Conference objectives: Bring together stakeholders and specialists from different academic fields and countries to discuss: (i) The urban retail changes and its driving forces; (ii) the strategies used by retail firms to face the challenges of the consumer changing environment; (iii) and the public policies adopted by different countries in order to manage the retail system and promote urban sustainability.

The starting points for discussion: The project REPLACIS that promotes this conference is based on the following assumptions:

- Urban sustainability can be intrinsically associated with the preservation of retail systems by ensuring a diversity of facilities and shopping environments able to respond to the needs, wants and desires of different consumers.
- Important changes in the relationship between the city and retailing have occurred and they express a clear centre / periphery dialectics that challenges the urban sustainability either because they affect the vitality and viability of the traditional shopping areas, or because they reduce the social cohesion and the environment security of communities. They also have an effect on the public space that is produced in the city and in the way how people experience it in daily life.
- The resilience of an urban retail system is the ability of different types of retailing, at different scales, to adapt to changes, crisis or shocks, challenging the system’s equilibrium, without failing to perform its functions in a sustainable way. To improve urban sustainability, from the point of view of retail services, the vitality of the city centre and other shopping districts of the city is crucial.
- Through planning, public policies and new models of governance involving communities, retailers and municipal bodies it is possible to enhance the resilience of urban retail systems and the development of the city in a sustainable way.
**Target Audience**
The conference is open to academics, researchers, policy makers and practitioners who are currently involved with the management and planning of retail activities and the urban sustainability or undertaking studies in these fields.

**Call for papers**
We welcome papers from academics and practitioners in the fields of the conference, both from a visionary perspective and a practical one. An abstract of the paper with 800 - 1000 words shall be submitted to local organisers by December 15th 2010, at igot@campus.ul.pt.

Papers selected by the conference committee will be published on-line.

The abstract must follow the following outline:
International Conference on Planning for Retail Resilience and Sustainable Cities
Title of the presentation.
Author(s) name, institution, e-mail address
3 to 5 Key words.
Abstract: 800 – 1000 words

**Local organisers:**
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**Programme**
The three-days conference will provide a forum for the discussion of retail changes, retail planning policies and urban sustainability. Besides presentations, it includes a round table with academics, policy makers and stakeholders, and a fieldtrip to some shopping districts and places illustrative of the Lisbon metropolitan retail system.

**Thursday 20th January**
- REPLACIS Workshop session
- Presentations on retail changes, public policies and urban sustainability

**Friday 21st January**
- Presentations on retail changes, public policies, sustainability and city resilience
- Round table with academics, retailers organisations, policy makers and practitioners on planning for retail resilience and sustainable cities

**Saturday 22nd January**
- Future actions / Chronotope project
- Fieldtrip