



7th International Conference on
Urban and Regional Planning

URBAN ECOLOGY, SUSTAINABLE PLANNING AND INCLUSIVITY ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

26th - 27th April 2024

The background of the cover features a watercolor-style illustration of a city skyline with various skyscrapers in shades of blue, purple, and brown. A large, stylized globe is positioned on the right side, with green landmasses and blue oceans. The overall aesthetic is artistic and modern.

ABSTRACT BOOK



26th - 27th APRIL 2024

Department of Architecture and Planning
NED University
City Campus

**CONFERENCE THEME DESIGN BY HANSAKA WIJESINGHE (BATCH AR-2020)
LAYOUT AND EDITING BY FARIHA TAHSEEN AND SAFIA ASIF**

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



Dr. Sarosh Hashmat Lodi,
Vice Chancellor
NED University,
Karachi

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MESSAGE BY VICE CHANCELLOR

It is my pleasure to share the note on the 7th international conference CURP with the theme of “Urban Ecology, Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity; Issues and Challenges” at City Campus, Department of Architecture and Planning, NED University. The theme is very relevant and pertinent to current challenges related to Urban Ecology faced by the whole world.

Let me apprise that that NED University of Engineering and Technology has an impressive track record of innovative approaches in the domain of education, research and development for the betterment of the nation. The academic conferences organized by the university are also important initiatives towards fostering innovation through sharing of research Conferences. The department of Architecture and Planning has more than a decade long legacy of organizing scientific conference on relevant themes. These intellectual initiatives help cities and communities to benefit from worthwhile knowledge and ideas, leading them to prosper and nurture. In this constantly changing world the need of such knowledgeable discourse is pivotal for promote research and scholarship of the highest quality and relevance.

I want to extend my warm welcome to all national and international scholars in this conference for their scholarly and academic contribution for the future endeavors. I believe that papers and discourses shall help broaden our understanding and enable the stakeholders find common ground to help solve chronic urban problems.

I wish you all a very useful experience in this conference.

With my best regards

Dr Sarosh Hashmat Lodi
Vice Chancellor

MESSAGE BY DEAN

I am happy to share my views on the 7th edition of the Conference on Urban and Regional Planning that is being organized by the Department of Architecture and Planning at NED University. As many of us may remember, the platform initially evolved as an annual seminar in 2004 that continued for about a decade. Thereafter the moot transformed into a full fledge conference, organized every year. The conference continued to provide this stimulating platform during the Covid 19 pandemic through an online mode. Every year, many fresh ideas and research works by eminent scholars and researchers were deliberated. The participants showed keen interest in each episode. It is particularly encouraging to see that CURP has attained substantial intellectual traction and attracts thinking minds and eloquent beings from across the globe.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the department, members of the organizing committee and students for making this moot a thumping success year after year.



Dr. Noman Ahmed,
Professor and Dean,
Faculty of Architecture and
Management Sciences
NED University
Karachi

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Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



Dr. Anila Naeem

*Professor &
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MESSAGE BY CHAIRPERSON

On behalf of the Department of Architecture and Planning, N.E.D University and the Organizing Committee of the 7th International Conference on Urban and Regional Planning (CURP 2024); I welcome the speakers, panelists and all attendees for the two-days conference program. This year the discussions will revolve around the theme 'Urban Ecology, Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity: Issues and Challenges'; addressing the growing concerns of livability and wellbeing among city dwellers due to a lacking balance with nature and its resources, disregard to social cohesion and equity, and an overall absence of empathy for the voiceless living-beings in the built environment. The selected range of papers will steer discussions that emphasize a need for rethinking our approaches while planning and developing our cities.

In response to the conference's call for papers; 17 abstracts were received, of which 10 were shortlisted for inviting full papers, and after the peer review process 8 papers are included in the conference program. In addition, the keynote and invited papers, as well as deliberations from our esteemed panelists, offers a two-day program filled with valuable thought-provoking content throughout the conference.

The CURP 2024 organizing team, looks forward to welcome our learned speakers, esteemed panelists and all our honorable guests, at NED University City Campus; encouraging an enthusiastic participation contributing to the discussions.

MESSAGE BY CONVENOR

This is definitely a great opportunity to convene the 7th international conference on the theme of “Urban Ecology, Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity; Issues and Challenges”. In this era of rapid and swift urbanization, the implications on environment demands a sustainable and resilient city, with ecological diversity as well. The overwhelming growth of built spaces especially high-rise construction with bare minimum link to land ecology has impacted human beings and nature adversely. The concept and phenomena of Urban Ecology is immensely relevant and crucial for the world we live in today, as the radical changes in environment and climatic conditions at micro as well as macro level are evident everywhere. This has adversely impacted the life on earth in many ways and enhanced the need of interconnectedness.

In this conference, the paper presenters and invited speakers will have deliberation on various sub themes of Urban Ecology, including local ideas of nature base solution to technological response for energy, from Urban informality for social inclusion to barriers to socially sustainable neighborhood and so on.

At this platform I want to extend my gratitude to our Keynote presenter Architect Tariq Alexander Qaiser for taking out time and addressing the audience – I would like to thank Mr. Saeed Ghani our chief guest for gracing the occasion and sharing his thoughts. I would specially thank the Vice Chancellor NEDUET Prof. Dr. Sarosh Hashmat Lodi who is always encouraging and supportive of these kinds of academic endeavors.



Ar. Rabiya Asim,
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Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity

CONFERENCE TEAM

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CO-CONVENOR: AR. SAFIA ASIF
AR. SARA SARMAD

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Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity

CONFERENCE BACKGROUND

The Department of Architecture and Planning, NED University has organized eleven seminars on urban and regional planning successively from 2004 to 2016. This series of seminar has been able to provide a platform to architects, planners, academia, industry and researchers to share their scholarly research on emerging issues, evolving concepts and new body of knowledge in the field of urban and regional planning. These seminars focused on broad issues of education, practice, learning from experiences; planning and managing urban change; planning in a globalizing world; interface of planning with the market economy; urbanization and secondary cities; dynamics of land in planning; housing for all; planning for people; and planning and institutional arrangements. Research scholars and experts from various countries presented their papers, which were later on published as eight separate volumes of seminar proceedings - distributed free of cost to the concerned individuals, institutions and academic links.

Since year 2017, the scope of this Seminar was extended to International Conference. This enhancement in scale of seminar has proven to be a stimulating junction for scholarly debates, discussions, networking and partnerships for future research activities. Till date the department of Architecture and planning has hosted three International Conferences of Urban and Regional Planning (CURP) for the following themes.

- 1st CURP- Urban Resilience and Adaptation
- 2nd CURP- Cities Beyond City
- 3rd CURP- Innovation in Planning and Practice
- 4th CURP- Retaining City Histories: An Approach to Integrated Planning
- 5th CURP- Perspectives on Pandemic: Impact on Urban Pedagogies, Research & Practice
- 6th CURP - Cities and the Poor

A sizable number of International and national experts deliberated at length on key matters related to above stated themes. Few selected papers from the conference were published in peer reviewed biannual research journal of Department of Architecture and Planning 'Journal of Research in Architecture and Planning'. Links to the journal can be found on the department's web-page, i.e. https://jrap.neduet.edu.pk/online_submission.html

CONFERENCE THEME

Cities and towns are expanding with exponential population growth for many economic, social, political and strategic reasons. Currently half of the population of planet lives in cities, which will increase to 60% or almost two third in 2030. The rapid urbanization and converting the green acres into concrete blocks are believed to bring economic growth, job opportunities and so on, likewise negatively impacting the natural environment and affecting physical and mental health too. The challenges of expanding pollution and climate change in an urban environment are also vital. Consequently, making many crucial components of a livable city ignored. The impacts of urbanisation, development and climate change on urban ecology and landscape are challenging and long term.

The domain of urban ecology broaches the equilibrium in natural and manmade intervention, it has now been considered as a multidisciplinary research field. It is primarily human – nature interface. Since, Urban Ecology has been largely overlooked in postindustrial cities, subsequently the agency of urban planners, geographers and architects in the developing countries are widely questioned. The objective of planning and design in the context of urban ecology needs deliberate effort, practice and implementation of guidelines and policies to inculcate awareness for its importance in sustainable city and communities. The integration of all the natural features, respecting presence of other species of nature in the planning process is extremely pivotal. The planning and design adjustments for larger objectives of urban ecology are also align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These design parameters and measures are vital for sustainable growth of any city or region. Cities often appear acting as a container; it must have biodiversity for the physical and mental wellbeing of its stakeholders, the citizens. This refers to the scientific field of urban ecology, as a paradigm, which ultimately redefinesthe scope of nature in urban setting. It also possesses many challenges and opportunities. Through the lens of urban ecology, the principles of planning and design are modified and updated for the better and more livable natural and manmade built spaces. It revolves around public policy, its implementation, the energy efficient built form, social inclusivity and many other domains of planning.

How the clear understanding of urban ecology will help us to think, plan, design and deliver more livable, sustainable and comprehensive cities. What are the challenges and opportunities for urban ecology, in global south. These and more questions shall be taken up in this moot.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

DAY 1 – 26th April 2024, Friday (02:00 pm onward)

INAUGURAL SESSION

02:30 Recitation from Holy Quran

02:45 Welcome Address by Prof. Dr. Anila Naeem, Chairperson DAP-NED University

03:10 Conference Keynote Address by Arch. Tariq Alexander Qaiser, Principal
Architect, TAQ Associates

03:30 Address by the Chief Guest Mr. Saeed Ghani, Honorable Minister of Local Government, Housing, Town Planning & Public Health Engineering, Government of Sindh, Karachi

03:45 Presiding Remarks by Prof. Dr. Sarosh Hashmat Lodi, Vice Chancellor, NED University

04:10 Closing Remarks by Prof. Dr. Noman Ahmed, Dean ASC, NED University

04:20 Vote of Thanks by Rabiya Asim, Convenor Conference

04:30 Hi Tea

DAY 2 – 27th April, Saturday (09:30 am onward) TECHNICAL SESSION-1: Cities and Urbanise Landscapes

09:30 Challenges and considerations of applying Nature-Based solutions for future megacities: Implications for Karachi as a Sponge City by Ar. Ayesha Agha Shah, PhD student, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka and Ar. Faseeha Waheed, Practicing Architect, Islamabad, Pakistan. (in-person)

09:50 Enhancing Urban Ecology: Crafting Indigenous Building Materials and Sustainable Pavilion Design for Inclusive Communities by Arch. Habib Ullah .Ph. D. Scholar, School of Architecture, Southeast University, China.

10:10 Unlocking Sustainable Architecture Potential: Energy Simulation of Building Integrated Photovoltaics by Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ansari, PhD Student University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli, Italy. (in-person)

10:30 Panel Discussion and Question-Answers sessions

11:00 Souvenir Distribution, Group Photo and Tea Break

TECHNICAL SESSION-2 : Urban Ecology and Planning

11:30 Sponsor's presentation

11:45 Infinite injustice: Complex governance of urban informality for social inclusion by Dr. Abid Mahmood, Senior Lecturer, School of Geography and Planning, Cardiff University, UK and Dr Nancy Hou, The Bartlett School of Planning, University College London, UK. (online/ recorded)

12:10 Invited Speaker: Dr. Hamzo Khan Tagar (in-person)

12:30 Urban Regeneration and Public Space: Intervention of Community-Based Micro Planning in a Developing Country by Dr. Lim Seng Boon, Senior Lecturer, Department of Town and Regional Planning, UiTM, Malaysia. (online)

12:50 Panel Discussion and Question-Answer Session

01:20 Souvenir Distribution and Group Photo

01:30 Lunch Break

TECHNICAL SESSION-3 : Inclusive and Socially Equitable Communities

02:30 Barriers to Socially Sustainable Residential Neighborhoods Planning Practice of a Growing City by Ar. Hina Marvi, Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture and Planning, Shaheed Allah Buksh Soomro University of Art, Design and Heritages, Jamshoro, Pakistan. (in-person)

02:50 Living Alone in the City: Exploring the Complexities of Single Young Adults by Ar. Asma Siddika, Assistant Professor, Architecture Department, Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST), Dhaka and PhD student in Architecture and Design at RMIT University, Australia. (online/ recorded)

03:10 Urban Densification of Informal Settlement by Ar. Afshan Jamshed, Assistant Professor Department of Architecture & Environmental Design, Sir Syed University of Engineering & Technology, Karachi, Pakistan. (in-person)

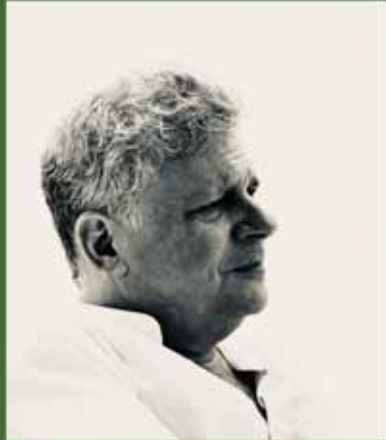
03:30 Panel Discussion and Question-Answers sessions

04:00 Conference Concluding Remarks by Dr. Rabela Junejo

04:10 Souvenir Distribution and Group Photo

04:20 Tea Break

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



Tariq Alexander Qaiser
Principal Architect
TAQ ASSOCIATES
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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

'Tariq Alexander Qaiser is a multi-faceted individual, working as an architect, environmentalist, filmmaker, writer, and lover of nature. With 37 years of experience in architecture, Tariq specializes in designing schools and hospitals. He also served as visiting faculty at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston for eight years and has been a sought-after international and national lecturer. Tariq is the author of two bilingual books and has showcased his environmental films, photographs, and paintings in 11 group and solo gallery exhibitions. Notably, Time Magazine featured an 8-page spread on Tariq in their July 2022 Oceans Issue, highlighting his efforts to preserve Karachi's island mangroves. He made a significant appearance at COP27 in Sharm al Sheikh, Egypt, presenting his film 'A STORY OF SURVIVAL.' Currently, Tariq is actively engaged in film production and working on a set of four books about the Indus Delta, all while managing his architectural practice.'

ABSTRACT

The talk is about:

Noor-E-Aas , how does one rekindle, relight hope in all of us?

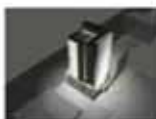
What does it take to reenergise the effort to fix , improve the state of our cities and urban centres.

How does one inspire the coming generations and ourselves to keep up the effort to clean up and re organise our local footprint in our city and the surrounding ecosystems?



OFFICE BUILDING
SHIBWAJI TADAL, KARACHI
JUNE 2012

UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity

SPEAKER



Dr. Abid Mehmood,
Senior Lecturer in
International Planning and
Sustainability,
School of Geography and
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University of Cardiff, UK

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Dr. Abid's broader expertise is in social innovation for sustainable development and environmental governance. He has research experience in climate change, renewable energy transitions, disaster resilience and social cohesion for local and regional development planning, policy and practice.

Executive Editor, *International Planning Studies*
Course Director, *International Planning and Development (MSc)*
Member of the Centre for Innovation Policy Research at sbarc | spark
Leader of the Cities and sustainable places team

He has participated in research and consultancy projects for a range of organisations including Royal Academy of Engineering, DEFRA, ESRC, EPSRC, HEFCW and the European Commission.

He has taught for courses to undergraduate and postgraduate students at Cardiff University and at a number of other Universities in the Americas, Asia and Europe. He has provided short courses at Universities in Europe (e.g. KU Leuven) and China (e.g. Beijing Normal University), delivered summer courses in Europe, and developed capacity building programmes and workshops as part of international research projects (e.g. SUSPLACE, SPRET and Res-House). He has also contributed to the international programme evaluations.

ABSTRACT

Infinite injustice: Bottom-linked governance of urban informality for social inclusion

Based on the premise that we are living in the age of ‘caring neoliberalism’ with an increasingly diminished role of nation-state especially in terms of its welfare function, this paper explores the concept of bottom-linked governance (Garcia et al., 2015). Primarily aimed at fostering social inclusion, a bottom-linking approach challenges the nanny-state notion of top-down policies versus the big-society discourses in bottom-up actions and help define a governance mechanism that helps bring together policy makers and citizens on a common platform for the wider benefit of the communities. As a dialogic approach, it is argued that bottom-linked governance can help cultivate cooperation between communities and institutions at different spatial scales and improve the links between the policy and practice (Moulaert et al. 2019).

However, the question remains as to what extent a bottom-linked governance would help the vulnerable groups and communities in a society. In this respect, we refer to the situation of urban informal settlements as a reflection of human habitat and physical environment mediated by tangible (urban form) and intangible (policy) features. Informal places offer an interesting case of communities that often face the dilemma of what we term as ‘infinite injustice’, a dichotomous situation characterized by the issues, challenges and vulnerabilities in attaining social, economic, environmental inclusivity, equity and sustainability. This view helps investigate the situation of informal settlements in different urban policy settings. From an analytical perspective, we wish to explore the role of the urban intermediary organisations. These intermediaries may exist with different configurations (public, quasi-public, private, non-governmental) with a primary role of mediating the community needs and delivering the planning projects whether from the top or from the grassroots (Hou 2024). In this respect, we refer to the cases of Taipei Housing and Urban Regeneration Centre (THURC), created by the Taipei City Government, and its role in the reproduction of informal settlements that has contributed to the housing market speculation and financial accumulations leading to the displacement of informal dwellers.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



***Ar. Habib Ullah,
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SPEAKER

Ar. Habib Ullah is a dynamic figure in the fields of architecture, academia, and research, leveraging his diverse expertise to advance the profession and contribute to sustainable architectural practices. With a decade of experience in architecture, he brings a wealth of knowledge and insights to his roles as an architect, educator, and PhD researcher.

Currently serving as a Lecturer at the University of Engineering and Technology (UET) Peshawar, Abbottabad Campus, Ar. Habib Ullah plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of architecture through his engagement with students in the final year undergraduate thesis design studio. His dedication to mentorship and hands-on guidance empowers students to explore innovative design concepts and realize their creative visions.

In addition to his teaching commitments, Ar. Habib Ullah is pursuing a PhD in Architectural Construction Design methods of Green prefabricated Buildings at Southeast University Nanjing, China. His research focuses on advancing sustainable construction techniques and exploring the potential of prefabricated structures to minimize environmental impact and enhance energy efficiency in architectural design.

ABSTRACT

Enhancing Urban Ecology: Crafting Indigenous Building Materials and Sustainable Pavilion Design for Inclusive Communities

This research delves into the intricate fusion of urban ecology, indigenous building materials, and sustainable pavilion design, encapsulated by the title "Enhancing Urban Ecology: Crafting Indigenous Building Materials and Sustainable Pavilion Design for Inclusive Communities." It focuses on bamboo, hailed as the 'green steel' of the 21st century, for its rapid growth, structural stability, and wide availability within the construction industry. Utilizing indigenous materials and sustainable design practices, the study aims to nurture inclusive communities within urban landscapes.

The research methodology involves a meticulous exploration of indigenous materials and construction techniques, including joinery methods, bending, cutting, and splitting of bamboo. Two architectural schools in Pakistan, located in Abbottabad and Karachi, served as practical sites for implementation. Undergraduate students in their second year of architecture were tasked with designing pavilions spanning 100 square feet, emphasizing contextual sensitivity, innovation, and functionality. Site selection under tree shadows emerged as a stimulating aspect, inspiring creative conceptualization and execution. Each student's design and model underwent individual assessment and execution.

The conclusion underscores the critical importance of sustainable indigenous building materials and the integration of ecological considerations and inclusivity into architectural endeavors. This research significantly contributes to the enhancement of urban ecology by advocating for the use of sustainable materials and fostering community engagement and accessibility within architectural design, particularly in South Asian countries. Furthermore, the design execution serves as a blueprint for the revival of indigenous materials and techniques, providing a pathway towards zero-carbon emission shelters and setting a benchmark for future sustainable architectural practices.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity

SPEAKER



Muhammad Azhar Ansari

PhD Scholar

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A PhD student at the Department of Architecture and Industrial Design, University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli in Italy and a Visiting Research Scholar at the University of California, Santa Barbara, USA. Main research focus is on Building Integrated Photovoltaics for sustainable and energy-efficient architecture design. Completed M.Phil. in 2018 from the University of Karachi, Pakistan.

ABSTRACT

Unlocking Sustainable Architecture Potential: Energy Simulation of Building Integrated Photovoltaics

As global climate change intensifies, a pivotal shift towards renewable energy sources becomes imperative. Given its adaptability and efficacy, solar cell technology stands out as a frontrunner in the quest to combat environmental degradation. With the vast expanse of buildings occupying significant portions of the urban landscape, integrating photovoltaics into building design is a timely necessity. Before embarking on tangible installations, conducting an energy simulation proves invaluable in gauging a building's energy requirements, ensuring cost and time efficiency. This paper delves into the advanced materials employed in solar cell technology and undertakes an energy simulation for a photovoltaic module. Building-Integrated Photovoltaics is not just an innovative leap in harnessing solar energy but also symbolizes the synergy between architectural design and energy production. By fine-tuning system operations and comprehending external factors, Building-Integrated Photovoltaics points to a future where energy solutions are both sustainable and tailored to a wide range of applications.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



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SPEAKER

An Architect, Educator and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy UK, Ayesha Agha Shah is dedicated to studio learning and reflective practice. She has a Master's in Historic Building Conservation, from the University of Portsmouth, UK and Bachelors from Karachi University. She is currently pursuing her PhD from the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka. Her areas of research interest and publication include Studio learning environment, Cultural heritage and Conservation of historic buildings. She has worked in heritage buildings documentation and recording projects with the Portsmouth City Council, UK, Bahrain Authority of Culture and Antiquities, Bahrain and Ministry of Sind, Pakistan.

Ayesha Agha has been teaching at the Department of Architecture and Interior Design, University of Bahrain since 2012. She is a member of Department Accreditation Committee and contributed in the development of national and international accreditation process and quality framework. Due to her passionate interest in the field of cultural heritage and sustainability, she has published many research articles and presented various research papers in international conferences.

ABSTRACT

Challenges and considerations of applying Nature-Based solutions for future megacities: Implications for Karachi as a Sponge City

Research confirms that rapid urbanization contributes to significant development issues, including higher vulnerability to risks of flooding and loss of green spaces in megacities. The excessive impervious surface areas due to development, resulting in accumulated storm water runoff, further demanding runoff mitigation and urban greening to become an important part of urban planning discourse.

This study paper focuses primarily on the distinct difficulties encountered by Karachi, the most populous city in Pakistan, in relation to climate change and urbanization. The study highlights particular concerns, such as extreme weather occurrences and flooding, that are widespread in Karachi as a result of rapid urbanization, which has caused the depletion of natural areas and a rise in impermeable surfaces.

To address these difficulties, the project investigates the capacity of nature-based solutions (NBS), with a specific focus on the Sponge City concept. Nature-based solutions (NBS) utilize natural processes to effectively control storm water and improve the ability of urban areas to withstand and recover from the impacts of climate change, thereby reducing its negative consequences. The study examines the feasibility of implementing the Sponge City method in Karachi, drawing inspiration from successful implementations in other megacities, particularly in China and Saudi Arabia.

The results indicate that adopting the Sponge City idea can provide practical remedies for Karachi's climate-related difficulties. The research emphasizes the significance of incorporating Nature-Based Solutions (NBS), such as green infrastructure and water management measures, into urban planning and design. Moreover, it underscores the need for a holistic structure that encompasses cooperation among many parties, formulation of policies, and increasing consciousness to guarantee the effective execution of nature-based solutions in the process of converting Karachi into a resilient and sustainable metropolis.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



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SPEAKER

Dr Lim Seng Boon is a senior lecturer at the Program of Urban and Regional Planning, College of Built Environment, Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), Perak Branch, Malaysia. His research interests include #sustainable smart city development and planning with a focus on #participatory governance and #citizen roles issues, safe and resilient city, sustainable-smart-healthy city, rural and regional planning, housing planning, planning law, project management, and mixed research methodology. He is a #SmartCity expert in developing the national sustainable smart cities and communities standards under the official appointments from PlanMalaysia and Standards Malaysia. He has published two research books and over 25 articles in WoS/Scopus indexed journals, has been involved in more than five research grants and consultation projects, and has been invited more than 30 times to share knowledge on smart city development and research methodology topics.

His full CV can be downloaded from the link below:
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/358425090_CV_Dr_Lim_Seng_Boon

ABSTRACT

Urban Regeneration and Public Space: Intervention of Community-Based Micro Planning in a Developing Country

Urban regeneration is frequently adopted to revitalise and add value to public spaces and quality of life. However, evidence documenting the revitalisation project through the intervention of community-based micro planning is scarce in developing countries. Therefore, this research aims to evaluate the intervention in community gardening or urban farming initiatives under the urban regeneration initiative of Special Area Action Plan (SAAP) Section 13, Petaling Jaya City, Malaysia. This single case study is investigated through the mixed method approach. For the quantitative approach, 200 samples were collected through questionnaires and analysed through descriptive statistics. For the qualitative approach, eight interviews were conducted and analysed through thematic analysis. The findings show respondents agreed with the proposal of community gardening at the Sungai Penchala monsoon drain area, emphasising awareness and safety concerns. In revitalising the left-over urban public spaces, local authorities are recommended to plan more awareness intervention campaigns, enhance safety infrastructure designs, and appoint caretakers to realise and sustain the regeneration projects for the public interest. This study contributed important evidence in auditing the development plans' urban regeneration intervention initiatives, particularly in the 4th-tier-community-based micro planning in developing countries.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity

SPEAKER



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Architect Afshan Jamshed is currently an assistant Professor at the Department of Architecture and Environmental Design, Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology, Karachi.

She graduated from Karachi University with a BSc (Hons) in Physics, ranking second, and from Dawood Engineering College, a NED-UET affiliated college in Karachi, with a bachelor's degree in architecture in 1990. In 2016, Ar. Afshan earned her Post-Graduation Diploma (PGD) in Environmental Design. She then went on to Allama Iqbal Open University (AIOU) to pursue her MS/MPhil in Environmental Design in 2022. Ar. Afshan has been rendering her services in many Architectural Schools within Karachi including NED University, Karachi University and Dawood University since 2003.

In addition, she had the honor of founding the Department of Architecture and Environmental Design.

ABSTRACT

Urban Densification Of Informal Settlement In Gulshan -Ee-Iqbal, Karachi, Pakistan: An Analysis On Impact On Built Environment In Zia -Ul Haq Colony.

The issue of rapid densification and the proliferation of informal settlements in Karachi Division underscores the critical need for sustainable planning and inclusive urban development strategies. The surge in urban density, as evidenced by the jump from 2607 to 4246 density/km² over 19 years (census 1998-2017), has led to the formation of new illegal settlements and exacerbated the overpopulation of existing ones. The resulting challenges and issues are manifold, encompassing the affordability of housing, proximity to workplaces, and the availability of basic services and commute facilities.

This study delves into the specific case of Zia Colony in Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi, to comprehensively investigate the impacts of densification on both the physical and spatial environment and the quality of life in this informal settlement. The research employs a blend of qualitative and quantitative methods to gather reliable evidence, exploring aspects such as the built environment, building materials and techniques, and their overall impact on spaces.

This study recognizes that each settlement has its own unique characteristics, and that inclusivity should be the primary factor in recognizing the diverse needs of the populace and working toward solutions that address those needs. Tailor-made solutions should be offered as sustainable solutions for intervention and upgradation that not only improve the community's resilience over the long run but also contribute to its long-term resilience. This study seeks to contribute valuable insights that can inform future endeavors, emphasizing the Importance of inclusive, sustainable planning to address the multifaceted challenges associated with informal settlements.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



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SPEAKER

Asma Siddika is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Architecture at Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology, Dhaka, Bangladesh. She has taught theories and supervised design research on Housing and Settlement at undergraduate and postgraduate levels since 2015. She earned her B. Arch and M.Arch degrees from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), respectively, in 2014 and 2019. Asma's academic focus revolves around the dynamics of human settlement, delving into the intricate connections between the built environment, health, and overall well-being. Throughout her career, Asma has actively contributed to scholarly discussions, showcasing her expertise through multiple publications of journal articles. Her commitment to research has been recognized with multiple research grants from her workplace. She is a full member of the Bangladesh Institute of Architects (IAB). Now, she is dedicated to pursuing a PhD in Architecture and Design at RMIT University, Australia.

ABSTRACT

Living Alone in the City: Exploring the Complexities of Single Young Adults".

This study investigates the multifaceted experiences of single young adults navigating the challenges of urban living. In a rapidly urbanized world, this phenomenon is common where city amenities attract people from outside. This study specifically focuses on the 18-34 years young adults, students, or migrant workers who live in a city alone out of family. People in this group are transitioning from youth to adulthood, representing a formative stage in their life cycle and demographic stratification at the societal level. These single young people come to the city to fulfill their vision of earning knowledge with higher education and an excellent job when most of them are economically full or partially supported by their parents or family. In Dhaka, often city life offers them multiple difficulties and their dreams turn into nightmares while experiencing the harsh reality of the city like a dark hole. Like other developing countries, the formal housing market in Dhaka is generally unresponsive to addressing these single people's housing needs due to their independent lifestyles. As young people in Dhaka are excluded from any direct state welfare support while a few government hostels provide their accommodation, most of them live in the formal and informal rental housing sector through diversified sharing forms. There exist two basic forms of shared accommodation in the private rental housing sector i.e. shared flats (known as mess houses) and private hostels. In both cases, single-family residences are repurposed to dwellings for multiple single adult households on a shared basis with or without internal modifications. These rental accommodations sometimes provide a poor living environment and become tougher with social and political difficulties due to the consequence of social misperceptions about single living. This abstract examines the complexities of single adulthood in the city, shedding light on issues such as spatial dimensions, social isolation, housing instability, and the quest for meaningful connections.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



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Hina is a postgraduate Architect and planner working as Assistant Professor in Department of Architecture and Planning of Shaheed Allah Buksh Soomro University of Art, Design and Heritages, Jamshoro. Her aim is provide solutions to problems as well as plan for the future that enhance my intellect and professional skills so as to improve the quality and competence and wanted to become an asset of the Institute/organization where she works. While keeping an eye on the past she wants to provide exemplary service whenever she has been assigned any task regarding her field. Research and academics are her passion. As an Architect her Vision describes how the new capability will meet the business goals and strategic objectives and address the stakeholder concerns when implemented.

ABSTRACT

Barriers to Socially Sustainable Residential Neighborhoods Planning Practice of a Growing City - A Case Study of Qasimabad Taluka Hyderabad

Geographically and historically, the Hyderabad city has long been a draw for immigrants coming from other multiple settlement, respectively. The city's neighbourhood has, however, been subjected to hinged ribbon development during the past few years, this problem is visible along with the key Qasimabad Taluka, thoroughfares. This phenomenon keeps on going without considering any basic regard for making the city more habitable, interactions between various societal groupings, and their level of social ties. Unnecessary city fragmentation is a growing issue that has adverse effects on urban tissue in many different ways. Rapid urbanisation in a city may produce extreme characteristics and a severe lack of facilities, driving it swiftly toward unsustainable scenarios. Hence, this study focuses on the attributes of socially sustainable residential neighbourhood conditions as it is important to consider all possible choices for connecting the neighbourhood. The primary goal of this research is to define the underlying attributes of Socially Sustainable residential neighbourhood that may have a direct impact on social sustainability, as well as the indicators of sustainable neighbourhoods, based on the aforementioned claims of the literature review. To formulate a relevant supplement and support sustainable neighbourhood planning, nine impediments to the development of sustainable neighbourhoods have been identified through thorough literature research. By using quota sampling method, structured interviews have been conducted with the inhabitants of selected study areas, to investigate the barriers to socially Sustainable residential neighbourhood. The study found the sense of community, accessibility, safety and security, green spaces and aesthetic appeal as attributes to that contribute in social sustainability and resident satisfaction.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity



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Dr. Hamzo Khan Tagar completed Post-Doctorate recently from European Scientific Institute ESI-Spain and Ph.D. in Economics from University of Karachi in February 2011. He is serving in Education Department for the last -03 decades in different capacities as lecturer, Assistant Professor and Associate Professor of Economics, Deputy Director Planning and Development and Senior Program Manager (Development) at the World Bank funded (Sindh Education Sector Reform Program); and presently placed as Director Public Private Partnership-Node, Education and Literacy Department Government of Sindh Karachi, Pakistan. His 34 research papers published in journals of international repute mostly focused on Growth, Development, Public Policy MDGs, SDGs and Agriculture Economics.

His understanding on the public policy issues would definitely help in preparing effective and realistic policies and their implementation. The learnt theoretical as well as empirical concepts and the research done within the same would help him significantly in analyzing the problems in the field, besides enabling him to make right decisions at the right time. His service-oriented approach towards the people would again be benefitting for the prestigious organizations.

ABSTRACT

System Thinking On Urban Sustainability, Resilience, and Liveability in two Metropolitan Cities of Pakistan (Karachi & Lahore: Perspective)

The multi-dimensional issues that today's cities experience are in organized complexity and deeply interconnected. The major challenges of urban centers that are observed require robust research work on systems thinking and how it plays a greater role in urban sustainability, urban resilience, and liveability in the context of two major cities in Pakistan i.e., Karachi and Lahore. These urban centers witness acute population density which paves the way for issues related to health, hygiene, literacy, and employment at large. Inefficiency in utilizing resources in a balanced manner, weak local governance system, inadequate stakeholder participation in the institutional reforms as well as insufficient water management are core issues of our cities. Micro-level urban problems range from poor waste disposal, and human activities leading to environmental degradation threatening our biodiversity to unsafe buildings and deteriorating infrastructure. According to stats, nearly 67.22% of the population will inhabit cities by 2050, given that the world's urban population has increased ten-fold in the last 40 years. This research study is focused on examining the status of urban sustainability in Karachi and Lahore by analyzing the above-discussed urban issues. The study employs a cross-sectional field survey method to assess urban sustainability, resilience, and liveability in the two cities with 234 collected samples. In the cross-sectional field survey method, relevant data is collected at one point in time by gathering information through a piloted questionnaire. The research combines both qualitative and quantitative methods since these two methods simultaneously help tackle the research problem under study. The findings are very useful for future planning on urban sustainability, resilience and livability in the best public interest.

Urban Ecology Sustainable Planning and Inclusivity

GLIMPSES

6th International Conference on Urban and Regional Planning

Cities, as complex human settlements are powerhouses of economic growth contributing about 60% of global GDP. As resource of social development, cultural milieu, political reforms and environmental inclusivity, cities evolve and grow. However, as a matter of fact, many account for vulnerability of unproportionate growth challenges and its several repercussions. The fact poses many questions as; Are cities capable of serving their residents and other category of beneficiaries proportionately to their growth? are urban cities meant to be socially, culturally, economically, politically, geographically, environmentally equitable and inclusive for all? Besides migration, what are other variables perpetuating urban stresses? We live in a rapidly urbanizing world. The urbanization creates opportunities but this rapid, however unplanned, increase and fluctuating economies are pressing the urban poor, policy makers, researches and professionals of nearly all domains to think for creating better opportunities for the urban poor. A conference with a theme 'Cities and the Poor' as 6th International Conference on Urban and Regional Planning, held on 18th 19th November by Department of Architecture and Planning NED University Karachi, aimed at inviting papers from different countries particularly South Asia to promote a comparative understanding of urban poverty, focusing on economic reforms, living conditions as well as various social, cultural and political integration in the urban environments.

The conference received participation from research scholars of 7 countries including Pakistan, United Kingdom, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bahrain, India and Canada. The chairperson of the department of Architecture and Planning Dr. Anila Naeem in her welcome address mentioned that the debates and discussions of technical sessions are focused on the issues of marginalized existence of the under-privileged masses, struggling for sustenance on a daily basis and hoped for the conference to tackle the situations for larger benefit of society. The Pro- Vice Chancellor Dr. Muhammad Tufail of the University emphasized on urban planning of old cities like Karachi as a complex issue and an integrated approach should be adopted by combining the engineering aspects and the social aspects of the masses. An interesting research study by Professor Dr Josephine Baell, Emiratis Professor and LSE Research Fellow reflected on reimagining 'the Public' in urban solid waste management in Pakistan in the cities of Faisalabad and Karachi. Her research explored innovations in Pakistan and the potential for the micro-privatizations of primary collection services and waste recovery and reuse to contribute to a new imaginary of the public.

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