CALL for COORDINATORS

Young Planning Professionals’ Workshop
organised as part of the 57th ISOCARP WORLD PLANNING CONGRESS
DOHA, QATAR, 3-7 November 2021

Urban Coastal Development and Ecological Sustainability
of Al-Khor Mangrove Forests

BACKGROUND

The Young Planning Professionals’ Programme is a crucial component of ISOCARP’s dedication to promote and enhance the planning profession and commitment to facilitate knowledge for better cities with the young generations, the future leaders of our profession. It was initiated in 1991 at the 26th ISOCARP Congress in Guadalajara, Mexico. Since then, it has become tradition to organise the workshops in the week preceding the annual world congress in order to provide unique opportunities to Young Planning Professionals (YPPs) to share their experiences in an attempt to resolve complex and multi-dimensional planning problems. The Programme has facilitated a unique creative spirit within the Society, and it has become a source of new ideas, innovation and rejuvenation not only for the Society but also for our partners; and has made a huge impact on participants’ professional lives, in the name of the universal vision of promoting and enhancing the planning profession. It has also contributed towards making life-long friendships beyond borders, languages, cultures and professional backgrounds. According to this tradition, the YPP workshop will be offered again this year during the 57th ISOCARP World Planning Congress, which will take place in Doha, Qatar. The workshop itself will take place between 3 and 7 November, and the final presentation will be scheduled during one of the congress plenary sessions. The workshop will be organised in partnership with the Qatar Ministry of Municipality and Environment.
GENERAL INFORMATION ON YOUNG PLANNING PROFESSIONALS’ WORKSHOPS

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

Since 1991, the objective of ISOCARP’s Young Planning Professionals’ Workshops has been to bring together young professional urban planners from all parts of the world. The workshops aim to provide young professionals with an opportunity to work in a multi-cultural setting, share their experiences on real-life planning problems, and exchange ideas and learn from each other. At the same time, it is intended to engage them in planning exercise under the guidance of highly-qualified practitioners with extensive international experience. In terms of desired results, it is intended that the YPP workshop results become an important part of the 57th ISOCARP World Planning Congress, and the outcomes will be available both to congress delegates and all interested members of the Society (in the forms of public presentation, exhibition, publication and website dissemination). On the other hand, the workshop results will serve Doha and Qatar in defining possible solutions of the given planning problem with fresh and innovative ideas. The workshop results may be of potential interest to other key stakeholders, including universities and other public and private infrastructure providers. In addition to the practical outcomes of the workshop exercise, its results may also contribute to the wider congress discussions, as the topic is strongly associated with the Congress theme ‘beyond the metropolis’.

NATURE OF THE WORKSHOP

The YPP Workshops are organised in the week preceding the annual ISOCARP Congress and focus specifically on the Congress’s main theme. The project site is chosen jointly by ISOCARP and the Local Organising Committee. Over a concentrated period of three to four days, the YPPs work in closely-knit international teams, exchanging ideas and learning from each other under the guidance of international experts among the members of ISOCARP accompanied by the local coordinator(s), lecturers as well as the Vice President responsible for the YPP programme throughout the process. The workshops are brief, but very intense, brainstorming planning and design exercises. They provide a synergetic platform where new ideas and creative solutions to complex and multifaceted urban issues are produced. YPPs are required to defend their ideas in front of a critical jury, the participants of the annual congress. The teams have to prepare a well-rehearsed presentation that frequently catches the special attention of the planning authorities. The tangible results are then presented at the main congress, are published in a Workshop Publication, both on the ISOCARP website and different digital mediums. The intangible ones, however, stay in the hearts and minds of the participant YPPs, who not only learn from each other, but also make life-long friends. We strongly recommend you read the past YPP workshop reports, which are available on the ISOCARP website. This will provide further guidance as to the calibre of results to be achieved.
VENUE: DOHA

The State of Qatar, an independent sovereign country since 1971, is a member of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Qatar comprises an 11,500 sq. km peninsula extending northwards into the Arabian Gulf. It has 563 km of uninterrupted coastline. The country’s population stands at 2.69 million and its capital city is Doha. Arabic is the official language of the country, though English is widely spoken.

Qatar has a desert climate with year-round sunshine, hot summers and mild winters. Mean temperatures range from 17°C in January to 36°C in July, reaching highs of 40°C+ during the summer. Rain is infrequent, falling in brief showers mainly in winter. Oil and Gas constitute the backbone of Qatar’s Economy. The State of Qatar exerts efforts to diversify its sources to alleviate the country’s dependence on these natural resources. Qatar is an Islamic country, but other religions are respected, and Qatar’s cosmopolitan population supports many places of worship from Hindu temples to Christian churches. The attitude to dress in Qatar is quite relaxed, but visitors (men as well as women) should show respect for local culture and customs in public places by avoiding excessively revealing clothing in public places. Since 2013, the country has been governed by HH Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani. The State of Qatar has established many important strategies and objectives aimed at making it one of the most important cultural countries on both an international and local scale. It aims to do
so through its organization of cultural events such as festivals, seminars, lectures, evenings, art galleries, book fairs, workshops, comprehensive training for beginners and focusing on the promising younger generation and supporting it. The State promotes its interest in heritage by collecting and documenting folklore materials and establishing an archive for it, organizing and reviving national events and occasions, and supporting the people working in the field.

Qatar is enjoying a period of unparalleled prosperity with exceptional economic growth and increasing standards of living for its people. Major advances in the economy, human and social development continue to occur. However, with this wealth has come formidable challenges to the future quality of life. High rates of population growth, large increases in the ratio of expatriates to Qatari nationals in the labor force (including unskilled workers), rapid and unplanned urban development and environmental damage are all now impacting on quality of life. Rapid rises in disposable incomes have led to exponential growth in car ownership and with it, significant increases in road accidents and traffic congestion. The high rates of population growth and demand are increasingly straining Government resources to provide more schools, hospitals, other community facilities including parks and open spaces, and recreational and leisure activities.

The National Vision aims at transforming Qatar into an advanced country by 2030, capable of sustaining its own development and providing for a high standard of living for all of its people for generations to come. In light of QNV 2030, the Ministry of Municipality and Environment has adopted a national framework for urban development this framework is the spatial translation of the Qatar Vision 2030 and the National Development Strategy of the State. Through the full understanding of the State of Qatar and the challenges facing the country's integrated development, the national framework was prepared and drafted, including a comprehensive set of strategies, policies, guidelines, and policy actions, all to ensure a high standard of living for the Qatari community. Thus, (QNDF) becomes the roadmap to managing the growth and build a sustainable community, in order to ensure well-being of Qatari people and expats of the country. These plans and policies will guide urban development in Qatar over the next 20 years. After preparing the QNDF & conducting stakeholder's consultations, and institutional consultations, the Council of Ministers approved (QNDF) by decree No. (77) in April 2014 to adopt of the Qatar National Development Framework. His Highness the Emir of Qatar approved the Council of Ministers decree in December 2014.

Projects in the pipeline include building sport venues to host the 2022 FIFA World Cup™ event, investing massively in land transport infrastructure projects which will see the highways network expanded including the building of some new bridges and new tunnels, and develop the country's rail network to accommodate the growth and to provide a new sustainable and efficient way of getting both people and freight around the country.
THEME OF THE WORKSHOP
Urban Coastal Development and Ecological Sustainability of Al-Khor Mangrove Forests

The agenda of the 57th ISOCARP World Planning Congress is a call for unlocking planning for new times, better places, and stronger communities. Cities and nations worldwide have been grappling with appalling socio-economic inequalities, failing infrastructure, and the prospect of climate catastrophe for a long while. 2021 Young Planning Professionals’ Workshop contributes to this agenda with a programme to enable innovative ideas and strategies to achieve more sustainable territories and implement urban green deals.

Qatar is not isolated from the aspirations of the globe’s young-aged professionals. The UPD have witnessed the promising protests, inspired by Greta Thunberg, and many others, to save our planet. Much have been said on the expansion of industrialization as a source of global warming. In Doha, a city that witnessed fast pace of development, there is no doubt that urban development had negative imprints on its ecological sustainability, despite the tremendous efforts to plan with sound environmental assessment in place.

Qatar, notably a peninsula, considers its marine ecology as a major asset and strives to protect it. Historically, pearl harvesting – allowed by the low impacts of urbanization on coastal margins – brought immense wealth to its populace. The Qatari coastal margins are extremely wealthy in fauna and flora, of which many near-threatened, endangered and vulnerable species such as the Tiger-Sharks, Dugongs, and Loggerhead Turtles, to name a few. Unfortunately, The Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZMP), a study carried by the Urban Planning Department, have shown that Qatar’s myriad of mangroves, coral reefs, fauna and flora are endangered. 83,000 m2 of Mangrove forests are endangered in 5 locations in Qatar. Developments within the coastal zones are a major challenge: these locations are the most attractive to developers, but unfortunately, the most ecologically vulnerable as well. Dredging and land reclamation mostly affected the Avicennia Marina, a mangrove specie growing in many spots of Qatar, and greatly contributing to the sustainability of the marine biology of the Qatari coastal margins. Nowadays, it is recognized that the Qatari Avicennia Marina is endangered.

With this regard, YPP 2021 workshop focuses on the planning for the sustainability of Al-Khor Mangroves and the Ras_Al_Gurma Peninsula & Bay. The Parks and Open Space Plan 2032 ensures the comprehensive development of a wide variety of parks and open spaces in Al-Khor City. In line with the goal to make Al-Khor City the green and blue (i.e. Turquoise) City, the Parks and Open Space Plan Year 2032 reserves adequate land for the following variety of future parks. Despite having extensive coastal areas, there are few public beaches in the City. An eastern coastal park development would revitalize the eastern coast by attracting visitors to the waterfront with its attractive facilities. The idyllic setting of the beaches enhance the attractiveness of a proposed seaside resort, and could feature separate public beaches for males and females, families, and tourists.
mangrove parks, chalets, swimming pools, spa and wellness centers. Hotels, thematic water parks, and food and beverage facilities are also introduced.

Based on the Development Priority – Create a Vibrant Tourism Destination of the Development Phase 2 (Year 2013–2017), the development of the East Coast Park (estimated length of coast 4 km and width of the coastal park 200 m) includes the development of park facilities such as bicycle/ jogging track, public parking, public toilet and landscaping of the park. 2 ha and 3.5 ha sites are proposed for new waterfront hotel developments in the East Coast Park. Land preparation would include the construction of new roads, utilities, and soil preparation.

Al-Khor city, northern of Qatar, is endowed with a wealth of mangrove forests. Unfortunately, the aforementioned study (ICZMP) observed that mangroves are witnessing Seaward Migration. If this persists, mangrove forests will largely decline in area, and might become eventually extinct. The Urban Planning Department carried in 2007 a study to set developments frameworks for Al-Khor City. This lead to the issuance of Al-Khor City Master Plan 2032, endorsed in 2008, and currently being updated.
In the Master Plan, the case study area was nominated as Waterfront Park and zoned for passive recreation. In Al-Khor, some dredging and land reclamation has taken place around the area, and a large number of planning applications for resorts and other uses were filed. None of these two parks had a chance for a Detailed Urban Design Plan. The participants are expected to develop Urban Planning (Land use and Zoning) and Urban Design Plans and Guidelines with a flexibility to advise plans and regulations either for the surrounding, the park itself or a part of the designated area (within borders set by the UPD). The participants will have the choice to propose activities, design features, and guidelines; however, the proposal will be bound by the directives of the zoning plan and guidelines endorsed for Al-Khor. The participants shall observe planning for the following: Botanical gardens, arboreums and conservatories, cultural facilities, such as museums and observatories, outdoor recreational facilities, such as hiking and bicycle trails, greens and commons, sitting areas and picnic areas, and commercial facilities incidental to the operation of public recreational uses, such as refreshment stands, small concessionaire shops dispensing sporting goods, etc.

It is understood that the participants will be multidisciplinary, including architects, urban designers and landscape architects. The team will be required to offer conceptual designs for: An observation tower; a board walk; and a water-taxi facility (including a deck). A list of optional deliverables may include: Proposals for urban furniture; Proposals for public art; and proposals for environmentally-friendly material.
REQUIRED TASKS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Each coordinator will spend 4 full days working with the YPP group between 3-7 November. Within these dates, there may be a necessity of conducting meetings with local hosts and press. It is intended that the workshop will gather 10 International YPPs (together with nearly 10 Qatari young planners), who are not older than 35 years and who offer a keen interest in the workshop and upcoming congress theme. The selected ISOCARP experts will have a chance to work with 3 local coordinators from the Ministry of Municipality and Environment.

The required tasks of the workshop coordinators are as follows:

- assistance in selecting the international YPPs taking part in the workshop
- coordination of the framework, the scientific and professional content of the workshop theme in collaboration with the local coordinator(s)
- guidance on the work of the YPPs throughout the workshop, stimulate discussions, instruct on the presentation format
- guidance on the preliminary presentation to interested parties and final presentation to congress audience during the congress
- coordination of the YPP exhibition conducted during the congress
- coordination of the publication of the workshop results in collaboration with the ISOCARP Director YPP Programme

The workshop results will be presented during the 57th ISOCARP World Planning Congress (November 8-11, 2021). The presentation will take place during one of the congress plenaries (date to be announced soon). After the Young Planning Professionals’ Workshop, all YPPs have to participate in the congress. Therefore, all participants should arrive on 3 November in the early afternoon at the latest and depart not earlier than 13 November in the morning – after the congress concludes. It is expected that the workshop will be concluded with:

- preliminary presentation to local officials and other interested parties (if necessary)
- final presentation to congress audience, conducted during the congress
- programme exhibition conducted during the congress
- final publication ‘BUZZ ©YPP’

CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENSES

Since this is an activity attached to our congress, there will be no honorarium for the YPP Workshop coordinators. On the other hand, it was agreed that the congress fee would be waived for the workshop coordinators – as a reward for their work and involvement in the YPP programme, since the YPP workshop presentation constitutes an important part of the congress programme.
Qatar Ministry of Municipality and Environment will be in charge of arranging accommodation, boarding and local transportation for the entire duration of the workshop within the agreed dates. It will also arrange accommodation for the duration of congress (information on hotel will be announced soon). Transportation from airport to hotel and vice versa will be arranged by the coordinators themselves. ISOCARP will not be able to provide any assistance with respect to travel expenses. The selected workshop coordinators will be asked to arrange the international trip on their own and arrive in Doha not later than 2 November in the afternoon.

Coordinators are welcome to stay in Qatar longer than 12 November and to participate in other congress activities. However, their expenses for additional time spent in Qatar beyond the time required for the workshop and congress have to be borne by themselves.

Please discuss your travel plans in advance with Director YPP Zeynep Gunay and Federico Aili from the ISOCARP Head Office.

All selected coordinators have to take care of their own health and travel insurance.

ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION

The call for WORKSHOP COORDINATORS is open to ISOCARP Members only. Two workshop coordinators will be selected from among the applications. The selected ISOCARP Coordinators will have a chance to work with 3 local coordinators. ISOCARP welcomes applications from full members with proven expertise in urban design and planning and with academic experience and/or teaching experience in similar professional programmes, with no outstanding membership fees. Colleagues with experience in urban design and planning, strategic planning, coastal development, ecological sustainability, climate change, green deals are especially encouraged to apply. International experience is a plus but not a must. Also, the basic understanding and/or interest in the Middle East will be treated as advantage.

It is intended to select one ‘senior’ and one ‘junior’ coordinator, which should allow both, the provision of professional expertise and good abilities to work with the group of YPPs. For the ‘senior’ coordinator, members with extensive planning and/or educational practice are especially encouraged to apply. For the ‘junior’ coordinator, former YPPs with further professional and/or educational experience are especially welcome to apply, although applications from members not being part of previous YPP workshops are also welcome. The most effective composition of the team will be taken into account for the final selection.

Candidates complying with the above criteria have to submit the Online Application Form compiling the set of documents below:
- Clear statement of intent explaining why you want to apply and for which position (meaning – ‘junior’ or ‘senior’ coordinator). Please be specific and refer to prior workshop coordination or participation experience (maximum 1 page)
- Curriculum Vitae pointing out the relevant experience (please use the ISOCARP Template)
- A portrait photograph (5x5 cm, in 300 dpi)
- A clear scan of your passport (photo page)
- All applicants are also encouraged to submit paper proposals for the 57th ISOCARP World Planning Congress – please see the Congress Website.

Please upload the documents as follows:
Family Name_Statement / Family Name_CV / Family Name_Photo / Family Name_Passport

**CALENDAR**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Issue of Call</td>
<td>15 July 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline - Reception of applications (Coordinators)</td>
<td>10 August 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication of selection results (Coordinators)</td>
<td>15 August 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline - Reception of applications (Participants)</td>
<td>15 August 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication of selection results (Participants)</td>
<td>20 August 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation by selected candidates (Participants)</td>
<td>25 August 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congress registration (with waived fee)</td>
<td>31 August 2021 at the latest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission of travel itinaries</td>
<td>1 October 2021 at the latest</td>
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<td>Flight reservation, flight schedule, copy of e-ticket</td>
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<td>Arrival to Doha</td>
<td>2 November 2021</td>
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<td>Departure</td>
<td>12 November 2021</td>
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**SELECTION**

An evaluation and final selection of candidates will be done by a Selection Committee formed by Zeynep Gunay, ISOCARP Director YPP and local organisation committee. Selected candidates will be informed of their selection, after which they will have to confirm their availability and participation to the ISOCARP Head Office. The selected candidates will be expected to register to the congress until 31 August (the waived fee registration procedures will be sent). Additional benefits include the entrance to the congress (lunches, dinners and accommodation included), free local public transport for the field trips, receipt of the congress portfolio (see registration Congress) and attendance to Congress Events including Congress Dinner and other social events. Travel
procedures (including visa if applicable) will start immediately after the selection process has been completed.

The Local Organising Committee has agreed to give all cooperation in facilitating Letters of Invitation and contacts with the Qatar Embassies in those countries that require a visa entrance for Qatar. The necessary info can be found in Congress Website.

The health and safety of 57th World Planning Congress (WPC) attendees, partners, and staff is the top priority of ISOCARP and Local Host - Ministry of Municipality and Environment in Doha, Qatar. ISOCARP and the Ministry are working hard to ensure a safe in-person World Planning Congress. The most up-to-date guidelines and recommendations by local health authorities will be observed and implemented at all times, and information will be updated on a regular basis. Please check out the Congress Website for Covid-19 updates.
ANNEX
PROVISIONAL TIMELINE FOR WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Day 1
November 3, Wednesday

Arrival and Official Welcome + Welcome Reception

Day 2
November 4, Friday

Introduction to workshop, short introductory lecture(s) by local and invited international experts (in the afternoon)

Site visit (by bus and/or on foot) allowing the participants to understand the character and issues associated with the selected site

Day 3
November 5, Saturday

Studio work in teams – defining the problem solutions at the macro scale and developing strategies and key projects of intervention

Group presentations and discussions

Day 4
November 6, Sunday

Studio work in teams – refinement of the proposed solutions, defining the specific proposals and implementation methods, while exploring different means of visual representation and presentations

Group presentations and discussions

Day 5
November 7, Sunday

Studio work in teams – refinement of the proposed solutions, defining the specific proposals and implementation methods, while exploring different means of visual representation and presentations

Final preparations for public presentation and rehearsal

November 8-11, Monday - Friday

57th ISOCARP World Planning Congress: “Planning Unlocked”

Presentation of workshop results during one of the congress plenaries (date to be announced soon)
QUESTIONS

Any questions during these procedures should be sent to the ISOCARP Secretariat, represented by Jonas Le Thierry (before August) and Federico Aili (after August):

Email: lethierry@isocarp.org (Jonas Le Thierry)
Email: aili@isocarp.org (Federico Aili)
Tel: +31 (70) 346 2654
Website: www.isocarp.org

Any questions regarding the topic, on-site logistics and travel arrangement should be sent to Director YPP, Zeynep Gunay: gunay@isocarp.org.

ISOCARP – AIU – IGSRP
Knowledge for Better Cities
International Society of City and Regional Planners
Waldorpstraat 17
2521 CA The Hague, The Netherlands
Phone: +31 (70) 346 2654
www.isocarp.org