



European Union

Rome, 28 July 2005

## **FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **European Citizens' Conference on the City of Tomorrow**

**European Parliament**

**5 December 2005**

***The results of the first EU-wide Citizens' Conference on urban sustainable development will be presented at the European Parliament on 5 December 2005.***

The Citizens' Conference is organised by the RAISE project ([www.raise-eu.org](http://www.raise-eu.org)), funded by the European Commission under the 6<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme for Research & Development. The main aim of the Citizens' Conference is to offer a panel of citizens the possibility to evaluate the acceptance and practical usability of EU research results on urban sustainable development. In other words, European citizens will be invited to give their opinions about how they see the city of tomorrow, based on a sample of outstanding EU research results and findings.

The Citizens' Conference process involves the *participation of 26 citizens*, one from each of the 25 EU Member States and one from a Candidate Country (Romania). The citizens were randomly selected among the 570 European applicants that replied to an open call organised between February – April 2005.

The Citizens' Conference process is organised in a sequence of three preparatory workshops to be held in Vienna, Rome, and Brussels. During these meetings, the selected citizens will be fully briefed about the urban sustainability concept and will be asked to provide their views on a series of research results of projects aimed at improving the quality of life of European cities. The outcome of this analysis will result in the drafting of a *“Citizens' Declaration on the City of Tomorrow”* to be presented to EU policy-makers and stakeholders at the European Parliament in Brussels on 5 December 2005.

***This Citizens' Conference process is the first in the EU!*** It is indeed for the first time that a panel of citizens is given the opportunity to evaluate research outcomes on sustainable urban development on a European wide level.

The RAISE project is coordinated by the Institute of Studies for the Integration of Systems (ISIS), Rome, Italy. The other project partners are: Interdisciplinary Centre for Comparative Research in the Social Sciences (ICCR), Vienna, Austria; Ramboll Management Brussels, Belgium; Impact Consulting, Bucharest, Romania; and the Foundation for European Scientific Cooperation (FEWN), Warsaw, Poland.

For further information on the project, please visit the RAISE website:

[www.raise-eu.org](http://www.raise-eu.org)

or contact the coordinator of the project Mr Carlo Sessa, ISIS, Rome ([cseffa@isis-it.com](mailto:cseffa@isis-it.com))  
or Eric Ponthieu, European Commission, DG Research ([eric.ponthieu@cec.eu.int](mailto:eric.ponthieu@cec.eu.int))