Call for Contributions

Post-Oil City: Planning for Urban Green Deals
ISOCARP World Planning Congress 2020
Doha, Qatar | November 8-12, 2020

24 April 2020  |  Deadline for Abstract Submission
31 July 2020   |  Deadline for Submission of Contributions

Submit your contribution HERE or on doha2020.isocarp.org!
Call for Contributions

Piotr Lorens

Piotr Lorens is an architect and urban planner, professor and Head of the Department of Urban Design and Regional Planning at the Faculty of Architecture, Gdansk University of Technology. His professional interests include urban design and development issues with a special focus on regeneration and transformation of distressed sites. He was involved in design and development of numerous urban development and regeneration schemes, including planning for transformation of Gdansk waterfront. Piotr is also serving as consultant and expert in numerous planning and development projects. His research and professional issues include also dealing with local identity and heritage within the urban transformation processes, shaping urban public spaces systems as well as dealing with social, economic and legal aspects of urban transformation.

Besides academic and professional appointments, Piotr is also active member of ISOCARP (Vice President YPP Program within years 2011-2017) and Society of Polish Town Planners (currently – Chairman of the Society Board, within years 2015-2018 was serving as the President of the Society). In addition, Piotr is member of ICOMOS and TICCIH. He also plays the role of the Chairman of the Urban and Metropolitan Areas Group, Committee for Spatial Economy and Regional Planning, Polish Academy of Sciences.

Hangwelani Hope Magidimisha

Hangwelani Hope Magidimisha is an NRF-rated researcher employed by the University of KwaZulu-Natal as a Senior Lecturer. She made history as the first black-female South Africa born to graduate with a PhD in Town and Regional Planning at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in 2015. She also holds a Masters in Town and Regional Planning and a degree in Geography and Environment - both from the University of KwaZulu-Natal. In addition, she has a Diploma in Project Management from Roseburg College in Cape Town.

As an academic, Hope has authored and co-authored a number of book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles. This is a career which she developed from her tenure as an intern in HSRC to her current academic position in the University which saw her having over 30 publications.

Outside the University, Hope is a practitioner. Her passion for town and regional planning has earned her a nomination to serve on the City Planning Commissioner for ETThekwini Municipality with a strategic responsibility of advising the Executive Committee and Councillors in the Municipality. She is also in the advisory committee of COGTA where they advise the Office of the Premier in KZN on spatial equity and a member of the KwaZulu-Natal Tribunal.
Post-Oil City: Planning for Urban Green Deals

Recent environmental research suggests that humanity must move away from oil, gas and coal to reduce pollution, reduce various other environmental concerns and mitigate the processes of anthropogenic climate change. Today, because most of the human population lives in cities and the trend of massive (and frequently unordered and uncontrolled) urbanisation is accelerating, the urban areas are in the foreground of this "battle for the future"; to reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

To win this battle many municipalities are developing new approaches to urban planning. These new plans and strategies frequently include ideas associated with reshaping the overall city structure, including redistribution of uses, rethinking the transport system, greening of the urban structure and the provision of people-oriented design solutions. Within these plans are new considerations about the nature of economic development and concerns to insure proper employment. And, as usual, the needs and expectations of local communities are a central part of this planning discussion. All of these elements constitute the core of the process to achieve sustainable urban and regional development designed to achieve climate-responsive actions and policies. Since our cities differ a lot, reflecting the various geographies and cultures of the world, it is hard to define one set of solutions that will work globally.

As cities produce their own place-specific plan – which may be generically referred to as their “Urban Green Deals” – a reservoir of experiences is developed containing ideas to understand the problems, recognise possible solutions and identify ways to implementing changes. These Urban Green Deals are about ensuring the well-being of citizens while profoundly changing the way cities operate within the ecosystem. In light of this effort, the main purpose of the congress is to discuss how these Urban Green Deals may be shaped, which of the issues are most important in particular settings, how to plan and implement them, as well as discussing how they can contribute to the Global Agenda.

The Gulf States have been largely developed thanks to oil and other non-renewable resources exports. Their fast growing and thriving smart cities as forerunners in the region and beyond. At the same time, the cities and states in this region are facing environmental, social and economic consequences of this model of development. Therefore, there is a growing understanding of the need for complex action to solve these problems. Hence, the Gulf-cities’ leadership has initiated and propagated the need for a new planning paradigm of carbon-neutral, liveable and loveable, knowledge-based cities that has inspired planners and decision-makers from all over the world.

Capitalising on our successful ‘Cool Planning’ 2018 World Planning Congress in Bodø, Norway and other previous congresses dealing with various issues and topics important to the concept of Urban Green Deals, this Congress will—in addition to the broad global perspective—explore the adaptation of climate-responsive planning to ‘hot places’ such as Doha and peer-cities in other arid-climate regions. Planning practices that work for cool and hot places should be helpful for all other cities across the volatile hot-cool spectrum.

The 2020 World Planning Congress will be staged in Msheireb Downtown Doha, a unique and ambitious downtown urban regeneration project. It revived the old district with a new architectural language that is modern, yet inspired by traditional Qatari heritage and architecture. Msheireb Downtown Doha aspires to become a new social and civic hub in the centre of the city – where it is enjoyable to live, work, experience culture and simply walk or cycle around with family and friends – and therefore a great place to host the ISOCARP Congress.

– Piotr Lorens & Hangwelani Magidimisha
General Rapporteurs
1 UNDERSTANDING URBAN METABOLISM

The concepts of urban metabolism and resources management are becoming a crucial part of integrated urban planning for energy, water, food, land and waste. Part of this game is dealing with new alternatives regarding energy sources, provision and usage on one hand, and with dealing with waste in a circular way on the other hand. Old spatial and functional structures need to be adapted to these concepts and new social and economic practices are needed to improve the metabolic efficiency of future cities.

Urban metabolism approach needs to address the city in all nuances of city’s life to solve urban problems in a long-term and in a strategic perspective, and to formulate a comprehensive and strategic urban development plan and action to maintain the continuous improvement of urban material, environmental, social and economic conditions. This view has very close common ground with many relevant theories around the world, such as e.g. the “City Betterment and Ecological Restoration” in China. In the era of searching for the leverages of improving the urban quality and efficiency, urban development needs to step in and get aligned with the urban metabolic concept of “renewal, replacement and growth”. This demands global planners to pay attention to the problems that stand out in this process. In particular the cities with a long history must pay attention to the new requirements of the times, and need to focus on the issues caused by a separation of urban functions, low environmental quality, unequal development or insufficient support for urban renewal.

How should the city reshape its metabolism? How could planners help the efficient and organic urban renewal? How do urban economics and urban policy contribute to a more efficient urban metabolism? How shall urban planning address the mechanisms of urban metabolism to prevent and respond to sudden urban disasters?

In this track we call for contributions focusing on theoretical reflections and applied analyses of urban projects and policies dealing with the above issues, as well as case studies from various urban contexts.

2 ENSURING THE ECONOMIC DIVERSITY AND RESILIENCE

The economic diversity and resilience in post-oil cities are reliant on establishing framework plans and strategies to guide local economic investments in response to global economic trends. What drives a city’s economy is dependent on understanding how to maintain a balanced and diverse economy, acknowledging the post-oils realities and global competitions, and acting on relevant opportunities across economy cycles. It is also essential that cities are receptive with engaging in future debates that contribute in shaping their knowledge-based society and developing a diverse and circular economy. This track is about how to understand at what extent the generation of knowledge, sustainability, and innovation will influence a city’s economic and development structure that previously focused on traditional oil-based production.
### 3 PLANNING FOR URBAN CONNECTIVITY

| Densities/mobility balance: planning for transit-oriented development (TOD) |
| Planning for integrated transportation models |
| Integrated planning and urban design solutions and concepts and their applicability in various contexts |
| Planning for urban permeability and connectivity |
| Innovative solutions and precise pairing the modes of urban development with provision of comfortable, reliable and sustainable transport |
| Mobile housing, distant work and on-line employment |
| Suburban transportation pattern |

Urban connectivity is vital for urban performance, beyond extensive reliance on private transport. Hence, the sustainable urban transport and mobility in the post-oil era need an urban mobility policy mix. These include not only new models of using the existing modes of transport, but also innovative transport solutions as well as more precise pairing the modes of urban development with provision of comfortable, reliable and sustainable transport.

### 4 SAFEGUARDING THE URBAN RESILIENCE

| Network theories |
| Data collection of environmental changes |
| Carbon footprint |
| Addressing CO2 emissions caused by urban transportation and buildings |
| Interpretation of adaptive strategies and ongoing research that contributes to the safeguarding of urban resilience |
| The resources needed for more resilient cities |
| Governing the resilient city – which models are most effective and to what extent should Governments intervene in places at repeat risk of extreme events |
| The role of the built environment in making (or breaking) urban resilience |
| The knowledge, policies and practices needed to understand resilience at a regional scale |
| Techniques for moving to a mindset of preventive risk management, rather than cycles of crisis response and rebuilding |
| The architecture of resilience – contemporary case studies on exceptional infrastructure |
| Tools for climate change adaptation including urban greening, floodable landscapes, self sufficiency and community engagement |
| Growing and sustaining strong communities |

To be resilient is to recover quickly after something difficult has occurred – how can human and natural elements be utilised to make our cities less vulnerable and more resilient? This track has a strong problem-solving focus and hopes to bring together researchers and practitioners from around the world, for a constructive debate on how we can better respond to the full spectrum of urban risks, most notably the global climate emergency. How can universal challenges and events of an overwhelming scale be addressed at a local, even site-specific level? How will transformation take place? What must be transformed? Who should take the lead?

Resilience can be implemented at political, economic, as well as social geographic levels and is discussed within the existing hierarchy of local, regional, national and international actors. There are effective new strategies that have emerged from bottom up initiatives. Protection of the urban environment and enhancement of urban resilience come from interdisciplinary and comparative cases. Recent research that proposes innovative resilience methodologies is also increasingly relevant.
Track 6 aims to bring deeper understanding, latest thinking and inspire solution options on how urban health and inclusion are impacted and can be improved. Spanning urban micro-design, street design, neighbourhood approaches, city-wide strategies and monitors, land-use and national urban policies. Thereby reducing existing inequities within cities. We encourage inter-disciplinary dialogue and critical reflection between urban planners and other stakeholders in the health, social and development sectors; between practitioners, researchers, community leaders and decision makers.

Environmental health, physical and mental health, healthy neighbourhoods and social well-being are on the agenda of the “healthy and inclusive city”. The urban built environment affect our health and well-being on a daily basis, often with lifelong effects starting in early life. Integrating the elements of clean air, clean water, noise, accessible public health services, safety (factual and perceived), healthy bodies and minds, belonging and social connections into how we design and manage our cities and neighbourhoods. Fostering people-centered approaches, enabling people to survive and thrive, inclusion and reduced inequity, combating critical health issues such as loneliness and NCDs, and managing cultural diversity. Special attention for the design of inclusive public spaces and commons – catering for the needs and dreams of both (very young) children, women, seniors and differently-abled members of the community. Considering too the inclusion, health and well-being of caregivers, youth, slum and migrant populations as they too often remain ‘invisible’ and fall through the cracks of city planning and management.

Over 1.4 million people are added to cities every week; 90% of urban growth happening in low- and middle-income countries. Successfully responding to the challenges of health and well-being, inequity and migration demand bold changes and forward thinking and action within and beyond urban planning. The 2020s are a crucial decade for enabling healthy people and a healthy planet. This is an opportunity for re-thinking the paradigms of urban planning.
Creating holistic liveable environments is of key importance today. Cities, in particular, face an increasing pressure on their resources and an increasing climate change threat, which exposes their residents to growing risks. At the same time, a disruptive technological revolution – Industry 4.0 – brings opportunities to work and get services remotely. How do cities remain competitive and attract creative individuals while these major changes continue to unfold? A liveable and thriving environment is becoming a matter of their future survival. How do we define such an environment? At first, it is people-centric and responds to people’s aspirations to not only safety, accessibility and economic opportunities but also to physical and mental health, social bonds, emotional connect, inspiration and creativity. This is frequently associated with walkability, abundant green and blue ecosystems, inclusive and vibrant public places, valorized tangible and intangible heritage, local context tailored and organically built new urban fabric.

The Track 7 will delve into how city and regional planners, designers and urban practitioners help Shaping Liveable Places. The track is solution-oriented and focuses on transformative ideas and actions practitioners and decision-makers can debate and learn from. It connects to a broader placemaking initiative gaining momentum in numerous countries around the world. It is hence designed as a highly interactive and immersive series of sessions, some of which will take place in selected public places.

### SPECIAL TRACK: THE FUTURE OF HOT CITIES

Aside from the main tracks, the Special Session on the Future Hot City will be organised. The rationale for this comes from the fact that approximately 30% of the world’s surface is arid lands and the cities within face greater challenges than cities in other climate zones. Whilst this natural setting is specific and irreversible, the current planning and design practices in shaping the hot climate cities that adopt international-city making paradigm does not resolve many of the unique challenges. With climate change this issue will become bigger. Understanding the natural and geographical context in arid environment will lead to the appropriate future responses tailored to address the specific challenges. All these aspects have to be discussed in a comprehensive and holistic fashion in order to allow to reshape our future hot cities as well as to seek appropriate sustainable and liveable models for urban areas in the arid climate and desert context.

### SUBMISSION TYPES

**Research Paper:**
- Research or academic contribution consisting of a paper and a presentation.
- The paper will be included in the Congress Proceedings with an ISBN number (only for registered authors attending the conference).

**Case Study/Research Project:**
- Professional contribution consisting of a presentation on a specific case study or topic of wider interest, such as a project, strategy, plan, or design.
- The emphasis will strictly be on lessons learned and knowledge sharing.
- Submitting a paper is optional, but highly recommended
- Abstract (and paper if submitted) will be included in the Congress Proceedings.

**Session Proposal:**
- A stand-alone or ‘side event’ linked to one of the Tracks and entirely focused on a specific topic or objective, such as a training session, a hackathon, a workshop, etc.
- An abstract of the session proposal is mandatory and will be included in the Congress Proceedings.
- Formats other than the traditional presentations are encouraged, including: point/counterpoint, single speaker, moderated debate, interactive workshops, round tables etc.
- Discussion or interaction with the audience is highly encouraged.
- Session proposers have to identify and coordinate all the session speakers – a list of confirmed participants has to be included in the proposal.
- All speakers need to register for the congress.
- Sessions will be 90 minutes long.

### TOPICS

**SHAPING LIVEABLE PLACES**

- Data collection and means of measuring liveability
- Walkable and accessible spaces
- Planning for active and healthy cities
- Designing thriving public places
- Building human-scaled cities and neighbourhoods
- Megacities and liveability?
- Local knowledge and disruptive technologies: a break-through combination?
- Reconciling the need for building fast and affordable with the need for building sustainable and liveable
- Creative cities: fostering inspiration, exchange and growth
- Brand and unique value proposition: thriving habitats, identity and sustainable tourism

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ABOUT ISOCARP

The International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) is a global association of experienced professional planners. It was founded in 1965 in a bid to bring together recognised and highly qualified planners in an international network. The ISOCARP network consists of both individual and institutional members from over 85 countries. ISOCARP is a non-governmental organisation recognised by the UN, UNCHS and the Council of Europe and has a formal representative status with UNESCO. The objectives of ISOCARP include the improvement of planning practice through the creation of a global and active network of planners. ISOCARP encourages the exchange between planners, promotes the profession in all aspects, stimulates research, improves education and training, increases information and awareness on major planning issues.

56TH ISOCARP WORLD PLANNING CONGRESS

The Congress will also include a series of Special Sessions and Forums, including:

Participation Session: Community-based planning, local empowerment and self-organisation (including presentations from planning practice – invitation will be extended to ISOCARP members and their companies).

Youth Forum: Focusing on Young Planners ideas and concepts regarding the urban future (including lessons learnt from ISOCARP YPPs projects).

Planning Sessions: Innovative and inspiring planning practices (including discussions on results and lessons learnt from ISOCARP UPATs projects as well as presentations from planning practice – invitation will be extended to ISOCARP members and their companies).

Education Forum: Addressing the growing needs for planning education and long-life learning (in possible partnership with association(s) of planning schools).

Planning Research Sessions: Matching planning practices with planning research and science (in possible partnership with universities / other organizations focused on promotion of planning research and science).

ISOCARP Congresses rally a fine sample of urban and regional planners from across the globe and they also provide a unique platform for dialogue with decision-makers and other urban and planning stakeholders, both from the Global South and the Global North.

The 56th World Planning Congress marks the 55th anniversary of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP). It will mark the end of ‘Urban October 2020’ and is the gateway to the 71st World Town Planning Day, held yearly on the 8th of November. It will also provide a unique opportunity to send a planner’s message to the highly anticipated COP 26 Climate Conference that is expected to take place from 9-19 November 2020 in Glasgow, UK.

To submit an abstract, you first have to create an account on doha2020.isocarp.org. You can change your details and abstract afterwards, however, please avoid submitting the abstract in the minutes before the Deadline – 24 April 2020 – in case of technical difficulties. If you have any problems creating an account or submitting your abstract, please send a mail to congress@isocarp.org.

Submit now

Please follow doha2020.isocarp.org for latest updates.