



URBAN AFRICA IN 21ST CENTURY

CURRENT ISSUES AND FUTURE PROSPECTS OF URBAN GOVERNANCE AND PLANNING
5TH AAPS CONFERENCE | 18TH TO 20TH NOVEMBER 2021, DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA

CALL FOR CONFERENCE PAPERS

The Institute of Spatial Planning (IRPUD) at the Technical University of Dortmund in Germany, the Institute of Housing and Human Settlement and the School of Spatial Planning and Social Sciences at Ardhi University in Tanzania cordially invite you to take part in the call for conference papers for the 5th Association of African Planning Schools (AAPS) Conference. The conference is organised in five different thematic tracks on current issues and future prospects of urban governance and planning in urban Africa:

TRACK 1: LOCALISING PLANNING THEORIES:

Planning education and practice in Africa have so far largely been based on applications of urban and planning theories derived from Euro-American urbanism. This led to the conclusion that urban planning in Africa as an extension of colonial ideology and out of touch with socio-spatial, economic and institutional reality. Scholars, such as MacFarlane (2008), Watson (2009, 2014) and Connell (2013), therefore, call for decolonising planning theories and redirecting the focus of planning research and theorisation toward the Global South.

The conference thus welcomes views on the Global South as an active participant in creatively shaping theoretical debates, be it through the appropriation of circulating planning theories or through the creation of new ones rather than as a passive recipient of mainstream planning models and ideals. In line with this, this track has two interrelated aims: 1) to debate place-specific appropriations of globally circulating planning theories and concepts such as participatory and/or collaborative planning, garden city, networked city, resilience, sustainability, informality; 2) to discuss planning theories and models that emerge from planning in African cities or cities of the South.

TRACK 2: INNOVATING PLANNING EDUCATION TO FIT THE CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE CHANGE:

The effect of climate change is already visible in African cities. Flood and water scarcity are increasing and are causing loss of life, destruction of infrastructures and jeopardizing livelihoods. Prospects for the future are bleak and require the planning profession to rethinking how to deal with such changes and their impacts. The track hence opens discussions on the role of urban planning education in dealing with such drastic changes in urban environment.

Consequently, the conference calls for papers which discuss how far the curriculum of urban planning education evolved with increasing urban risk, how far concepts such as sustainable development, urban resilience and risk adaptation have influenced teaching, training and the focus of research in urban development and planning as promoted by UN Habitat's initiative "Planners for Climate Action".

TRACK 3: PARTICIPATORY AND MULTI-GOVERNANCE APPROACHES FOR URBAN RESILIENCE:

Challenges posed by rapid urbanisation and climate change related risks have already exacerbated the weak institutional and financial situation of cities in Africa. On the other hand, considerable resources have been made available in co-production networks and initiatives in informal and semi-formal systems. These resources are used to overcome shortages or inaccessibility of urban services and mitigate and adapt to disaster related risks. Here, dealing with critical infrastructures and their systemic criticality due to cascading effects in case of service disruptions comes into play. This track, hence, aims to discuss the nature of such resources and their potentials and constraints to develop a participatory and multi-governance approaches for urban resilience.

Therefore, the track opens discussions for papers dealing with resource mobilisation at grassroots level and coordination of efforts at different levels of, in particular, land governance and infrastructure planning and provision, as well as looking into factors for building urban resilience at local level.

TRACK 4: TOWARD PRO-LIVELIHOOD ADAPTATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACHES:

Adaptation and risk management is one of the key planning areas in urban Africa, where self-help, private and public initiatives work together. Yet, in many cases, adaptation and risk management are conflicting with livelihood related issues and access to affordable housing. Consideration of such socio-economic factors will be essential for successfully building urban resilience and doing so in an inclusive manner. Consequently, the track will bring forth the issue of pro-livelihood integrated actions in adaptation and risk management. The track calls for case studies which highlight the complex relationship between job creation and risk management as well as theoretical insights and approaches dealing with informal settlements in hazard prone areas along the different spectrums between on-side upgrading and off-side resettlement poles.



TRACK 5: INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) FOR INCLUSIVE SPACES

Cities in Africa, are confronted with the imminence of digitalisation in various aspects of city life. Data from African cities have already been named as an "infrastructure". Also the notion of "leap-frogging" in technology development has been discussed; and service payment systems, customer feedback and control, network mapping of existing infrastructures and information platforms are being introduced by state actors and the private sector. Research on the subject, however, is currently largely industry driven, while the citizen perspective remains obscure. This track therefore invites contributions critically investigating digital money systems, ICT in infrastructure management, "smart" mobility systems and their impact on spatial orders and accessibility in African cities. The track seeks to discuss how the planning professionals can position themselves to ensure that the new technologies work towards social cohesion.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Deadline abstract submission:	Closed
Confirmation of acceptance:	Closed
Deadline paper submission:	31 st August 2020
Registration for conference participation opens:	1 st August 2021
Conference:	18th - 20th November 2021

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

Prof. Dr. Stefan Greiving	Head of the Institute of Spatial Planning (IRPUD), TU Dortmund University, Dortmund, Germany
Prof. Dr. Robert Kiunsi	Associate Professor at the School of Environmental Sciences, Ardhi University, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Prof. Dr. Wilbard Kombe	Professor at the Institute of Human Settlement Studies (IHSS), Ardhi University, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Prof. Dr. Garth Myers	Professor of Urban International Studies and Director of the Center for Urban and Global Studies, Trinity College, Hartford, USA
Prof. Dr. Sophie Schramm	Head of International Planning Studies (IPS), TU Dortmund University, Dortmund, Germany
Prof. Dr. Vanessa Watson	Professor at the School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics, University of Cape Town, South Africa

CONVENERS:

TU Dortmund University Dortmund Germany	Prof. Dr. Stefan Greiving Dr. Genet Alem Dr. Johannes Lückenköter Dr. Wolfgang Scholz
Ardhi University Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Prof. Dr. Wilbard Kombe Dr. Ally Hassan Namangaya
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