM, with the election of the City of Rabat, as the first African city, to enter the LUCI Executive Committee.
NETWORKING

Connecting urban lighting cultures and professionals from Africa, Asia and Europe

- 250 participants from over
- 40 cities in
- 35 countries
THANK YOU!

- To the City of Rabat for organising this event with LUCI.
- To our speakers for their presentations and valuable insights.
- To you, LUCI members and beyond, for your participation in this event!

The LUCI Annual General Meeting 2018 was organised by:

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MORE INFORMATION

- Click here to see some photos from the LUCI AGM.
- Take a look at the #LUClagmRabat feed to get a glimpse of the event as it happened.
- LUCI members can access the presentations made during the conferences in the LUCI Members Area.
- Access the archived AGM Rabat 2018 event pages for more details on the programme and speakers.

www.luciassociation.org