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**IEEE SELECTS MUNICIPALITIES WUXI, CHINA AND TRENTO, ITALY  
TO ENGAGE IN IEEE SMART CITIES INITIATIVE**

*Successful candidates chosen for compelling plans to design sustainable smart cities to meet their citizens' needs for a quality living environment*

**PISCATAWAY, N.J., USA, 29 July 2014** – IEEE, the world's largest professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for humanity, today announced the municipalities of Wuxi, China and Trento, Italy, which were among hundreds of candidates that submitted applications to participate in the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative, have been selected by the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative Steering Committee to join Guadalajara, Mexico, the initial city participant.

“We had a difficult challenge as so many of the applications we received from municipalities to participate in the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative were incredibly impressive,” said Gilles Betis, chair of the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative. “We selected the cities of Trento and Wuxi because they provided compelling evidence that they were particularly well positioned to utilize the resources offered through the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative, and they demonstrated plans to invest their own human and financial capital into the project, indicating their commitment to improving the quality of life for their citizens.”

City planners from Wuxi and Trento will collaborate with a team of IEEE experts to explore the issues and address what is needed for their growing urban populations. In addition, their participation in the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative will comprise an inaugural workshop, whitepaper development, graduate student support (PhD and Masters), development of content for “MOOCs” (Massive Open Online Courses), and organization of an international conference on smart cities.

“Being selected to participate in the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative is an honor and collaborating with such an impressive community of experts will be of great benefit to Trento, which has always been attentive to its citizens' needs,” said Mrs. Chiara Morandini, general manager, Trento Municipality. “This collaboration will nicely augment our existing political and operational strategy for the ‘quality of life’ concept, intended to stimulate economic growth, improve social welfare, ensure sustainable urban services and provide access to advanced technological innovations to create a pleasant city-lifestyle and well functioning community.”

The largest issue Wuxi is attempting to solve is enabling sustainable growth for its city. Being able to tap into the brain power of IEEE experts in that process will help Wuxi achieve its aggressive urbanization goals to reduce pollution levels and traffic congestion, provide adequate energy, housing and employment, and generally ensure its city residents enjoy and thrive in their living environment.

“We are so pleased to be chosen by IEEE to engage in the Smart Cities Initiative, ” said Dr. Hang-Feng Qi, director, Department of Electronics and Information Industry, Committee of Economy and Information of Wuxi. “Engaging in the IEEE Smart Cities

Initiative will give us a very good opportunity to exchange information with other municipalities that are interested in the construction of a smart city. Wuxi will be very glad to share our experiences with the world.”

“The addition of Trento and Wuxi to the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative is a step further towards our goal of establishing a group of diverse cities around the world to serve as examples for many other municipalities that have similar evolution objectives, sharing the experiences and know-how achieved through their collaboration with the IEEE,” added Betis.

For more information on the IEEE Smart Cities Initiative visit <http://smartcities.ieee.org>.

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