

# 21 N-AERUS Conference

TRANSFORMING ROLE OF STATE IN ADDRESSING  
INCLUSIVE URBAN DEVELOPMENT



Juxtaposition of informal and formal settlements in Sonadanga neighbourhood, Khulna, Bangladesh.

**27 - 29 October 2022**

URBAN AND RURAL PLANNING DISCIPLINE  
KHULNA UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH  
&  
DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES  
UNIVERSITY OF KASSEL, GERMANY

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INCLUSIVE URBAN DEVELOPMENT

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**hosted by**

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UNIVERSITY OF KASSEL, GERMANY



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U N I K A S S E L  
V E R S I T Ä T





### **Venue in Khulna**

Hotel Castle Salam  
KDA Avenue, Khulna 9000, Khulna, Bangladesh

### **Venue in Kassel**

Senatssaal (3rd Floor) // Sophie-Henschel-Haus //  
Mönchebergstr. 3, 34109 Kassel, Germany

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### **Further Information**

[www.n-aerus.net/en/](http://www.n-aerus.net/en/)

### **Online Sessions | Access via Zoom**

<https://uni-kassel.zoom.us/j/99420559141?pwd=cy9YTEgyelNBSmDIkVlI5Vis2T3RoZz09>

Meeting ID: 994 2055 9141  
Passcode: 180681

## ABOUT N-AERUS

N-AERUS (Network-Association of European Researchers on Urbanisation in the South) is a pluridisciplinary network of researchers and experts working on urban issues in developing countries and emerging economies. It was created in March 1996 by a group of European researchers. Its objective is to mobilise and develop the European institutional and individual research and training capacities. Further information on the network can be found at [www.n-aerus.net](http://www.n-aerus.net).

## THE HOST INSTITUTES

The Urban and Rural Planning Discipline of Khulna University, Bangladesh and Department of Sustainable Cities and Communities of the University of Kassel, Germany are hosting the 21st N-AERUS Conference in a hybrid format, simultaneously in both cities and online. Our aim is to create an interdisciplinary and transregional forum for the academic and professional discourse on urbanization in Global South and to make this accessible to a wider audience.

Located in a global south city and in the coastal zone of Bangladesh, Urban and Rural Planning Discipline of Khulna University is the pioneer academic institution in offering planning education in Bangladesh. ([www.urp.ku.ac.bd](http://www.urp.ku.ac.bd))

Department of Sustainable Cities and Communities of the University of Kassel was initiated in 2020 to complement the expertise at the Faculty of Architecture City Planning and Landscape Planning with a strong focus on sustainable urban development (<http://www.uni-kassel.de/go/sustainable-cities-and-communities>).

## THE ORGANISING TEAM

Prof. Dr. Md. Ashiq Ur Rahman, Urban and Rural Planning Discipline of Khulna University, Bangladesh; G.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Umut Kienast-Duyar, Department of Sustainable Cities and Communities of University of Kassel, Germany & Dr. Lorena Melgaço, Lund University, Lund, Sweden, on behalf of Network-Association of European Researchers on Urbanisation in the South.

### ORGANISING TEAM



Umut Kienast-Duyar



Md. Ashiq Ur Rahman



Lorena Melgaço

### SUPPORT TEAM



Md Mostafizur Rahman



Md Salauddin



Mahmud U. Zaman



Charlie Bosch



Nur Mohammad Ha-Mim



Erdem Uslu



## **TRANSFORMING ROLE OF STATE IN ADDRESSING INCLUSIVE URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

The role of the state in addressing urban development in the Global South remains relevant for academics and practitioners. Since the middle of the last century, the main ideological shift was from post-war Keynesian re-development politics to voluntarily and involuntarily neoliberal political changes and operations in late 1970s and 1980s, which had their ideological roots in late 1940s. These experiences globally impacted cities, urban infrastructure and services. At the beginning of 2000s these concepts were complemented by references to 'neoliberalism', which is increasingly seen as an essential descriptor of the contemporary urban condition. In early 2010s, after three decades of neoliberal politics, the form and consequences [have] continue[d] to evolve through an eclectic blend of failure and crisis, regulatory experimentation, and policy transfer across places, territories and scales. This is a particular interesting moment to discuss such relations, given the struggles emerging from decades of neoliberal urban policies, planning and management. In this conference, we engaged with research and practices around the world that reflect on the impacts of such policies and their unfolding in urban development, with a particular focus on how the state engages with the private sector, the civil society, and the people.

Already in 2003, NEARUS organised a seminar in Paris called "Beyond the neoliberal consensus on urban development: other voices from Europe and the South". A selection of ten over 40 contributions was published in the *Dialog Journal* in early 2004. The editors brought up a variety of cases addressing neoliberal urban and infrastructure development policies as well as alternatives, including those addressing gender perspective and right to the city and housing. They asked: "is urbanity possible under neo-liberal premises?" After 19 years of experiences with neoliberal forces and counter-movements in cities we attempted to explore a similar question. How far neoliberal urban policies are rooted and influenced the relations between the actors shaping urban development in global South? While contextualising the New Urban Agenda in Global South cities, we see an urgent need to revisit how the state engages with private sector and the civil society, especially with marginalised urban communities in regards to urban development. The purpose of the conference is to reach out for a variety of cases witnessing transforming role of the state and the relation among various actors in the society. We looked for examples of production and

appropriation of space in neighbourhoods, cities and metropolitan areas. Furthermore, in this context, the overarching question arises if these particular cases can lead to a commonality and conceptual abstraction for urban South? Therefore, in the 21st N-AERUS conference, we invited contributions including following thematic areas but not limited to:

- Theme 1**      Beyond neoliberal urbanisms in the Global South: What are the current urban development discourses and contemporary multi-level governance models? How do national governments and global cities compete and reclaim their positions in a global context?
- Theme 2**      The role of the state in urban rehabilitation and transformation: What are the current cases of urban redevelopment interventions on a scale from authoritarian to participatory and inclusive approaches, including the state vis-à-vis self-help activism;
- Theme 3**      Counter-movements to neoliberal urbanism: What are the scope and impact of alternative urban movements including the rights discourse and culture? What are the viable examples of partnerships among actors?
- Theme 4**      Neo-Keynesian response to the pandemic: What are the recent experiences of national and local government recovery interventions in cities in post-COVID phase?

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### DAY 1

27 OCTOBER 2022

\* All the times mentioned here are Central European Time (CET),  
for Bangladesh it will be Central European Time (CET) + 4 Hours

**08:30 -09:00 REGISTRATION**

In Khulna  
In Kassel

**09:00 -09:15 OPENING & WELCOME**

**09:15 -10:00 KEYNOTE 01: HARRY SMITH (ZOOM)**

The State and the City: Agendas, Capacities and Knowledge

**10:00 -11:00 Session 01: Global Crisis & Local Challenges**

Chair: Emilia Huss, GIZ Bangladesh

Khulna Redefining the Role of the State in the Provision of Housing through the Neoliberal Real Estate Market of Dhaka  
FAWZIA FARZANA, Khulna University, Bangladesh

Zoom Dealing with Social Diversity: A Framework for Socially Just Government Intervention in Poor Urban Neighbourhoods  
ANDREA RIGON, Development Planning Unit, University College London, UK

Zoom Innovative Approaches to Housing Production and Finance: Focusing on Community-Based Systems and Practices  
PRISCILA IZAR, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

**11:00 -11:15 Break**

**11:15 -12:15 Session 02: State Ideology & Urban Policy**

Chair: Christoph Woiwode, RWTH Aachen University, Germany

Khulna Floating on Hope: Politics of Urban Rehabilitation Projects in Global South  
RATOOLA KUNDU, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India



Khulna Standing between the Civic Society and the State - A Case Study of Khoud 6A  
SHAHARIN ELHAM ANNISA, University of Stuttgart, Germany

Zoom Towards Counter-hegemonic Planning: Responding to Neoliberal Urban Planning in Botswana  
CHADZIMULA MOLEBATSI, University of Botswana

**12:15 -13:00** Break

**13:00 -14:30 Session 03: Transforming Citizenship & Governance**

Chair: Sandile Mbatha, eThekweni Municipality, South Africa

Kassel The Relationship Between Ngos and Inhabitants in the Slum-Upgrading Approach: Maputo as a Case Study  
MICHELA VANDA CASERINI, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

Kassel What Actor-networks and Power Relations are (re)shaping Rural Development in China?  
GAOLI XIAO, Université Grenoble Alpes, France

Khulna A Comprehensive Approach to Combine the Roles of Donors and State in Building Climate Resilience Strategies for the Urban Poor  
MD. ZAKIR HOSSAIN, Khulna University, Bangladesh

Zoom The Incomplete Reform of the Peruvian Municipality and its Impact on the Implementation of Urban Plans  
JESSICA ZUMARAN, Saint Augustine National University, Peru

**14:30 -14:45 Break**

**14:45 -15:45 Session 04: Emerging Agents: Dynamics & Narratives**

Chair: Anitra Baliga, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Zoom The Role of Iddir Funeral Associations in Co-production in Addis Ababa  
NICOLE BARON, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany

Zoom Urban Regeneration through Creative Cities in South Africa: Lessons from Maboneng Precinct  
LUCIA LEBOTO-KHETSI, University of the Free State, South Africa

Kassel DFG\_KOPRO INT: From Actors, Accomplice, Scaling-up and Networks for Ensuring Coproduction Practices  
PAOLA ALFARO D'ALENÇON, Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, Germany

**15:45 -16:30 Film Exhibition**

Title of the Film: Chennai - A Global South Metropolis in the Pericene  
CHRISTOPH WOIWODE, RWTH Aachen University, Germany & Visiting Faculty  
(Landuse/Urbanisation), Indo-German Centre for Sustainability (IGCS), Department  
of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM),  
India

**Closure of the Day**

## DAY 2

**28 OCTOBER 2022**

**09:00 -09:15 Welcome**

**09:15 -10:00 Keynote 02: Ya Ping Wang (Zoom)**

China's Urban Transformation: The Confucianism Modification of Neoliberalism

**10:00 -11:00 Session 05: Peripheries**

Chair: Gerhard Kienast, University of Kassel, Germany

Zoom Challenge and Limitation of City Government in Delivering Inclusive Urban Project in  
Indonesia  
CYNTHIA R SUSILO, Resilience Development Initiative, Indonesia

Kassel Back to the 1980s: The Victims of Authoritarian Shantytown Resettlement in Morocco  
RAFFAEL BEIER, TU Dortmund, Germany

Zoom Searching for Redevelopment Strategy in the Indigenous Landuse Matrix in Old Dhaka  
RABAYA NUSRATH NIVA, Department of Architecture, Premier University, Chittagong,  
Bangladesh

**11:00 -11:15 Break**

**11:15 -12:15 Session 06: Rehabilitation & Transformation**

Chair: Karin Pfeffer, University of Twente, The Netherlands

Zoom Re-Generation of Al-Zaytoun: Child and Minority in Planning Process  
VALENTINA VITTORIA CALABRESE, La Sapienza University, Italy

Khulna Shifting Paradigms of State-led Housing Interventions and Counter-Urbanism from Below: The Case of Khulna, Bangladesh  
SHEIKH SERAJUL HAKIM, Khulna University, Bangladesh

Khulna The Urbanisation Trend and the Transformation of the Peri-urban Morphology: The Case of a Pro-migrant City-Khulna, Bangladesh.  
NAIMUL AZIZ, Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology, Bangladesh

**12:15 -13:00 Break**

**13:00 -13:45 Keynote 03: Geoffrey Payne (Kassel)**

Addressing the Global Urban Housing Crisis

**13:45 -14:45 Session 07: Participatory Planning & Design**

Chair: Lorena Melgaço, Lund University, Sweden

Zoom Participation of Users in the Creation of Projects in Brazilian Universities  
EDGARDO MOREIRA NETO, Universidade do Estado de Minas Gerais, Brazil

Zoom Competencies Necessary for Facilitating Participation in Egypt  
DEENA AL-DAHMAHAWI, University of Stuttgart, Germany

Zoom The Transforming Power of Joined Stakeholder Action in Urban Processes. The Case of Informal Settlement Villa 20, Buenos Aires  
JORGE MARTÍN MOTTA, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

**14:45 -15:00 Break**

**15:00 -16:30 Session 08: Access to Land & Infrastructure**

Chair: Helena Cermeño, University of Kassel, Germany

Zoom Pockets of Survival and Alleys of Livelihood: Tracking Local Practices to Sustain Urban Vitality in Post-war Cities  
ABEER ABDELAL, Al-Wataniya Private University, Syria



- Kassel From De-territorialized to Transformative planning: Planetary Justice and Pollution Remediation Programs along the Citarum River in Indonesia  
ALEJANDRO DE CASTRO MAZARRO, IOER, Germany
- Zoom The Complex Dynamics of Co-producing Disaster Risk Management Mechanisms between the State, Community and Academia in Three Latin American Cities  
HARRY SMITH, Heriot Watt University, UK
- Kassel The Struggle for Infrastructure in Arequipa's "Pueblos Jovenes"  
CHRISTIAN ROSEN, Brandenburg University of Technology, Germany

**16:30 -17:30 Book Exhibition (Kassel)**

SANDILE MBATHA (2022) Informal Transactions of Low-Income Houses in South Africa: A Case Study of eThekweni  
ANDREAS KEMPER (2022) Privatstädte: Labore für einen neuen Manchesterkapitalismus  
GEOFFREY PAYNE (2022) Somewhere to Live: Rising to the Global Urban Land and Housing Challenge  
MOHAMED EL GAMAL et. al. (2022). City, Community and Heritage in Egypt: 2011-2021.

**Closure of the Day**

## DAY 3

29 OCTOBER 2022

**09:00 -09:15 WELCOME**

**09:15 -10:00 Keynote 04: Ximena de la Barra (Kassel)**

Whither Post Neoliberal Cities? We Could Make Them Possible

**10:00 -11:00 Session 09: Inclusion**

Chair: Kazi Saiful Islam, Khulna University, Bangladesh

- Khulna Denial or Engagement for Childhood Crisis: Evolution of Child Friendly Space under Four Agencies in Balukhali Rohingya Refugee Camp, Cox's Bazar  
S. M. ARAFAT HOSSAIN, Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology, Bangladesh

- Zoom    Addressing Inclusion in Heritage Management through Channels for Co-production of Knowledge  
            PAKINAM USAMA ZEID, Alexandria University, Egypt
- Zoom    Investigating the Contributions of Socio-demographic Characteristics on Crime in Vulnerable Residential Neighbourhoods in Cities of the South  
            CHRISTOPHER ONYENEKE, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
- Zoom    'Democracy Spatial Legacies': Implications on South African Spatial Governance and Planning  
            ABONGILE MGWELE, University of the Free State, South Africa

**11:00 -11:15    Break**

**11:15 -12:00    PLENARY SESSION / OPEN DISCUSSION**

**12:00 -12:30    CLOSURE / N-AERUS / STRENGTHENING THE NETWORK**

## **THEMATIC CONTENT**

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# **DAY 1**

## **KEYNOTES, SESSIONS & ABSTRACTS**





## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS 1**

### **THE STATE AND THE CITY: AGENDAS, CAPACITIES AND KNOWLEDGE**

**Professor Dr. Harry Smith**

Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

The grand narratives about the role of the state in urban development often describe a trajectory of growth of the modern state during the first two thirds of the twentieth century towards being a provider of urban development and services, followed by transformation towards an enabling or facilitatory state in more recent decades. However, the complexities of national and even city-level paths in this evolution underlie the broad variety of state roles that can be found worldwide. What these geographically specific roles have in common is the central importance of the relationships established between the state, the market and civil society, in the myriad ways in which these are manifested. In any given city, key to understanding these relationships is the exploration and analysis of the declared and overt agendas of the different actors, the various capacities these have to participate in urban development, and the different types of knowledge that they bring to bear in the process, as well as the mutual recognition (or not) of these. Understanding these factors influencing state-market-civil society relationships in urban development is particularly important at points in city governance where spaces for negotiation may open up opportunities for reconfigurations of such relationships. This keynote lecture argues that socially engaged urban scholars are well positioned to shine a light on the forces shaping these reconfigurations, and in so doing can themselves influence these.

## SESSION 1: ABSTRACTS

### REDEFINING THE ROLE OF THE STATE IN THE PROVISION OF HOUSING THROUGH THE NEOLIBERAL REAL ESTATE MARKET OF DHAKA

**Fawzia Farzana**

Khulna University, Bangladesh

Neoliberalism was introduced in the 1970s in search of the remedies to the global economic crisis resulted from the failures of Keynesian welfare states in United States and England. Social welfares were abolished with the beliefs that private market will serve the needs of the citizens if perform efficiently. The neoliberal development approach transformed housing from a social good into a commodity good which is provided by the private market based on demand but not the need. Neoliberalism was introduced in Bangladesh in the early 1980s through Structural Adjustment Programs (SAPs). The review of Dhaka housing scenario revealed that house rent and price of Dhaka is unaffordable for majority of city dwellers. In this context the study targeted at analyzing the contributions of neoliberal policies to the housing affordability crisis of Dhaka. The study is exploratory in nature and involves qualitative methods of data collection and analysis. The review of literatures on neoliberal impacts on housing provisions across the world have identified that the homeownership focused housing strategies (ABW) of neoliberalism have encouraged both house price and rent appreciation, and state and market led gentrifications in neoliberal cities have caused sharp increase in property prices which ultimately have caused housing affordability crisis. The affordability crisis is most acute in cities of developing countries. Based on these findings the case of Dhaka was investigated and similar outcomes of neoliberalism have been identified. Examining the constraints that hinder the provision of affordable housing, the research also has identified a conducive institutional framework by redefining the state's role in enabling the market. Good governance in Public Private Partnership to initiate a holistic approach for the provision of affordable housing for MIHs has been recommended based on the thematic analysis (in NVivo 12) of the transcripts generated from in-depth interviews with the housing experts, developers and the professionals of the public agencies involved in the provision and regulation of housing in Dhaka.

## **DEALING WITH SOCIAL DIVERSITY: A FRAMEWORK FOR SOCIALLY JUST GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN POOR URBAN NEIGHBOURHOODS**

**Andrea Rigon**

University College London, United Kingdom

Interventions in poor urban neighbourhoods often assume that all residents have similar aspirations and needs. However, these neighbourhoods rank among the most unequal settlements, and interventions can create winners and losers. Different dimensions of diversity have to be taken into consideration in planning such interventions to ensure a just outcome. Through the analysis of specific examples of urban regeneration, the paper identifies three interlinked aspects of diversity that need to be considered. These relate to Fraser's dimensions of social justice and to the pillars of the right to the city. We find that slum upgrading projects assume that all residents aspire to better housing and are willing to invest their savings and effort to achieve this. However, this is not a priority for everyone living in informal settlements. For many, the informal settlement is a relatively cheap housing option located close to good educational and economic opportunities, allowing parents to save for children's education. Interventions in informal settlements seldom consider the impact of market dynamics on different groups of residents. In informal settlements with some rental housing, improved infrastructures can lead to sudden increases in rent, displacing the most vulnerable residents of the settlement. Attempts to take diversity into account in participatory processes with local residents generally only recognise a limited number of dimensions of identity. They tend to divide people based on one dimension only, as if there were no others. However, people have multiple identities and some can be more salient than others when it comes to slum upgrading. This paper argues for an intersectional and relational approach, focusing on the relations between residents, and between different groups of residents.

## **INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO HOUSING PRODUCTION AND FINANCE: FOCUSING ON COMMUNITY-BASED SYSTEMS AND PRACTICES**

**Priscila Izar**

University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

In this brief article, I look at the housing sector in parallel to local experiences of housing and neighborhood self-building (autoconstruction) in Brazil and Tanzania. I argue that, despite significant differences, in both countries, low-income urban dwellers play a key role in the construction and maintenance of houses and neighborhoods that offer them shelter and livelihood protection. Often, the housing stock that low-income urban dwellers build, within and outside organized community initiatives, represents a significant, if not the most important, source of housing provision for the urban poor in both countries. A new set of questions and grounded analytical methodologies can help elevate these important community roles and highlight innovative approaches from the ground up.

## SESSION 2: ABSTRACTS

### FLOATING ON HOPE: POLITICS OF URBAN REHABILITATION PROJECTS IN GLOBAL SOUTH

**Ratoola Kundu**

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India

**Anushyama Mukherjee**

St Xaviers College, India

Displacement and dislocation have been considered as necessary evils to urban development projects in the modernist regime. However, in the past two decades, following violent resistance against evictions from affected citizens and stricter norms of relocation and rehabilitation set down by international financing institutions, state governments in India undertaking urban development projects have been wary of outright evictions. In fact, several large-scale urban development projects involving relocation of people have been stalled or even scuttled due to resistance indicating the limits of 'flexible territorialization' (Roy 2009). Some urban development projects do however get green lit, irrespective of the social and ecological impacts. Inevitably, these projects share a common "rule by aesthetics" (Ghertner, 2011) - of mimicking structures deemed "worldclass" (Ong, 2011) and removing that which is not. The state and local governments, often supported by private developers and elite residents or business groups have so far enabled this approach to neoliberal urban development. How does one therefore view the development of the Floating Market in Patuli - a project devised by the ruling regime, Trinamul Congress Party (TMC) in West Bengal to help street vendors? The state government has invested heavily to develop this market for displaced street vendors. Is the project truly inclusive? The active collaboration of multiple stakeholders seems to suggest so. We argue that while the state government exhibits a genuine intention of rehabilitation it is by no means a radical departure from the projected path of neoliberal urban development. Indeed, what we find that it implicates other groups in the production of a "worldclass" aesthetics and "sustainable" development models that glosses over insidious forms of socio-spatial exclusions.

## **STANDING BETWEEN THE CIVIC SOCIETY AND THE STATE - A CASE STUDY OF KHOUD 6**

**Shaharin Annisa**

University of Stuttgart, Germany

**Rowa Elzain**

Managing Coordinator, MCTspaceLab

Oman has been rapidly urbanising since 1970s oil boom, where state was the service provider, rowing development with minimal cooperation with private or civic sector. However, in the current decade the state seeks alternative ways for meeting the diverse demands of the population. With the presence of a wealthy state, policies of neo-liberalism have only recently been functional in Oman. Under the neoliberal strategic planning paradigm, certain PPPs were encouraged, where the state rather steered the process. However, Oman is yet to make progress under the communicative and collaborative paradigm. So far, the urban development largely had short to medium term perspective, with a lack of long-term stakeholders actively engaging in the process. A gap between the private and the civic sector is thus clearly evident in terms of communication. There is an increasing need to learn how the state formally and informally engages with private sector and the civil society and how this relationship can be strengthened. By investigating MCTspaceLab (an initiative working on community empowerment) as a case study model of neighbourhood facilitator/mediator, the paper first looks at the recent urban redevelopment interventions of self-help activism by Al-Khoud 6 residents supported by MCTspaceLab, in Muscat Oman. Secondly, the paper investigates the key role of MCTspaceLab in lobbying for Al-Khoud 6's socio-spatial rights. And lastly the paper aims to develop a model for operational facilitating/mediating body learning from both the successful and unsuccessful endeavours of MCTspaceLab. The findings highlight firstly that an unbiased mediator is essential to acknowledge the self-help activism of marginalised communities which eventually enables individuals or communities to develop a strategic relationship with different state institutions. Secondly, that facilitating/mediating bodies such as MCTspaceLab holds a key role in the process of creating partnerships between the different actors and by diminishing the gap between the public and civic sectors by providing a common platform and by developing a common language of communication.

## **TOWARDS COUNTER-HEGEMONIC PLANNING: RESPONDING TO NEOLIBERAL URBAN PLANNING IN BOTSWANA**

**Chadzimula Molebatsi, Mutakela K. Minyoi, Seabo Morobolo &  
Goabamang Lethugile**

University of Botswana, Botswana

This paper ponders over possibilities for counter-hegemonic urban planning thought and practices in Botswana in the wake of a hegemonic and expansionary neoliberal globalisation. At issue is how are groups in Botswana, in their diverse counter-hegemonic gait responding to neoliberal globalisation? Driven by powerful political and economic powerhouses such as the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the United Nations neoliberalism has acquired hegemonic status in economic and political thinking. Through the influence of these powerful actors, neoliberalism is entrenched through the former's dominant position in setting global agendas such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda (NUA). Like other countries of the global South, Botswana has embraced the enchantments and trapping of global neoliberalism. The central tenets of neoliberalism resonate with the ideologies of 'development' and 'democracy' which the country has pursued since political independence in 1966. Despite being presented as 'without an alternative' - as in There Is No Alternative (TINA), neoliberal globalisation produces and maintains human settlements characterized by inequitable access to life sustaining opportunities and decision-making. In the case of Botswana, the influence of corporate capital in crafting state policies is increasingly becoming evident in the privatisation drive, the promotion of Special Economic Zones pursued by the state in Botswana. Consequently, urban planning has increasingly become elitist and profit driven. Of interest to the present paper are two interrelated questions viz how actors in the everyday urbanisms are responding to neoliberal urbanisation and secondly, what role can progressive urban planners and activists play in promoting anti-neoliberal urbanisation and counter-hegemonic planning?

## SESSION 3: ABSTRACTS

### THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NGOs AND INHABITANTS IN THE SLUM-UPGRADING APPROACH

**Michela Vanda Caserini & Alessia Macchiavello**

Politecnico di Milano, Italy

This paper focuses on Mozambique's rapid urbanization context, where land management is a critical issue for sustainable development. Cities are expanding rapidly, through largely unplanned growth accompanied by large-scale occupation of land for housing, mostly with limited or no intervention by the government. Nowadays in Mozambique, and in the capital Maputo especially, the debate between the different actors involved in this process is strongly related with the verticalization of the urban fabric and the consequence densification of the neighborhoods. In Maputo, an increasing interest in possible low-cost housing solutions for two storey constructions, especially for lower class inhabitants, can be noticed. Initiatives try to evenly popularize the verticalization of informal settlements, to make space and prevent further congestion, for example, the casa melhorada project by the Architect Andersen. As the intervention of NGO on the field is a form of relationship among the West and Africa, the paper focuses on the relationship among Portugal and Mozambique, before and during the colonisation. The case study in Maputo easily applies to Mozambique in general where many stakeholders involved in urban development are left outside of the formal process of planning and management of land. As the authors of this abstract are currently carrying out research on the field, their direct observation will fuel the analysis to reflect upon current slum upgrading case studies projects, the role of the municipality and the other actors involved and their mutual relationships in those processes.



## **WHAT ACTOR-NETWORKS AND POWER RELATIONS ARE (RE)SHAPING RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN CHINA? A QUALITATIVE RESEARCH SYNTHESIS OF 16 CASE STUDIES**

**Gaoli XIAO**

Université Grenoble Alpes, France

Rural urbanization in China has long been criticized for its neoliberal nature. It is widely noted that the strong authoritarian power of the state government has triggered social unrest, cultural loss, and environmental degradation. However, during the past decade, a number of empirical case studies at different locations in China have revealed complex power dynamics among actors including the state government, local governments, villagers, and the developers. The power structure in Chinese rural development thus can no longer be merely described as "bottom-up" or "top-down". Drawing from evidence gathered from 16 case studies across 15 provinces in China, this paper examines whether new power relations are present during development-led rural land transfer. It details the process of the negotiation through which the networks of human and non-human actors are established and power relations are formed using Qualitative Research Synthesis (QRS) and Actor-Network Theory (ANT). The results show that the roles and positions of actors were constantly changing to meet their short-term targets. While policy initiation and implementation remained a top-down approach, villagers as passive policy recipients are not completely powerless. Villagers' power can be seen from their direct and indirect resistance to the top-down policies which forced the local governments and other actors to compromise their interests. The seemingly marginalized groups (villagers without land rights, migrant workers, and married-out women) and non-human actors (land and houses) are proven to participate in the network and even overpass the power hierarchy. The findings of this research provide insights from a context with distinct political background and development patterns compare with geographies where the dominant urban theories are produced.

## **A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO COMBINE THE ROLES OF DONORS AND STATE IN BUILDING CLIMATE RESILIENCE STRATEGIES FOR THE URBAN POOR**

**Md. Zakir Hossain, Md Mostafizur Rahman & Nur Mohammad Ha-Mim**

Khulna University, Bangladesh

**Khan Rubayet Rahaman**

St. Mary's University, Canada

**Md. Abu Jobaer & Salman F. Haque**

Khulna University, Bangladesh

This article critically analyses the role of state for facilitating pro-poor urban adaptation and explores the way through the donor and state may harmonize their role in building resilience of the urban poor in the time of climate change. Urban poor settlements in big cities like Dhaka, Chattogram, and Khulna are at risk of unwanted climate change events due to land tenure insecurity, high population density, and unplanned growth and expansion of city limits those disrupt natural drainage and existing urban systems to function properly. Consequently, vulnerability of the urban poor is exacerbated with limited government interventions, inadequate infrastructural supports, and trifling human rights in place. As a result, this article considers both macro and micro level assessments of pro-poor resilience in the lens of climate change in major cities of Bangladesh. In doing so, we have analyzed available grey materials and conducted interview methods to higher level bureaucrats in understanding government's strategic goals regarding climate change and urban areas and urban poor. Also, we have cross-examined local government and community actors along with the slum dwellers (i.e., urban poor people) to understand priorities of the strategic goals to attain climate resilient communities. Our findings are demonstrating that micro level initiatives are mainly funded by international donors with a partnership from local governments to enhance climate resilience of urban poor upon building community infrastructure and generating socio-economic capacities. However, the urban poor's resilience mechanism has been hindered and challenged due to the absence of secure

tenure of land title, and limit the investments funded by non-government organizations (NGOs). Consequently, local government organizations limit their long-term visions as a result of limited resources available from donors and international NGOs operating activities in the city jurisdictions. Additionally, macro level analysis shows that disconnection is evident among the existing planning documents, financial policy frameworks, and project implementation strategies. Interestingly, this result does not look astonishing, but urges immediate attention for an integrated adaptation strategy to integrate the mainstream planning of the country. Furthermore, once considering the micro and macro level policies of adaptation and resilience framework of the ongoing development projects for pro-poor resilience in the country, this study explains that the potential requirements of integrating major actors are critical and partnership building among them are imperative to achieve the sustainability.

## **THE INCOMPLETE REFORM OF THE PERUVIAN MUNICIPALITY AND ITS IMPACT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF URBAN PLANS: THE CASE OF THE PROVINCIAL MUNICIPALITY OF TACNA (PERU)**

**Jessica Pineda-Zumaran & Andrea Valdez-Santi**

Saint Augustine National University, Peru

The adoption, in developing countries, of new managerialism to restructure civil servant systems and to reform public organizations, such as municipalities, is one key expression of how neoliberal policies aimed at instilling the private business rationality within local governments' competencies regarding the planning of cities, among others. Yet, these attempts have brought some unexpected impacts. One example is the deficient implementation of urban plans, which was scarce in developing countries even before the structural adjustment of the 1990s. Although the organizational dimension of plan implementation has been addressed by the sustainability mainstreaming literature, there is still much uncertainty on how municipalities' organizational structure and design, inherited from colonial times, became more entrenched and an immovable barrier to the implementation of plans after trying to follow neoliberal public management policies. This paper addresses this matter and analyzes the case of the Provincial Municipality of Tacna. It uses archival research, documentary and secondary data analysis methods to study how this municipality tried to implement the 2002-2015 urban plan. The results show that the incoherent and unrealistic directives of Peruvian public management policies have cemented the service provision-oriented municipal structure and design adopted at the beginning of the 20th century, relegating planning functions. Under a function-based structure model, implementation is assigned to different departments, effectively splitting and narrowing the scope of the plan. Departments are unable to coordinate due to their rigid responsibilities and the strict penalties imposed by national policies and laws. Moreover, municipal officials' planning tasks are ambiguous and are more focused on complying with budget administration procedures and norms than on urban management initiatives. Consequently, it is difficult to facilitate intra-institutional coordination and encourage creative and innovative thinking, indispensable for dealing with the implementation demands of 21st-century urban plans.

## SESSION 4: ABSTRACTS

### THE ROLE OF IDDIR FUNERAL ASSOCIATIONS IN CO-PRODUCTION IN ADDIS ABABA

**Nicole Baron**

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany

Addis Ababa is one of the fastest-growing cities in Africa and has been pursuing an urban development driven by modernist urban imagery. Large-scale infrastructure projects and urban removal accompany this process. The historically small-scale and socially-mixed inner-city is replaced by hyper-modern skyscrapers, motorways, and condominium developments at the cost of the urban poor. The redevelopment pushes them to the periphery or leaves them behind in under-serviced slums. But what if there is another way to develop the city: one that leverages existing resources and identity? The proposed paper explores that idea by investigating the role of the 'iddir' in Addis Ababa's urban governance. The iddir is a voluntary and egalitarian funeral association that supports its members during bereavement. There are over 4000 of them in Addis Ababa alone, and recent scholarship shows that these grassroots organisations also serve, amongst others, as informal health insurance and local advocacy groups. However, their potential for structural inclusion as change agents in urban and social transformation remains untapped. In this paper, the author reviews existing literature regarding exceptions to this rule as a basis for an empirical investigation into the current state of (formal or informal) urban co-production involving 'iddir'. The broader significance of this research lies in exploring the interaction between civil society and the state in the Ethiopian capital. Currently, there is an increased interest in urban studies to investigate this interaction as one opportunity to overcome the devastating retreat of the state from cities since the 1980s. Urban societies in the global South have had long-standing experiences with co-management and self-governance. Exploring them cannot only help contextualise the "New Urban Agenda" in the Global South and better understand African urban systems. It can also contribute to the global exchange of ideas on sustainable urban development and improving living conditions in Addis Ababa.

## **URBAN REGENERATION THROUGH CREATIVE CITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA: LESSONS FROM MABONENG PRECINCT**

**Lucia Leboto-Khetsi**

University of the Free State, South Africa

Global capitals are increasingly integrating the concept of creative cities within their urban development strategies to shape the urban form and foster economic development. Similarly in South Africa, the state has issued assistance, marketing and acceleration of creative industries for the purposes of urban development. A growing scholarship in creative industries, which emerged after the issuing of the Creative South Africa Strategy in 1998, has fundamentally focused on its potential to promote socio-economic transformation. Moreover, local policies are now being fashioned to promote knowledge-based economy and therefore recognize the creative industry as a crucial element of urban regeneration. Johannesburg forms part of the three cities identified as creative hubs in South Africa, thus it is evaluated in this paper. Drawing from the case of Maboneng Precinct, the paper uses an integrative review to assess the role players and implications of creative industries as a tool for urban regeneration in South Africa. Findings indicate that creative cities have enhanced creative entrepreneurship, promoted culture and accessibility to affordable local merchandise. However, they have in most part led to evictions and relocation, especially of informal dwellers and traders, and sometimes without resettlement plans. They also excluded poorer local communities and promoted gentrification, while also failing to cultivate considerable economic development in the country. The paper suggests that there is a need for creative industry in South Africa to aim for alleviating locally specific challenges through inclusive and participatory means. This can be achieved through developing workable and contemporary policy that facilitates contribution of creative industries to infrastructure development and public investment, as well as decentralizing creative industries to grassroots neighbourhoods such as townships.

## **DFG\_KOPRO INT: FROM ACTORS, ACCOMPLICE, SCALING-UP AND NETWORKS FOR ENSURING COPRODUCTION PRACTICES**

**Paola Alfaro - d'Alençon, Nikolaus Podlaha, Federico Castracane & Johanna Westermann**

Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Co-production practices have grown in the last decades to be important drivers of urban development: it is described as playing a powerful role in implementing the achievement posed by the UN Sustainable Development Goals and hence improving living conditions. Different sources identify as key-potential of co-production its capacity to enhance scaling-up governance modifications as to facilitate the network of different yet often diverse actors involved in practices. Whereas implementation capacity and procedures to enable a multi-scale approach play a major role in the development, design and management of the framework. Against this background this paper focuses on the negotiation processes (governance) between different stakeholders, by undertaking network analysis, and researching socio-spatial material consequences: in order to understand how co-production is being understood and executed by local groups, which means of legitimacy are used, which socio-spatial results are developed, and helps to understand possible implementation tools in both Chilean and German contexts. The case studies in Chile's neoliberal context, showcase a high diversity of mandate forms in the cooperations that try to close governance gaps. In addition, actors from different areas, such as cultural institutions, universities and private actors are undertaking diverse approaches in testing regulatory, persuasive or financial instruments. One of the most important results of the research shows that coproduction is taking place mostly in highly contested fields such as housing projects and highlights a consensus about a necessary three-part constellation of actors - state, private and civil society - in urban development. However various negotiation processes take place between actors, ranging from conflicting to cooperative. Furthermore, transparency, traceability and responsibility in cooperation are becoming more important so that disputes are resolved and cooperation is not immediately jeopardized. The projects and initiatives challenge the prevailing social and political structures and look for new forms of collective but also pluralistic administration.

# **DAY 2**

## **KEYNOTES, SESSIONS & ABSTRACTS**





## KEYNOTE ADDRESS 2

### CHINA'S URBAN TRANSFORMATION: THE CONFUCIANISM MODIFICATION OF NEOLIBERALISM

**Professor Dr. Ya Ping Wang**

University of Glasgow, United Kingdom

China has been transformed, over a short period of forty years, from a traditional agriculture-based society into a global industrial power house with more than 60 percent of its population now live in cities and towns. Researchers inside and outside China applied various theoretical frameworks to explain this unprecedented and successful process of urbanization and industrialization. Neoliberalism, focusing on the political economies of state-market relation, has been employed by many as an important lens of critical analysis. China's urban development however demonstrated many unique characteristics, including the excessive trend of centralization of power and financial resources; the property-led development and wealth generation in large cities; the production of uniform and architecturally homogenous residential estates of very high building height and density; the persistence of the unique hukou effects; the continuous influence of people's life from the work unit system; and the emerging new patterns of urban community management and governance. Many of these features and their dynamic changes cannot be easily explained by any simple theory. This paper examines some of these characteristics of urban changes in China and discusses their linkage to the particular Confucianism culture. It argues that the integration of Neoliberalism and Confucianism may have resulted in the dramatic urban transformation and Neoliberal-Confucianism may provide a better theoretical perspective to understand China's urban development model.

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS 3

### ADDRESSING THE GLOBAL URBAN HOUSING CRISIS

#### **Geoffrey Payne**

Geoffrey Payne & Associates, United Kingdom

Despite decades of economic growth, access to adequate and affordable housing in urban areas is becoming increasingly difficult in countries at all levels of social and economic development. This situation is the inevitable outcome of neoliberal economic dogma that has been adopted and promoted around the world during the last four decades. This claims that market forces are the most efficient way of balancing demand and supply and in the process has commodified all resources and assets into monetary form. Land and housing have become the physical expression of this approach. Instead of protecting the social, cultural and environmental values in the way we use, develop and transfer land and housing, it has focused on the financial value. When combined with ever-increasing demand, the outcome is increased prices and these have turned housing into an attractive investment opportunity, making ownership impossible for the majority and sending ripples into the rental sector that make even rental expensive. The result is increasing inequality and social instability. In addition to increasing inequality, the climate crisis resulting from economic growth and consumption has already wreaked havoc around the world and exposed vulnerable groups to great risk. Cities are major generators of carbon emissions and have not yet developed adequate responses. Yet if the world exceeds 1.5C above pre-industrial temperatures, the situation will be beyond control. Geoffrey Payne's lecture reviews these processes but also presents a range of progressive and pragmatic approaches that offer ways of improving access to adequate and affordable housing whilst living within environmental constraints.

## **SESSION 5: ABSTRACTS**

### **CHALLENGE AND LIMITATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT IN DELIVERING INCLUSIVE URBAN PROJECT IN INDONESIA: THE CASE STUDIES FROM BANDUNG AND SURABAYA**

**Cynthia R Susilo**

Resilience Development Initiative, Indonesia

Shadowed by the post-colonial and post-authoritarian backgrounds, city governance of many Indonesian cities are undergoing transformation towards a more democratic societies. While city governments are being in a rush to deliver many basic infrastructures to cope with the long-due preserved development from the past, multiple challenges covering the existence or the absence of long-term vision, time limitation to deliver the projects/programmes, institutional dynamics among stakeholders and within the internal organizations, financial and managerial challenges, as well as governance maturity and dynamics have significant impacts on the way the inclusion of publics especially those who are from marginal and vulnerable groups is acknowledged and being realized. Considering a less scholarly research that capturing the views from within the institutional government's dynamics, this paper unravels the challenge and limitation faced by the city government as representative of the state in delivering sustainable and inclusive urban project when addressing inclusion of vulnerable groups in Indonesia along the deliverable process of the projects. This paper outlines the case observation from the deliverable processes of urban projects in two secondary cities in Indonesia on how the inclusion of people participations in the deliverable of the projects face obstacles due to internal dynamics within governmental bodies. The result of the observation summarizes the fact that in the condition when the local governmental institution is still undergoing transformation in developing context, how a government institution could acknowledge and realize the participatory inclusion of marginal and vulnerable groups very much depends on the organizational dynamics within their internal institution; which also directly influences the way the government agencies views their own roles and the importance of citizen as the main subject of the city's project.

## **BACK TO THE 1980S? THE VICTIMS OF AUTHORITARIAN SHANTYTOWN RESETTLEMENT IN MOROCCO**

**Raffael Beier**

TU Dortmund, Germany

During the 1980s and 1990s, clearance and resettlement to serviced sites (recasement) was the predominant way of the Moroccan state authorities to deal with what the United Nations have called ‘the challenge of slums’. However, many affected bidonville (shantytown) dwellers could not (or were not willing to) afford new housing at the peripheral resettlement sites and are assumed to have settled in other informal settlements. This challenged the very idea of reducing the number of bidonvilles through resettlement. At the end of the 1990s, the frustration with such unaffordable and inefficient recasement policies, together with the coming into power of a new, leftist government, led to a revision of past policies. Among others, academics like Françoise Navez-Bouchanine fought for mandatory participatory elements (*maîtrise d’ouvrage social*) of resettlement and upgrading schemes – with some slow progress and success in the 2000s. However, more recent resettlement projects have put into question the longevity of participatory elements in Morocco’s resettlement schemes. More recent resettlement projects seem to resemble those of the 1980s, with non-affordability and authoritarian force becoming major features again. Reflecting on the continuities and ruptures of Moroccan informal settlement policies, this paper focuses on the recasement of Sehb el-Caid, which used to be one of the most established bidonvilles in Salé. After displacement, many former inhabitants of Sehb el-Caid now face difficulties to access and afford resettlement housing – similar to the 1980s. However, due to a tighter control of informal construction, alternative housing options seem even more limited and inadequate. The paper focuses on the experiences of these people asking about their residential strategies and decision-making after they were evicted from bidonvilles. Based on narrative interviews, the paper asks how they experience and cope with residential uncertainty if state-offered resettlement options appear unaffordable and inaccessible?

## **SEARCHING FOR REDEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IN THE INDIGENOUS LAND USE MATRIX IN OLD DHAKA**

**Rabaya Nusrath Niva**

Premier University, Bangladesh

Bangladesh's ancient capitol, Dhaka engaged a spectacular past with its tremendous cultural and architectural history. It had the honor of being the capital several times, however, it also lost its honor the oppressing rulers and political tycoons several times other than Dhaka kept its appeal to the people of this Eastern part of Bangladesh. As a consequence, it became the heart of this region, Rulers came here to rule, set their colony here, and built some spectacular architecture. At the time the city was established, the main focus was on the northern side of the river Burigonga and the area named to date “Old Dhaka”. The then Dhaka was superlative and important for economic, political, and administrative works, nevertheless, the time goes by, especially after the independence, Old Dhaka lost its glory due to deteriorating environment and living conditions. The newer siding of Dhaka has gained more focus. The original landowner (from the Hindu religion) moved to West Bengal from this land in the meantime migrating people from the rural side owned these abandoned properties. As time goes by, the city lost its original indigenous land pattern uses. Day by day complexity of living standards increased. There is no proper planning, it just grows organically. Nowadays contemporary planning practice of building taking place within the city has raised a unique question, pointing to the old historic indigenous pattern which should be conserved. This study aims to provide a critical overview of the redevelopment planning strategy which is conflicting with the indigenous land pattern and is not followed by the contemporary planning process through nonphysical aspects.

## SESSION 6: ABSTRACTS

### RE-GENERATION OF AL-ZAYTOUN: CHILD AND MINORITY IN PLANNING PROCESS

**Valentina Vittoria Calabrese**  
La Sapienza University, Italy

Megacities' urban policies have always focused on the demolition and reconstructions of "more functional" residential buildings or the invisibility of informal areas. In this research I bring the example of the Egyptian government which, after an initial phase (1994-2005) of attempts to redevelop informal settlements, now pursues neoliberal policies with decentralization of the informal problem and urban renewal. The population of the informal district is placed in the inaccessible marginal areas, without of all economic-social opportunities, close to Cairo: out-and-out cities in the desert. This process triggers a further exodus of this population who, uprooted from the place of everyday life, try to return to the capital, finding situations of informality more uncertain than before. Instead, the renewal of those areas should respond to the strong demand for housing, but they are not competitive in comparison to the informal residential market. Re-generation Al-Zaytoun is a Master's Thesis research that aimed to show how an understanding of informal dynamics can be an intervention methodology that helps both the State and Local Administrations in the management of redevelopment programs. It aims to propose a multi-actor, multi-level methodology for the regeneration of the informal district of Zaytoun in Northeast Cairo. The research proposes a project for punctual regeneration of the informal pattern emerges that is careful of the inherent social dynamics, in addition to the use of public spaces in all its forms. Through participatory planning and the inclusion of minorities (children, Orthodox Copts, South Sudanese), within a religious organization that has been active in the Zaytoun district. The research addressed the centralism of the Egyptian government on local policies and the difficulty (almost impossibility) of cooperation with entities, including local ones, for development that is mindful of the rights to the city.

## **STATE-LED HOUSING PARADIGMS AND COUNTER-URBANISM FROM BELOW: THE CASE OF RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS FROM KHULNA, BANGLADESH**

**Sheikh Serajul Hakim**

Khulna University, Bangladesh

**Apurba K. Podder**

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Bangladesh

The NUA puts housing at the centre of sustainable urban development and calls for a shift from simply delivering houses toward a more comprehensive approach, which is people- and human-rights-centric and integrated with urban planning. But in Bangladesh, a noteworthy project from the 1970s (Bastuhara) and an ongoing state-led housing rehabilitation project for the displaced (Guccha Gram) – have both been witnessing top-down interventions through different state apparatus (including administrative, urban planning/development control and technocratic bureaucracy). But even though the grassroots dwellers have eventually managed homes for themselves despite state authoritarianism, this research aims to explore the grassroots' various negotiation efforts with this evolving/historical role of the state in the urban poor's housing rehabilitation. Assuming a qualitative methodology and a diachronic reading, we found that the state power has remained vested more in the bureaucratic machinery than in its elected institutions. Many state interventions remained top-down, non-participatory and piecemeal, leaving dwellers' rights and aspirations out of the planning process. On a historical scale of participation/inclusivity, these state interventions can be viewed as political acts of inbetween-ism (e.g., neither legal/formal nor illegal/informal), transformed from what was initially conceived as welfarism. However, in most cases, welfarism was used as a veil for practising inbetween-ism. In reality, inbetween-ism was applied as a political instrument in state-led housing delivery for the poor and has remained an ongoing strategy for the past five decades with sporadic moments of a market turn. It has instigated silent actions from the marginalised dwellers. They use the same strategy of inbetween-ism to produce counter spaces that could secure their rights in collaboration/partnership with Donors, CBOs and (I)NGOs. In Khulna's particular rehabilitation housing context, urban development can be viewed as a product of counter-urbanism from below.

## **THE URBANIZATION TREND AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE PERI-URBAN MORPHOLOGY: THE CASE OF A PRO-MIGRANT CITY-KHULNA, BANGLADESH**

**Naimul Aziz**

Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh

**Apurba Kumar Podder**

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Bangladesh

In the last few decades, urbanization acts as a crucial catalyst for growth and plays a significant role for strengthening neoliberal urbanism. The urbanization in the Global South is focused mostly on the economic development of city-regions as part of global capitalism. The urbanization process directly fosters economic and urban growth, but in many cases, it ignores the local spatial morphology and socio-economic functioning. This paper focuses on the impact of recent urban transformations on the peri-urban morphology of Khulna -a significant pro-migrant city in Bangladesh. Its peri-urban areas have been historically accommodating climate migrants, who became integral to the socio-economic functioning of the city for their services. This paper argues that the peri-urban morphological features of Khulna reflect an inherent living characteristic of the migrants, but the recent urban transformations led by economic development ignores the socio-economic functioning and living patterns of the migrants. Moreover, this paper will try to connect the morphological transformation with the socio-economic and morphological changes targeting the sustainable future growth of Khulna.



## SESSION 7: ABSTRACTS

### THE PARTICIPATION OF USERS IN THE CREATION OF PROJECTS IN A BRAZILIAN PUBLIC UNIVERSITY

**Edgardo Moreira Neto**

Universidade do Estado de Minas Gerais, Brazil

Poor and developing countries need to rely on greater efficiency in architectural and urban plans and projects for the production of their spaces, after all they need to do everything necessary with few resources. One way to try to leverage this efficiency is to use popular participation to create projects. This is the proposal of the ICB's Global Participatory Requalification Plan (PGRP-ICB) of the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG), an architectural plan that seeks to requalify a 45,000m<sup>2</sup> complex built in the 1970s. The PGRP-ICB institutionalized a specific group of people that plans, discusses, disseminates, collects opinions and develops this requalification plan. In this sense, Brazilian professor Leonardo Avritzer (2008) explains about the difficulty of creating popular institutional forums for spatial planning in Brazil – especially before the Federal Constitution of 1989. Until then, eventual participation took place informally in some structures of political parties or improvised assemblies. For him, therefore, the problem is systemic and political. Thus, in opposition to the situation of social alienation, the professor proposes precisely the institutionalization of participation, which means the establishment of “different forms of incorporation of citizens and civil society associations in the deliberation on policies [for the transformation of spaces]” (Avritzer, 2008, p. 45). The PGRP-ICB was established around 2008, when Brazil promoted a major program to expand public universities, REUNI. The resource that used to be in this program no longer exists, but the planning group remains in place and follows the Institute's physical-structural development. The present work is based on empirical observations, collection of field information and on technical documents consulted by this author.

## **COMPETENCIES NECESSARY FOR FACILITATING PARTICIPATION IN EGYPT**

**Deena Al-Dahmashawi**

University of Stuttgart, Germany

Activating community participation requires a workable model and an untraditional set of competencies. The role of the architect in development where community participation is employed, tends to shift away from traditional roles, such as the egoist or the pragmatist, to a more socially sensitive and community empowering role, termed in much literature as the facilitator. The facilitator empowers people to solve their own problems, based on their own values. Although Egypt has an authoritarian history, participatory planning and design is increasingly being employed, which is evident in recent political rhetoric, national policy statements, legislation, and pilot projects. Based on Connelly's argument that planners can make a difference, even in authoritarian contexts, this study aims to explore the competencies required to facilitate participatory approaches in the specific context of Egypt.

## **THE TRANSFORMING POWER OF JOINED STAKEHOLDER ACTION IN URBAN PROCESSES: PARTICIPATORY RE-URBANIZATION OF THE INFORMAL SETTLEMENT VILLA 20, BUENOS AIRES (2016-2022)**

**Jorge Martín Motta**

Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Sophie Naue & Thomas Hagedorn**

HafenCity Universität Hamburg, Germany

The experience of urban upgrading programs and processes in the Latin American region is extensive and covers at least four decades of practice. The first programs promoted by the World Bank in the early eighties and, the improvement programs encouraged by the Inter-American Development Bank since the nineties (e.g., Rio de Janeiro with Favela Bairro Program, Medellín with the Programa de Mejoramiento Integral de Barrios or Mexico DF with the Programa Socio-Comunitario de Mejoramiento Barrial) provided transcendental lessons for governments. Among others, these experiences have demonstrated the importance of: a) sustained public investment; b) incorporate an integrated and holistic approach; and c) sustain participatory processes to design and implement appropriate intervention. These technocratic programs have been implemented based on top-down strategies defined by international funding agencies, including the participation of inhabitants as a tool to obtain effective and adequate results. In this context, the paper analyzes the experience of the Comprehensive Process-Project of Social and Urban Integration of Villa 20, an area with about 30,000 inhabitants in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. The project started in 2016 as a co-designed process among different stakeholders (governmental, neighborhood community and NGOs). Beyond the predefined programmatic line, it was designed and based rather on a participatory, open and transformative process approach. Different mechanisms for participation and decision-making bodies (Mesa de Gestión Participativa) were created to define the forms and areas of operation and articulate the implementation of urban infrastructure. The article identifies the adopted approaches, mechanisms and the transformation that these participatory processes have undergone as a result of the diversity of situations. Five specific

moments are identified: 1) establishment of the process; 2) definition of the general participation framework; 3) identification of specific projects; 4) implementation of processes and projects; 5) review and incorporation of new approaches. The role of the different stakeholders, their contributions and challenges during each phase are analyzed in order to understand on a broader scale, how the cooperation among them is able to develop and enhance transforming power.

## **SESSION 8: ABSTRACTS**

### **POCKETS OF SURVIVAL AND ALLEYS OF LIVELIHOOD: TRACKING LOCAL PRACTICES TO SUSTAIN URBAN VITALITY IN POST-WAR CITIES (HOMS AS A CASE STUDY)**

**Abeer Abdelal**

Al-Wataniya Private University, Syria

In post-war cities: desolated neighborhoods, destructed buildings and cracked streets covered with rubble are general features of an urban scene that is difficult to imagine returning to life, especially in light of extremely complex and difficult political and economic conditions as is the case in Syria today. This paper argues that simple solutions that result from the creativity of the local residents and their deep knowledge of their city's urban geography are of the most important keys that allow decision-makers to develop a realistic and successful vision for improving life conditions in post-war. The paper tracks changes in public space network that were carried out by those who remained in the Syrian city of "Homs" during the war and its aftermath (from 2011 till present), relying on their accumulated experiences, which provided them with a compass to recognize the spatial strengths points (nodes and links) in city's open space network and employing them to confront daily challenges. During war time; they re-discovered spaces in their homes, alleys and streets of their neighborhoods: "pockets of survival". In post-war period, they reshaped sidewalks, street bends, and small squares to create "corridors of livelihood". Their contribution to reshape and re-employ different components of city's open space network, qualify this group of people, which is often the most vulnerable and the neediest among the war-affected groups, to be a source of inspiration and main reference that led decision-makers in their quest to restore life to the city.

## **FROM DE-TERRITORIALIZED TO TRANSFORMATIVE PLANNING? PLANETARY JUSTICE AND POLLUTION REMEDIATION PROGRAMS ALONG THE CITARUM RIVER IN INDONESIA**

**Alejandro de Castro Mazarro & Fitria Feliciani**

Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development, Germany

Few rivers like the Citarum in Indonesia show the severity of environmental and social damages caused by the overexploitation of natural resources associated to global trade chains. In particular, the river pollution and the public health problems derived from it, showcase how do global interests like the fashion brands impact and affect, directly and indirectly, the logic of institutions like municipalities. To address these problems, a number of bottom-up and top-down initiatives forming a multi-level governance scheme with institutions from all sectors and scales have taken place. Yet, environmental injustices caused by global consumption and water pollution remain a dramatic problem for the livelihoods of people living around the Citarum river basin. In this context, the paper asks about the perception of involved stakeholders regarding the causes of the failure of the multi-level governance scheme. To answer this question, we interviewed actors from the private, public and advocacy sector, to share what are the challenges they encounter to reduce pollution at the Citarum (and impact people's health), and what could be potential ways to overcome those challenges. As a result of the analysis, we found that international institutions associated to the production of global environmental justice (namely the WTO, UNCTAD, or international trade agreements) are not connected to the discourses of water pollution reduction carried by planning authorities at the federal, regional and local levels. Also, the findings show that while social and public health problems are identified by the institutions working on the river, only technological solutions have been mainly provided; almost no policy to increase the redistributive, recognitive or participatory dimensions of justice. The paper characterizes this problem, following Brenner (1998), as the simultaneous deterritorialization of planning deterritorialization, and territorialization of global environmental injustices, and proposes a reterritorialization of planning actions according to their scales of operation, so they address the relational problems existing between global, national and local stakeholders.

## **THE COMPLEX DYNAMICS OF CO-PRODUCING DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT MECHANISMS BETWEEN THE STATE, COMMUNITY AND ACADEMIA IN THREE LATIN AMERICAN CITIES**

**Harry Smith**

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**Soledad Garcia-Ferrari**

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**Milton Montejano Castillo**

Instituto Politécnico Nacional, Mexico

**Emma Regina Morales García de Alba**

ITESO - Universidad Jesuita de Guadalajara, Mexico

There is increasing experimentation with co-production as a process to develop disaster risk management (DRM) mechanisms. One form this takes is through joint working between the state, community organisations and academia. Typically, these actors are respectively expected to contribute regulation/funding, mobilisation/voluntary activities and research/facilitation. And each actor brings to the table a specific knowledge set which can contribute to a 'dialogue of knowledges'. However, the engagement of these three actors is complex and can lead to very different results. What types of disaster risk co-management arrangements can result and what factors can contribute to this? The paper addresses this question by reflecting on three experiences in co-producing mechanisms for DRM in Latin America involving these three actors: (1) co-production of an integrated DRM plan for the North-East urban-rural edge of Medellín, Colombia, with a focus on landslides, convened by local government drawing on previous academia/local community action-research projects; (2) co-production of smart city solutions for managed adaptation to and monitoring of increased flood risk due to climate change in Mexico City, led by academia working with low-income communities; and (3) development of collaborative smart city solutions to manage adaptation and monitoring of climate change related risks in Puebla, Mexico, led by academia in collaboration with local government and community organisations. The paper

applies a framework based on scale, knowledge and power to analyse these experiences and provide initial steps towards a taxonomy of state/community/academia co-production of DRM. It identifies and reflects on factors linked to each of the actors involved, such as electoral cycles and organisational hierarchies and compartmentalisation/overlap of responsibilities in the state; competing agendas and variation in access to resources in the community; and funding cycles and stretched resources in academia. This initial outline of a taxonomy will provide the basis for development of a tool for initial reflection and planning when actively initiating a process of co-production of DRM mechanisms.



## THE STRUGGLE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IN AREQUIPA'S "PUEBLOS JOVENES"

**Christian Rosen**

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Water and mobility are two of the most important infrastructures for the development of the pueblos juvenes, young settlements outside the city centre of the Peruvian Secondary City Arequipa. Local actors demand that the state connects them to the existing water network, and they also want a functioning, safe and affordable public transport system. In extensive ethnographic fieldwork over several months, the residents' efforts and plans of public and private providers were analysed. In addition, the provisional solutions that are used to help themselves in the pueblos juvenes were examined. These are often strongly characterised by hybrid arrangements that combine elements of informal practices with rudimentary services provided by the state in the neighbourhoods. The work on the ground has shown: These processes of co-production are complicated by complex constellations of actors. In the pueblos, two groups of actors are of particular importance in the discourse: the inhabitants, who mostly live in the poorly supplied areas due to a lack of economic resources, and investors, who own numerous plots of land and for whom a better supply with infrastructure means an increase in the value of their plots and thus higher sales revenues. This case study further shows that this constellation is unfavourable for local politics: Since many of the plots remain undeveloped due to land speculation, the costs for the installation of a network-based infrastructure increase. At the same time, many actors in politics are themselves land speculators and thus directly part of the unstoppable expansion of the settlement areas.

# **DAY 3**

## **KEYNOTES, SESSIONS & ABSTRACTS**



## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS 4**

### **WHITHER POST NEOLIBERAL CITIES? WE COULD MAKE THEM POSSIBLE**

**Ximena de la Barra**

International Consultant & Former UNICEF Latin America Public Policy Advisor

There will be no good examples of post neoliberal cities while neoliberalism prevails. Who builds cities during third world neoliberalism? Mostly unassisted people, private developers and Banks. How great are self-help housing solutions? A high-risk solution. Chile, the fractured showcase of Neoliberalism, best example of what not to do. Post Neoliberal cities should be possible. A taste of basic necessary changes urban planning needs to be geared towards population well-being as an objective. Urban planning needs to be reconnected to social sciences, economic sciences, environmental sciences and politics.

## SESSION 9: ABSTRACTS

### **DENIAL OR ENGAGEMENT FOR CHILDHOOD CRISIS: EVOLUTION OF CHILD FRIENDLY SPACES (CFS) IN BALUKHALI ROHINGYA REFUGEE CAMP, COX'S BAZAR**

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Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh

**Apurba Kumar Podder**

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Bangladesh

Due to ongoing human rights violations and ethnic conflict, more than 26 million people globally have become refugees living in camps, where the children are the worst victims. In most cases, ethnically marginalized communities get displaced from their 'Vita' (homestead) and find temporary shelter elsewhere. Since August 2017, Bangladesh alone received 7,45,000 Rohingya refugees following the sanguinary ethnic violence of the Myanmar army, which increased the figure to 1.3 million within only four and half years – making the country host the largest refugee camps in the world. In these camps, 65% of the refugees are children who faced extreme atrocities in Myanmar. They undergo various forms of childhood crises for experiencing abuse, rape, and life-threat in both Myanmar and the camp. To respond to their psychosocial crises, numerous Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) were established by different local and international NGOs. This research critically examines the spatial transformation of CFS between 2017 and 2022 in Balukhali Extension camp, Cox's Bazar, and the role of various stakeholders play in its evolution. It underwent a qualitative research approach and found that following the inception of CFS, a confined spatial model has been maintained in Rohingya refugee camp, which barely engaged with the spatial aspiration/conception of traumatic children. This denial towards transformation is linked to the complex interaction between the host country's geopolitical agenda and that of the four interest groups operating formally and informally in the camp: 'Majhi' (community leader), NGOs, Donor organizations, and syndicates. The article reveals how the politics of denial in the camp has been centered around the idea of 'cultural maintenance' that can transform CFS into not only a profit-making one-stop shop, but also a spatial instrument that can orchestrate many facets of everyday exploitation – whereas its holistic mission was set to defy such.

## **ADDRESSING INCLUSION IN HERITAGE MANAGEMENT THROUGH CHANNELS FOR CO-PRODUCTION OF KNOWLEDGE**

**Pakinam Zeid**

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Management of heritage is an evolving research discourse and practice with direct relation to collective identity and communities' sense of belonging. Heritage-pertinent decision-making processes require identification of values worth preserving and actions to be implemented respectively. The result is reliant on the knowledges involved in the decision-making processes. Knowledges that make-up the decision-making process rely greatly on the actors included. In some contexts, decision-making processes include institutional organizations and exclude – completely or to some extent - communities or individuals upon whom the contested collective identity is reliant. Questions such as “Whose knowledge counts?” require, thus, an understanding of “Who is included?”. The answers to the questions constitute the heart of participation processes and sustainability of the heritage in question. The research sheds light on a mediating discourse: knowledge and channels of co-production of knowledge referred to in the literature as “community-building”. Community-building aspects are discussed in this research through the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage and perpetual capacitating of communities to be co-producers of knowledge and content of decision-making in heritage management. Inclusion in heritage management is, thus, addressed as a long-term goal where different channels raise awareness and provide reliable information and accessibility to a heritage site, capacitate community members through deliverable responsibilities, and respect inclusive narratives. The research coins the term channels for co-production of knowledge as descriptive of the different ways social inclusion is implemented in heritage management, not restricted to immediate participation in decision-making. To this end, the research studies three heritage conservation projects in Egypt, Nigeria, and Germany; two initiatives, Egyptian and African; one digital repository of intangible industrial heritage in India. The research qualitatively interviews experts associated with the projects and initiatives to better understand inclusion in light of complexity of heritage sites and contextual limitations.

## **INVESTIGATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS ON CRIME IN VULNERABLE RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBOURHOODS IN CITIES OF THE SOUTH**

**Christopher Chimaobi Onyeneke**

University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

The vulnerability of our socio-cultural environment is one of the greatest difficulties in eradicating crime in cities, according to a recent study. A review of impact reports at the national and city levels indicates that residents of urban areas are more vulnerable due to city insecurity variables being higher than the national average. Socio-demographic factors such as age, gender, level of education, employment status, marital status, occupancy ratio, living arrangements and their effects on crime that makes cities in the global south more vulnerable. focusing on the key concepts in urban social structural theories of social disorganization and routine activity, the research adopted a methodical approach, explores the relationship between these socio-demographic variables and crime in the case study, Port-Harcourt City, Nigeria. The research approach used in this study is phenomenology and cross-sectional analysis of data. Pragmatism is the guiding philosophical assumption behind its development, along with scientific inductive reasoning. In-depth interviews with household heads and security experts using a semi-structured interview guide through a Volunteer Self-selection sampling technique. Thematic analysis was used for the analysis of the data. The observation method was also adopted to access the living arrangements. These were presented in graphics and maps for visual understanding. Hence it is multi-method qualitative research. This study aims to fill the current gap in the literature regarding poverty and unemployment as key factors behind the rise in crime, and victimization is correlated to age and gender. The research limitations/implications include the large study area, limited sample size, language barrier, and incorrect interpretation of direct translation.

## **‘DEMOCRACY SPATIAL LEGACIES’: IMPLICATIONS ON SOUTH AFRICAN SPATIAL GOVERNANCE AND PLANNING**

**Abongile Mgwele & RA Matamanda**

University of the Free State, South Africa

Spatial governance and planning are critical aspects of spatial transformation and mitigating the urban spatial and social injustices of colonial-apartheid governance particularly in marginalised communities. Post-apartheid, South Africa has progressed in terms of policy frameworks governing urban spaces. However, the progress masks systemic challenges within the contested democratic rule. Contrasting ideologies and legacies have manifested themselves within urban spaces creating disintegrated governance. Thus, this qualitative study undertakes a biographical method and focused on analysing biographies of the former democratic presidents of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, Thabo Mbeki, and Jacob Zuma. This method gave insights into their spatial and governance ideologies and legacies and the implications they had on the urban policy frameworks. To enhance the validity of the analysis, the biographies were triangulated with urban literature, policies, and legislation. The findings reveal the changing worldviews and legacies perpetuated and maintained some of the apartheid-colonial spatial legacies. The ideological shifts have either maintained and managed informality or produced new forms of urban informality thus prolonging inclusiveness, resilience, and regenerative human settlements. Therefore, this study contributes to the ongoing scholarly debate on ideological shifts in spatial governance within the urban planning discourse, informing the gap on the role of the state in spatial transformation.

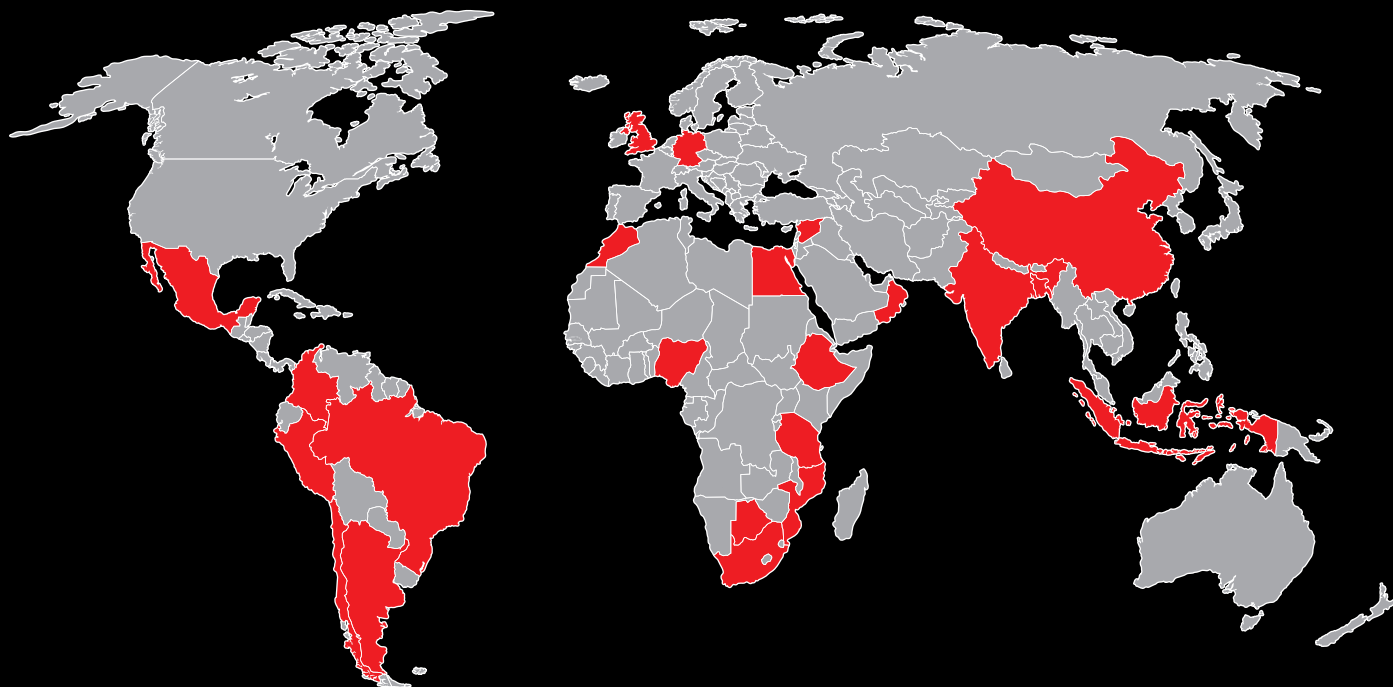
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Case Study  
22 Countries

Participants  
18 Countries