



Better Professionals! Better Cities!

People, Human Settlements, Built Environments, Sustainability,
Networks



UN Habitat
The Habitat Professionals Forum for Sustainable Cities

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People, human settlements, built environments, sustainability, networks

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A collective work of the Habitat Professionals Forum

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Paris, July 2012

Acknowledgements

This book is the illustration of a patient collective work conducted by voluntary professionals representing the member organisations of the Habitat Professionals Forum in the last 18 months. It is not an encyclopaedia of all urban settlements areas of practice. It does not pretend to be exhaustive.

Better Professionals! Better Cities! stands as a contribution to the Habitat Agenda, a piece of the puzzle on the way to the Habitat III Summit. It is a work based upon the Forum's Charter which has been discussed during WUF V in Rio in March 2010, a work based upon a collective analysis and understanding of contemporary urban development trends and challenges, often contradictory and complex.

I wish to address my sincere thanks to Louise Cox, Chair of the Habitat Professionals Forum, for her confidence and constant will to carry on, building on the achievements of Derek Martin, General Secretary of IFHP and former Chair of the Forum.

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Nicolas Buchoud
Renaissance Urbaine
Paris, July 2012



The Habitat Professionals Forum for sustainable cities

The Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) is a voluntary affiliation of international and regional associations of Human Settlements Professionals involved in sustainable urban development.

The HPF aims to foster cooperation and partnership between the Human Settlements Professionals and UN-HABITAT through dialogue and partnerships, and by providing leading-edge information and expertise that contribute to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and sustainable urban development.

Members will be independent, non-profit and non-governmental organisations that are international or regional associations of Human Settlements Professionals supporting sustainable urban development.

Functions

To develop opportunities for synergy and partnership, between the Human Settlements Professionals and UN-HABITAT and to engage as a consultative group for UN-HABITAT.

To promote and disseminate professional practices in the field of human settlements to implement the Habitat Agenda through shared learning, training and evaluation.

To promote the establishment of common values and ethics for professional practice, in the field of human settlements.

To advocate the need for professional capacity and learning in the field of human settlements, and to develop the necessary knowledge, skills and exchange of experiences amongst our own professions, policymakers and the general public.

To enhance partnerships, through a global network of Human Settlements Professionals.

To promote exchange and dialogue between Human Settlements Professionals and help them to contribute to UN-HABITAT policy debates and agendas and to take concrete actions around urbanization issues with other Habitat Agenda partners.



HPF members in March 2010 at WUF V in Rio

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Better Professionals! Better Cities!	3
Acknowledgements	4
TABLE OF CONTENTS	7
Foreword. Human resources, not technology, the response to the urbanization of the world ..	11
Foreward UN-Habitat, Dr Joan Clos, Executive Director of UN-Habitat.....	11
Message HPF, Louise Cox, Chair of HPF,.....	12
Introduction. Why is it time to go beyond Junkspace and Postmodern.....	13
Nicolas Buchoud, Global Planners Network.....	13
Lost in urbanisation? A <i>strategic</i> response	13
Towards a new urban fabric.....	14
Financing urban development with a mobile phone	14
Urban regeneration, the future global issue?.....	16
Yes we can promote harmonious cities	16
Sustainable city making processes after Rio+20. Pessimism or action?	17
CHAPTER 1. The Habitat Professionals Forum Charter	21
1.1 Taking action: from sustainability to responsibility	21
Vision for our future	22
Being pro-poor and inclusive	23
Sense of place, culture and heritage : renewing links	23
Climate change and sustainability : new urban architectonics	23
Knowledge and communication: enhancing cooperation.....	24
Pragmatism and governance	25
Introduction to the Charter	26
1.2 The Habitat Professionals Forum Charter.....	27
CHAPTER 2. Taking Action	29
2.1 Professionalism in an urbanising world : knowledge and skills, culture and ethics... and another approach to what sustainability should mean	29
Professionals and sustainability.....	30
Background	30
Policy.....	30
2.2 Social, economic and environmental harmony.....	30
Definition	30
Background	30
Policy.....	31

2.3 Pro poor and inclusive approaches to development	31
Definitions.....	31
Context.....	31
Policies/Tools to Promote Pro-Poor and Inclusive Approaches to Development	32
2.4 Heritage, culture and sense of place.....	32
Definition	32
Background	32
Policy.....	33
2.5 Climate change and risks.....	33
The Climate Change Context	33
Seven Approaches for Human Settlement Professionals	34
CHAPTER 3. Living Charter	36
3.1 Architecture on the move: Low cost and high efficiency sustainability	37
Aboriginal planning in contemporary urban environments, Australia by Paul Pholeros	37
Several ways to build housing in Bangladesh, by Anna Heringer.....	38
Ukumbi, or architectural Planning for Underprivileged groups, by Helena Sandman	40
Mapungubwe Interpretation Centre, Mapungubwe National Park,, Limpopo, by Peter Rich	42
3.3 Planning on the move: Re-engineering communities.....	45
The Future of Cities, by IHFP.....	45
Improved Urbanity? by Nicolas Buchoud	46
Support for builders and housing: South Africa's NURCHA, by ADP Villes en Développement	49
Joining housing-land development and public-private in Morocco, by ADP Villes en Développement	49
Expriencial urbanism. Workshops & Networks. By the African Planning Association and Les Ateliers ...	50
30 years of innovation.....	50
From workshops to professional networks.....	50
Illustration of contemporary convergence	51
3.4 Landscape architecture on the move: Landscapes, heritage for the future.....	52
A landscape architecture project on creating a better living for man and biosphere in Indonesia, by the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)	52
Ecological and recreational corridor from the eastern hills of Bogota: an ecological, social and recreational project for the 21st century, by Diana Wiesner Ceballos - Cerros de Bogota Foundation	53
3.5 Surveyors on the move: Future of the Global land tool network.....	55
Pro-poor land tool, by the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)	55
A mechanism for mitigating disaster impact in the Caribbean, by the Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE).....	56
Adaptation and mitigation, by the Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE)	57

3.6 People on the move: Doing Things Differently in Belo Horizonte: Integrating Waste Pickers into Solid Waste Management	58
APPENDICES.....	59
Appendix A. Short background and presentation of the members of the Habitat Professionals Forum ..	60
A short History of the UN-HABITAT Professionals Forum from 1998 to 2012 and onwards	60
A.1 The International Union of Architects (UIA).....	64
A.2 The International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)	66
A.3 The International Federation of Surveyor (FIG)	67
A.4 The International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC).....	67
A.5 International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP)	68
A.6 The Global Planners Network (GPN)	69
A.7 The International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP)	70
A.8 Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP)	71
A.9 African Planning Association (APA)	71
A.10 ADP Villes en développement	72
A.11 International Water Association (IWA)	73
A.12 Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO)	73
A.13 Eastern Regional Organization for Planning and Human Settlements (EAROPH)	75
A.14 Association of African Planning Schools (AAPS)	76
A.15 The Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE)	76
A.16 The Iberoamerican Federation of Urbanists (FIU).....	77
A.17 The European Council of Spatial Planners (ECTP)	78
Appendix B. HPF milestones (statements, speeches...).....	80
Statement by Mrs. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of the 14th Habitat Professionals Forum Strategic Meeting - March 2009.....	80
UN-Habitat twenty-second session of the Governing Council, Nairobi, Kenya, 30th March to 3rd April 2009 - Dialogue on “Promoting affordable housing finance systems in an urbanizing world in the face of the global financial crisis and climate change” Louise Cox on behalf of the HPF Members	82
Complementary statement by GPN, in the name of the Habitat Professionals Forum	84
Appendix C. Habitat Professionals Forum Terms of Reference	85
Terms of Reference – Approved in HPF Strategic Meeting, Nairobi, March 2009	85
The Habitat Professionals Forum.....	86



Foreword. Human resources, not technology, the response to the urbanization of the world

Foreword UN-Habitat

The history of UN-Habitat's engagement with human settlements professionals goes back to the Habitat II Conference in 1996. One of its main outcomes, the Habitat Agenda, recognizing the fundamental role of all partners, strongly acknowledged the importance of professionals – architects, urban planners, surveyors, landscape architects and engineers – in our quest for a sustainable urbanization.

Understanding the central role of professionals, three years later, the Habitat Professionals Forum was established under the auspices of UN-Habitat in New York and upon the initiative of a number of organisations: the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP), the International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP), the International Union of Architects (UIA), the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), the Centre for African Settlement Studies and Development (CASSAD) and the Arabian Urban Development Institute (AUDI).

The Habitat Professionals Forum is now a lively network of professional associations with clear objectives and dedicated to support UN-Habitat's strategy and to work towards a planned, inclusive, green, productive, resilient safe and healthy city.

It has also engaged in supporting the World Urban Campaign by adding the voices of professionals, sharing knowledge and becoming advocates for a positive quest for a better urban future.

Well aware that harnessing the city as an asset requires the commitment of all, they have engaged as 'City Changers' with other constituencies of local authorities, private sector, civil society organizations towards the preparation of Habitat III through a Manifesto for Cities, dedicated to deliver a Global Urban Agenda in 2016.

Human settlements professionals are supporting a positive vision of urbanization whereby the city is considered as the world's greatest asset for pursuing sustainable development. They are also convinced that the way we plan, build and manage our cities today will determine our future. However, professionals have a special responsibility in our common quest for a better urban future. They need to respond to a fundamental question: how can we harness the positive aspects of urbanization to create vibrant and socially cohesive urban communities, to promote environmental protection and safety and thus contribute to our collective stability and prosperity? More generally, they need to respond to a more profound quest for a new inclusive civilization driven by a positive urbanization, one that put people in harmony with their living space.

As practitioners of the urban space, architects, planners, surveyors, engineers and landscape architects have a strong responsibility and a moral obligation to help confront urban challenges ahead. Their contribution to the development of our cities will have huge consequences on our future. What they design will become part of the urban landscape for generations to come and the users of what they design will either love you for it or curse you for it.

This publication brings all human settlements professionals together, providing a better understanding of their contributions to the city, and their interpretation of *HPF Charter* endorsed in Rio de Janeiro in 2010 on *The role of human settlement professionals in delivering a sustainable and equitable future*. It is a first step in articulating a vision towards Habitat III around the themes of heritage, culture, sense of place, climate change and risks, pro-poor and inclusive development.

UN-Habitat is well aware that the human settlements professionals are crucial partners that must be engaged if the world's cities are to achieve sustainability.

UN-Habitat stands ready to support and work with the Habitat Professionals Forum in this endeavour.

**Dr. Joan Clos, Executive Director, UN-Habitat and
Under-Secretary-General, United Nations
Nairobi, July 2012**

Message HPF

This is a very exciting time where sustainable practices and the responsibility of professionals to communities and other clients is happening globally, changing the way our cities are growing for the good of all. We must work together and share our expertise to achieve better cities for a better life.

What is the Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF)? It consists of affiliates who are independent, non-profit and non-government organisations that are international or regional associations of Human Settlements Professionals – architects, planners, surveyors, engineers, landscape architects and related professionals - supporting sustainable urban development and who are committed to sustainable cities.

At the World Urban Forum 5 in 2010 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the HPF adopted a Charter which sets out its Vision for sustainable and equitable urban development, in partnership with communities, civil society, the private sector and government, based on a number of principles of which the following are seen as priority concerns:

- Social, economic and environmental harmony
- Pro-poor and inclusivity
- Heritage, culture and sense of place
- The impacts of climate change and disasters

The Charter is envisioned as a new opportunity for the professionals to come together in a more sustained approach, to find a conduit for sharing their expertise and to make it available to other urban stakeholders. In that respect, every World Urban Forum is an important opportunity for face to face discussion and debates as to how best the professions can implement the Charter.

The HPF motto is “The Habitat Professionals Forum for Sustainable Cities”

This book is a showcase of professionals working with communities, usually training and empowering them to go further and providing all involved with amazing outcomes.

As the Chair of the Habitat Professionals Forum, I am very proud to have been part of the team collecting and bringing together these examples.

In particular I would like to thank Dr Joan Clos, Ana Moreno and Christine Auclair from UN-HABITAT and Nicolas Buchoud, a planner from France, who has done most of the work to make this publication possible. I hope that you enjoy it.

**Louise Cox AM, Chair of the Habitat Professionals Forum and
Immediate Past President, International Union of Architects
Sydney, July 2012**



Introduction. Why is it time to go beyond Junkspace and Postmodern

Nicolas Buchoud, Global Planners Network

Lost in urbanisation? A *strategic* response

We all know that “the world urban population is expected to double within the next 25 years.” Nobody denies that responses to climate change will have to be urban and match needs and habits of urban citizens worldwide.

Yet, for practitioners, economic and political leaders, cities still seem to be the outcome of factors external to their development. It is all as if postmodern pessimistic theories and architects had won the fight, forgetting that it is possible to actually create, build and develop and change cities.

We must rebuild the urban fabric, foster new urban models, develop new sets of methods, and there are millions of dedicated professionals worldwide, in the fields of planning, architecture, engineering, surveying, who are more than ready to take the lead.

It is time for action. Action starts from the very simple postulate that contemporary urban and environmental changes compel us to “take the challenge of cities.”¹

Towards a new urban fabric

The concept of a global Urban Renaissance includes sustainability paradigms in a broader vision of the future. It is a plea to take into account shifting demographic, economic and social trends in cities and metropolitan areas both in the North and the Global South.

Political leaders, professional planners, financial experts, bankers ... and citizens must respond to time pressure, accelerated land consumption rates, ever increasing needs for urban infrastructures, services and their financing. Yet, cities are not only made out of infrastructures, housing, plans, investments... they are made and reinvented every single day by people themselves. How can we build the connections between all different spheres of the urban world, if not by envisaging urban issues in a truly global way?

The issue of the training and education of planners and urban development professionals will be decisive in the very short term, and has been a long neglected priority. While until recent years urban planning systems have been defined in a national perspective, there is an emergency to step outside this framework.

The mobilization of human resources, knowledge and experience of various practices and disciplines is highly necessary and we must proceed without delay. Most innovative, promising, and inspiring models do exist. Germany has given Europe the *Leipzig Charter* (2007), promoting “clever” urban development policies and projects².

The United-States and Canada have given truly global urban models, such as Vancouver or Seattle, overcoming urban icons from the past century such as New-York or San Francisco in terms of urbanity³. Japan has established *Centers of excellence* including urban developments issues throughout most innovative links between architecture and urban planning, which we can describe as a new *urban-architectonic approach*.⁴

What is at stake is a much more strategic vision of the development of contemporary global society where issues of spatial and social mobility are decisive.⁵

What is meant by a strategic approach? Being strategic means never losing sight of politics and democratic links.

The best resolutions, the most brilliant projects, the most innovative concepts, will never match their goals and deliver greater well-being, if they are not also part of a broader political vision, promoting urban issues as a true driver for economic investment and growth. We must therefore invent new development strategies based on renewed urban thinking. New trends such as tactical urbanism or sophisticated urbanism also show the way.

Financing urban development with a mobile phone

The explosion of unplanned urbanization in developing countries is forcing all public and private urban development stakeholders to revise their methods. The current economic and financial crisis or climate change challenges are only adding complexity to the issue.

Planning and urban policies norms inherited from previous decades have become so dysfunctional that they can even contribute to encourage uncontrolled growth. The development of informal settlements raises serious problems of access to basic urban services for their inhabitants.

Behind the issues that are linked to the quality of daily life, the real need is to find the resources and techniques to build cities where people, along with urban development professionals can take part in decision-

¹ *Strategic City, Planners for the XXIst Century*. N.Buchoud (dir). CERTU, 2008. Foreword by Paul Taylor, Director of the Office of the Executive Director of UN-habitat.

² “Leipzig-Grünau, from urban renewal to Baukultur.” N.Buchoud. In *Strategic City*. Part II, Towards an urban Renaissance, Chap 6.

³ “The Vancouver Theorem, or the exemplary renewal of North American Cities”.N.Buchoud. In *Strategic City*, Part III, Planners for the XXIst Century, Chap 12

⁴ “Architectural actions in modern society. And the principle of an architectural technology system”. Prof. Seiichi Fukao. Tokyo Metropolitan University. In *Strategic City*, Part III, Chapter 15 *Architectural actions in modern society*.

⁵ “Cities without Buchanan and without Rem Koolhaas : spatial disparity, policy and strategic urban design towards an Open Urbanism”. A.Chiaradia, Space Syntax. In *Strategic City*, Part II, Chap. 10

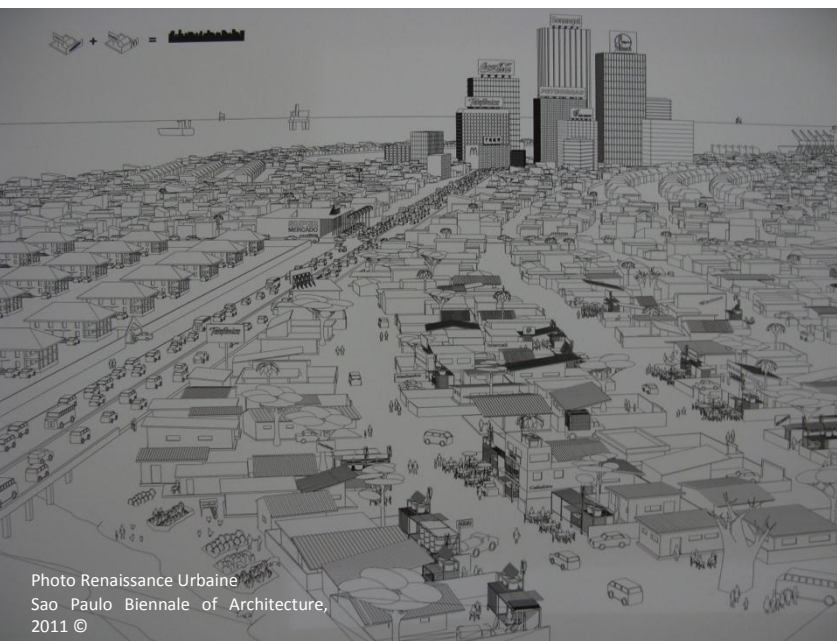
making processes and play a part in deciding on their future. Without them, no urban technique, no urban policy will ever succeed.⁶

Public authorities should therefore be able to draw more on the popular experience developed by urban dwellers and use this experience within urban policies and especially urban renewal projects, including new ways to finance daily activities like mobile phones banking facilities.

Then, the implementation of planning instruments developed in response to local issues may have a very positive effect on the organization of urban areas, and provide a means of achieving harmonious, coherent and sustainable development. It could as well be a key to urban regeneration strategies in developed countries.⁷

Convincing responses do exist. The slum clearance policy in Casablanca (Morocco) has been accompanied by a gradual return of an urban pattern to suburban districts and the slow but real re-creation of the dense fabric of the Kasbah⁸.

Similar processes are at work in other cities such as Hanoi in Vietnam, where, in response to the city's extremely rapid demographic growth, networks of Vietnamese and Japanese researchers are attempting to find effective solutions that can be applied on a large scale, mixing vernacular values and contemporary public policies.



Creating value is creating new wealth, collective wealth to begin with, but wealth which can, if the dynamic is maintained, become individual wealth. Public money is crucial to move city areas forward, but public money will not be adequately spent if it does not enhance equal access to cities resources and help reinvent a shared vision of the future.

This is what is confirmed by the findings of one of the largest and most extensive sociological studies ever conducted in Germany, in the very large social housing district of Leipzig-Grunau (80.000 inhabitants in the late 1980's).

The conclusions of this study show how large housing units inherited from the 1960's and 1970's and contemporary urban demand can meet. The destiny of large building stocks depends on the urban policy context within

which they stand. The lessons of Leipzig Grunau must not be forgotten, at a time where very large scale high rise residential complexes are being built, be it in China or in North African Cities. At a time where the regeneration of the building stock in many cities in the Russian Federation poses several urban and economic challenges.

⁶ "Four thousands dwellings an hour". N.Buchoud. In *Strategic City*, Part I, Lost in urbanization. Chap 1

⁷ "Colonial heritage, cities and citizenship in the Carribean and South America". N.Rey, in *Strategic City*, Part I, Chap 4.

⁸ Mohammed Fawzi Zniber, Collège des architectes et urbanistes du Maroc. *New Moroccan Town Planning Experience, Planning Africa Conference : Shaping the future*, April 2008.



Photo Renaissance Urbaine ©

Urban regeneration, the future global issue?

In Japan, where the senior population is growing more quickly than anywhere else in the world, we can witness the first signs of a trend which will soon affect the majority of the population in developed countries.

The Japanese government warned the public and the sectors of activity that were affected by the accelerated ageing of the population. As health and living environment were found to be the issues most likely to attract the heaviest expenditure from seniors, “*barrier-free*” design methods and “*universal design*” have been introduced, while requirements for accessibility have

been extended to other dimensions of lived-in space, speeding up adaptation and building stock activation processes countrywide.

Beyond the specific constraints which apply to each national context, we can draw general lessons from the way urban renovation projects are conducted at a global level, either because of demographic, social, or environmental issues. For them to be effective, these projects must be linked to a comprehensive strategic vision, and be part of an integrated development approach. Such lessons will apply in the near future to contexts such as Chinese cities, where evolution of recent massive housing stock will be a key challenge for our global future.



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Yes we can promote harmonious cities

Globalisation is bringing new urban challenges, and a profound need for regeneration of planning strategies. We have moved beyond architecture and supersized urban developments, from “*starchitects*” to star urban designers. Cities have become the new targets for premium investments.

Urban policies must be rebuilt, so as to efficiently take into account the impact of globalisation in cities, whether in social housing areas, in the very heart of major metropolis, or in mid-sized cities.

This will require the commitment of more urban development professionals, with even better skills. *Strategic City* testifies of ongoing changes, existing risks and opportunities that can actually change the world.

Today’s challenges are those of diversity and social cohesion, education, cooperation between local authorities and sustainable development. We shall give our city areas a fulfilling and coherent image. We need to respond to the growth in mobility, to aspirations for autonomy, to the need for civilization, with cities that are desirable and accessible, and not only for those with the highest incomes.

Somehow the scale of the task is breathtaking. But I do believe that a profound change is taking place. Yes, we can promote harmonious social development.

Sustainable city making processes after Rio+20. Pessimism or action?

For those who are familiar with R.Koolhaas writings, it will be no surprise to read here about “junkspace” or “postmodern”. However appropriate and famous his analysis and statements may be, one piece is missing. If cities need concepts to be built up and regenerated and managed in all their dimensions, cities are above all a human issue. That is of citizens, urban dwellers... and urban development professionals.

We believe that a global upgrade of qualifications and skills of urban development professionals worldwide is a critical dimension of urban challenges for the next two decades, a time where we will witness a continuous (of not homogeneous) urban and demographic growth, before the figures will somehow be stabilised.

Twenty years after the first Rio Earth Summit, cities have emerged as a compelling contemporary challenge. The World Urban Forum in Vancouver in 2006 marked a real epistemological break, along with the awareness that urban environment now exist throughout the world as a global issue.

Economic and cultural relationships have become incredibly complex and globally intertwined, and cities play a major role in these changes. Evolving city rankings reflect the emergence of a world of cities where the pervasiveness of the metropolitan phenomenon, the assertion of large urban areas, must not make us forget

the growing role of medium-sized cities, or even the growth of the informal habitat.

Urban issues arise on a large scale and need to be considered quantitatively be it for building or regenerating dwellings developing or replacing infrastructures, revitalising existing cities, protecting heritage or the environment, control access to natural resources, develop food supply chains...

As we begin to draw the first conclusions of the Rio+20 Earth Summit, it is more than ever necessary to make the ways of creating sustainable cities more understandable.

Professionals in urban planning have a real responsibility and although the contexts in which they are working will be widely different depending on whether

we are talking about the outskirts of Beijing, or Reims, Yekaterinburg, Casablanca, Bogota or elsewhere, a qualified professional who knows how to rely on simple principles will always know how to innovate, do something worthwhile; in other words, maintain the town.

Managing urban development, continuing to be involved with cities, continuing to build and transform cities, are all the more relevant imperatives since we are within a profound crisis in urban and architectural models.

In response to the change in the world-wide urban environment, there no city in the world, in any country, that is not confronted by uncertainty...and where dedicate professionals should not play a proactive and leading role.

The energy crisis demonstrates the precise moment when the world accelerated its urbanisation, causing chain reactions which have unpredictable consequences.

The speed with which models are copied, for the better... or the worst, is indicative of the extent of the global needs for the next 20 years. The problem is that there is more copying than invention. More talk than action.



More duplication than innovation. Decisions are forced through more often than consultations take place. This is not acceptable.

On the contrary, with one foot in the real world and one foot in planning and designing, our voluntary choice is to create conditions for progress in the world which now belongs to us. In order to achieve this, we must make urban living our main task, even though living a good life in cities is still too rare and very often for a happy few.

We need to reconsider cities as a living space for people, both when they are on the move through transportation means and when they are staying in the same place, somewhere to live pleasantly together and find well-being.

The industrial 19th century and (even more so) the post-industrial 20th century continually massed people and businesses around places of production on available land on the outskirts of cities.

In the 20th century and especially in the aftermath of the Second World War, under demographic constraints, urbanism was replaced by planning, not for the better!

The movements towards mass urban development and rural depopulation never really took the actual features or the physical and climatic assets of the areas into consideration.

The trend towards creating larger urban areas has contributed towards Western cities making the inhabitants of town centres change their way of life, by removing polluting industry to the outside of the historic centres, by installing new urban transport systems on the outskirts of cities, supermarkets, major infrastructures, huge housing estates and predominantly low-density suburbs. In short, by depriving cities of their diversity of uses. Which model has been pervasive worldwide/

The historical movement of reconstruction is now over. Urban regeneration is no longer a taboo. And we are living in a global urban environment.

It is time to move forward boldly. Functionnalism, modernism, even postmodernism are heritage.

Fascination for bigness or apology of junkspace as the symbol of contemporary urban trends, accurate though they may seem at first glance, belong to yet another era.

ReGeneration means paving the way to the future, and ReHumanize urbanism at all scales, from the very global

to the very local levels, often intertwined

This cannot be done by referring to 1960's sociology or classical social confrontation, because the overall picture is changing. At a global scale, urban growth is still a reality and will be so at least for the next 25 years. How can we collectively find and implement sustainability solutions in this context is our challenge, is the challenge that all professionals are compelled to address.

Sustainability will not be achieved by using ever-increasing amounts of agricultural land on the outskirts of cities or along coastlines.

Sustainability will not be achieved by continuing to sell off building plots in the countryside and the outskirts of cities without taking into

consideration their urban or environmental relationship with the existing land.

Sustainability will not be achieved by continuing to divide up city functions like a chessboard of land values which often creates unregulated speculation.



Sustainability will not be achieved by continuing to isolate transport systems within cities and between cities but by offering knitted and opened transport systems over both short and long distances at appropriate speeds.

Now even more than 6 years ago in Vancouver and the Vancouver Declaration advocating for a New Urban Planning, we need to ReGenerate our know-how, and know-ledge. We need to reconsider seriously our strategies and behaviours regarding planning and urban development, including all specialities from architecture and engineering to surveying, so as to develop villages, cities, metropolitan areas, with the same goal, that is to create and manage humanly balanced and attractive places.

It means developing the ability to encompass city regions or metro regions scale as an urban scale.

It means rethinking mobility systems and turn them as urban inclusiveness and urban development drivers.

It means rethinking 20th century cities designed round private car and detached houses and moving on towards contemporary cities centred on services, businesses, and shared public spaces.

It means paying an always greater attention to the climatic, geographic or historic contexts to shape cities and places in a liveable and resilient way.

Nicolas BUCHOUD
The Global Planners Network
Renaissance Urbaine, Founding Principal

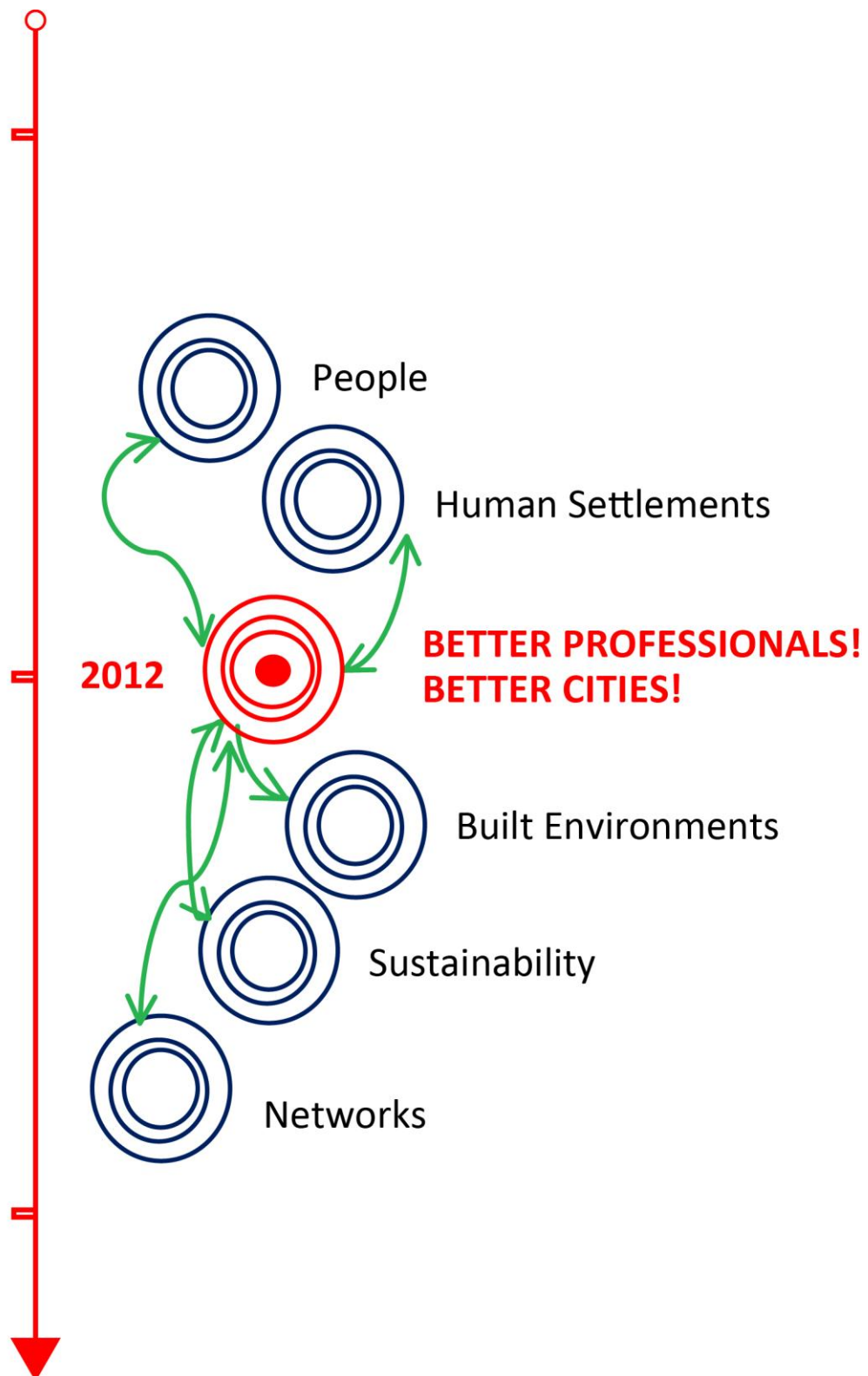




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CHAPTER 1. The Habitat Professionals Forum Charter

1.1 Taking action: from sustainability to responsibility

Recognizing cities as a critical solution towards livable and low carbon environments, as part of the response to the challenges of the XXIst century will be a long process to be carried out.

Acceptance of shifting interactions between mankind and biosphere, under demographic and economic growth pressure raises questions on our planet 's capacity and limits to support such changes.

What is needed now is to incorporate the Charter within an explicit sustainable development strategy, based upon evidence and facts, and not just assumptions. Urban development professionals worldwide can and intend to play a major role in shaping the international agenda, as well as regional, national and local agendas, along with governments, the private sector and the civil society.

Today's urban areas are home to 50 % of the world's population, but account for 60 to 80% of energy consumption and 75% of CO2 emissions worldwide. What will happen in a generation from now, if nothing is done...?

According to UNEP (*Towards a Green economy: pathways to sustainable development and poverty eradication*, Feb. 2011), about 1,3 trillion USD should be invested annually between 2010 and... 2050 in ten major economic sectors, to turn growth into a sustainable and green growth among these factors, waste and water management, construction, energy, and transportation, are particularly sensitive, and related to an integrated vision of urban development.

Promoting green cities raises efficiency and productivity. There are significant opportunities to capture the potential synergies and efficiencies by integrating sustainability conditions in urban planning and development processes.

Cities will see a rapid expansion and increasing investment over the next decades particularly in emerging economies. In India for example, between 2010 and 2030, the country will need 700 to 900 million m² of new floor area for housing and retail, and + 350 to 400 km of metro annually to match the needs.

How this investment takes place, in transportation networks, access to services, buildings, water and energy systems, will make a crucial difference in avoiding or locking-in high carbon infrastructure and cities for the next generation.

According to latest review (April 2011) of Mc Kinsey global institute, between now and 2025, 407 mid sized cities in emerging countries will generate more than 37% of world GDP annual growth, as compared to 15% today. By 2025, these cities will be economically more important than all megalopolis altogether. Besides, Megalopolis and mega regions still are a major global issues.

The 40 biggest world's mega regions account for 18% of the world's population, 66% of the whole world's economy, 85% of the world's innovation (technology, economy). Other significant patterns of current and next two decades urban trends are the rising role of urban development corridors: a worldwide trend, and a rapidly developing pattern of African urban trends, shrinking cities a major phenomenon, raising the issue of "recycling" skills, vulnerability.

Over 3500 cities worldwide are vulnerable to natural disasters, especially those caused by climate change (UN Habitat, 2010).

Vision for our future

A common future?

The challenges we face are multifaceted and overwhelming. The search for effective solutions at a global level is supported by our common aspirations for a sustainable future on our planet, which the professional community needs to share with others, governments, local governments, NGO's, international donors, and above all, the people

A fast changing world

We are aware of the threats of our world, and promote strong and continuous action, now, so as to address challenges to developing and developed cities and be leaders for a better urban future

Qualitative development of the built environment

Human settlement professionals dedicate themselves to everything that influences the way in which the built environment is planned, designed, made, used, furnished, landscaped and maintained

Vision of the future world

Away from Taylorism and productivism. XXIst century cities and urban environments within a densely populated world are turning into connected and complex systems. They will be highly unsustainable if their metabolism is not coherent with the environment, or without systematic promotion of citizenship

Conscious efforts and leadership.

With others, professionals are conscious that, individually and collectively, they have a critical role to play towards sustainable development, serve communities, enhance the quality of municipal services in cities and cities, and support excellence in local governance worldwide

Effective development.

We acknowledge that urban well-being will come from effective development, sound and strategic management of economic, natural and human resources. Professionals need to share and offer projects, ideas and plans that are truly meaningful.

Being pro-poor and inclusive

Joint efforts to solve the massive problems of the developing world's cities is urgently required.

This means tackle the challenges of rapid urbanization and the urbanization of poverty Ethical basis of renewed professional commitments, in all human settlement fields, is to be explicitly pro-poor and supportive of social, environmental and economic sustainability.

Improving slum conditions.

Successful policies allowing improving slum conditions must be widely replicated, through innovative financing and planning, innovative methods and tools for slum upgrading, along with a broad and inclusive understanding of cities and urban environments, at both local and global levels

Well-being can be achieved through active urban development strategies.

Human settlements professionals are partners for broader social and economic policies. This includes taking into account settlement problems of immigrants to cities, improving the status of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy, and developing capacity building, continuous education and social interaction.

Sense of place, culture and heritage : renewing links

Genius of the people.

Promote mutual learning and find the best local solutions to the global challenges facing housing and planning

Integrate historical heritage.

Heritage is by no way the opposite of development. Heritage conservation and heritage activation policies and tools are key resources for creating or developing sustainable urban environments worldwide. This includes natural and heritage landscapes, which should be assessed, recognised, protected and enhanced alike

Cultural variation.

Culture is at the heart of living places. Whereas new urban areas in the colonial era were planned according to the urban visions of the 'developed' world, today's world interconnectivity allows for much more sensitive and subtle cultural approaches, including expression of local culture and in depth knowledge and use of local and or vernacular building or planning techniques

Enhance urban standards.

Heritage as part of transformation of the built environment is an asset for places. Professionals commit themselves to find ways to reconcile enhancement of urban standards and while maintaining places identity, historical characteristics and architectural, physical and cultural features

Links between conservation of cultural heritage and natural resources.

Integrating ecological management and cultural heritage is a way to foster our common future, include conservation agendas in urban development, and build sustainability in a concrete way.

Climate change and sustainability : new urban architectonics

Hazards posed by climate change and their impact on urban environments worldwide, especially in densely populated, developing countries coastal and delta environments, are a catalyst for human settlement professions. Promoting commitment to sustainable development isn't just about promoting politically correct values. It is about responding to urgent and massive needs, in the following fields:

- sustainable development of the built environment
- sustainable landscape management, and natural resources management

- determine and replicate appropriate frameworks for sustainability
- encourage a sense of citizenship and individual responsibility towards sustainable values

Re-engineering of mega cities.

Metropolitan management is part of sustainable urban development and governance framework. Connected urban environments, especially city-regions, need renewed infrastructure development and management, appropriate technology for surveying and mapping and modeling, and improved connection between planning, transportation networks, and changes of the built environment. Services cannot be separated from urban development.

Appropriate response to new challenges.

Urban environments are living systems. Promoting urban compactness is the not holy grail of urban sustainability. Innovative planning and architecture and their results, eco-cities, compact cities, city-greening policies... will ultimately succeed if urban economy plays against urban sprawl, and if informal settlement issues in spatial development, planning and governance are seriously taken into account.

Market responsiveness.

Urban environments are linked with global issues, and among them global markets. Human settlement professions promote employment opportunities created by different patterns of economic growth and global integration. They support integrated planning and budgeting, and appropriate and continuous training.

Economic viability.

Economic viability of all human settlement professions is critical for a balanced approach of urban development, allowing continuous enhancement of professionalism along with greater dissemination of technological changes and best practices. Greater recognition and connection between professionals, international donors and lending agencies, should be part of the global agenda for urban development and climate change.

Knowledge and communication: enhancing cooperation

Cross-sectoral cooperation.

Crossing the borders of professions and human settlement related disciplines is a challenge for all. Calls and needs for interdisciplinarity implies high level of professionalism as well as continuous improvement of exchanges and dialogues between professional spheres and the worlds of professionals and educators, through:

- mutual recognition of diplomas
- transdisciplinary teamwork
- promotion of common frameworks for practice, education, continuing professional development
- development of open knowledge bases of projects accomplishments and technology advances relative to sustainable development and sustainability of the built environment
- comprehensive listing of international education opportunities sorted country by country
- multilingual open platforms covering fields which concern the planning, design and protection of the environment
- planning with partners
- generic and transferable skills

Increased participation

Human settlement professional organisations serve not only the purpose of a greater and mutual recognition of their members, and of their vested interests. They stand as a unique resource for the collection and dissemination of information, including innovative local government practices to facilitate replication. Achieving greater global representation of urban environments related professions can help global actors such as international donors, along with local players, make best use of limited time and resources and encourage greater public participation to urban development.

Fostering communication

Fostering communication is fostering cooperation. It is a common goal of all HPF member organisations to strongly promote dissemination of information and best practices, based on the premises that information is more valuable when shared. Urban challenges are such that contemporary diversity of initiatives can only be seen as complementary, as long as they are based upon high level professional commitments. Communication for more cooperation can lead to:

international forum for discussion and development aiming to promote professional practice and standards.

information and documentation centres to collect information, documents and statistics

peer exchange and partnerships that encourage sharing and replication of leading practices

foster the exchange of insights and experiences among countries or cities

facilitate information exchange

network of professional institutions and individuals of many signatures active in the broad fields of housing, urban development and planning

promote mutual learning and find the best local solutions to the global challenges facing housing and planning

voluntary, peer-to-peer network of higher education-based programmes and departments which educate and train city/urban and regional planners.

promote information exchange, share information through notification of conferences, annual congresses or special events

information on staff exchange possibilities

common framework for planning practice, planning education, continuing professional development

Pragmatism and governance

Our globalised world remains highly diverse, and while there are needs for greater interaction and connectivity among human settlements professionals, this cannot lead to one size fits all solutions. Increased recognition and cooperation should help develop original feasible solutions globally, and then tailor them to local needs.

Standards.

Standards must be closely tied to practice, and reference documents such as declarations of charters must be living documents.

Networking.

Networking means working together, and with others, among individuals and among institutions. It is all the more meaningful as what is most often needed by professionals is not the one and only universal tool, but a much more human mix of research studies, data analysis, case study documentation, and policy dialogues.

HPF member organisations are democratic non-profit and non-political, non-governmental organization. They constitute an unincorporated international network. They reflect the work of the hundreds of thousands of committed professionals they do represent. They acknowledge that achieving sustainability at all levels of urbanity means continuous adaptation of professional organisations and inherited habits, through renewed governance processes:

- subsidiarity
- adaptable and flexible governance
- hands-on approach to meeting the challenges faced by communities
- user-driven self-governance
- people centred, rather than design centred approaches
- interconnectedness of institutions and partnerships
- voluntary, peer-to-peer networks, such as with higher education-based programmes
- network of networks
- a rotating basis of management and leadership
- global networks of architectural, planning, housing, surveying, engineering, education

Introduction to the Charter

The Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) is a voluntary affiliation of international associations of human settlement professionals contributing to implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in pursuit of inclusive sustainable urban development. HPF's key functions include:

- the promotion and dissemination of professional practices
- the promotion of common values and ethics for professional practice
- advocacy of the need for professional capacity and learning
- contributing as professionals to UN-HABITAT policy debates and agendas.

Implicit in these functions is the recognition that the professions represented on the HPF have a unique contribution to make in delivering sustainable urbanisation. This contribution relates in particular to (i) the competencies professional people possess and how it is demonstrated to gain admission into the profession (ii) their ways of working and (iii) their culture and ethics.

Principles of inclusive and sustainable development require local governments to play a leading role, with community-based organisations empowered on matters that can be determined at local levels. To engage in this process effectively, HPF professionals need to be well versed in relevant local government and legal systems and in local society, cultures and decision-making. Such understanding is best obtained by professionals who were born and brought up in such environments.

The Habitat Professionals Forum adopted a draft charter at WUF5 in Rio de Janeiro in March 2010, which was formally approved in Nairobi in April 2011 during HPF Plenary session. The Charter sets out a vision and principles for human settlement professionals to follow in their work to deliver a sustainable and equitable future.

The Charter identifies four key principles for sustainable settlements:

- Social, economic and environmental harmony
- Pro – poor and inclusivity
- Heritage, culture and sense of place
- Responding to the impacts of climate change and disasters

1.2 The Habitat Professionals Forum Charter



Habitat Professionals Forum Charter

“The role of human settlement professionals in delivering a sustainable and equitable future”

Preamble

The Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) was established in 1999 under the auspices of UN-HABITAT as an inter-disciplinary partnership of Human Settlement Professionals and UN HABITAT. This followed the visionary initiative of a number of HPF founding members who came together in 1996 at the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (HABITAT II) in Istanbul, Turkey. HPF was established to promote the delivery of sustainable urbanisation and equitable human settlements development. It consists of international associations of human settlements professions which are democratic, non-profit, non-political and non-governmental.

On 28th of March 2009, the 14th Meeting of the Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) was convened in Nairobi, Kenya to discuss the future role of the HPF in the light of the new emphasis on “partnership” in UN-HABITAT’s Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan 2008-2013 (MTSIP) and its World Urban Campaign (WUC). The WUC places partnership at the heart of UN HABITAT’s work and the partnership with the Human Settlement Professionals through the Habitat Professionals Forum is seen as central to the quest for sustainable urbanisation.

This Charter records the Vision and Principles on which the work of the Habitat Professionals Forum will be based and sets out the undertakings to which we, the signatories to this Charter, agree. We do this in acknowledgement of the need for enhanced global co-operation between professionals as well as the urgency of the challenges faced in mitigating inequality, the rapid rate of urbanisation in many countries, poverty, the impacts of climate change and the increasing incidence of disasters, and the depletion of natural resources, whilst promoting sustainable environments.

Vision

We, the members of the HPF, pledge ourselves to ensure sustainable and equitable urban development, in partnership with communities, civil society, the private sector and government, based on the principles of WUC, and in particular:

- *Social, economic and environmental harmony* which seeks to ensure that the strategic management of economic, natural and human resources will promote well – being in increasingly complex, interconnected and rapidly changing urban systems and that development is based on practice which integrates social, economic and environmental issues into policy – making and the design process;
- *Pro – poor and inclusivity* which seeks to ensure that human settlements professionals are responsive to the challenges posed by urban poverty and inequality and are sensitive to cultural differences, are gender aware and are agents for participatory governance;
- *Heritage, culture and sense of place* which seeks to reconcile development needs while maintaining identity, sense of place and protecting heritage in an increasingly interconnected world; natural and cultural heritage needs to be respected and conserved: every human settlement is unique and a sense of place is an attribute to be fostered and cherished.
- *The impacts of climate change and disasters* which will make increasing demands on our knowledge and skills. Human settlements professionals need to be able to plan, design and deliver settlements which are more resilient and carbon-efficient, and where risks are reduced through prevention, adaptation and mitigation.

This will require changing practice and rapid action on the part of HPF members, including the re-engineering of cities at all scales of urbanity, city-greening policies, market responsiveness and increasing partnerships and resources for innovative solutions and new approaches to urban development and management.

Undertaking

Through this Charter, we, the members of the HPF, commit to supporting the work of UN HABITAT by promoting human settlements, sustainable urbanisation and harmonious and inclusive urban settlement through:

1. increasing inter-professional co-operation and communication for the transfer of knowledge and skills through education, practice and lifelong learning,
2. the global promotion and updating of professional values and ethics consistent with the principles set out in the Vision of this Charter, and
3. promoting innovation and best practice, strengthening professional networks to deliver sustainable urbanisation, especially at the “grassroots”, building up capacity in countries without it, and providing practical support to those of our members who, in seeking to follow these HPF principles, lack local resources and support.

CHAPTER 2. Taking Action

Following the establishment and the endorsement of the Charter, HPF organisations have worked on a series of concrete issues, so as to transform the Charter into a Living Document, subject to be owned by each professional from each member organization. These are the first steps towards a global professionals agenda, as part of the Habitat Agenda, on the way to Habitat III Summit.

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2.1 Professionalism in an urbanising world : knowledge and skills, culture and ethics... and another approach to what sustainability should mean

Professional practitioners characterize themselves as having a strong service motivation and lifetime commitment to competence: ethics, codes, commitments. In environments where the recognition of professionalism is less well developed, what support can the HPF provide by fostering this ethic? What responsibility should they have to a lifetime commitment to competence, standards at local and global

levels

If the professions are to play their role in delivering sustainable development they have to be accessible to those who have such contributions to make but who do not have access to traditional routes of entry. Knowledge acquisition usually involves an extensive period of formal education: examinations, professional qualifications, opportunities outside formal education, affordability of skills, training. The emphasis must be laid on ways of Working (autonomy, collaboration, participatory processes, transferability of skills in various

legal and cultural contexts) and on skills (generic skills, specialised skills, barriers to enter/open professions...)...reaching sustainability.

Professionals and sustainability

Sustainable design aims to generate practical methods and procedures that will aid in the achievement of a sustainable environment. These methods and procedures should have a broad application in different types of projects; such as architectural, landscape, urban planning, engineering and industrial. These tools should be developed for the different phases of each project, including design, operation and maintenance. The tools must also enable an evaluation of the contribution that the project makes to sustainability. Some examples of these tools are LEED certification, the Sustainable Sites Initiative (USA) and the Climate Adaptation Tools for Sustainable Settlements (Australia). Within the Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) a consensus should be reached in order to define a set of tools aimed at fostering sustainable design and evaluating urban projects.

Background

Construction and urban development are economic activities that have historically generated pollution and caused environmental degradation. Existing urban development patterns and conventional construction methods accentuate social differences. In recent years there have been trends in architecture, landscape architecture and urban planning that promote a stronger alignment with the natural environment, the rational use and recycling of resources, and greater social inclusion, in other words, sustainability. LEED and The Sustainable Sites Initiative are examples of tools that focus on assessing the degree of sustainability applied in architectural and landscape architectural projects respectively. Nevertheless, there is still a strong need for the development of tools that are capable of assessing any type of urban development projects including those in architecture, landscape architecture, general planning and infrastructure.

Policy

HPF members can organize interdisciplinary teams, focused on the research and development of toolkits that are unanimously agreed upon by the diverse professional disciplines that make up the HPF and that are applicable for various types of urban projects. Professionals and academics from different regions of the world should be integrated into these interdisciplinary working groups in order to expand the applicability of the tools to the diverse types of existing urban problems.



2.2 Social, economic and environmental harmony

Definition

The reconciliation of human society and the development of the natural environment that it inhabits; in general, a paradigm shift with regards to the existing development model that seeks limitless growth towards one whose objective is a social, economic and environmental equilibrium.

Background

Economic development as it was commonly understood in our society during the industrial revolution has resulted in the excessive use of

natural resources, the pollution of soil, water and air, the loss of biodiversity, and in many cases an exacerbation of social differences and an increased discrepancy between rich and poor at all scales (individual, regional, national and global). The search for development models that allow for the rational use and management of resources also has the potential to generate economic activity, additionally it allows for the improvement and conservation of environmental quality, with the simultaneous goal of attaining a more equitable distribution of wealth.

Policy

The HPF Charter implies a commitment to sustainability for all participating members that will sign it. The HPF will seek examples of successful projects that promote social, economic and environmental harmony that they can publish and distribute. Additionally, the HPF should motivate different professional groups to generate more projects that promote social, economic and environmental harmony through incentives such as prizes and awards.



Photo Renaissance Urbaine ©

2.3 Pro poor and inclusive approaches to development

Definitions

The year 2008 was a milestone in which, for the first time, more than half the world's population lived in cities. Yet many of the world's urban population are excluded from the benefits of urban living—as a result of poverty, insecure housing tenure or jobs, gender, ethnicity, disability, migrant status, or other factors.

The concept of 'inclusive cities' is embedded in UN-HABITAT's mandate, stemming from the 1996

*Habitat Agenda*⁹. An 'inclusive city' is a place where everyone, regardless of wealth, gender, age, race, or religion, can participate in the benefits of urban life. Inclusion is founded on legal rights, policies and processes, underpinned by ethical values shared between governments and people¹⁰.

Context

Rapid urbanization poses major challenges for city professionals and managers, as poor housing and lack of adequate urban services are key drivers of poverty and exclusion. Between 2010 and 2050, the world's urban population will grow from around 3.5bn in 2010 to over 6.2 billion¹¹. Nearly 95% of this growth will occur in developing countries - adding an estimated 67 million new residents to urban areas each year. About a third of the world's urban population—close to 1 billion people—already lives in slums, a figure set to rise to 1.8 billion by 2030 if present trends persist¹². In Africa alone up to 150 million urban residents, around 50% of the urban population, do not have adequate water supplies and up to 180 million lack adequate sanitation¹³.

Climate change and its impact on cities is a global challenge, creating pressing needs to adapt to low-energy and environmentally sustainable life-styles and economies, and minimize risk for vulnerable urban populations. People living on the margins of city life are particularly vulnerable to economic or environmental catastrophe, eg: informal economy workers, and international migrants—who do many of the difficult, dirty and dangerous

⁹ Habitat Agenda

¹⁰ Taylor and Colin in Brown, A. and Kristiansen, A. (2008) *Urban Policies and the Right to the City: Rights, responsibilities and citizenship*, Paris, UNESCO, UN-HABITAT

¹¹ UN (2010) *World Urbanization Prospects 2009 Revision*, <http://esa.un.org/unpd/wup/index.htm>, accessed Aug10

¹² DFID (2010) *Cities: the New Frontier*, London DFID

¹³ UN-HABITAT (2003) *Water and Sanitation in the World's Cities*, Nairobi, London, Earthscan

jobs essential in cities. Women too suffer major discrimination, and across the globe suffer low wages, lack property rights, and bear the burden of child-rearing.

Policies/Tools to Promote Pro-Poor and Inclusive Approaches to Development

In addressing the challenges of rapid urbanization, climate change and vulnerability, and promoting pro-poor and inclusive approaches to development, HPF members and partners should:

develop awareness of the drivers of exclusion—gender, age, ethnicity, religion, poverty, living in slums, working in the informal economy—both through improved information and the perceptions of excluded groups themselves, and support the following six principles of pro-poor and inclusive development:

- improve access to adequate shelter through innovative, community-led and other housing initiatives;
- support vulnerable livelihoods, protecting existing jobs and promoting decent work agendas;
- celebrate cultural, ethnic and religious diversity in the vibrant, multi-cultural modern cities;
- promote gender equality for the millions of urban women who live in poverty and insecurity;
- promote pro-poor adaptation to climate change threats to minimize risk for vulnerable urban populations, and
- support innovations for inclusion in policy and practice through exchange and dialogue amongst the built environment professions, and with decision-makers and the public.

2.4 Heritage, culture and sense of place

Definition

Heritage, Culture and Sense of Place together provide the link between people and their environment, between people and their culture, to provide a way forward to ensure that there is still a sense of place with any new interventions. To survive all of these have been sustainable and to go forward the professions must be responsible to ensure that there is still a sense of place in any new development or intervention in an existing place. Any new development should create a sense of place.



Background

The past provides lessons for the future in a developing world and in the developed world. Heritage is sustainable or it would not still be here. Culture provides by its very nature ways of bringing everyone an

excellent quality of life. In those societies where culture is still really strong there is a calmness and harmony not felt in other places. A sense of place can be violent or calm at the extremes. Behaviour is influenced by the “feel” of a place. If it is respected it is nurtured and reinforced, if a place feels unsafe bad things happen there. The Habitat Professionals can use their skills to create a good sense of place that harmonises with peoples’

feelings to provide a safe place, a place accessible by all, an enjoyable and uplifting space that has a presence. Architecture, landscape, urban planning, engineering and infrastructure all play a part in the built environment, as they also do in the natural environment. The way they integrate or detract from the built and natural environment will either uplift or detract from the sense of place, the local culture and heritage places.

Policy

By re-examining these three issues it is possible to find new ways forward in a professionals' education. We can learn from the past to go forward and to find new solutions to present problems to reinforce the good things about heritage, culture and sense of place to give a better quality of life for all people whether they are in the developing world or the developed world. All disciplines can learn from each other.

One of the hardest and most important things that HPF members must do is to persuade their members that they must work with all communities to empower all people to have an opinion regarding the changes necessary for their communities. It is all about sharing and enabling people to improve their lives through listening to their comments and persuading governments at all levels to understand that improvements do not need to cost much as people will do it themselves if given a little help.

2.5 Climate change and risks

The Climate Change Context

Human settlement professionals set themselves the goal of promoting sustainable urbanisation and inclusive urban settlements. Both the causes and the consequences of climate change present new, pressing and largely uncharted challenges for Human Settlement professionals as they pursue their goal.

The impacts of changing weather patterns on communities throughout the world remain wholly unpredictable but it is already clear they will be significant and can manifest themselves in ways that are unexpected and catastrophic. More frequent and more severe disasters will increase the number of people who are displaced from their homes and will lead many to become environmental refugees.



As the world struggles to respond to these events, human settlement professionals will be seen to have a unique and an increasingly important role to play. The technical knowledge the professions possess, the breadth of their expertise, and the strength of their public interest orientation will be called upon as never before. The task for the professions will be burdensome as it will involve them working in situations of high levels of risk and uncertain outcomes.

While climate change is a global problem requiring global action at the highest level many responses – whether in terms of mitigation or adaptation – need to be local. Universal approaches for responding to the challenge are not appropriate.

Every settlement is different, as are the needs of the people who live in them. So, while every settlement contributes to climate change, the contribution each settlement makes is unique, and while climate change will

impact on each settlement, the way that it will do so will be unique. While we need overarching strategies and co-ordination, we also need to empower local communities, local government and local actors to develop local responses which acknowledge and reflect the unique circumstances of different places.

Furthermore a large cast of actors determines the state of our settlements. All have an important role to play but the organisational and governmental frameworks to coordinate and inform appropriate local responses and strategies are still in their infancy.

This is the context that climate change has established for human settlement professionals. The professions need very urgently to develop their capacity to rise to the challenges that have been created. They need to find new ways of thinking and new professional approaches.

Seven Approaches for Human Settlement Professionals

Creating sustainable human settlements means the considerations of climate change must be reflected in all aspects of the human settlement professionals' work. Seven overarching principles underpin our approach:

Remembering that climate change remains part of the bigger task of creating sustainable human settlements. Sustainable development means ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations. While responding to climate change is an urgent priority, neither its causes nor its impacts can be addressed in isolation of the wider set of social, economic and environmental issues that sustainable development entails.

Instead, the Habitat Professionals Forum sees climate change as one component of a much wider approach to creating human settlements that are sustainable, integrated, and inclusive. By addressing the causes of climate change, and by planning settlements that are less vulnerable to natural calamity, human settlements will be more liveable and the world will cope better with all environmental challenges.

Addressing climate change means tackling its causes. Scientists have explained in convincing detail the process of global warming that is manmade as a result of releasing greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. This is leading to changing weather patterns that will have a profound effect on human settlements throughout the world, and the only way to slow this is by mitigating its causes through a rapid reduction in greenhouse gas release.

Human settlement professionals have a vital role to play in this process by working to create more sustainable human settlements which minimise greenhouse gas emissions and by promoting behavioural changes to reduce our impact on the environment. This means working with individuals, organisations and communities to help them lower their energy use for instance by making buildings more energy efficient, reducing their demand for carbon-consuming travel, shifting towards the use of more renewable or low carbon energy and natural resources and minimising waste.

Responding to climate change means adapting our settlements to make them more resilient to the consequences of changing weather patterns. These consequences may be rising sea levels, tropical cyclones, storms, extreme heat, droughts or more severe winters and they may take the form of sudden disasters or longer term changes such as desertification or glacial melting.

We cannot rely on new development to ensure a sustainable global future because patterns of development are too firmly entrenched.

People will continue to live in existing towns and cities, many of which are already coping with rapid growth. Through better and more inclusive planning the challenge for these places is to grow resilient to natural and manmade disasters.

The built environment professions have a unique role to play in helping human settlements at all levels from the regional to the individual household adapt themselves to reduce the risks of these threats in order to protect their people, their infrastructure and their economy, and to facilitate recovery and reconstruction in the event of disaster, whether natural or man-made.

Developing evidence-based responses. Responding professionally to the climate change challenge, both in terms of mitigation and adaptation, requires working from the facts - relevant, reliable and consistent data and information. Expanding our knowledge of the causes, the consequences and the efficacy of responses is a high priority. The continual development of our knowledge base through systematic measurement, monitoring, analysis and reporting is vital.

For this reason, a high priority is to develop a knowledge base of mitigation and adaptation initiatives wherever in the world they take place. This knowledge base must be freely available and easy to access.

Developing inclusive solutions. We are all in the same boat on climate change so we shall sink or swim together. The costs and the benefits of both mitigation and adaptation measures must be shared fairly. This applies at all levels, from the national to the individual household. Settlements where greenhouse gas emissions are highest must work hardest at mitigation, while those settlements that are most at risk of the consequences must concentrate on and be given most support for measures to adapt and increase their resilience.

All those who live in our human settlements must be involved. All individuals and all communities must be helped and encouraged to participate actively in decision-making so that there is a shared commitment to act upon agreed outcomes. Finding better ways to engage more effectively with all groups in responding to the climate change challenge is a very high priority for human settlements professionals.

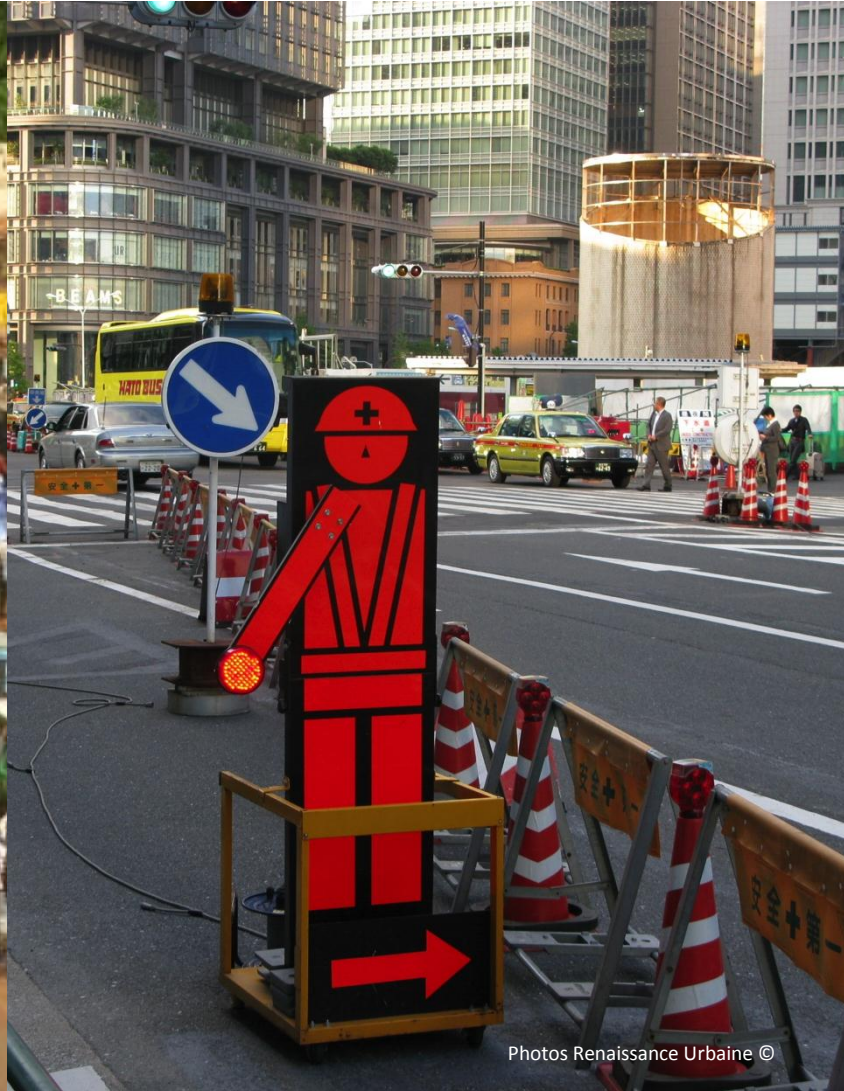
Committing to lifelong learning. The knowledge and the skills to address climate change are both developing and fragmenting at an accelerating rate. Few professionals who practise today were specifically trained to address the problem and few can claim to have all the competencies that the response to climate change will call upon them to demonstrate.

This means that those who work in the built environment professions must commit themselves to continuing professional development in a never ceasing process of expanding and refining their knowledge, their skills and their ways of working. It is vital that this learning process must draw from those who are members of other professions if they have knowledge or skills that are relevant and from those with knowledge and expertise who belong to no profession at all.

Expanding the global capacity to respond. Better understanding of the science of climate change and the responses needed is not enough. We need to develop our capacity to apply our understanding more effectively.

As human settlement professionals we must find ways to work more closely with other sectors of society who affect human settlements and how they are managed. Climate change introduces a new urgency into this process.

It requires us to work with legislators and policy makers to build more appropriate legal and policy frameworks to manage human settlements more sustainably.



Photos Renaissance Urbaine ©

CHAPTER 3. Living Charter

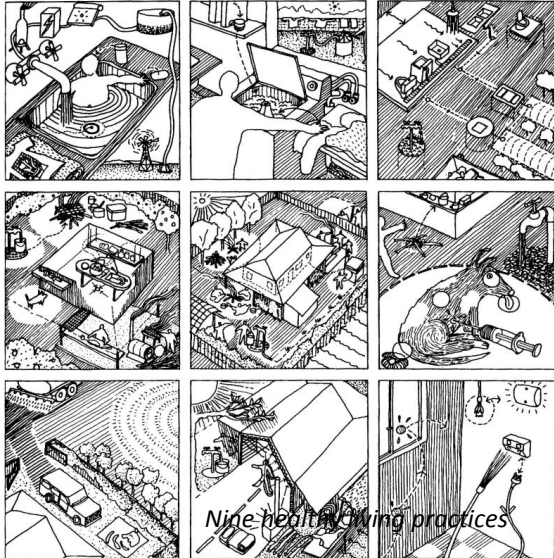
The Habitat Professionals Forum is a global platform. The Charter has ensured the establishment of new common grounds for professional organisations worldwide

The Charter's value stems from actual experiments and initiatives locally, on the ground, often led by several professions

The Charter meaning comes from the ability to showcase these illustrations at the global level, thus connecting scales, issues, places and people. This is what is meant by the concept of the Living Charter, and hereafter illustrated.

3.1 Architecture on the move: Low cost and high efficiency sustainability

Aboriginal planning in contemporary urban environments, Australia by Paul Pholeros



Initiated in 1985, the Housing for Health program aims to improve the health of Indigenous people in Australia, by ensuring they have access to safe and well functioning housing and an improved living environment. It uses a survey and fix methodology for testing whether the houses are safe to live in and have functioning electrical and water supply systems. The Nine Healthy Living Practices pioneered through the project are now part of current federal and state government policy and knowledge gained through the Housing for Health projects has been used to develop a national Indigenous housing design code that respects cultural traditions and norms.

Aims, Objectives and key features

The Housing for Health (HfH) program aims to improve the health of indigenous people, by ensuring they have access to a safe and well functioning house, and an improved living environment

Key Features

Healthhabitat works with local indigenous communities to repair existing homes and train local people in basic repair and maintenance skills. It has two main areas of work – the HfH projects and the associated applied research and development projects. The safety and nine Healthy Living Practices were developed in the mid 1980s to describe the functioning hardware needed in a house to allow access to healthy living. These practices



Hot water system

include: life threatening safety issues, then washing people, washing clothes and bedding, removing waste water safely, improving nutrition with the ability to store, preparing and cooking food and reducing the health impacts of dust. Nominations for inclusion in the program come from communities themselves, as well as indigenous housing boards and Indigenous Affairs departments. After a feasibility study and if the communities wish to participate, a Survey-Fix week is set aside and a number of local community members are trained to work alongside technical staff to inspect, test and record about 240 items in the houses, and where possible make repairs. The information on each house is entered onto a database and work lists are given to qualified trades people who carry out urgent repairs a day later. Other repairs are completed over the following months and a second Survey Fix session is carried out to review the work.

One hundred and eighty four HfH projects have been carried out all around Australia, with over 7,300 houses improved to date. Seventy-five per cent of all project staff are local indigenous people and the paid work they carry out includes project planning, training of staff, testing and repairing houses,

assisting licensed trades people with major repair work, data entry and office work and liaison with householders in their own language about the aims and methods of the programme.

Survey groups are trained in a short time to test houses and record the results, using a carefully prescribed methodology.



Prefabricated shower box

While they are in a house they will also fix minor faults (a dripping tap, a missing stove control knob or basin plug etc.) driven by the philosophy of 'no survey without service' and make a report for the skilled tradesmen who make an immediate start on sorting out those things that the groups are not entitled to fix. The effort required to achieve this engagement is rarely understood by government agencies and bureaucrats and successful and appropriate means of working have been developed over the years.

Healthabitat has also initiated a broad range of applied, practical research projects to improve housing, covering issues such as development of tap ware, hot water systems, waste disposal systems, lighting, kitchen design, prefabricated transportable shower laundry and toilet modules, local indigenous staff training aids and customised database and information systems.



Photo: © B.K.S. Inan

Several ways to build housing in Bangladesh, by Anna Heringer

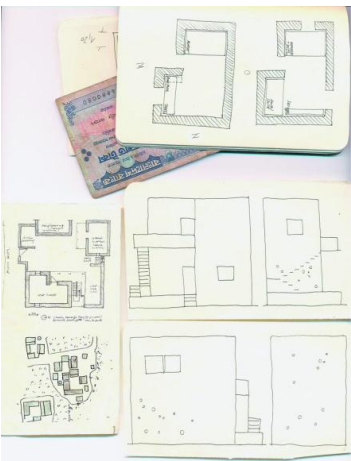
HOMEade - pilot project on rural housing (3 family houses)

Background

These three family houses are the results of a hands-on workshop for students and young architects conducted in a remote rural area of Bangladesh. Eight students of the BRAC University in Dhaka (Bangladesh) as well as five Students from the University of Art in Linz/ projectstudio BASEhabitat (Austria) came to a small and remote village in the North of Bangladesh, Rudrapur, to continue what has started with the Handmade METI-School: to work together with the local people on a model for a sustainable, modern architecture in a dynamic process.

The goal of the HOMEade project is to improve the living conditions of the local population and to strengthen national

identity while maintaining the current high level of sustainability with regard to home construction. This is accomplished by building three model houses for low-income village families designed by young local architects and built by local craftsmen who have been trained in the modern mud and bamboo building techniques. It is the expectation that the young architects will be able to carry their knowledge and skills to other regions of Bangladesh and the trained labour will be able to use their skills to build other modern mud homes in the region.



Because the budget and available materials were limited, the planners were forced to concentrate on the basic needs of the clients (the villagers) and create intelligent designs that made the most of the existing resources, in some ways pushing them to new levels - both literally with two story mud buildings and figuratively with new design concepts that are accessible to the rural population. The resulting architecture reflects a pureness of form and material. In this way the mud buildings of Bangladesh might be a good metaphor for architecture as a whole, where the qualities of a great architect are not flash and fancy materials, but humility, sensitivity, and courage. Perhaps instead of focusing on creating “star architecture” and loud structures, we should endeavour to create buildings that harmonize with the environment and serve the needs of the people.

The HOMEmade project is sustainable for two main reasons: first, it is built with readily available, local, renewable resources – mud and bamboo. Second, it saves land for agriculture by building two-story buildings instead of single-story structures.

Approximately 75% of the 147 million Bangladeshis live in villages – mainly in loam or bamboo houses. Although these traditional building materials are highly sustainable, villagers have an increasing desire to build homes out of bricks, concrete, and corrugated iron sheet (CI sheet). This trend could have a serious impact on the environment; fabrication of these materials requires a lot of energy and produces noxious emissions.

Bangladesh is one of the most densely populated countries in the world; approximately 1,045 people per square kilometre. Each year more and more agricultural land is lost to residential development. If Bangladeshis in the rural areas (about 110 million people) started living in two story structures, more land would be available for farming. This would help reduce some of the food shortage problems that the country is currently facing.

What I hope is that we’ll be able to set a trend in a fresh and regional architectural style that motivates people to bring their traditional construction methods - without the touch of being rustic - into a contemporary modern architecture. I believe that architecture - if we use it wisely - has the potentials to contribute in a significant scale to the development of Bangladesh’s ecological balance as well as it’s economic independence and I hope we can facilitate a process of self-discovery and identification in architecture and culture

All three family houses conform to both the traditional and contemporary lifestyles of rural low-income families, but have incorporated design and construction features that improve comfort, safety, durability, and privacy. As in traditional vernacular Bangladeshi architecture, the kitchen and bathroom are still housed in separate structures. The new buildings have two stories, however, which double the family living area while maintaining the same building footprint. The land saved by adding the second story can be used as a small house garden. The second story provides a new experience of view and privacy while still being connected to the rest of the household.

Roof thermal masses, coconut fibre insulation, glass windows, and openings designed for cross ventilation assure that the indoor temperature is comfortable year round. Most of the existing Bangladeshi mud houses are too cold in the winter because cold air comes in through the openings and hot air escapes through the roof. They are also too hot in the summer because the uninsulated CI sheet roofs quickly heat up the interior and poor ventilation does not allow the hot air to escape.

The new building technologies also significantly increase the durability and lifespan of the mud homes. Local materials were used even more radical than the METI school in order to reduce costs: rammed earth foundations with a thin layer of Ferro-cement and a damp proof course prevent pests from burrowing into the buildings and moisture from seeping up from the ground into the walls. Small pieces of bamboo strategically placed on the exterior walls act as speed breakers to prevent rain erosion. And straw mixed in with the mud increases wall cohesion and strength. Instead of nylon ropes like in the METI-school, ropes made of coconut fibre were used and bamboo dowels instead of steel wherever it was possible.

The research and planning has been carried out in the same pace as the buildings were growing - a continuous dynamic and flexible process. Architectural drawings and planning in classical style didn’t exist. Details developed on site, clay and sketchbook were the communication media.



Photo: © Kurt Hoerbst

Ukumbi, or architectural Planning for Underprivileged groups¹⁴, by Helena Sandman

The Role of Ukumbi

Ukumbi¹⁵ is a Finnish non-governmental organisation established in 2007. The mission of Ukumbi is to offer architectural services for communities in need. Often these communities consist of women, children or young people with limited opportunities for participation in society. Architecture can be a powerful way of mitigating poverty; culturally knowledgeable architectural planning based on local and traditional spatial thinking and customs, and a participatory planning process that secures commitment of the target group can be factors to empower the community and increase its self-esteem. This in turn can have a considerable impact in improving the everyday circumstances of the people. In addition to making a culturally significant contribution, Ukumbi seeks to create ecologically sustainable architecture.

The funding members of Ukumbi have designed a Women's Centre, completed in October 2001 in the suburb of Rufisque, Senegal. The women's centre offers facilities for the activities of the various organisations formed by the women.

Ukumbi is for the moment working on and looking for funding for the Agaseke Educational Activity Centres-project for women in Kigali, Rwanda, the KWIECO Women's Shelter project in Moshi, Tanzania and the APE Learning Centre in Cairo, Egypt.



Women's Centre, Rufisque, Senegal¹⁶

The general African way of women organising themselves in groups, with the number of members ranging from tens to hundreds, also occurs in Senegal. An active and strong women's group attempts to ease its members' everyday life amidst poverty and strives to guarantee them a reasonable 'social security'. The schooling level is raised by independent initiative and literacy courses. The organisations supplement their incomes by selling home-made food and needlework. Also they help women to adapt to the change in life in moving to the city from the countryside. Their activities have an organised structure, which means a step forward from the traditional social network created by family and friends.

The women's centre, built in a suburb of Rufisque, offers facilities for the activities of the various organisations formed by the women. The idea and the spatial programme of the centre were born in cooperation with

local women's groups. The building was carried out as an NGO project through 'Tekniska Föreningen i Finland', and was financed by the Finnish Foreign Ministry, the Senegalese-Finnish Association ARC, as well as by scholarships received from various foundations. The plot was donated by the city of Rufisque and donations were also given by locals.

According to the west African custom, the building is grouped around an internal courtyard; the line between private and public is clear albeit flexible. The simplicity of the street facades adapts the building to its surroundings; the corner facing a road crossing forms a small public square where the facilities reserved for commerce are located. The building's red colour gives the house its own identity amidst the grey tone of the city block structure.

¹⁴ www.ukumbi.org , www.hollmenreutersandman.com , www.helenasandman.fi

¹⁵ Ukumbi is swahili, the most widely spoken language in sub-Saharan Africa. It means a forum, veranda and a meeting place for dialogue and interaction.

¹⁶ Projects Hollmén Reuter Sandman Architects

The building frame is a column and beam structure cast on site, with the walls made from concrete blocks cast in a mould and dried on site. The roof is corrugated metal sheeting supported by a steel beam system, with thick woven straw matting forming an insulating ceiling structure; the spacing between is ventilated, which guarantees that the indoor air is kept pleasantly cool. Localness and recycling is emphasised in the material choices; for instance, the use of wood is limited to only those places where it could not be replaced by any other material; and in detailing, for instance, old car wheel rims have been used as ventilation holes and the bottoms of old glass bottles for windows. The reinforcement irons in the concrete have been made from recycled iron.

The centre was completed in October 2001. Hundred of people participated in the opening festivities and the atmosphere was happy and relaxed; the building received its guests with open arms

Sra Pou Vocational School, Udong, Cambodia 2010 - 2011¹⁷

Sra Pou vocational school is a vocational training center and community building in Sra Pou village, Cambodia. The school is designed by Architects Rudanko + Kankkunen and built during spring 2011. The architects took care of both building design and construction management on site.

The purpose of the vocational training centre is to encourage and teach poor families to earn their own living. The Sra Pou community is one of the unprivileged communities in Cambodia, who have been evicted from their homes in the city to the surrounding countryside. They lack basic infrastructure, decent built environment and secure income. The new vocational school provides professional training and helps the people to start sustainable businesses together. It is also a place for public gathering and democratic decision-making for the whole community. A local NGO organizes the teaching.

The project was started by young architects (BSc) Hilla Rudanko and Anssi Kankkunen in an Aalto university design studio in spring 2010. During the studio, they travelled to Cambodia to find a design task with a local NGO. The studio works were imaginary, but Rudanko and Kankkunen decided to organize the construction of Sra Pou vocational school, since there was an urgent need for it and their design inspired both the community and donors. The firm Architects Rudanko + Kankkunen was founded during the design process.

The school building is made out of local materials with local workforce. The aim was to teach people how to make the most out of the materials that are easily available, so that they can apply the same construction techniques for their own houses in the future. As the materials are scarce, the beautiful red soil was utilized to make sundried soil blocks. The whole school is hand-made: no machines or prefabricated parts were used in the building work. This allowed employing many people from the community, and it kept all techniques simple and transferable.



Using local materials and techniques, the designers have created a beautiful architectural composition. The soil block walls repeat the warm red shade of the surrounding earth. They are laid out with small holes, so that indirect sunlight and gentle wind come in to cool the spaces – and at night, the school glows like a lantern through these small openings. The whole community space is open, providing comfortable shaded outdoor space. The colorful hand crafted doors are visible from far away and welcome visitors coming along the main road.

¹⁷ Project Architects Rudanko + Kankkunen



Mapungubwe Interpretation Centre, Mapungubwe National Park,, Limpopo, by Peter Rich¹⁸

Building and Programme Description

Sited at the confluence of the Limpopo and Shashe Rivers, the Mapungubwe National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site, celebrates the site of an ancient civilization linked to the Great Zimbabwe trading culture in the context of a natural setting that re-establishes the indigenous fauna and flora of this region.

The dramatic rocky landscape of the park is a result of violent geological events that resulted in the Limpopo River changing its course from flowing into the Atlantic Ocean to discharging into the Indian Ocean. Sandstone formations, mopane woodlands and unique riverine forest and baobab trees form the astounding scenic backdrop for a rich variety of animal life. Elephant, giraffe, white rhino, eland, gemsbok and numerous other antelope species occur naturally in the area.

Archeological finds of gold, beads and Ivory have provided unequivocal evidence of the presence of a technologically advanced ancient civilization. The area was inhabited by a growing Iron Age community from 900 AD and became rich through trade with faraway places like Egypt, India and China. Here on Mapungubwe Hill the famous Golden Rhino was found – an iconic intricate golden object that has become emblematic of the greatness of southern Africa before colonialism.

The Interpretation Centre is located near to the park entrance set on the side of a mesa. The ceremonial centre of this civilization is located on a sister mesa, one kilometer away from the site and is the visual climax of the architectural experience orchestrated in the design of the Centre.

The complex landscape was both the inspiration for the design and the source of most of the materials for its construction, resulting in a composition of structures that are authentically rooted to their location.

¹⁸ Peter Rich Architects, Johannesburg, South Africa

An equilateral triangle provides the primary ordering of the building defining a route that climbs the hill gently, ramping through the building and up to the top of the mesa. This underlying order is a subtle reference to triangular motifs etched on stones uncovered on Mapungubwe Hill. The heart of the Interpretation centre is visually contained by hollow domed cairns that mark changes of direction evoking route-markers found in Southern African cultures.



Inspired by the economy found in nature vaulted forms are adopted – a simple expression of natural forces and materials.

The vaults delicately rest in the undulating landscape and 'billow', exposing the arched edges of their thin shells, an analogy of the archaeological revelation of past cultures. Three vaults are explored – a rectangular large span vault (15m x 8 m), a domed vault (topping the round cairns) and a low arched vault (built as permanent formwork for floor slabs above). These are choreographed to create a series of wonderful sacred cave-like interior spaces and as well defined external external spaces containing exhibition and learning spaces. Africans believe in the veldt being a place of danger and fertility. Here the buildings envelop external spaces– creating shelter and safety.

The domical language of vaults is contrasted by the delicate walkways that create a zigzagging ramped route through the complex. The visitor's first view, across a seasonal stream, is of the chameleon like vaulted forms springing directly from the land on robust buttresses. Volumes are linked by terraced seating, contrasting the structured horizontality of the contours with the diaphanous domes and arches. The surfacing of all of the masonry

in local rubble stone creates a timeless quality, as if they had erupted from the earth in a geological event similar to that which created the mesas of the site and Mapungubwe Hill.

The route provides the visitor with a multiplicity of experiences, evoking the complex social interactions of the many cultures that have traversed the site. The strong southern light is tempered by rusted steel screens that echo the network of branches of indigenous trees; horizontally slatted natural timber evokes traditional shade structures. The arrival point is marked by the first of the hollow cairns, lit by an oculus that tracks the path of the sun.

The experience of the internal exhibition space is cavernous and bathed in half light, articulated by the exposed tiles made from the local soil. Light is filtered through fused coloured glass, with dappled patterns reflected from the ponds that cool the air that naturally ventilates the buildings. The termination of this central space is a second cairn, representing the sunset and housing the golden rhinoceros that has become a Southern African icon. Visitors have a choice of route: ramp and stair, internal and external, to move into the upper levels of the vaulted spaces. The route continues outside crossing terraced and covered spaces, leading up the mesa to the highest part of the site and affording a view across a flat expanse to Mapungubwe Hill in the distance, with its backdrop of the Limpopo River.

The project's agenda extends beyond the presentation of ancient and more recent history of the area to awaken an understanding of the vulnerability of the local ecology. The problem of a remote site coupled with a high local unemployment rate and complex contesting tribal land claims also had to be taken into account.

These are manifested in the choice of technology, the language of the building, the materials and construction process in where unemployed local people were trained in the manufacture of stabilized earth tiles and in building the timber vaults. The resulting knowledge has been accepted into the culture of the region, with the masons continuing the skills they have learned by using the remaining tiles for their houses in nearby villages. Thus, the Centre is not only emblematic of the site, Africa and its unique place in the origin of the world but has become part of a story that is still unfolding, of culture developing in symbiosis with its natural legacy.



The technology avoids the potential large embodied energy of a conventional solution in such a remote site by using predominantly local materials. Except for the cement added to the earth to give the tiles strength and used in the mortar layers between the tiles, all materials (earth, sand, gravel and stones) came from within a few kilometers of the building site. The use of vaulting and other 'forms found in nature' inspired by the dramatic landscape avoids any overt references to any potentially controversial tribal vernacular (the area has many contesting land claims between different tribal groups). By reducing or eliminating steel in the vault construction we aim for a longer life span without concern for deterioration due to rust. The heavyweight construction has passive environmental benefits over a more conventional solution. The building does not only cost at least 30% less than a conventional solution but benefits the local population through using predominantly local labour with the added benefit of a tangible skills transfer.

Peter Rich Architects is dedicated to understanding the roots of African vernacular and space making, applying this to a contemporary setting, translating research into practice through a collaborative process – the collaborators being not only the members of the design team – but the personalities involved in the process of building. This approach is a contrast to the common western concept of "building as product" and leads one to the definition of "building as process" – involving many collaborators. How appropriate to a developing world context.

In this case the complex collaboration has been instrumental to the success of the building. On this stunning site in Mapungubwe – these innovative vaults have been choreographed into a building with spaces of character, resonance and beauty, great architecture that speaks of its time and place.



Photo Renaissance Urbaine / Udo ©

3.3 Planning on the move: Re-engineering communities

The Future of Cities, by IHFP

The World Congress on the “Future of Cities”, held in 2007 in Copenhagen, Denmark, examined how our urban environment is multifaceted and challenging. A guiding question was how can sustainable solutions help offer liveable environments to the world’s increasing urban populations? What the Congress examined proved relevant for the professional community since then and even more accurate in 2012:

- *Impacts:* As our urban numbers increase, so do the questions: What are the impacts? On the cityscape, on the countryside, on the built environment, on where we work, where you live, and where Peter plays?
- *Indicators:* What are the recent findings, current trends, hard facts, and future figures? What is the measure of urban quality, of adequate housing? What are current construction rates? What are the forecasts for 2030?
- *Implementations:* With rising urbanization, what policies, plans, and programs are being enacted? Who is doing it, and how are things getting done?

Topics of the Congress included planning, building, housing, and urban quality:

- *Sustainable Planning Solutions:* An obvious planning concern is the surge in urban growth – in urban centres as well as intermediary zones. What types of demands are being placed on urban infrastructure: Transportation systems, communication networks, water and energy supplies, sewage and sanitation handling?

- *Best Building Practices*: What building practices are worthwhile pursuing? Cities throughout the world seek to position themselves through high profile buildings; meanwhile, other cities are struggling with the most basic maintenance of their built environment. They, too, can offer solutions for the future: Innovative applications of traditional building materials, processes and architectonic solutions.
- *Housing the Urban Half*: Growing slums in many of the world's megacities are an urban reality. How much should government regulate? What array of pragmatic and experimental housing solutions are there for the growing urban masses?
- *Urban Quality*: The interplay between a city's spaces and its urban life is considered to be a condition for a city's urban quality. It is the spaces of the city that offer corridors of mobility, market places, and clearings where gardens can grow. How do we define, measure, and quantify urban quality?

It is now time to reconsider how the issues that were raised during that congress have been addressed since then. Above all, we shall not forget that as planners, we need to take into account what is happening now, and we need to envision our practice in the long run.

Improved Urbanity? by Nicolas Buchoud

We need cities. The more the world population grows, the more we need cities. Working together, we invent things, because we can meet, and that is what nurtures progress.

Collective decision-making in the design, the discussion, and the implementation provides a response by a polyphonic harmony to the complexity of the socio-economic and urban environments we live in.

Improving urbanity means building a shared urban future. Engineering and design provide starting points, but are in no way a final aim. Take for example a transportation hub. Designing or redesigning a hub depends on anticipating new traffic-flows and the project must be progressively worked out around people, their journeys and their intentions. The same applies to cities, be it on the scale of a neighbourhood, a city block or an entire conurbation.

Improving urbanity means promoting urban creativity at all scales, anticipating demographic evolutions, traffic flows ... and finding ways to cope with them so as to encourage the emergence of urban environments that are more pleasant to live in, more productive, more attractive, more inclusive.



Photo Renaissance Urbaine ©

Creating dialogue

Dialogue is a key resource to enable us to create cities and *improve urbanity*. A constant dialogue between the size of the space and the size of traffic flow, a constant dialogue between the changing present and past history.

Wherever you are, in France, in Europe or any other context, looking carefully is essential. You cannot impose predetermined patterns. You have to look at what is there, and what is changing.

As you focus in and you recognise a host of new details and information, you become aware of the fleeting mix of features, structures and shapes which characterise a town, and of the real or apparent speed of the rhythms of change and the cycles of transformation.

And then suddenly, the power of history seizes you by force: what exists today has not always been so. And so

it can change, for the better or for the worse.

This is an essential step in awareness – realising that architects, planners, surveyors, engineers... are able to intervene in history and make it change.

Whatever the context, we need to discover the historical dimension of phenomena that occur – the events, the movements, the infrastructures. There is no determinism in the context; these are multiple realities, human, cultural, topographical, public policy, etc.

Worldwide, local and national governments impose on themselves new standards in the fields of building, water treatment, waste disposal, power... Actually putting these new standards into daily practice, on the large scale, cannot happen without close dialogue between owners and contractors. Or, more precisely, between the different stakeholders in projects, whether they be politicians, financiers or designers.

Thus we lay down the principles of designing contemporary and futures cities. The absence of formal initial dogma is replaced by the application of a requirement to enter into dialogue and by systematically seeking an economy of resources in the initial construction and the eventual management, inherited perhaps from an old engineering tradition.



Photso Renaissance Urbaine ©

The crisis of inherited models

In 2011, people are more eager than they have been for a long while for visions of the future. Artificial islands are competing with vertical farms and ultra-dense mega-structures that the progress in engineering will make possible in the next 20 years. Yet, how seriously grounded is it?

The frameworks for analysing and understanding urban phenomena need continual updating. Faced with the crisis in inherited models of architecture and planning, innovation is crucial. We constantly need to seek new knowledge, new skills, new operating practices. Work faster, cheaper. Network. Find an economic balance in a changing macro-economic environment.

It is all about new. New mobility. New lifestyles. New building methods. New materials. New methods of financing. New regulations and new environmental standards. New strategies of urban planning... apparently everything is in flux.

The shared imperative of sustainable development is opening up new perspectives, new requirements for tomorrow. This brings new uncertainties too.

Between technological and scientific issues, we need to renew the conceptual and intellectual frameworks

for understanding urban development, its mechanisms, its metabolisms and the demands of economic competitiveness.

When it comes to sustainable urban development, the frontiers between disciplines and art forms are becoming blurred. They must allow new solutions to emerge.

The limits to the technologisation of innovation

In practice, it will take time before we find concrete ways to translate to the larger scale the processes of innovation recently used in the academic field or in the context of future institutes at the crossroads between university research and industrial R&D when it comes to sustainable urban development.

At the same time, it is evident that the impact of ICT in the urban situation is increasingly sensitive and that its applications have a real impact in many fields, particularly orientation and mobility.

In general the extent of social applications of innovation in the area of sustainable urban development still remains uncertain. We need to turn towards the analysis of “weak signals”, the links between the “formal town” and the “informal town” or of applications of the “town in real time” or of enhanced reality to begin to see applications directly usable in the daily life and related to R&D work on sustainable development in the urban arena.

So, there are still hard limits on how far innovation in sustainable urban development can be diffused. This means we should not overstate the impact of glib speeches about smart cities or connected urban development.

We must no longer imagine that the production of a sustainable town and the indispensable innovations related to it are a luxury, much less as a luxury restricted to the developed world.

Rather are they an economic and social essential of our age, in an environment where the questions of diffusion, circulation, dissemination and cross-fertilisation of new ideas must inspire new multi-level modes of governance. The physical territories of the town are more than ever at the heart of the subject. Institutional

and professional stakeholders must change their practices and innovate more than ever, to rapidly lay down the markers for narrating a shared future.

Redefining smart urbanism

If more 50% of the world’s population lives in cities, if every day crowds are pressing at the gates of cities in emerging countries, if the rate of urbanisation is the one of the indexes of economic development in a country, it is because cities are places where material, cultural and spiritual wealth is created, by people coming into contact with each other.

This depends on both transportation of people and goods, and datas and ideas.

The exchange of data allowing virtual encounters using the new communication

technologies.

But to try and “make a city” by the simplistic use of these two factors would be terribly simplistic.

Creating a “smart city” means rethinking space, remoulding the spatial and structural organisation of the town. The smart city is one where the virtual city interacts with the real city and confers new qualities on it.

The work of architects, planners engineers... must be to make bits of a city, or even bits of urban context, designed like so may accelerators of opportunity and development for the urban landscapes into which they are inserted. This is true on the scale of a building, a neighbourhood, or a larger scale still. Places and traffic flows, information and people, must be able to circulate, cross paths and meet.

The position must be of a readiness to dialogue and to learn, to search for new skills, new ideas, new working methods, advancing by crossovers, encountering reality to and fro, crossing over between what is mobile and what is immobile, present and past, and to work on the history written in the physical space of the town, which is simply asking to be allowed to live.



Photo Renaissance Urbaine ©

Support for builders and housing: South Africa's NURCHA, by ADP Villes en Développement¹⁹

South Africa's National Urban Reconstruction and Housing Agency (NURCHA) was originally created to provide financing, guarantees and support for residential builders and property managers lacking access to conventional financing. It was set up in 1995 through a \$5 million donation from a charitable fund, the Soros Economic Development Fund (SEDF) and \$5 million endowment from the South African government via the National Department of Human Settlements. The SEDF then granted another \$50 million to NURCHA to guarantee bank loans.

NURCHA has developed several types of financial instruments. It began with bank loan guarantees for small builders investing in affordable housing, sharing risk with commercial banks. Up until 1999, NURCHA's guarantees covered 60-70 percent of the loan principal, providing good default-risk protection to commercial banks. In 1999, South Africa's currency was devalued and interest rates soared. Some builders were unable to make their loan payments; defaults multiplied and banks withdrew from the affordable housing market.

At this point, NURCHA moved to granting direct loans using its own capital. Commercial banks recognized its skill and loan portfolio performance, and offered refinancing. To manage its increasing loan commitments, NURCHA delegated the loans' management to intermediaries responsible for credit quality control, regulatory compliance and disbursements. To ensure that intermediaries would monitor its lending programs, NURCHA required them to invest their own capital alongside NURCHA. This freed NURCHA to focus on structuring of financial products, analyzing borrowers, and supporting builders in other ways.

After a period of diversification into savings products, in 2004 NURCHA finally focused on its core business of affordable housing, expanding this to include community infrastructure, schools, clinics and other facilities. NURCHA continues to receive donations and subventions, but has expanded its sources of refinancing; now it raises funds from commercial banks, investment companies, and private sector subsidiaries of international donors. Since its inception, NURCHA has backed the financing of 250,000 housing units and more than 250 infrastructure and community-facility projects.

Joining housing-land development and public-private in Morocco, by ADP Villes en Développement²⁰

Morocco has established a housing policy that articulated the roles of the land development industry and private property developers. The policy is based on the relatively long slum redevelopment experience of a specialized developer, the Agence national de lutte contre l'habitat insalubre (National Agency to Combat Substandard Housing; ANHI). Despite occasional past involvement in construction, the ANHI specializes in land and property development operations, where it has proven expertise in cross-subsidization; this allows the agency to produce improved, very low-priced plots of titled land for controlled, self-built affordable housing. In 2004, when this system began to seize up (primarily because of public land scarcity) and it appeared that ANHI could no longer meet demand, the central government merged various operators into a holding company, the Holding Al Omran (HAO). This brought together the ANHI with two other public companies; in 2007, seven additional regional land-development corporations joined.

Notably, Al Omran implements the "Cities without Slums" program; it covers 83 cities and 325,000 households in nearly 1000 slums. The program incorporates and extends ANHI's missions on a larger scale, dealing with slums and substandard housing through conventional redevelopment and resettlement operations, together with increased social support. Al Omran also implements large-scale housing construction projects using private sector property developers, especially in large cities. In this context, Al Omran acts as a land operator and land developer, selling the improved lots to property developers. These lots are sold at various prices, depending on the local market and targeted housing segments. Here we find the cross-subsidization concept, since part of the available land is reserved for affordable and collective housing and sold at below-market prices to property developers. These must contractually commit to a minimum price for the housing produced; the price includes a subsidy related to the land price and social-housing tax breaks.

¹⁹ (Source: World Economic Forum 2006.)

²⁰ (Sources: AFD 2003, 2004, 2008; World Bank 2006)

Initially estimates for this program put the total public investment required at more than \$3 billion. The central government finances about one-third of it through a specific facility, the Fonds de solidarité de l'habitat (Solidarity Fund for Housing; FSH), funded by a national levy on cement sales. Donors provide most of the remaining funding; the European Union provides subventions and the World Bank, European Investment Bank and AFD supply variably-subsidized loans.

Experiencial urbanism. Workshops & Networks. By the African Planning Association and Les Ateliers²¹

30 years of innovation

Les Ateliers is an international network of professionals, elected representatives, and academics from the field of urban planning and development. *Les Ateliers* have been organising urban planning workshops for 30 years, in France and in developing countries through intensive 15-days workshops gathering international and local participants with diverse specialisations and backgrounds

This innovative methodology is based on a participative approach of urban projects, and associates all the local actors to facilitate the elaboration of a shared urban project.²² It also fosters international solidarity by creating a strong network of local and international decision-makers, professionals and students, all working in teams to collectively produce ideas and strategies for the future of their city.

By ensuring the diversity of the participants, this process creates an efficient framework for south-south as well as north-south exchange of best practices, which has allowed for innovative collaboration with UN Habitat and with planner and architect networks in the African context.

As recalled by the president of the scientific committee of *Les Ateliers*, B. Warner, whereas architecture has often been perceived as an individually based process, urban planning is collective in its essence, allowing for collective and voluntary work as well as innovative projects for the future of urban areas which are in perpetual transition

From workshops to professional networks

The following set of values:

- Diversity of approaches
- Freedom of proposals
- Collective emulation
- A Place For Artists
- Coproduction mode
- Warmth and human relationships



has determined the development urban development workshops worldwide and the transformation of dedicated workshops into a networking of professionals.

²¹ www.ateliers.org

²² *Les Ateliers* were created by the urban planners of the new city of Cergy-Pontoise. Ten years after their first work, they decided to challenge their convictions, and bring a different point of view along with innovative proposals to local authorities regarding the development of the « New City ». Thus, Summer Workshops were launched, with students and graduates, coming from universities all over the world.

In 1999, the University of Irkutsk in Siberia and a regular partner of Les Ateliers, launched its own cycle, the Baikal's Winter Workshops ». In 2010, the West African Workshops for Urban Development was launched in Porto-Novo, Benin, along with a strong involvement of the local government.

The momentum has allowed for a connection with the Global Planners Network and the Commonwealth Association of Planners in the African context, and African and European planners and architects mutual visits in Benin, Senegal, Nigeria, as well as in Mali, supported by UN Habitat and several other international institutions.



Illustration of contemporary convergence

The first West African Conference of the African Planning Association was hosted by the Mayor of the District of Bamako, with the support of the Minister of Housing, Land Development and Planning of the Republic of Mali.

The conference was attended by Presidents and appointed representatives of the planning and urban development professional organisations from Liberia, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Nigeria, Tchad, Congo-Kinshasa, South Africa, Morocco and Mali.

Les Ateliers were instrumental in organizing the meeting in conjunction with a workshop on the future of Bamako, along with the support of the international representative of the Conseil Français des Urbanistes.

Participants to the first West African Planning conference convened in

Bamako acknowledged to support the development of the African Planning Association as a platform for Francophone, Anglophone and other professional urban development networks. They also agreed, with the support of UN Habitat, to take an active part, as participants so as to complete the survey on the *state of urban and regional planning in Africa*, to enhance dialogue and cooperations among the Habitat Agenda professionals and Habitat Professionals Forum organisations, and to raise the agenda the African Planning Association within AMCHUD, the African Ministers Conference on Housing and Urban Development.

3.4 Landscape architecture on the move: Landscapes, heritage for the future

A landscape architecture project on creating a better living for man and biosphere in Indonesia, by the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)

The Giam Siak Kecil and Bukit Batu Biosphere Reserve



In the era of the Green Movement is a moment to reflect on our authentic culture, as few people are lucky to see the signs of thousands year passing. The current global environmental crises are warning signs that implore us to look to the next thousand years of our living pot in a slow reflection step. The Giam Siak Bukit Batu Biosphere Reserve has become a place for this sentiment, where the landscape planning and design regenerates the land and prompts all the man to contemplate the relationship between the Man and Biosphere.



Has been announced by UNESCO in 2009 as one of 97 biosphere reserves among 27 Asia Pacific countries, Giam Siak Kecil Bukit Batu is a 705.271.000 hectares area consist of 40% Core Areas and 88% Buffer Areas which is dominated by the pulpwood industrial forest. This area is a vast landscape of peat swamp forest which has been identified as an ideal site for the philanthropic contribution to the Man and Biosphere, revitalizing the connection between the human culture and the forest, while offsetting the pulpwood industrial forest and the 'bang' of urban sprawl in the buffer areas.

Responding to the Current Global Issue

Indonesia believes that to ensure sustainable development, it is imperative to integrate socio-economic and natural resources conservation and continuous improvement of ecosystem quality.

It is expected that through this development, the community welfare can be improved while addressing socio-economic and cultural aspects. Four locations have been designated to function as landscape strategic points to serve their respective development: (1) *The Bintangur Eco Camp*, the Primary Development Center for Interpretation, Conservation and Recreation; (2) *The Half Way to the Wilderness*, The Secondary Development Center to support the Bintangur Eco Camp and Economic Safety Program serves for Peat Swamp Forests Education and Learning Program; (3) The Tasik Betung, The Primary Development Centre for Conservation and Economic Security developed for Research, Education and Learning of Natural environment and Local Cultural Life Program; (4) The Air Raja Sanctuary, The Tertiary Development Center for Conservation and Economic Security serve for Animal Rescue and Sanctuary Program.



The Bintangur Eco Camp

In some areas, the locals had a strong tradition that potentially to be developed as stewardship of the Landscape. A 'Rumah Belajar' / Living School concept has been created by the IdeA's team at the Bintangur Eco Camp to develop the awareness among local people and visitors. The concept aims to reach GSKBB Biosphere Reserve mission, that is: contribute to the conservation of landscape, ecosystems, species and genetic diversity; foster economic and human development which is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable; support for demonstration projects, environmental education and training, research and monitoring related to local, regional, national and global issues of conservation and sustainable development.



The local name of tree 'Bintangur' has inspired the design of siting office and camps since it is the indicator of peat swamp ecosystem.

The design of Bintangur Eco Camp focused around: (1) Conservation of Peat Swamp Forest Landscape; (2) Education; (3) Forest as 'the mother of culture'; (4) Ecotourism.

It represents an education model of the harmonious need between the core areas of peat swamp forest and the buffer areas of pulpwood industrial forest that are able to serve multiple functions.

Ecological and recreational corridor from the eastern hills of Bogota: an ecological, social and recreational project for the 21st century, by Diana Wiesner Ceballos - Cerros de Bogota Foundation

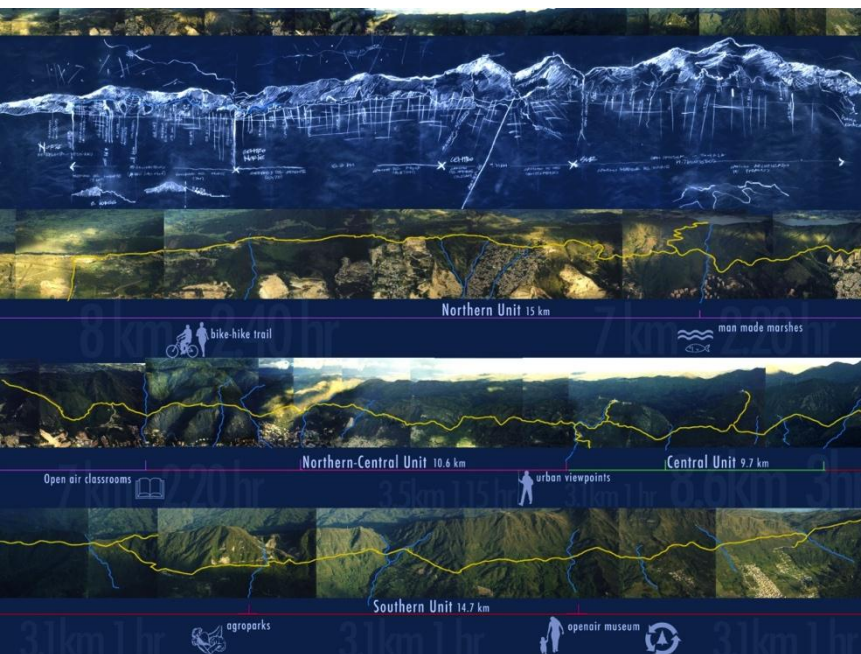
Bogotá, Colombia is framed by one of the most beautiful natural borders in the world. Before the arrival of the Europeans, the local population found not only physical but spiritual sustenance among the mountains that now require urgent care. If these mountains had been properly cared for during the last five hundred years, today we would be walking among stands of cedar, groves of native pine and majestic oaks, among others.

Today, Bogotá, a city of 8 million people, has basically turned its back on this fantastic heritage.

Therefore, we have set out with a staff of qualified collaborators to create a project, which will enhance this great ecological resource. My experience with this zone goes back to 1998 when I began to work with the Office of the Mayor on diverse conservation projects for the mountains, waterways and ecological restoration. However, none of these projects have ever been fully carried out and have been left in large part on the drawing board. The aim of the current project is to bring the mountains into contact with the people and the people with their natural surroundings.

The Bogotá Mountain Corridor is not simply infrastructure; it is memory, feeling, and affection for our mountains and the names of their streams, their vegetation, their vistas, and their fauna.

One of the tragic consequences of the centuries-old indifference towards this ecological treasure has been that no one really knows where the city ends and where the mountain borders begin. The mountains have been subjected to chaotic urban growth, invasive non-native vegetation, agriculture, exotic reforestation and even mining. This degradation brings us to a historical crossroads where we must take urgent action to preserve the Bogotá Mountains for ourselves and for future generations. It is a situation of now or never considering the city's population boom combined with the world environmental crisis.



The project will cover 415 hectares and will define the line between the City and the Forest Reserve, which is made up of over 14,000 hectares in total. *The corridor* will wind over a distance of 53 kilometers starting at the northern tip and reaching the southern tip of the city. It will pass behind upper class condominium neighborhoods, middle class homes, working class conglomerations, squatters' villages, schoolyards and other diverse human settlements. The *Path's* infrastructure will be modest: drainage materials (stone, crushed brick), hanging bridges, wooden walkways, swings, open classrooms, and vista points. This economic infrastructure means that the neighbors themselves with the help of the city government and other interested participants

can undertake construction. The ecological restoration will be geared primarily to seed gathering, nurseries for native species and collaboration with the Bogotá Botanical Garden in controlling invasive non-native vegetation.

Our aim is generate the most pact edge of the city for the inhabitants of a trust exercise piedemontana the surrounding area andin turn can benefit from their proximity, as its happening with the people that make the stream of la Vieja.

The second aim is to restore biodiversity with the communities. The aim is not only to create infrastructure but also to recover basic human relationships and values, which revolve around pathways. Paths have always meant adventure for people as well as a means of bringing them together. This is what our *Path* is meant to do. The neighbors who live along the *Path* will participate as guides, protectors, planters, and teachers who will tell the history of the mountains and take it upon themselves to protect our common heritage.

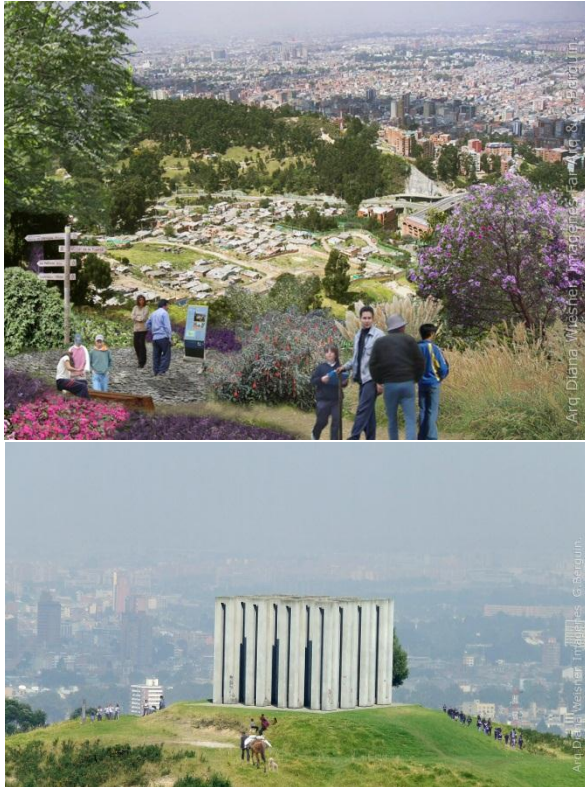
The strategy of starting citizens pacts with different sectors of the city involved in the detailed planning of the plan, which may benefit and generate boards on the surrounding areas so as to ensure security and social appropriation.

This strategy, the most important and the first phase of the project for social development, land ownership, participatory planning, sustainability and containment of expansion. This raises the Covenant Edge of greater relevance in the city along the entire corridor by integrating security programs, coexistence and citizen participation, environmental education, productive activities, recovery and appropriation of cultural heritage.



Environmental Strategy and biophysics: restoring the ecosystem

The strategy seeks to increase environmental biophysics and restore ecological connectivity ecosystem progressively foot slope is altered. Spatially is specified in the National Ecological Network consists of unoccupied areas that define the western side of the Forest Reserve, which sets in areas of ecological connectivity corridors comprised of Ladera, ecological corridors and Parks Containers Round Edge. These in turn articulate with existing parks and facilities in the border area, as well as heritage landmarks and areas of scenic value. Each of these areas will have a type of conservation management as well: Preservation, Restoration (Rehabilitation and Recovery) and sustainable use.



Space Strategy and Infrastructure: threshold of the city and recreational path

The spatial strategy seeks to physically demarcate the city limits of the reserve and available for public use and ownership as citizen oversight belt through a narrow path with a limited carrying capacity. This corridor will have associated a number of mobility projects, recreation, education, culture and tourism around the urban edge.

Spatial structure, functional and service corridor is composed of five systems: system connectivity and local service where spaces are proposed along the trail and off, which serve for connection to the city and the reserve. Secondly we propose the general mobility system consists of trails, bike paths and mobility infrastructures such as bridges and cable-type transport (only in three districts with mobility problems). In third place in the system of public space made up of urban stations and lookouts. The computer system which pose environmental parks and classrooms. Finally, the cultural heritage system composed of existing elements in art and the built heritage and intangible heritage present in the tour.

Currently the project is included in the review of the current Urban Management Plan Bogota as border pact as well. Habitat Secretary heads the project's progress and has made progress with the communities of the first stage corresponding to 14 km from the valley of the Old and the detailed designs of the area.

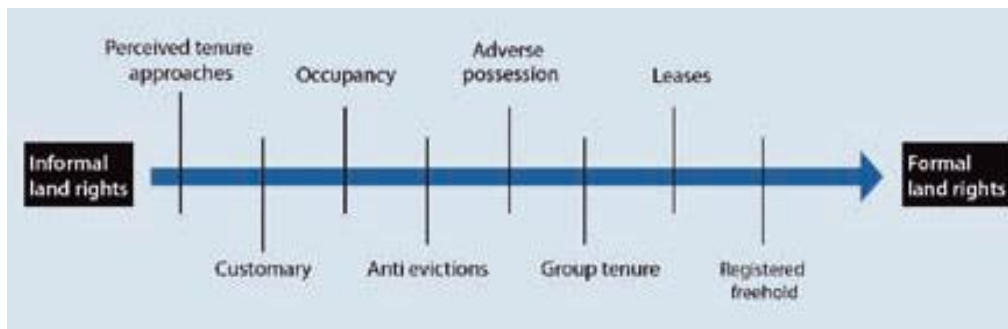
Cerros de Bogota Foundation, www.cerrosdebogota.org leads the process of appropriation, seeking to promote civic awareness and environmental culture for the advancement and defense of the forest reserve of the eastern hills of Bogota. It also seeks Provide from different sectors of society to the sustainability of the reserve of the eastern hills, supporting developing processes to increase social welfare and quality of life of its inhabitants, as well as recovery of the various biophysical plant and animal species have their habitat there.

3.5 Surveyors on the move: Future of the Global land tool network

Pro-poor land tool, by the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG)

Most developing countries have less than 30 percent cadastral coverage. This means that over 70 percent of the land in many countries is generally outside the land register. This has caused enormous problems for example in cities, where over one billion people live in slums without access to proper water, sanitation, community facilities, security of tenure rights or quality of life. This has also caused problems for countries with regard to food security and rural land management issues.

The Global Land Tool Network (GLTN), facilitated by UN-HABITAT and funded by Norway and Sweden, is a coalition of international partners, including FIG (International Federation of Surveyors), ITC (University of Twente, Faculty of Geo-information Science and Earth Observation, The Netherlands), and the World Bank (WB), took up this challenge and supported the development of pro-poor land management tools, to address the technical gaps associated with unregistered land, the upgrading of slums, and urban and rural land management. The security of tenure of people in these areas relies on forms of tenure different from individual free hold. Most off register rights and claims are based on social tenures.



"The continuum of tenure types is a range of possible forms of tenure which can be considered as a continuum. Each continuum provides different sets of rights and degrees of security and responsibility. Each enables different degrees of enforcement. Across a continuum, different tenure systems may operate, and plots or dwellings within a settlement may change in status, for instance if informal settlers are granted titles or leases. Informal and customary tenure systems may retain a sense of legitimacy after being replaced officially by statutory systems, particularly where new systems and laws prove slow to respond to increased or changing needs. Under these circumstances, and where official mechanisms deny the poor legal access to land, people tend to opt for informal and/or customary arrangements to access land in areas that would otherwise be unaffordable or not available". (UN-HABITAT:2008).

GLTN partners support a continuum of land rights, which include rights that are documented as well as undocumented, from individuals and groups, from pastoralist, and in slums which are legal as well as extra-legal and informal. This range of rights generally cannot be described relative to a parcel, and therefore new forms of spatial units are needed.

A model has been developed to accommodate these social tenures, termed the Social Tenure Domain Model (STDM). This is a pro-poor land information management system that can be used to support the land administration of the poor in urban and rural areas, which can also be linked to the cadastral system in order that all information can be integrated.

(FIG Publication No. 52: Social Tenure Domain Model – A Pro-poor Land Tool)

A mechanism for mitigating disaster impact in the Caribbean, by the Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE)

One of the greatest challenges of our time is Disaster Risk Management and Flood early-warning Systems. Dr Jacob Opadeyi, CASLE President 2007-2011, with colleague Balfour Spence, has made an enormous contribution in these areas, e.g. production of a CASLE benchmarking tool, the first technical manual for creating flood hazard maps, and telephonic community-based flood early warning systems for the Caribbean.

His research activities have included 28 engagements, including spatial databases, water quality monitoring, computerised environmental information systems, lease management and impact of climate change.

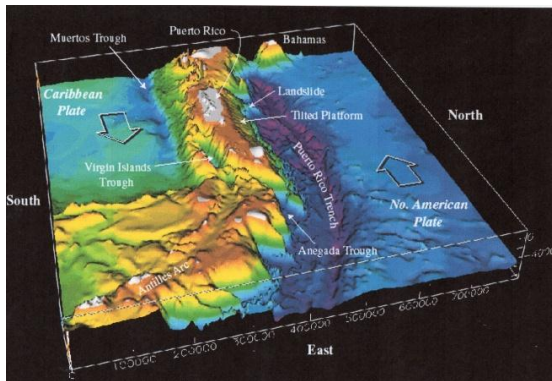
The Caribbean is particularly vulnerable to natural and technological hazards. Hazard maps should depict earthquakes, volcanoes, landslide, flood, drought, hurricane and chemical.

Preliminary sub-regional results of applying the tool's scoring system showed St Kitts and Nevis (57%) to be the best prepared, followed by St Vincent & the Grenadines (52%), St Lucia (51%), Antigua and Barbuda (47%), Grenada (45%) and Dominica (31%).

The study called for documentation of best practices and identification of areas of weaknesses.

The study found that the approach to disaster risk reduction in the region was varied, national policies and plans were not in place in some countries, where they did exist implementation resources were lacking, there were no overarching frameworks for disaster preparedness and mitigation, and specific action agendas to achieve a measurable reduction was largely missing.

The goal is to improve the ability of communities, national governments, civil society organisations and the private sector to plan proactively and implement actions to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters and create greater economic resilience when they occur.



The benchmarking tool is used for:

- Evaluating the adequacy of current DRM initiatives
- Evaluating the readiness and capability of local and national institutions to deal with the risk of disaster

Challenges to Disaster Risk Management (DRM)

- Reduction in social and economic dislocations from the impacts of hazards and disasters.
- Realisation of the social and economic benefits of mitigation.



Accountability among institutional stakeholders responsible for facilitating the goals of disaster management.

- Equal access to resources for hazard risk reduction.
- Inclusiveness of all stakeholders in strategies for hazard risk reduction.
- Partnership and participation among stakeholders for hazard risk reduction.
- Environmental protection, good governance and an integrated approach to hazard risk reduction.
- The creation of a culture of hazard risk reduction at all levels of society.

Adaptation and mitigation, by the Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE)

As a founder member in 1997 of the Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth (BEPIC) CASLE has been involved in numerous joint activities. In addition to CASLE, the constituent bodies are the Commonwealth Engineers Council (CEC), the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA) and the Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP).

At a seminar held in London in September 2010 Professor David Satterthwaite (IIED) argued that too much emphasis is given to cities as the chief generators of green house gases. Some cities generate high levels of emissions per capita, while others generate very low emissions. It is the consumption decisions of people that determine emission levels. Mitigation is required to encourage consumers to reduce their consumption. The greatest requirement on built environment professionals - and all others - is to offer robust resistance to adaptation as the primary response to climate change.

The ways to develop a more open and responsive approach to knowledge exchange, such as a common and accessible vocabulary to ensure that all professionals can communicate on an interdisciplinary level, were also discussed.

The seminar endorsed the conclusion that there is need for fundamental cultural change, individually and institutionally. More systematic and better data generation is needed so as to ensure a more objective assessment of the impact of different designs and management regimes.

3.6 People on the move: Doing Things Differently in Belo Horizonte: Integrating Waste Pickers into Solid Waste Management²³

Brazil is one of the world's most progressive countries in integrating waste pickers into solid waste management (SWM) processes, and the city of Belo Horizonte has embraced a pioneering approach. Traditionally, the planning of SWM has been undertaken by engineers and urban managers, but the waste pickers of Belo Horizonte—informal economy workers including *catadores* who collect and sort recyclable materials and *carroceiros* who collect construction waste and debris—have demonstrated how partnership working can improve recycling and support jobs.

Belo Horizonte, the capital of the state of Minas Gerais, had a population of around 5.4 million in 2007, of whom 2.4 million lived in the municipality of Belo Horizonte with 500,000 living in slums (Dias et al 2010). Waste management in Belo Horizonte was always a priority, but by 1960 the city resorted to using an open dump, where many poor people found work reclaiming resalable materials (Dias 2011a). In 1973 the dump was closed and replaced by a sanitary landfill site; the *catadores* then started collecting on the street but were often persecuted by local officials. In 1990 ASMARE, the first association of *catadores*, was set up supported by the Catholic NGO Pastoral de Rua which advocated for the rights of waste pickers to earn a living from recyclables, while the city included a clause in its Organic Law stating that the collection of recyclables would preferably be the work of cooperatives—the organised informal sector.



From 1993, the city's waste collection agency, the Superintendency for Urban Cleansing (SLU), established an integrated system of solid waste management, designed to improve waste collection, upgrade landfill operations, compost organic material, implement environmental education, and involve the informal waste collectors in SWM (Dias 2011a). Crucial to this process was a strong tradition of dialogue, political commitment to citizens' rights, and effective organisation of the *catadores*. As the Planning Director of SLU said, '*The partnership of the municipality with the catadores democratized the public cleansing agency – it brought the government closer to the needs of its citizens*' (Dias 2011a).

In 1993 the city signed an agreement with ASMARE, under which the city provided the basic infrastructure of kerbside recycling containers, collection handcarts and trucks, and two warehouses for sorting waste, while ASMARE managed collection and recycling. Meanwhile SLU set up a programme of cultural events including theatre, dance and music, to explain to the public the importance of the *catadores* contribution to city management, formalised by Law 8052 in 2000, which created a department of social mobilization and environmental education.

From 1999 new groups of recyclers were formed, so in 2003 a Waste and Citizenship Forum (*Fórum Municipal Lixo e Cidadania de Belo Horizonte*—FMLC BH) was created, bringing together 21 organisations of *catadores*, city officials and NGOs. The FMLC BH holds monthly meetings. Although the waste picker groups are in commercial competition, the meetings are usually cooperative, and the groups have now set up a collective for sale of recyclables.

Social dialogue has been a crucial in allowing the forum to explore the income-generating potential of SWM (Dias 2011b). By 2008, 95% of the city's population and 70% of slum dwellers received waste collection services, and while the contribution of the waste pickers to waste recycling is relatively small—of the 1.3m tonnes generated per year about 1% is recycled by wastepickers—waste picking supports at least 500 livelihoods. By 2008 ASMARE had 380 members of whom 55% were women, and was recycling over 500 tonnes of plastics, glass and cardboard a month (Dias 2011b).

²³ Author: Compiled by Alison Brown from material produced by WIEGO expert Dr Sonia Dias

Dias, S. Iggoose, J., Barros, R. (2010) Belo Horizonte, in *Solid Waste Management in the World's Cities*, UN Habitat, pp50-51

Dias, S. (2011a) *Integrating Informal Workers into Selective Waste Collection: The Case of Belo Horizonte, Brazil*, WIEGO, Urban Policies Briefing Note No. 6, <http://www.inclusivecities.org>

Dias, S. (2011b) *The Municipal Waste and Citizenship Forum: A Platform for Social Inclusion and Participation*, WIEGO, Urban Policies Briefing Note No. 7, <http://www.inclusivecities.org>

APPENDICES



Appendix A. Short background and presentation of the members of the Habitat Professionals Forum²⁴

A short History of the UN-HABITAT Professionals Forum from 1998 to 2012 and onwards

Below is the story of the Habitat Professionals Forum in a very very small nutshell

- *13 years*
- *18 Steering Committee meetings*
- *17 Events – organized by or participated in*
- *1 Presentation to UN General Assembly*
- *5 Chairpersons*
- *3 UNCHS/UN-HABITAT Focal Points*
- *3 UNCHS/UNHABITAT Campaigns actively supported*
- *3 Distinct Phases*
- *3 Strategy papers*
- *1 formal Terms of Reference*
- *1 Charter*
- *Dedication and perseverance - of its members*
- *Full support – UNCHS/UN-HABITAT*

Actually, the story should begin in 1991, when the Commission on Human Settlements in its 13th session considered that “it is highly opportune to convene in time for the beginning of the next century a United Nations Conference on human settlements to review past policies and set a strategy and guidelines for the beginning of the new century for action at the national, regional and international levels”, and recommended to the General Assembly to adopt at its 46th session a proposed resolution to that effect.

The General Assembly adopted the idea, set the date as 1996, the venue as Istanbul and started the preparatory process. 1990’s was a decade of major UN Conferences and Summits which were formally inter-governmental affairs with the modes of non-governmental participation “at the side” depending on the responsible branch of the UN. In that respect, HABITAT II differed radically – including the various non-governmental groups in the formal and official structure of the Conference. The groups were to hold their own forums and then come together in a Second Committee – the unique feature of this City Summit – a step to be known as “the Spirit of Istanbul”.

In 1995, International Federation of Housing and Planning (IFHP), International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) and International Union of Architects (UIA) - who later will be founding members of the HPF - were approached to organize the “Forum of Professionals and Researchers” at the 1996 Conference. In February 1996, during the Second Preparatory meeting in New York, intense consultations were held between the representative of these three organizations and the Habitat Centre staff. Certain obstacles, in particular the lack of financial support, could not be overcome and finally IFHP and UIA withdrew, and the said forum was organized by ISOCARP and Yıldız University of Istanbul. The conclusions of all forums were presented to the General Session as a Report of Committee II.

Post-HABITAT II days started with a new road-map: Habitat Agenda and apparent interest on the part of Habitat Centre to keep the spirit of Istanbul alive: in January 1997 a “first” occurred - Dr. Wally N'Dow, Assistant Secretary General of UN Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) convened a “partners consultation Meeting” in Geneva with approximately 120 representatives of the major groups which had organized Forums or other parallel events during HABITAT II, “to have an informal exchange of views on some of the important items which are on the agenda of the 16th session of the Commission on Human Settlements”. At that 16th session in April, Forum of Researchers on Human Settlements held a “Promoting Committee Meeting” and formally launches their own Forum.

²⁴ All the presentations reflect the intention of the member organisations.

In 1998, UNEP Executive Director Dr. Klaus Toepfer also became the Acting Executive Director of UNCHS (Habitat). Early in his term, IFHP and ISOCARP approached him and raised the need to establish a Habitat Professionals Forum.

The same year, UN General Assembly's Second Committee had organized a round-table meeting on 29 October with the theme: "Implementation of the Outcome of the HABITAT II".

Dr Toepfer invited Dr. Wiese-von Ofen, then president of IHSP to make a statement at this event and this became the first formal presentation of the idea of a Professionals Forum.

The 17th Session of the Commission on Human Settlements met in Nairobi during 05/14 May 1999. The initiation meeting of HPF was a side event of this session and met on May 6th. It was convened by the Executive Director and attended by over 50 professionals and representatives of professional organizations. The idea of establishing the Forum was accepted, an "Interim Steering Committee" was formed which included: International Federation of Housing and Planning (IFHP), International Union of Architects (UIA), International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP), Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP), Commonwealth Association of Surveyors and Land Economists (CASLE), Arab Urban Development Institute, Centre for African Settlement Studies and Development (CASSAD), International Federation of Surveyors (FIG), International Association of Surveyors (IAA). During this Phase, IFHP was to be the focal point with its President Dr. Dr. Wiese-von Ofen, also undertaking the Forum Chairmanship.

The HPF Steering Committee held its first substantive session in New York during 25/27 October 1999, at UN Headquarters with a brief attendance by Dr. Toepfer. Taking the presentation made in Nairobi as its basis, a "Discussion Paper" setting forth a vision, context and several questions which had to be clarified regarding the Forum was drafted and circulated by IFHP before this meeting and after discussions served as the original statement of intent of the initiative.

The first phase of five years of HPF owes much to the energy and leadership of its Chairperson, Dr. Wiese-von Ofen, who kept the Forum as visible as possible, with no resources. The Steering Committee had seven meetings and a web site was launched by FIG and excellently kept updated.

All possible opportunities presented by events organized by various entities were used to fit in a Forum activity and to establish a Forum presence:

- PrepComs for Istanbul+5 (2000 and 2001) were used to promote the Forum event planned for the Special Session of the UN General Assembly;
- Professionals Forum session was organized at Urban 21 - Global Conference on the Urban Future (4-6 July /Berlin),
- A HPF Parallel Event took place at the 25th Special Session of the UN General Assembly /Istanbul +5 (6-8 June 2001, New York) with three sessions on: Global Campaign for Secure Tenure, Global Campaign on Urban Governance, and Relationship Between Global Campaigns for Secure Tenure, Good Governance and Finance for Development (FfD) and concluded with an Address at the GA Plenary Session on behalf of HPF,
- WUF I was attended by some HPF members,
- A Joint FIG/HPF Seminar was held at the XXII World Congress and XXV General Assembly of the International Federation of Surveyors (21-26 April 2002, Washington);
- A Panel was organized at the closing plenary session of the UIA XXI World Congress of Architecture(22-26 July 2002, Berlin);
- A presentation was made at the INTERGEO Congress and Fair (16-18 October 2002, Frankfurt)

During this phase, serious changes were occurring in Nairobi. Even though UN has kept human settlements and related issues on its agendas beginning with its very first session in 1946, the organizational structure did not reflect this interest for a long time. The UN-HABITAT process actually started with the "convening of an ad hoc group of experts of ten members on housing and urban development to advise the Social Commission of ECOSOC" in 1961, moving to creation of an 18 member Committee on Housing, Building and Planning of the Economic and Social Council in 1962. After HABITAT I, the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning was transferred into a Commission on Human Settlements – with 58 members elected for three-year terms, in 1977.

In July 2000 Mrs Anna Tibaijuka was appointed as Assistant-Secretary General and Executive Director of United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS). Finally, following the Special Session of

the General Assembly UNCHS was upgraded into a full-fledged United Nations Programme on Human Settlements (UN-HABITAT) at the end of 2001. This led to a new and renewed vision for UN-HABITAT, with greater emphasis on "partnerships", and World Urban Forums became permanent features - both affecting the status and development potential of HPF.

The second phase started in Barcelona, where at the Steering Committee meeting following the Forum event, as Dr. Irene Wiese-von Ofen, after chairing the Forum for its first five years passed on the chairmanship to Prof. Dr. Ing. Holger Magel, President of the International Federation of Surveyors (FIG.) However, neither the operation nor the management style and the activity pattern of the Forum did not change much during these five years. As even the involved people were pretty much the same, some stagnation in the near future seemed inevitable. A strategy paper dated 2006 by Mr. Selman Ergüden of UN-HABITAT was a step forward for a new push: "UN-HABITAT and habitat professionals forum: background, modalities and opportunities to strengthen cooperation, strategy and steps forward"

In April 2007, the Steering Committee met in Nairobi on the occasion of the 21st session of the Governing Council with the newly appointed UN-HABITAT focal point for the Forum. A more organized and structured work pattern and Forum/UN-HABITAT relations started to be formulated, with the Forum web site transferred to the UN-HABITAT site as a first step. The Committee met again the next year during WUF IV in Nanjing where the previously envisioned Forum events had to be cancelled due to shortening of the WUP programme.

The major activities of the period were:

- Habitat Professionals Forum Networking event, "The Challenges of City Financing: Habitat's Professionals Forum and Land and Urban Poverty" organized at World Urban Forum II (13 – 17 September 2004, Barcelona)
- Habitat Professionals Forum Session at the UIA XXII World Congress of Architects; (04- 10 July 2005, Istanbul): "Governance - People - Professionals"
- Forum Chair Prof. Magel represented the Habitat Professionals Forum at the 5th European Congress on Village Renewal (21-22 September 2005, St. Pölten, Austria,) as a keynote speaker
- Habitat Professionals Forum Networking Event at World Urban Forum III (19 – 23 June 2006, Vancouver): "Public Engagement: The Inclusive Approach"

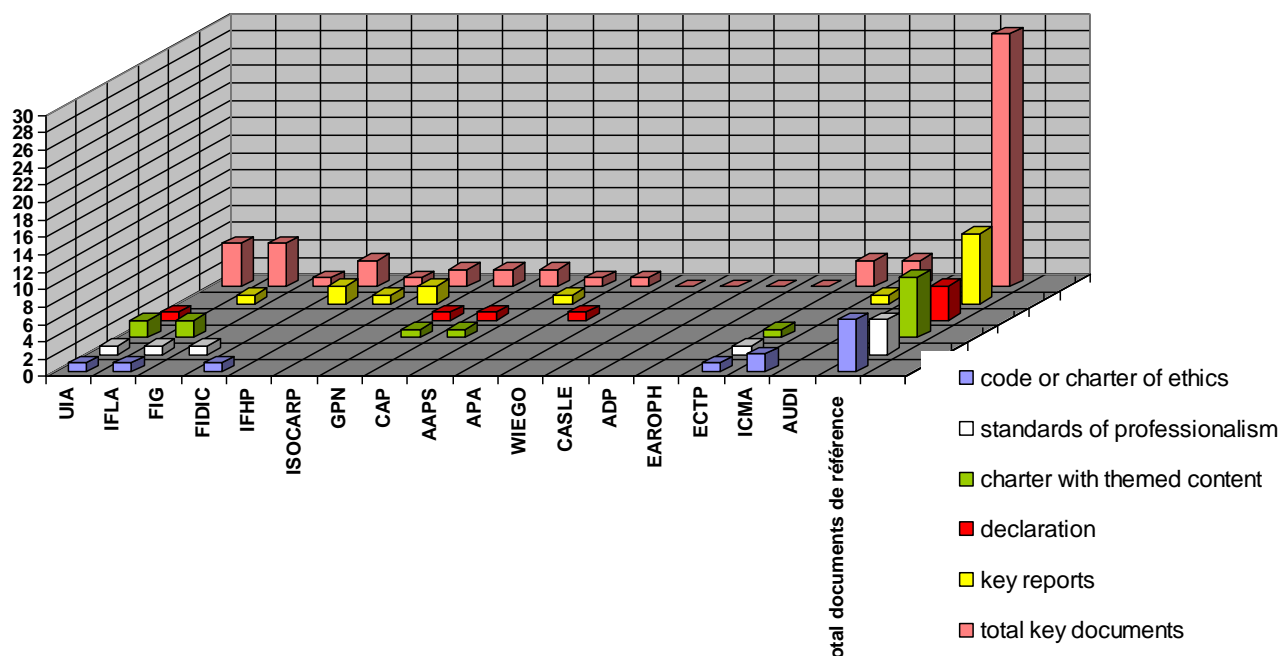
And finally – the 10th anniversary and hopefully a "revitalized second decade" ...

The HPF Strategic Meeting held on 28 March 2009 in Nairobi, encouraged by the attendance of the Executive Director and her very supportive speech, injected new blood as well as new energy to the new phase of the Forum. With the following Rio de Janeiro (2010), Nairobi (2011) and Paris (2012) meetings and an admirable amount of work carried out in between, a more focused and structured HPF has started to take shape. In 2010 the Forum Chairmanship was transferred from Mr. Derek Martin (IFHP) to Ms. Louise Cox, President, International Union of Architects (UIA). The major achievements of the initial two years were a first-time ever Terms of Reference, a Charter, active role in and Executive Committee membership of the World Urban Campaign and a much higher visibility. Activities included:

- Presentation on behalf of the Habitat Professionals Forum, by Louise Cox, AM, President, International Union of Architects (UIA) at the Dialogue on the effects of climate change on financing affordable housing, held during the 22nd Session of the Governing Council (16 - 20 April 2009, Nairobi)
- The Habitat Professionals Roundtable, focused on the theme "What role for urban professionals in the World Urban Campaign?" held at WUF V (23 March 2010, Rio de Janeiro)
- Side event at XXIVth UIA World Congress (26/28 September 2011, Tokyo) : UIA Partners Roundtable : "Better Professionals – Better Cities!" where HPF was presented by Nicolas Buchoud and supported by a video interview sent by Joan Clos UN-HABITAT Executive Director

It is difficult to condense the accumulation of 13 plus years into a few pages – but the attempt was made in good faith. The story will no doubt continue and the plot obviously thickens ... Follow us!

Aydan ERIM, M. Arch/ METU, Chamber of Architects of Turkey



Illustration

Main documents issued by HPF member and partner organisations since the early 2000's (Codes of ethics, professional standards...)

Source. ISTED / Renaissance Urbaine, 2009

Photo. HPF plenary meeting in Nairobi, March 2009



A.1 The International Union of Architects (UIA)



The organisation

The International Union of Architects (UIA) was founded in Lausanne, Switzerland on 28th June 1948 to unite the architects of the world without regard to nationality, race, religion, or architectural doctrine, and to federate their national organisations. The Secretariat is based in Paris, France.

From the 27 delegations present at the founding assembly, the UIA has grown to encompass the key professional organisations of architects in 131 countries and territories, and now represents, through these organisations, more than 1,400,000 architects worldwide.

Over time, the UIA has become an accomplished non-governmental organisation, an incomparable professional network of architects that reaches all continents. The UIA is a federation of national professional organisations called Member Sections. The UIA Member Section in a country is the most representative professional organisation of architects in that country. Each Member Section is independent on a national level and is, vis-à-vis the UIA, responsible for its relationship with governments, the other Member Sections, and the Union itself.

The UIA Member Sections are grouped geographically according to five regions:

Region I - Western Europe

Region II - Eastern Europe and the Middle East -

Region III - The Americas

Region IV - Asia and Oceania

Region V – Africa

To carry out its missions, the UIA is structured in such a way that it remains in permanent contact with professionals and their representatives, and manages in a democratic and collegial way the relations of the same at the international level.

UIA Commissions: three key domains

Through its commissions, the UIA contributes in three key areas to the improvement of architecture and the architectural profession worldwide:

- **Architectural education**
- **Professionnal practice**
- **International competitions**

UIA Work Programmes: a myriad of experts

Within the framework of the UIA work programmes, a full range of specialists delve into specific aspects of the architect's intervention in society and the built environment. Their publications and seminars offer the global architectural community pertinent, in-depth studies.

14 global or regional work programmes are structured according to six general themes:

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| ■ Sustainable architecture | ■ Architecture and Society |
| ■ Architecture for a sustainable future | ■ Architecture and children |
| ■ Renewable energy sources | ■ Architecture for all |
| | ■ Disasters relief |

■ **Urbanisation**

- Intermediate cities urbanisation & development
- Tourism

■ **Cultural identity**

- Architectural heritage
- Spiritual places

■ **Habitat**

- Habitat
- Action without borders

■ **Facilities**

- Educational & cultural spaces
- Public health
- Sports and leisure

Through appointment by the UIA Member Section in their home country, all architects are invited to participate in the UIA work programmes and contribute to the development of their profession.

UIA and Partners, a privileged world network

In representing the world community of architects and promoting their activities, the **UIA** works in co-operation with high-ranking organisations around the world.

The UIA General Secretariat

The UIA General Secretariat, placed under the responsibility of the Secretary General, is the Union's executive body and the administrative centre for the coordination of relations between the UIA Member Sections and their activities. The General Secretariat is open to all architects and architecture students to assist them in getting into contact with their fellow architects and students throughout the world, architectural institutions or teaching establishments.

A personal information service allowing architects to keep up to date with UIA activities, its partners and Member Sections is available from the General Secretariat.²⁵

²⁵ General Secretariat of the International Union of Architects

Tour Maine Montparnasse - B.P. 158, 33 avenue du Maine, 75755 PARIS Cedex 15 – France

Tel : (33.1) 45 24 36 88, Fax : (33.1) 45 24 02 78, Email: uia@uia-architectes.org, Web site: uia-architectes.org

A.2 The International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)



The International Federation of Landscape Architects is the body representing Landscape Architects worldwide. Its purpose is to coordinate the activities of member associations when dealing with global issues, and to ensure that the profession of landscape architecture continues to prosper as it continues to effect the design and management of our environment.

The main objectives of the Federation are:

- The development and promotion of the profession of landscape architecture, together with its related arts and sciences, throughout the world.
- The understanding of landscape architecture as physical and cultural phenomena concerned with environmental heritage and ecological and social sustainability.
- The establishment of high standards of professional practice in the design of the landscape, its management, conservation and development.

To achieve these objectives, IFLA is concerned with:

- The advancement of professional education and continuing professional development of practitioners.
- The improvement of the image of the profession, and communications between members.
- Increased membership to achieve greater global representation of our profession.
- Effective management that makes best use of limited resources and encourages greater participation by members.

IFLA Vision

The organization represents the landscape architectural profession globally, providing leadership and networks supporting the development of the profession and its effective participation in the realization of attractive, equitable and sustainable environments.

IFLA Mission

The International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) is a democratic non-profit and non-political, non-governmental organization representing national landscape associations and individual landscape architects globally. It aims to advance the practice of landscape architecture by:

- encouraging excellence in the design and management of the environment;
- promoting the skills and achievements of landscape architects to the community, allied professionals and decision makers;
- advocating professional standards and ethical practice; and
- providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and information with its annual Congress as a means of continuing education and social interaction.

The values IFLA promotes include professionalism, integrity and accountability. As an organization, we celebrate the contribution landscape architects make to our quality of life and the importance our profession has in the sustainability of our planet.

A.3 The International Federation of Surveyor (FIG)



Fédération Internationale des Géomètres (FIG) is a United Nations recognized non-governmental organization, representing a membership from 130 countries throughout the world, seeking to collaborate to ensure that the disciplines of surveying and all who practise them are relevant and meeting the needs of both the places and the people we serve. FIG was founded in 1878 in Paris and in recent decades, is also known as the **International Federation of Surveyors**.

FIG is the international organization representing the interests of surveyors worldwide. It is a federation of national member associations and covers the whole range of the global professional surveying community. Its membership is also extended to include affiliate, academic and corporate membership and national correspondents. This professional community measures, manage and model the natural and built environment for the effective planning and efficient administration of the land, the seas and any structures thereon. These practitioners comes from scientific, research and academic circles; technologies, technological products and services; commerce and industry, public and private practices. FIG provides an international forum for discussion and development aiming to promote professional practice and standards.

With its sciences, technologies, knowledge and practices, the International Federation of Surveyors aim to extend the usefulness of surveying for the benefit of society, environment and economy with a vision that the profession be increasingly positioned in significance and relevance, next door to everywhere.

A.4 The International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC)



FIDIC is the International Federation of Consulting Engineers. Its members are national associations of consulting engineers.

Founded in 1913, FIDIC is charged with promoting and implementing the consulting engineering industry's strategic goals on behalf of its Member Associations, and to disseminate information and resources of interest to its members. Today, FIDIC membership covers 88 countries of the world.

FIDIC, in the furtherance of its goals, publishes international standard forms of contracts for works and for clients, consultants, sub-consultants, joint ventures and representatives, together with related materials such as standard pre-qualification forms.

FIDIC also publishes business practice documents such as policy statements, position papers, guidelines, training manuals and training resource kits in the areas of management systems (quality management, risk management, business integrity management, environment management, sustainability) and business processes (consultant selection, quality based selection, tendering, procurement, insurance, liability,

technology transfer, capacity building).

FIDIC organises the annual World Consulting Engineers Conference and an extensive programme of seminars, capacity building workshops and training courses.

FIDIC Vision

Enabling the development of a sustainable world as the recognised global voice for the consulting engineering industry.

FIDIC Mission

To work closely with our stakeholders to improve the business climate in which we operate and enable our members to contribute to making the world a better place to live in, now and in the future.

FIDIC Objectives

1. Be the recognised international authority on issues relating to consulting engineering best practice.
2. Actively promote high standards of ethics and integrity among all stakeholders involved in the development of infrastructure worldwide.
3. Maintain and enhance FIDIC's representation of the consulting engineering industry worldwide.
4. Enhance the image of consulting engineering.
5. Promote and assist the worldwide development of viable consulting engineering industries.
6. Promote and enhance the leading position of FIDIC's Forms of Contract.
7. Improve and develop FIDIC's training and publishing activities.
8. To promote and encourage the development of Young Professionals in the Consulting Engineering Industry.

A.5 International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP)



The International Federation for Housing and Planning (IFHP) is a 98-year-old network of professionals of various disciplines in the broad field of housing, urban development and planning with affiliation in over 60 countries. Its basic aims concern liveability with a more general focus on housing and communities in a planning context. IFHP organises activities and offers facilities for international exchange of knowledge and experiences in the professional field.

IFHP was founded by Ebenezer Howard – the father of the 'garden city', a combined housing and planning concept designed to solve the problems of ever-expanding cities and cities and to create better living conditions for their inhabitants. The aim of the 'Garden Cities and Town Planning Association' – the name by which IFHP was originally known – was to promote the concept of housing and planning and to improve the general standard of the profession through the international exchange of knowledge and experience.

In the first 35 years of its existence, IFHP succeeded in getting international cooperation in the profession off the ground in a troubled period of two world wars and deep economic depression. Since the end of the 1940s, as the general climate of international cooperation evolved, the professional scope has widened to include a virtually unlimited range of housing and planning themes, and there has been an IFHP world congress virtually every year on a topical housing and planning theme.

Simultaneously, IFHP has stayed true to its 'garden city' roots and its core principles of affordable housing, social equity, access to employment opportunities, a variety of transportation options, and a high regard for nature and the environment. All IFHP initiatives must fit with these principles.

Derek Martin has been the CEO of the International Federation for Housing and Planning since the end of 2007. He has a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Amsterdam, where he specialised in the cross-border and European dimension of spatial planning. In 1987-88 he worked at DG Environment at the

European Commission and from 1990-1993 he spent another 3 years at DG Regio working on the development of the spatial dimension of EU regional economic policy. Both from Brussels and for the Dutch government, he worked on the further elaboration of European spatial planning policy, which produced new European instruments (ESPON, INTERREG) and policy documents (ESDP). For almost 10 years, he was Head of International Spatial Policy, and then of Sustainable Spatial Development at the Dutch Ministry of Housing, Spatial Planning and the Environment.

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A.6 The Global Planners Network (GPN)



GLOBAL PLANNERS NETWORK
Sharing new ideas about communities across the world

The Objectives of Global Planners Network are to mobilise & share knowledge & learn from each other, build capacity of the planning community and promote and provide international advocacy for planning.

The Goals of GPN are to develop and share the global planning knowledge base, develop world's capacity for & understanding of planning and define concepts of sustainability & sustainable human settlements. GPN also wishes to promote equity and empowerment in planning and engage new partners committed to values of the founding Vancouver Declaration (2006) and the work of GPN.

The Principles of GPN are inclusivity, pragmatic leadership, and action orientation.²⁶



The Zhenjiang milestone released in 2008 at the Zhenjiang Congress

« Built on the 2006 Vancouver Declaration, the Global Planners Network steers towards harmonious settlements, places in harmony with nature, and places in harmony between people. We champion planning as a strategic, integrative, inclusive and pro-poor process (...) We leave Zhenjiang renewing our commitment to increase the global capacity to plan and manage settlements (...) we will continue to bring planners together... »

²⁶ For further information, please see www.globalplannersnetwork.org

2004-2006. WUF II In Barcelona, WUF III in Vancouver (BC). Launching phase of the Global Planners Network. Release of the Vancouver Declaration, signed by planning organisations worldwide, and release of the Reinventing Planning Paper

2006 – 2007 Launching sequence of the African Planning Association (APA) / 2011 + links between Anglophone and Francophone (and others) national African planning associations

2008 – Zhenjiang Congress. Zhenjiang Communiqué: Holistic approach, partnerships, Habitat Agenda, capacity building; contributions to the release of *Strategic City*. Zhenjiang Milestone. GPN Sessions during WUF IV in Nanjing

2010 – Montreal Declaration (*Climate change and communities, a call to action*) “We note that human settlements are a particular focus for attention as urban areas contribute up to 70% of greenhouse gases. There can therefore be no doubt that human settlements need to be at the centre of adaptation and mitigation strategies.”

2009 - 2010 – 2011 Habitat Professionals Forum Charter : advocating for over 2 million professionals worldwide « *The role of human settlements professionals in delivering a sustainable and equitable future* » 4 key principles: social, economy and environmental harmony, pro-poor and inclusivity, heritage culture and sense of place, impacts of climate change and disasters + partnerships and market responsiveness

2011- 2012 : global shift, need for concrete action. Drawing proposals and taking initiatives. GPN Congress in Los Angeles in April 2012

www.globalplanners.org

A.7 The International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP)



The International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP)²⁷ 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 brings together individual and institutional members from more than 80 countries worldwide. As a non-governmental organisation ISOCARP is recognized by the UN, UNHCR and the Council of Europe. The Society also has a formal consultative status with UNESCO.

Although ISOCARP members work in many different fields they share a common interest in the spatial and environmental dimensions of urbanisation. They advise key decision-makers, proposing and supporting projects for intervention in a spatial context through general or specific actions.

The objectives of ISOCARP include the improvement of planning practice through the creation of a global and active network of practitioners. ISOCARP encourages the exchange of professional knowledge between planners, promotes the planning profession in all its forms, stimulates and improves planning research, training and education and enhances public awareness and understanding of major planning issues at a global level.

The association's main event is the annual World Congress, which focuses on a globally-significant planning theme and which takes place in a different country each year. Prior to the congress Young Planning Professional Workshops are organized. This YPP programme seeks to bring together emerging young planning professionals from all over the world to tackle 'real-world' planning projects.

²⁷ ISOCARP Headquarters - Tel: +(31-70) 346-2654 - Fax: +(31-70) 361-7909 - Email: isocarp@isocarp.org - Website: www.isocarp.org

Smaller-scale events such as seminars and working groups are also organized. ISOCARP recognises excellence through the Society's award programme.

ISOCARP Urban Planning Advisory teams (UPATs) assists sponsor organizations by offering the extensive experience and expertise of ISOCARP members to work on important local or international planning projects, programs and policy initiatives.

All ISOCARP activities are covered in publications such as the ISOCARP Review, the International Manual of Planning Practice (IMPP), Congress proceedings and special project reports.

A.8 Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP)



Mission

The Commonwealth Association of Planners seeks to focus and develop the skills of urban and regional planners across the Commonwealth to meet the challenges of urbanisation and the sustainable development of human settlements.

What does CAP do?

The CAP Newsletter comes out three times a year (September, February and June). It carries news items and occasional longer articles. It keeps members and friends of CAP in touch. CAP holds conferences where ideas and practical experiences can be shared and compared. Papers presented at these events, together with longer articles from the Newsletter are published.

CAP has links with its members, with other professional associations, and with non-governmental organisations involved in the struggle to improve human settlements, to alleviate poverty and to move towards sustainable development. CAP welcomes opportunities to participate in activities which bring together planners and communities and /or other professionals.

CAP is developing networks which operate electronically through this web-site and which link members with shared interests. The first network will be the CAP Women and Planning Network. CAP is developing CAPNOPS, the CAP Network of Planning Schools. A further network on Responses to Informal Settlements is planned, as well as one on Planning in Small Islands.

A.9 African Planning Association (APA)

The necessity of a network of African professional planning institutions emerged across a range of practitioners attending the 2002 Durban Planning Africa Conference (PAC). Public and private sector practitioners, academics and civil society practitioners from across the continent agreed to establish a cross-boundary Pan-African movement as a platform for the profession to shape the urbanization agenda in Africa. The African continent has historically been the weakest in advocacy of planning issues for lack of effective central coordinating organizations.

The APA aims to develop and expand the planning profession capacity in Africa in order to:

- i. Contribute to growth and development of Africa through better spatial/physical planning;
- ii. Review and improve systems of planning on regional basis;
- iii. Create of continent -wide linkages between African Planners; and
- iv. Facilitate capacity building.

The APA currently has 23 members serviced by a Secretariat which is managed by the South African Planning Institute. The APA was officially founded in 2006 when Egypt, Ghana, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe signed the Durban Declaration at the 2006 PAC. In 2008 Algeria, Benin, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Togo, Tunisia and Nigeria joined the signatories. This was followed by Tanzania, Mauritius and Kenya signing at PAC 2010 when the network expanded its scope by entering into partnership with UN-HABITAT and the Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP). During the sub-regional meeting in Bamako, Mali, that was held in July 2011, Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Morocco and Senegal undersigned the Durban Declaration.

UN-HABITAT is currently working with the APA to promote better understanding and advocacy of planning issues through to promote sustainable urbanization through:

- i. Capacity-building;
- ii. Best-practice sharing;
- iii. Networking among African planners;
- iv. Preparation of country-level policy and legislation reviews; and
- v. Development of guidelines on urban planning.

In April 2011, the APA was officially recognized in UNHABITAT structures as a member of the Habitat Professional Forum, a multilateral platform of global built environment networks.

APA membership is open to all national-level planning institutes, associations, organizations and orders representing the interests of the planning profession and seeking to improve the quality of spatial outcomes.

A.10 ADP Villes en développement



AdP “Villes en développement”²⁸ (Professional Association “Developing cities” is a place of exchange and prospective thinking on urban development and city management in emerging countries. This association was created in 1979 and gathers French-speaking professionals specialized in urbanism, engineering, architecture, economy, geography, sociology – be they independent or working for public services or private companies.

What do we do?

In order to mix professional practices and strategic thinking, AdP “Villes en développement” organises:

- A whole day of debate once a year on a precise topic with the intervention of experts and the organisation of roundtables,
- several debates during dinners with important personalities
- sensibilisation actions to authorities and public or semi-public organisations

What do we offer?

Our members have access to:

- an annuary of the members of the association so that contacts within the network are easier,
- job offers,
- the documentation centre “Developing cities” of which AdP is cofounder,
- the newsletter “Developing cities” which is redacted by AdP.

²⁸ <http://www.ville-developpement.org/>

A.11 International Water Association (IWA)



The International Water Association is a global reference point for water professionals, spanning the continuum between research and practice and covering all facets of the water cycle. Through its network of members and experts in research, practice, regulation, industry, consulting and manufacturing, IWA is in a better position than any other organisation to help water professionals create innovative, pragmatic and sustainable solutions to challenging global needs.

The strength of IWA lies in the professional and geographic diversity of its membership — a global mosaic of national, corporate and individual member communities. Our members are leaders in their field and represent:

- Researchers - where solutions begin
- Utilities - managing water services worldwide
- Consultants - connecting problem owners with solution providers
- Industry - creating sustainable water solutions
- Regulators - safeguarding public health
- Equipment manufacturers - translating ideas into products

The IWA network is structured to promote multi-level collaboration among its diverse membership groups, and to share the benefit of knowledge on water science and management worldwide. The Association helps make the right connections at the right time, thereby sharing cutting-edge research and practice that allows the water sector shape its future.

A.12 Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO)



WIEGO is a network of individuals and institutions from three broad constituencies:

- membership-based organizations (MBOs) of informal workers such as cooperatives, unions and associations
- researchers and statisticians who carry out research, data collection, or data analysis on the informal economy
- professionals from development agencies (inter-governmental, governmental, and non-governmental) who provide services to or shape policies towards the informal workforce

The founders of WIEGO decided at its inception in 1997 that the WIEGO network should build alliances with individuals and institutions from our constituencies, and should draw on expertise from around the globe as it forged partnerships and linkages.

The WIEGO network has grown remarkably in recent years.

In all of our activities, WIEGO seeks to increase the voice, visibility, and validity of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy:

Increased Voice – by supporting and strengthening organizations of the working poor, networking and linking such organizations and helping them to gain representation in the policy-making and rule-setting bodies that affect their work and lives

Increased Visibility – by undertaking and sponsoring research; helping to develop and improve official labour force and other economic statistics on informal employment and the informal economy; and convening and participating in research conferences

Increased Validity – by promoting mainstream recognition of the working poor in informal employment as legitimate economic agents who contribute to the overall economy and are, therefore, legitimate beneficiaries of economic and social policies; and by promoting the incorporation of the working poor into policy-making and rule-setting processes

Most of WIEGO's activities fall under our five **Core Programmes**:

Our Organization and Representation Programme seeks to help develop strong organizations of informal workers, linked together in sector networks as well as to the trade union and cooperative movements; and to foster international recognition and effective informal worker representation in national and international forums relevant to their work and lives. The Programme does so by providing capacity-building support to the organizations and networks; building substantial knowledge of informal worker organizations through the development of a data base and case studies; and developing materials and training resources to enhance the understanding of the working poor, their rights as workers and citizens, and how they are inserted into national and global economies. It also aims to help develop confident and effective women leaders in all sectors of the informal economy.

Our Statistics Programme seeks to develop statistics on the informal economy as an essential component of mainstream or official statistics at national, regional and international levels. The Programme does so by helping to improve classifications, concepts and methods for data collection and for estimating the contribution of informal employment to national economies; encouraging the expansion of the number of countries collecting these data; making statistical data and analysis on the informal economy available to policymakers, researchers and advocates in easily accessible formats; and preparing compilations of data and reports on the size, composition, and contribution of the informal economy and of the characteristics and situation of those who work in it. It also promotes the formation of networks of researchers to analyze data on informal sector and informal employment and related topics, contributing to the development of data resources for use by analysts.

Our Global Trade Programme seeks to investigate and highlight the impacts – both positive and negative – of global trade and investment policies on the livelihoods of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy; and to help organizations of informal workers, especially those with women members and leaders, seize the opportunities and address the constraints posed by trade liberalization. The Programme has built up a body of knowledge and experience based on comparative studies, policy analysis, and advocacy in different countries of informal workers in selected global value chains: crafts, garments, non-timber forest products, and rural commodities.

Our Social Protection Programme aims to examine and highlight the risks faced by the working poor in the informal economy, and particularly the risks faced by women workers. The Programme does this by investigating how common contingencies affect informal workers in particular, how systemic shocks affect informal workers in particular, and how the nature of informal work creates shocks and risks specific to informal workers. In the short and medium term, it aims to identify, document, and promote innovative approaches to providing social protection to informal workers, extending the coverage of existing schemes or developing new schemes.

Our Urban Policies Programme seeks to enhance the capacity of the working poor in the informal economy – especially women, who are concentrated in the segments of informal employment with the lowest earnings and highest risks – to shape the urban policies and environment in which they live and work by having increased organizational strength, representative voice, and official visibility. This Programme is designed to help achieve secure and improved living/working environments for those in three sub-sectors of the urban informal workforce: home-based workers, street vendors, and waste pickers.

WIEGO has also coordinated two Global Projects that involve partnerships with membership-based organizations of informal organizations and technical support from WIEGO and other organizations: 1) “Inclusive Cities for the Working Poor;” and 2) “Women’s Economic Empowerment.”

WIEGO often undertakes Special Initiatives that supplement or augment the activities of our core Programmes and Global Projects. These Special Initiatives include technical and policy dialogues; collaborative research and

advocacy; commissioned research for international agencies; and conferences or public events. An example is a series of Exposure Dialogues that WIEGO has co-organized since January 2004 with Cornell University and the Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) of India. These dialogues are designed to help bridge the perspectives on employment and labour markets of mainstream economists, SEWA activists, and WIEGO researchers.

WIEGO seeks to involve membership-based organizations (MBOs) of informal workers in the identification, prioritization and design of all of our activities. We also seek to disseminate the findings, data, and case studies generated – and related lessons learned – as widely as possible.

A.13 Eastern Regional Organization for Planning and Human Settlements (EAROPH)



The **Eastern Regional Organisation for Planning and Housing (EAROPH)** is a non-governmental multi-sectorial organisation encompassing the private, public and academic sectors. The organization was established to foster the exchange of insights and experiences among countries in the EAROPH region, which has been acknowledged as the most dynamic in the world in terms of economic growth, magnitude of urbanization, population size and ethnic diversity. The EAROPH region covers all countries in Asia, Australasia and the Pacific region.

EAROPH promotes a better understanding of Human Settlements and encourages excellence in planning, development and management to improve the quality of life and sustainability of human settlements.[1]

Goals

The goals of EAROPH are;

- to consolidate and promote expertise in Human Settlements in the EAROPH Region.
- To provide a forum for continuous collaboration between governments, private sectors and people in addressing Human Settlements issues.
- To promote personal professional development of its members.
- To provide expert technical support for members.
- To provide expert technical consultancy services on a commercial basis.
- To facilitate the exchange of information, experiences, ideas and insights among members.
- To foster links with organisations with similar interests in other regions.

Activities

Activities and projects carried out by EAROPH include and have included the following:

- Arranging technical exchange programmes between countries;
- Organising international conferences and regional seminars;
- Running short-term technical training programmes;
- Conducting technical field visits to member countries;
- Promoting joint-venture urban development projects;

Facilitating funding arrangements for project between donor agencies and beneficiary countries in the EAROPH region;

Hosting public forums for key policy makers to highlight current issues, publishing bulletins and journals.

A.14 Association of African Planning Schools (AAPS)



Founded in 1999, the Association of African Planning Schools (AAPS) is a voluntary, peer-to-peer network of African institutions which educate and train urban and regional planners. Its 46 members are drawn from 16 countries, predominantly located in Anglophone Africa (Nigeria, Ghana, Tanzania, Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan, Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Rwanda, South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Zambia).

As a knowledge network, AAPS aims to facilitate the exchange of information between African planning schools, primarily through digital communication and social networking tools. Furthermore, AAPS links African and international planning schools through its membership of the Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN).

Many African planning schools operate in a context in which urban planning practices, national planning legislation and planning curricula remain largely inherited from their older colonial past, and continue to promote ideas and policies transferred from the global North. As such, many of these ideas and practices are inappropriate in contexts characterised by rapid growth, poverty and informality. Reforming planning education is therefore central to ensuring that future urban practitioners respond to city challenges meaningfully. Fundamental shifts in the content and pedagogy of urban training programmes are required. Promoting these shifts is the central aim of AAPS's project work.

AAPS broadly seeks to promote:

Shared, comprehensive understanding of the challenges facing planners in Africa;

Collaborative and comparative research that emphasises the particular dynamics of local urban contexts;

Regional collaboration in progressive, pro-poor urban policy and planning responses;

Coordinated educational revision, to produce planning programmes that are contextually relevant and engaged with the needs of local urban communities.

From 2008 to 2011, AAPS operated two projects, both funded by the Rockefeller Foundation. The 'Revitalising Planning Education' project sought to provide a platform to rethink and revise planning education on the continent. The second project sought to promote the use of the case study methodology for planning research and teaching. In June 2011, further funding was secured from the Rockefeller Foundation to pursue the 'Revitalising Planning Education' agenda and to implement a collaborative partnership forged with Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI) in November 2010.

A.15 The Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy (CASLE)



The Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy, a founder member of HPF, was founded in 1969 as a federation of independent professional societies involved in surveying and land economy in Commonwealth countries. There are now member societies in 32 countries, and correspondents in 19 other countries. Its objectives are to:

- Foster the development of the profession in all Commonwealth countries and beyond
- Foster appropriate standards of education for surveying and land
- Help to develop professional techniques and practices attuned to national needs

- Facilitate the transfer of technology within the Commonwealth and to assist national programmes of continuing professional development
- Encourage dialogue between its member societies and national governments on all matters of national policy on which the profession is competent to offer informed opinions and advice

CASLE achieves these objectives through conferences, seminars, workshops, publications, links with academia, and its own member societies' activities. In the period 1969-2011 CASLE organised 12 General Assemblies and two or three regional events each year.

CASLE's strategy recognises the many problems facing the developing world, the effects of globalisation and climate change, and the revolution in communication technology. It is the declared intention of CASLE that it should take a broad view and focus its skills, techniques and knowledge to help in the search for answers to the environmental, social and economic problems which beset so many countries as addressed in the Millennium Development Goals.

CASLE is an accredited NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) and is closely involved in many aspects of implementation of the Habitat Agenda. It is thus often working with other associations in cognate fields and promotes seminars arranged by the Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth (BEPIC). It participates in Habitat meetings and pre-CHOGM events, and is a partner with UN-Habitat's Global Land Tool Network.

The issues of particular relevance to surveying and land economy include (a) pro-poor legal security of tenure, (b) affordable housing, (c) improvement of the enabling framework, (d) disaster risk assessment and management, (e) mitigation and adaptation responses to climate change, (f) sustainable development, (g) land administration policies, and (h) land use planning.

The three principal disciplines within CASLE are:

Surveying and Mapping (Geomatics), Geodetic, topographical, cadastral, engineering, mines surveys and hydrography.

Land Economy - Management and development of land and property; land ownership systems; land use planning; land administration; comprehending the fundamentals of land law; economic and social analysis.

Cost control and Construction economics - Capital costs, financial viability, project management and life-cycle costing

A.16 The Iberoamerican Federation of Urbanists (FIU)



The Iberoamerican Federation of Urbanists (known by its abbreviation in Spanish as FIU) was established on 14th October 2010, as a follow up to The Rio de Janeiro Protocol (UN-HABITAT World Urban Forum, March 2010) subscribed by 20 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, Dominican Republic, Venezuela; plus Spain and Portugal.

FIU comes into being, furthered by the Spanish Association of Town Planners, (AETU) and as a result of 14 Iberoamerican Town Planning Congresses, held in the last 30 years:

Seville 1984, Tlaxcala 1986, Barcelona 1988, Santiago de Cuba 1990, Valencia 1992, Montevideo 1994, Pamplona 1996, Porto 1998, Recife 2000, Zaragoza 2002, San Juan (Puerto Rico) 2004, Salamanca 2006,

Monterrey 2008 and Tenerife 2010. The upcoming Fifteenth Iberoamerican Town Planning Congress will take place in 2012, in the city of Medellin.

The aim of the Federation is to encourage the relationship and exchange of experiences between town and spatial planners from Latin America and Europe and everywhere, on the principles of the right to the city and a decent habitat; the democratic participation, the sustainability and the cultural diversity; bridging the urban gap, the reduction of poverty, exclusion and spatial segregation.

The unplanned urban settlements comprised of slums and shanty towns, reach an average of a third of the Latin America's urban population.

The precariously marginal informal cities, together with the officially planned city, constitute in their juncture the urban reality; consequently, they are the object of planning and planners. This is how we understand it and this is what guides our approach at FIU.²⁹

A.17 The European Council of Spatial Planners (ECTP)

Creating our futures

ECTP-CEU

European Council of Spatial Planners
Conseil européen des urbanistes

The European Council of Spatial Planners³⁰ – Conseil européen des urbanistes, (ECTP-CEU) is the umbrella organisation for spatial planning institutes in Europe: BELGIUM, CROATIA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE, GERMANY, GREECE, HUNGARY, IRELAND, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, MALTA, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, ROMANIA, SERBIA, SLOVENIA, SPAIN, TURKEY and UNITED KINGDOM. It provides a common platform for the European town planners

AIMS

- To strengthen professional and cultural relationships between the institutes and associations of spatial planners in Europe and the relationships between them and European institutions.
- To propose systems of teaching and training for spatial planning and to suggest methods of harmonising the present systems.
- To put forward and suggest European development policies and to express opinions on important issues.

CURRENT WORK OF ECTP-CEU

- Collaboration with European Union, European Council and Committee of the Regions, on different matters: Territorial Cohesion, Protection of the Cultural and Architectural Heritage, Spatial Glossary, (CEMAT), Sustainability in European Continent, European Landscape, Climate Change,...
- The design of a Vision enhancing the quality and efficiency of cities and urban life in Europe
- Organising Urban and Regional Planning Awards.
- Dissemination of the New Charter of Athens - a manifesto for planning European cities in the 21st century-. The European Council of Town Planners (ECTP) is confident that in the 21st century Europe will advance decisively towards the goal of integration. The ECTP-CEU presents a common and widely shared Vision on the future of European cities, based on the welfare state, the creativity and competitiveness, retain cultural richness and diversity, environmental care and sustainability

²⁹ c/ Avinyó 15 08002 Barcelona Spain - www.fiurb.org - secretaria@fiurb.org

³⁰ Brussels Europe Liaison Office (BELO) - Avenue d'Auderghem 63 - 1040 Bruxelles - Belgique - www.ceu-ectp.org

- Publishing the proceedings of conferences on European spatial development and the preparation of forthcoming conferences and publications
- Promoting the European Biennials of Town Planning: 1995 Lyon,(France), 1997 Roma,(Italy), 1999 Ruhr,(Germany), 2001 Rotterdam,(Holland), 2003 Barcelona,(Spain), 2005 Budapest,(Hungary), 2007 Copenhagen, (Denmark), 2009 Nancy, (France), 2011 Genoa, (Italy) and the next will be in 2013 in Valencia, (Spain).
- Providing a register of European experts from across Euro on planning issues.
- Collaborating with other professionals organisations, (HPF, GPN, ISOCARP, FIU, IFHP, AESOP, EFLA, ICOMOS, INTA,..)

Appendix B. HPF milestones (statements, speeches...)

Statement by Mrs. Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations on the occasion of the 14th Habitat Professionals Forum Strategic Meeting - March 2009

Mr. Derek Martin, Secretary General, International Federation for Housing and Planning,

Esteemed Professionals,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to open this Strategic Meeting of the Habitat Professionals Forum gathering such a distinguished group of planners, architects, surveyors and landscape architects. I know that many of you have traveled from far away to be here today. After 10 years of existence, this 14th session of the Forum could not be more timely on the eve of our 22nd Governing Council.

At the outset, I cannot stress more strongly how highly we value your wise counsel, especially in these times of climate change, rapid urbanization around the world, and slum growth at a time cities around the world, especially in developing countries, are faced with a terrible economic downturn.

Our engagement with Habitat professionals dates back to the Habitat II Conference in Istanbul in 1996. The Habitat Agenda that arose from this was a great achievement, particularly the recognition of partnership as a key principle for our work. This internationally adopted document says – and I quote:

‘The successful implementation of the Habitat Agenda relies on the ability of many different actors within the human settlements sector to work in partnership. Understanding how all the different actors interface may prove to be the most important consideration in the implementation process and will largely rely on the principles of mutual benefits’.

Hence the Habitat Professionals Forum was established, under the auspices of UN-HABITAT in New York and thanks to the initiative of a number of organisations, almost all of which are present here today. These include the International Society of City and Regional Planners, the International Federation for Housing and Planning, the International Union of Architects, the International Federation of Surveyors, the Centre for African Settlement Studies and Development and the Arabian Urban Development Institute.

Initially, the Habitat Professionals Forum was established to review and assess progress in the concrete implementation of the Habitat Agenda. The Forum was also meant to contribute to our Work Programme through recommendations on priorities and orientations. Another central function was to raise awareness on urbanization and to contribute to the knowledge on effective practices that can enhance the urban environment.

Today, as we implement a new Medium Term Strategic and Institutional Plan covering the years 2008-2013, which places ‘partnership’ at the heart of our work, I wish to assure that it is our intention to support the objectives and activities of the Habitat Professionals Forum to the full.

Distinguished Partners,

As you know, the combined impact of rapid urbanization, climate change and globalization is resulting in increasing inequalities, which pose enormous social, economic and environmental challenges. One of our major concerns at the United Nations is the plight of the estimated one billion women, men and children who live in slums. One out of every six human beings is currently deprived of the most basic amenities, such as water, sanitation, security of tenure, durable housing and sufficient living space.

Needless to say, if these trends are not addressed and reversed, the slum crisis will continue to be yet another threat in the long list of threats to global peace and security.

Harnessing new ideas for cities

Another major concern is the impact of rapid and chaotic urbanization on our environment, and the ability of our planet to sustain diversity of life as we know it. As human activity concentrates itself in cities, irreversible changes occur in our production and consumption patterns. With half of humanity is living in cities, we must bear in mind that cities consume 75% of the world's energy and generate an equally significant proportion of the world's waste, including greenhouse gas emissions. As easily seen in satellite photographs from space, the ecological footprints of megacities is growing alarmingly.

How as professionals can we harness the positive aspects of urbanization to promote social inclusion, smarter growth and thus contribute to our collective stability and prosperity? How can urbanization become the cornerstone of a new inclusive civilization? How can we help create vibrant and socially cohesive urban communities?

At a time when unsustainable models are all too common, and have played a contributory role to the current economic malaise, as questions are asked of policy makers, you, the professionals can play a vital role.

It is clear that solutions cannot be achieved within the existing framework which has been tried and unfortunately found wanting. New, creative models are urgently needed.

As architects, planners, surveyors, engineers, landscape architects, you have an ethical if not moral obligation to help confront the urban challenge ahead.

Take the architects for instance. While architecture is a reflection of the social and economic values of a given society and acts as a mirror of cultures, it is also a deliberate act of design. As architects, each time you draw a line, you define a space. That space can either perpetuate the existing reality or help create a new reality that is socially more inclusive and environmentally more sound.

The same goes for urban planners. Your design becomes part of the urban landscape for generations to come. And the users of what you design will either love you or hate you.

Your experience, in partnership with UN HABITAT can create a cross pollination of ideas, and come up with these new solutions.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

These are the very matters that have led our organization to recognize the importance of professional practice in human settlements. UN-HABITAT is well aware that the human settlements professionals are crucial partners that must be engaged if the world's cities are to achieve sustainability.

Our new Strategic Plan includes housing and urban planning as two of its six focus areas. In particular, meeting the Millennium Development Goals on better urban water provision and 11 on improving the lives of slum dwellers requires a concerted approach to land, basic infrastructure and services, affordable housing solutions, and accessible housing finance systems, through partnerships.

We are also about to engage in a Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanization that will push for better designed urban spaces, safer and healthier communities, more equitable and harmonious cities, as well as a better quality of life for everyone.

As such, it is established that UN-HABITAT should enhance its brokering role by promoting dialogue between partners and help them to take concrete actions on urbanization issues. Habitat Professionals need to be fully brought on board in these renewed engagements with partners.

To conclude, I would like to stress that the role of professionals is central to our quest for sustainable urbanisation and for sustainable development. UN-HABITAT, the agency for sustainable urban development, stands ready to support and work with you in this endeavour.

I hope that together, we will move towards a much better model of sustainable urban development, one that cities and neighbourhoods can easily put into practice.

I wish to thank all of you for attending this Forum and I look forward to learning about the outcome of your deliberations.

Thank you.

UN-Habitat twenty-second session of the Governing Council, Nairobi, Kenya, 30th March to 3rd April 2009 - Dialogue on “Promoting affordable housing finance systems in an urbanizing world in the face of the global financial crisis and climate change”

Louise Cox on behalf of the HPF Members

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Every person on this earth is entitled to social equity, clean water, shelter, enough food and a way of making and sustaining a livelihood. Dignity and employment for all is a necessity, as is the amelioration of poverty and homelessness.

The Habitat Professionals Forum, (HPF), at its meeting on 28th March 2009.

- *Strongly welcomed the planned Global Campaign for Sustainable Urban Development and congratulated UN-Habitat on this timely initiative;*
- *Declared its determination to be an active partner in the delivery of the Global campaign, through mobilisation of more than 2 Million human settlements professionals represented by the organisations of the Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF);*
- *Emphasised that human settlements professionals are necessary partners for governments and NGOs if the Habitat Agenda is to be implemented;*
- *Resolved to work separately and in partnerships, by sharing common values, practices and creative actions, so as to enhance the capacity of the human settlements professions globally in response to the need to deliver affordable housing and more sustainable urban development.*

Therefore, the Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) solemnly calls on governments to:

- *Give full unequivocal support to the Global Campaign for Sustainable Development, and to UN-Habitat as the custodian of the Campaign;*
- *Fully recognise HPF as a partner for future institutional discussions led by UN-Habitat about urban development issues;*
- *Support the implementation of the Habitat Agenda as a means to engage with human settlements professionals and so create effective vehicles for national and local support for the Campaign;*
- *Recognise that there can be no sustainable development without sustainable urbanisation, and for governments to work for the integration of an urban dimension in international efforts to deliver adequate housing, to tackle climate change and to build economic recovery;*
- *Furthermore, the Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) calls on the Governing Council to ensure that there will be a Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) Roundtable at the 2010 World Urban Forum and at every subsequent World Urban Forum.*

2.0 CLIMATE CHANGE ISSUES

With Climate Change there are culprits and victims. Through UN-Habitat, we are probably looking at the victims.

If you disrupt something and rupture its harmony it causes imbalance and chaos. There is still room for balance and regeneration but we must act while there is still capacity for regeneration in our community and in our environment.

The voice of the community in regards to their space and places needs to be heard in discussions and plans, around global climate change strategic responses.

3.0 EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

We must empower communities so that they have ownership of their place. Everyone has a right to the city and cities must be inclusive of the working poor. Dignity and satisfaction with life is most important.

As human settlements professionals, we can only act as catalysts for change. We must listen to peoples' ideas, understand what they want, how they live and work. We cannot tell people what to do. We can join the local debate with the community, pose questions and let them decide what they wish to do, starting slowly, suggesting things that can be done and which are likely to be successful, and we must concentrate on the bottom up rule.

The community and the individual must "own" the project and know that it is their decision being implemented.

4.0 DISASTER RELIEF, AND RELOCATION

Nature is not always moderate and neither are we. To pursue a better understanding, it is important to look at how extreme nature is and at the same time to consider how extreme each of us can be. Disaster relief and rehabilitation of buildings have shown us examples that use techniques and solutions that can also be used for reconstructing slums and informal housing.

Disaster relief lessons related to innovative ways of building and procuring sustainable, economic solutions, can also be applied to the upgrading of slums, illegal and informal housing. Existing social systems should not be disrupted or people removed by eviction whilst this work is happening.

The most difficult aspect of all, is how to deal with the relocation of people from a dangerous situation or an unsuitable location, if they do not want to go to another place. The people must be able to continue with their livelihood, albeit in a different place, and still be close to their traditional markets and still be part of their community.

5.0 SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS AND DIFFERENT TECHNOLOGIES

Public financial support for housing and construction should be and must be linked to the new environmental standards.

Upgrading of buildings can occur if more sustainable materials are used. The work can be done by the individual slum dwellers themselves, after teaching them how to use these materials in a better way. The social infrastructure of these slums must be retained after the work is done, so that the local communities are sustained.

Existing building stock can always be rehabilitated, given new uses, with sensitive interventions using original materials. They do not necessarily need to be demolished for new structures. They can also be rehabilitated using cheap and unsuitable non-sustainable materials. This on-site upgrading of slums can contribute to CO2 reductions.

6.0 INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADING

How do we improve infrastructure? We make sure that the extent of the city boundaries are not increased, and if possible are reduced. If there is extensive infrastructure it is usually unsustainable economically.

We need to encourage the use of renewable energy sources. Alternative energy solutions and renewable energy strategies that are produced locally are cheaper than expensive reticulated infrastructure.

The private sector can be involved using private partnerships for small projects. The benefits for all should be sorted out so that there are positive things for the private sector, they know that the project will be successful and can be satisfied with smaller gains for each project. With more small projects, in the end these all add up to the same amount of profit that is gained from one large project.

7.0 CONCLUSION,

As human settlements professionals, we have to work together and be able to cut across boundaries. We want to do this in partnership with UN-Habitat in their Global Campaign for Sustainable Urban Developments and work to implement the Habitat Agenda as partners with governments and other NGOs.

Complementary statement by GPN, in the name of the Habitat Professionals Forum³¹

SITUATION

The dialogue session Dialogue on “Promoting affordable housing finance systems in an urbanizing world in the face of the global financial crisis and climate change” organised within the course of UN-Habitat governing council is a critical opportunity to debate at a high level about three simultaneous crises, where urban issues are equally critical:

A financial crisis

A housing crisis

A climate crisis

Should there still be doubts for how serious the situation is, the time has come to get rid of them. The time has come to overcome narrow sectoral approaches and selfish sectoral lobbying, so as to respond in partnership to today's and tomorrow's urban challenges.

The Habitat Professionals Forum has launched an ambitious new strategy calling for partnership and for action. HPF represents a network of networks that accounts for over 2 million human settlements professionals worldwide. These professionals take action both in the public and the private sectors. They are key drivers for the implementation of public policies. They are committed to their tasks.

We therefore thank UN-Habitat and the Governing council for the growing recognition of the role of professionals and professional organisations representing them, on the global level.

PROPOSALS

We, HPF, call upon governments and the GC to enhance Habitat Agenda partnerships, especially with the business sector, and to engage with human settlements professionals to create effective vehicles for global, national and local support both for the Global Campaign for Sustainable Urbanisation and the Cities and Climate Change Initiative;

We HPF call upon governments and the GC to therefore integrate an urban dimension into international efforts to tackle climate change and build economic recovery, beginning with the preparation of the COP15 session of the Conference of Parties on Climate change in Copenhagen in December 2009, and to recognise that there can be no sustainable development without sustainable urbanisation;

We HPF support the project of a resolution by the Group of 77 and China to call for a Habitat III in 2016;

We support the project of a resolution by the Group of 77 and China to call for a debate about housing, climate change and economy within the UN General Assembly;

We call for the GC to consider human settlement professionals as partners, within the project of a resolution concerning Cities and climate change;

We HPF, call upon governments to acknowledge HPF commitment to bridge urban divides and elaborate a Global charter for human settlement profession to be presented at WUF 5 in Rio, Brazil, and we urge the GC to ensure that there will be a HPF Roundtable at the 2010 WUF in Rio.

³¹ Nicolas Buchoud, Christine Platt, Cliff Hague

Appendix C. Habitat Professionals Forum Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference – Approved in HPF Strategic Meeting, Nairobi, March 2009

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The Habitat Professionals Forum (HPF) is a voluntary affiliation of international and regional associations of Human Settlements Professionals involved in sustainable urban development.

1.2 The HPF aims to foster cooperation and partnership between the Human Settlements Professionals and UN-HABITAT through dialogue and partnerships, and by providing leading-edge information and expertise that contribute to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and sustainable urban development.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1 Members will be independent, non-profit and non-governmental organisations that are international or regional associations of Human Settlements Professionals supporting sustainable urban development.

2.2 Other organisations may apply, or be invited, to attend HPF meetings as Observers.

2.3 Organisations wishing to become members should notify the Secretariat at least two weeks before a Business Meeting. The Business Meeting shall have the power to approve or withhold membership, based on a majority vote of the organisations represented at that meeting.

2.4 HPF does not substitute for, or replace, existing organisations, nor does it detract from the autonomy or initiatives of its members, but exists to support them.

3. FUNCTIONS

3.1 To develop opportunities for synergy and partnership between the Human Settlements Professionals and UN-HABITAT, and to engage as a consultative group for UN HABITAT.

3.2 To promote and disseminate professional practices in the field of human settlements to implement the Habitat Agenda through shared learning, training and evaluation.

3.3 To promote the establishment of common values and ethics for professional practice in the field of human settlements.

3.4 To advocate the need for professional capacity and learning in the field of human settlements, and develop the necessary knowledge, skills and exchange of experiences amongst our own professions, policymakers and the general public.

3.5 To enhance partnerships through a global network of Human Settlements Professionals.

3.6 To promote exchange and dialogue between Human Settlements Professionals and help them to contribute to UN HABITAT policy debates and agendas, and to take concrete actions around urbanization issues with other Habitat Agenda partners.

4. OPERATION

4.1 The HPF will hold a business meeting every 2 years during the World Urban Forum (WUF). The purpose of the meeting will be to receive reports on the conduct and activities of the HPF since it last met; and to plan the activities and responsibilities for the next two years and identify necessary resources.

4.2 The meeting shall elect a chair for the purpose of that meeting and an organisation from its membership to oversee the business of the Forum and fulfil the functions of a Secretariat for the Forum until the next meeting at WUF. The Chair and the Secretariat shall only be provided by a member organisation that is a UN accredited organisation.

4.3 The HPF will convene an open Habitat Professionals Roundtable at each WUF.

4.4 The HPF will propose and facilitate themed HPF Networking Events at each W U F for its members.

4.5 The Secretariat will maintain a Professionals' Page on the UN-HABITAT web site that promotes exchange and dialogues between Human Settlements Professionals.

The Habitat Professionals Forum

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Members will be independent, non-profit and non-governmental organisations that are international or regional associations of Human Settlements Professionals supporting sustainable urban development.

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- To develop opportunities for synergy and partnership between the Human Settlements Professionals and UN-HABITAT, and to engage as a consultative group for UN-HABITAT.
- To promote and disseminate professional practices in the field of human settlements to implement the Habitat Agenda through shared learning, training and evaluation.
- To promote the establishment of common values and ethics for professional practice in the field of human settlements.
- To advocate the need for professional capacity and learning in the field of human settlements, and develop the necessary knowledge, skills and exchange of experiences amongst our own professions, policymakers and the general public.
- To enhance partnerships through a global network of Human Settlements Professionals.
- To promote exchange and dialogue between Human Settlements Professionals and help them to contribute to UN-HABITAT policy debates and agendas and to take concrete actions around urbanization issues with other Habitat Agenda partners.



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