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"Students for Sustainability": Developing the Next Generation of Sustainability Leaders Siemens Supporting International Students at Rio+20 to Realize Sustainability Projects

Siemens is bringing six international student teams to Rio de Janeiro in order to present their sustainability-ideas to a panel of renowned experts. The winning teams will get assistance by Siemens in implementing their projects in their home country. Siemens will offer them the opportunity to present their project to the local CEO of Siemens and to receive guidance by a senior executive. "This project offers the unique opportunity to engage with motivated students on a global level in developing concrete sustainability projects that will lead to a better and greener world," said Barbara Kux, Member of the Managing Board of Siemens AG and host of the debate in Rio.

The "Students for Sustainability" event is a joint effort by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Rio-based COPPE/UFRJ University and Siemens AG. A network of leading universities brought together their brightest students to focus on sustainability issues in their local environment. The projects reflect the different elements that create sustainable development today, ranging from new solutions for energy and water supply as well as for problems arising from continued urbanization. The teams are from Rio, Beijing, Munich, Cambridge and Stellenbosch, University.

These teams will present their solutions to a panel consisting of Barbara Kux, and renowned experts from UNEP, the World Resource Institute and the Sustainability Forum Zurich. As the final highlight of the event, the two most promising projects will receive awards to kick-start the implementation of their innovative solutions. Back in their home country, Siemens will continue to assist the winning teams by offering feedback from a local senior executive. Siemens will help in the development of a new generation of sustainability leaders and in bringing to life their award-winning projects.

The debate and panel discussion will be held at the UNEP Pavillion at Parque dos Atletas, Rio de Janeiro between 4:00pm – 6:30pm on Saturday, June 16, 2012.

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Teams and Topics

- COPPE/UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil:
 "Energy supply and waste management in Rio's favelas: How to integrate different approaches?"
- Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK: Water Shortages in London and the Thames Desalination Plant: Is Desalination a Solution for Water Infrastructure in Large Cities?"
- Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, South Africa:
 "Sanitation and Infrastructure in Enkanini, South Africa: Local Communities as a Source of Innovation?"
- Tsinghua University, Beijing, China:
 "Energy Shortages in Rural Areas:
 Diesel Shortage and Waste Oil Pollution in Rural China"
- Technical University Munich, Munich, Germany: "Energy independence in Bavarian villages: Local level solutions and their contribution to local and national sustainability targets"
- Future Influencers (an independent, multinational sustainability think tank, initiated by Siemens):

"How can we facilitate an organized knowledge exchange to support decision-makers in urban planning?"

Panel of Experts

- Barbara Kux; Member of the Managing Board and Chief Sustainability Officer of Siemens AG
- Joseph Alcamo; Chief Scientist, UNEP
- Ricardo Arglebe; CFO, Siemens Brazil
- Ernst Brugger; Member of the Board of The Sustainability Forum Zurich
- Andre Frossard Pereira de Lucena; COPPE/UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro
- Jennifer Morgan; Director of Climate and Energy Program, World Resources Institute, Washington DC

Find out more about our events at Rio+20: www.siemens.com/rio20

Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a global powerhouse in electronics and electrical engineering, operating in the fields of industry, energy and healthcare as well as providing infrastructure solutions, primarily for cities and metropolitan areas. For over 160 years, Siemens has stood for technological excellence, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality. The company is the world's largest provider of environmental technologies. Around 40 percent of its total revenue stems from green products and solutions. In fiscal 2011, which ended on September 30, 2011, revenue from continuing operations totaled €73.5 billion and income from continuing operations €7.0 billion. At the end of September 2011, Siemens had around 360,000 employees worldwide on the basis of continuing operations. Further information is available on the Internet at: www.siemens.com.

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