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Urban Studies & Planning Abstracts

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Conference on
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9-12 June 2014, Athens, Greece
Edited by Gregory T. Papanikos

THE ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATION AND RESEARCH



Urban Studies & Planning
Abstracts

4th Annual International
Conference on
Urban Studies & Planning
Science, 9-12 June 2014,
Athens, Greece

Edited by Gregory T. Papanikos

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Preface

This abstract book includes all the abstracts of the papers presented at the *4th Annual International Conference on Urban Studies & Planning*, 9-12 June 2014, organized by the Athens Institute for Education and Research. In total there were 35 papers and 37 presenters, coming from 23 different countries (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, The Netherlands, Turkey, UK and USA). The conference was organized into IX sessions that included areas of Environment, Spatial Behaviour and other related disciplines. As it is the publication policy of the Institute, the papers presented in this conference will be considered for publication in one of the books of ATINER.

The Institute was established in 1995 as an independent academic organization with the mission to become a forum where academics and researchers from all over the world could meet in Athens and exchange ideas on their research and consider the future developments of their fields of study. Our mission is to make ATHENS a place where academics and researchers from all over the world meet to discuss the developments of their discipline and present their work. To serve this purpose, conferences are organized along the lines of well established and well defined scientific disciplines. In addition, interdisciplinary conferences are also organized because they serve the mission statement of the Institute. Since 1995, ATINER has organized more than 150 international conferences and has published over 100 books. Academically, the Institute is organized into four research divisions and nineteen research units. Each research unit organizes at least one annual conference and undertakes various small and large research projects.

I would like to thank all the participants, the members of the organizing and academic committee and most importantly the administration staff of ATINER for putting this conference together.

Gregory T. Papanikos
President

FINAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM
4th Annual International Conference on Urban Studies & Planning, 9-12 June 2014, Athens, Greece
PROGRAM

Conference Venue: Titania Hotel (52 Panepistimiou Avenue)

ORGANIZING AND SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

1. Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER.
2. Dr. George Poulos, Vice-President of Research, ATINER & Emeritus Professor, University of South Africa, South Africa.
3. Dr. Nicholas Pappas, Vice-President of Academic Affairs, ATINER & Professor, Sam Houston University, USA.
4. Dr. Nicholas N. Patricios, Director, Engineering & Architecture, ATINER, Professor & Dean Emeritus, School of Architecture, University of Miami, USA.
5. Dr. Thomas Attard, Head, Civil Engineering Research Unit, ATINER & Associate Research Professor, Arizona State University, USA.
6. Dr. Stavros Alifragkis, Academic Member, Architecture Research Unit, ATINER & Adjunct Lecturer, Hellenic Army Academy, Athens, Greece.
7. Dr. Howayda Al-Harithy, Professor, American University of Beirut, Lebanon.
8. Dr. Patrick Ashton, Associate Professor, Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne, USA.
9. Dr. Debnath Bhattacharyya, Professor, MPCTM, Gwalior, India.
10. Dr. Stella B. Bondi, Associate Professor, Old Dominion University, USA.
11. Dr. Matthew Kubik, Associate Professor, Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne, USA.
12. Dr. Virginia Sisiopiku, Associate Professor, The University of Alabama at Birmingham, USA.
13. Dr. Caterina Pizantias, Instructor, University of Calgary, Canada.
14. Mr. Moamer Gashoot, Researcher, Bournemouth University, UK.
15. Mr. Vasilis Charalampopoulos, Researcher, ATINER & Ph.D. Student, University of Stirling, U.K.

Administration

Fani Balaska, Stavroula Kiritsi, Eirini Lentzou, Konstantinos Manolidis,
Katerina Maraki, Celia Sakka, Konstantinos Spiropoulos & Ioanna Trafali

C O N F E R E N C E P R O G R A M

(The time for each session includes at least 10 minutes coffee break)

Monday 9 June 2014

09:00-09:30 Registration

09:30-09:45 Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Dr. Gregory T. Papanikos, President, ATINER.
- Dr. Nicholas Pappas, Vice-President of Academic Affairs, ATINER & Professor, Sam Houston University, USA.
- Dr. Nicholas Patricios, Director, & Engineering & Architecture Research Division, ATINER, Professor & Dean Emeritus, School of Architecture, University of Miami, USA.

09:45-11:30 Session I (Room B): Methodology I

Chair: Nicholas Pappas, Vice-President of Academic Affairs, ATINER & Professor, Sam Houston University, USA.

1. Chun-Lin Lee, Associate Professor, Chinese Culture University, Taiwan, Wei-Bin Chen, Assistant Professor, Chinese Culture University, Taiwan & Hsuan-Ming Huang, Assistant, Chinese Culture University, Taiwan. Spatial Vulnerability Assessment of Land-Use Change in Taipei City: an Application of FANP, GIS and LSA.
2. Nabil Semaan, Assistant Professor, University of Balamand, Lebanon. A Feasibility Study Using Life Cycle Cost Analysis for a Sustainable Public Transit Railway Network Linking Tripoli to Beirut Cities in Lebanon.
3. Pere Serra, Lecturer, Autonomy University of Barcelona, Spain, Ana Vera, Lecturer, Autonomy University of Barcelona, Spain, Antoni Francesc Tulla, Professor, Autonomy University of Barcelona, Spain & Luca Salvati, Researcher, Consiglio per la Ricerca e la Sperimentazione in Agricoltura, Italy. Urban and Rural Dynamics from Censuses and GIS Data: A Spatial Analysis for the Last 20 Years in Spain.
4. Abel Silva Lizcano, PhD Candidate, Polytechnic of Milano, Italy, Laura Silva Lizcano, Chemical Pharmaceutical Biotechnologist, Valle University, Mexico. Location-Based Social Media and Urban Analysis. Using Foursquare Data to Map City Emotions.
5. Anne Clementsen, PhD Fellow, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Designing Urban Life; a Methodological Framework for Examining Socio-Spatial Dynamics.

11:30-13:00 Session II (Room B): Urban Processes I

Chair: Stavros Alifragkis, Academic Member, Architecture Research Unit, ATINER & Adjunct Lecturer, Hellenic Army Academy, Athens, Greece.

1. Cathy Yang Liu, Associate Professor, Georgia State University, USA. The Geographic Location and Mobility of Immigrant Entrepreneurs in US Cities. (Monday, 9 of June).
2. Lukasz Damurski, Assistant Professor, Wroclaw University of Technology, Poland. Communicating Spatial Change in Polish Municipalities.
3. Gregoris Kalnis, Lecturer, Frederick University, Cyprus. The Politics of Open Urban Processes. Mapping Collective Networks within European Architectural Competition Platform.
4. Lovemore Chipungu, Lecturer, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa & *Hope Hangwelani Magidimisha, Researcher, Human Science Research Council, South Africa. Revisiting the Frontiers of Urban Sprawl - A Housing Policy Perspective on Harare - Zimbabwe.
5. Roman Klementschtz, Senior Scientist, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria & Oliver Roider, Senior Scientist, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU), Austria. Planning in Polycentric Regions - The Case Study of the Austrian Rhine Valley Agglomeration.

13:00-14:00 Lunch (details during registration)

14:00-16:00 Session III (Room B): Environment

Chair: Nabil Semaan, Assistant Professor, University of Balamand, Lebanon.

1. Methiye Gul Coteli, Head, Department of City and Regional Planning, Erciyes University, Turkey. Urban Environmental History of an Anatolian City: Destroying the Riverscape of Kayseri.
2. *Sara Alidoust, PhD Student, Griffith University, Australia, Gordon Holden, Discipline Head, Griffith University, Australia & Caryl Bosman, Senior Lecturer, Griffith University, Australia. Urban Environment and Social Health of the Elderly: A Critical Discussion on Physical, Social, and Policy Environment.
3. Gemma Burgess, Senior Researcher, University of Cambridge, UK. Mechanisms to Increase Housing Land Supply in England.
4. Wei Zhang, Graduate Student, Beijing Forestry University Landscape Architecture School, China. The New Development of Landscape Architecture under Global Climate Change.

16:00-18:00 Session IV (Room B): Urban Spaces

Chair: Methiye Gul Coteli, Head, Department of City and Regional Planning, Erciyes University, Turkey.

1. Tingwei Zhang, Professor/Director, University of Illinois, USA. Contemporary Urban Design in China.
2. David Badillo, Associate Professor, Lehman College, USA. Mexican-American Urbanism and the "Tejano Civil Rights Triangle" of the 1960s and 1970s.
3. Hao Wu, Master of Architecture, Chongqing University, China & Wenyong Tan, Associate Professor, Chongqing University, China. Urban Renewal in Historical Cities in China: Exploring Methods Based on Urban Form Studies.
4. Ercan Buyukcifici, PhD Candidate, Super-Diversity and Urban Public Space, The Netherlands. The Local Shopping Street as a Public Space in Super-Diverse Neighbourhoods.
5. Paula Santana, Professor, University of Coimbra, Portugal, Claudia Costa, Researcher, University of Coimbra, Portugal & Alejandro Gomez, Professor, UNED - Zamora, Spain. Urban Green Spaces in the Cities of Coimbra (Portugal) and Salamanca (Spain): Distribution and Utilization.

18:00-19:30 Session V (Room B): Round Table Discussion on *Place-based Specialization and Growth Opportunities in a Global Context*

Chair: Lampros Pyrgiotis, President, Greek Society of Regional Scientists.

Contributors:

1. Tingwei Zhang, Professor, Department of Urban Planning and Policy University of Illinois at Chicago, USA.
2. David Badillo, Associate Professor, Lehman College, USA.
3. Chun-Lin Lee, Associate Professor, Chinese Culture University, Taiwan.
4. Cathy Yang Liu, Associate Professor, Georgia State University, USA.
5. Gemma Burgess, Senior Research Associate, Cambridge Centre for Housing and Planning Research Department of Land, Economy University of Cambridge, U.K.

21:00-23:00 Greek Night (Details during registration)

Tuesday 10 June 2014

09:00-10:30 Session VI (Room B): Urban Processes II

Chair: *Sara Alidoust, PhD Student, Griffith University, Australia.

1. Constantino Mawromatis, Assistant Professor, University of Chile, Chile. The Imaginary of Suburbia: From the American Dream to the Quest for Social Advancement in Chile.
2. Basudatta Sarkar, Researcher, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India, Haimanti Banerji, Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India & Joy Sen, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, India. Patterns of Socio-Economic Deprivation and Its Impact on Quality of Life: Case of a Less Developed Region in West Bengal, India.
3. Peyman Khodabakhsh, PhD Candidate, Urban and Regional Planning in Technical University, Germany, Samira Mashayekhi, PhD Candidate, Urban and Regional Planning in Technical University, Germany & Behzad Malekpour Asl, PhD Candidate Urban, and Regional Planning in Shahid Beheshti University, Iran. An Analytical View on Resilience Urban Planning, Focusing on Urban Transportation Systems and Climate Changes.
4. Xu Zhang, PhD Student, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Multiple Pathways towards World Cities Formation: A Tale of Guangzhou and Shenzhen.
5. Isabelle Loris, Researcher, Spatial Development Department Flanders - Research and Monitoring, Belgium. Suburbanization in Flanders (Belgium).

10:30-12:00 Session VII (Room B): Methodology II

Chair: Constantino Mawromatis, Assistant Professor, University of Chile, Chile.

1. Virginia Sisiopiku, Associate Professor, University of Alabama, USA & Natalia Barbour, Research Assistant, University of Alabama, USA. Use of GIS Spatial Analysis to Identify Food Deserts in the State of Alabama.
2. Laetitia Tuffery, PhD Student, University of Evry, France. Which Metropolitan Forest do you Prefer? An Evaluation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on the Paris Region.
3. Roberto Quiros, PhD Student, Autonomy University of Barcelona, Spain. Life Cycle Assessment of Technologies to Treat Unsorted Municipal Solid Waste.
4. Ahmet Yilmaz, Research Assistant, Yildiz Technical University, Turkey & Hulya Demir, Professor, Yildiz Technical University, Turkey. A Multi-Criteria Optimization Model for Land Readjustment Projects.

12:00-13:30 Session VIII (Room B): Spatial Behaviour

Chair: Virginia Sisiopiku, Associate Professor, University of Alabama, USA.

1. Sarah Fitton, PhD Student, University of Cambridge, UK. The Social Perspective of Flood Infrastructure Design.
2. Zinovia Foka, PhD Candidate, Bauhaus University Weimar, Germany. Shared Space in Conflict Areas: Exploring the Case of Nicosia's Buffer Zone.
3. Kristen Gagnon, PhD Student, Carleton University, Ottawa. Speed/Walking: From the Flaneur to the Ferrari: How the Acceleration of the Modern City has Resulted in a Shift in Urban Perception.
4. Naphasinee Suebsuk, PhD Student, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Japan & Osamu Nakagawa, Professor, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Japan. Transformation and Modification of Historical Building use and Owner's Motivation on Urban Conservation in Nineizaka-Sanneizaka Preservation District, Kyoto, Japan.

13:30-14:30 Lunch (Details during registration)

14:30-16:00 Session IX (Room B): Urban Centres

Chair: Nicholas N. Patricios, Director, Engineering & Architecture, ATINER, Professor & Dean Emeritus, School of Architecture, University of Miami, USA.

1. *Alessandro Scarnato, Architect, Polytechnic University of Catalunya, Spain. Mi Casa Es Tu Casa: The Creation of The New Rambla Del Raval In The Historic Center of Barcelona, between Urban Renewal and Touristic Branding.
2. Sung Jin Choi, PhD Student, The University of Melbourne, Australia & Sun Sheng Han, Professor, The University of Melbourne, Australia. A New Community Fragment, The Seoul Global Centre.
3. Andreia Margarido, PhD Student, University of Coimbra, Portugal. Coimbra: [Re]Stitching the Urban Fabric.

17:30-20:30 Urban Walk (Details during registration)

21:00-22:00 Dinner (Details during registration)

Wednesday 11 June 2014

Cruise: (Details during registration)

Thursday 12 June 2014

Delphi Visit: (Details during registration)

Sara Alidoust

PhD Student, Griffith University, Australia

Gordon Holden

Discipline Head, Griffith University, Australia

&

Caryl Bosman

Senior Lecturer, Griffith University, Australia

Urban Environment and Social Health of the Elderly: A Critical Discussion on Physical, Social, and Policy Environment

A key question facing planners is how to design new and develop existing urban environments to improve the social health of older adults, and consequently improve their overall health and well-being. Unfortunately research relating to the influence of the environment on the social health of the elderly lacks a clear definition of 'environment'. As a result the differing impacts of environment, however defined, on social health are not fully understood. This is an increasingly important area of research given the world's ageing population. This paper offers a critical review of the environment literature, with a specific focus on the how the physical, social, and policy dimensions of the environment influence the social life of the elderly; social life being an important component of social health. The paper investigates multiple environmental factors at different levels of influence on social life. It also provides a clear classification of environmental features that enable or inhibit social life. Drawing on the literature reviewed, there are manifold associations between physical, social, and policy environmental determinants of social health which need to be understood and prioritised. Developing age-friendly cities, where elderly people are socially active, results from a complex interplay of all of the determinants. This paper identifies the major gaps in current literature in this field and concludes with discussing key policy implications for planners. It offers areas for further research to improve the social health of the elderly through design of the urban environment.

David Badillo

Associate Professor, Lehman College, USA

Mexican-American Urbanism and the “Tejano Civil Rights Triangle” of the 1960s and 1970s

My presentation will focus on legal struggles emerging in San Antonio, Texas. By the 1960s, desegregation and the Black Civil Rights Movement, along with a well-organized, regional and increasingly national Mexican-American civil rights movement built upon their civil and religious leadership and formed a Latino civil rights movement based in San Antonio with links to a larger Tejano (Texas Mexican) network encompassing Houston and Corpus Christi. Organizations such as Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS), the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), and the Southwest Voter Registration and Education Fund (SVREP) exerted strong influence during the 1960s and 1970s throughout South Central Texas--and beyond--to transform earlier patterns of urbanization. They succeeded in gaining educational, employment, and voting rights along the Lower Rio Grande Valley, in California, and elsewhere in the greater Southwest and Midwest.

The legal tradition went beyond mere advocacy or protest, challenging deeply-held segregation in Corpus Christi, Houston, and Austin—as well as San Antonio. My thorough archival research offers a compelling examination primarily of MALDEF and other San Antonio organizations in jurisprudence and legal advocacy, ranging from desegregation cases ending up in the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals (*U.S. v. Texas*; *Cisneros v. Corpus Christi*) to the famous *Plyler v. Doe* case decided by the U.S. Supreme Court and argued by lawyers from the San Antonio office of MALDEF—which at the time was led by San Antonio-born President and General Counsel Vilma S. Martinez. This ruling that required states and school boards to provide public school education to undocumented Mexican immigrants stands as perhaps the most important pillar of Latino civil rights. My informed research is based on thorough archival research; previously published books, articles, and chapters; and a career based on seasoned presentations—locally, nationally, and internationally—to diverse scholarly audiences.

Gemma Burgess

Senior Researcher, University of Cambridge, UK

Mechanisms to Increase Housing Land Supply in England

The UK faces a housing crisis. Successive governments have accepted the need for more housing but output runs far below the requirement for around 230,000 new homes each year up to 2031. Bringing more land forward for housing is crucial if availability and affordability are not to worsen.

A recent review undertaken by the University of Cambridge identified measures taken successfully in other countries to bring land forward for housing (Monk et al, 2013). However, it showed that in England and Wales many of these mechanisms are already available or in place in some form. The key issue is therefore why are they not used more widely or more effectively?

The research on which this paper is based builds on the review to identify case study examples where the mechanisms have been used successfully. The research identified several land supply mechanisms in England, including a) flexible growth limit boundaries (green belt 'swaps'), b) putting infrastructure in place prior to development using a revolving infrastructure fund, c) putting infrastructure in place prior to development using tax increment funding, d) land value capture, compensation and incentives through the Community Infrastructure Levy, and e) local authority involvement in land assembly through compulsory purchase. The key question is what can we learn from case study examples of local authorities that have successfully used some of these mechanisms in England to bring land forward for housing?

Ercan Buyukcifci

PhD Candidate, Super-diversity and urban public space, The
Netherlands

The Local Shopping Street as a Public Space in Super-Diverse Neighborhoods

This paper will examine how local shopping streets in a diverse neighbourhood can foster neighbourhood connectedness. Dutch cities, such as The Hague and Rotterdam, have become 'super-diverse' cities; urban places which are characterized by a multiplicity of ethnic backgrounds. In recent years, many public debates were concerned with these neighbourhoods' low scores on liveability. Local governments have developed large-scale quantitative surveys to measure liveability; referring to whether residents perceive their neighbourhood as a safe and a clean place, and whether they connect with each other and feel connected with the neighbourhood. Some major drawbacks of this approach are that it mainly focuses on strong ties, and that it fails to take the role of public space into account. More recently, there has been an increasing scholarly interest in daily encounters in urban public space and their social meaning. Urban public space, such as local shopping streets bring people together and foster fleeting encounters between persons who are stranger to one another. This habitual proximity of residents can lead to feelings of belonging.

The aim of this paper is to provide a theoretical framework regarding the role of public space in a super-diverse context. This paper will elaborate on the notion of connectedness in a diverse neighbourhood. It will argue for an ethnographic inquiry of daily intercultural encounters in public space for a profound understanding of connectedness. Furthermore, this paper will give an account of daily encounters in a local shopping street and their meaning in a context of super-diversity. It will provide some empirical evidence from my current ethnographical research into the function of local shopping streets for connectedness in a diverse neighbourhood.

Lovemore Chipungu

Lecturer, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

&

Hope Hangwelani Magidimisha

Researcher, Human Science Research Council, South Africa

Revisiting the Frontiers of Urban Sprawl - A Housing Policy Perspective on Harare - Zimbabwe

Rapid urban developments in most African cities have always been associated with the deregulation of colonial laws which were generally against the urbanisation of the indigenous populations. This situation has further been propelled by the endless search for better socio-economic opportunities in urban areas largely emanating from their absence in the countryside. The interplay of these pull and push factors of migration has led to both positive and negative impacts on urban and rural environments. On the urban arena, the search and development of housing has emerged as one of the major drivers of urban expansion that is significantly contributing towards urbanisation. This is not surprising given that housing constitutes between 40% and 50% of the urban landscape. In this regard, while not disregarding other factors, housing emerges as one of the key factors that contribute towards urban sprawl in most developing countries. Using the case study of Harare (Zimbabwe), the authors argue that although historical factors have their own share in contributing towards urban sprawl, contemporary housing policies also fall short of engaging sustainable principles in order to curb urban expansion. This coupled with the availability of land and the nature of housing production systems in place has led to the expansion of the city beyond sustainable boundaries thereby piling pressure on existing infrastructure and other services. The authors conclude by noting that the emerging status quo can only be arrested by revisiting such existing housing policies and production systems. But they also contend that the complexity of forces at work in the urban environment go beyond the linear solution - a situation which therefore requires a holistic approach that addresses underlying structural issues that are embedded in the political, economic and social realm of the urban environment.

Sung Jin Choi

PhD Student, The University of Melbourne, Australia
&

Sun Sheng Han

Professor, The University of Melbourne, Australia

A New Community Fragment, the Seoul Global Centre

This research aims to explore the role of community centres facilitating globalisation of Seoul, Korea. Across Seoul, 18 networked community centres, namely Seoul Global Centres, have been designated by the Seoul Metropolitan Government since 2008 as a response of rapid globalisation of city. To provide effective services and increase accessibility, each centre is located in ethnically congested areas with a different management vision. Despite the short history, beyond the simple expectation to support immigrants' adaptation to Korea, they function as critical global community fragments in terms of geographic and management strategies. Their functional possibilities that they perform raise important questions for academic research. How does the Seoul Global Centres geographically affect the ethnic tie? What are the impacts and possibilities of ethnically and organisationally mixed-staff management? Why can the functional separation among centres be an effective community centre action strategy? For a valid outcome, data collection from interviews to centre staff and surveys to centre users was conducted in Seoul in 2013. The result indicates that the global centres' locational feature and localised activities strengthen the ethnic regionalisation. Furthermore, immigrant managers and staff from different organisations imply a distinctive leadership model for the community centre management. Lastly, the organisational uniqueness grouped in five different categories in function-head centre, tourism centre, village centre, migration centre, and business centre has become a new exemplar of community centre action strategy.

Anne Clementsen
PhD Fellow, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Designing Urban Life; A Methodological Framework for Examining Socio-spatial Dynamics

Current urban design is highly focused on creating social life in urban spaces through architecture and design strategies, where the physical milieu is regarded as determinant for the character of social life. This tendency is for instance very pertinent in urban projects in a Danish context. Through urban sociology and architectural theory we hold knowledge on respectively the social dynamics in urban environments and the characteristics of the single individual's use of urban design in everyday life. There is a lack of knowledge though on the dynamics between these two dimensions in urban life; how do social dynamics such as social distance and power relations influence the individual's usage of and navigation in urban spaces? This is a vital aspect to address in relation to urban design and this paper argues that research within this field is pertinent for the improvement of future urban design.

This paper presents a methodology for examining socio-spatial dynamics in given urban squares from the individual's perspective. Applying a phenomenological approach it will be examined how the individual affect and use both physical and social aspects in newly established urban squares in a Copenhagen context that have been designed with specific objectives for the future social life in these urban squares.

With the use of case studies and the French method for conducting urban walks *Diagnostic en Merchant* socio-spatial dynamics will be examined at street level. Furthermore this paper introduces a distinction between various social constellations that the individual takes part in when using urban spaces for capturing the variety of experiences and usages of urban spaces. Using the present methodology, this research will contribute with valuable knowledge on socio-spatial dynamics from the individual's perspective to be incorporated in future urban projects.

Methiye Gul Coteli

Head, Department of City and Regional Planning, Erciyes University,
Turkey

Urban Environmental History of an Anatolian City: Destroying the Riverscape of Kayseri

In the long history of human, interrelations with waters and rivers have played an important role in the formation of early settlements and city development. Long histories of extensive human interventions in rivers show that the relationship between the city and the natural environment has been circular. While the natural environment has profoundly shaped urban configurations, cities had massive effects on the natural environment. Urban developers often reshaped natural environment by leveling hills, filling valleys and wetlands, and creating huge areas of made land. They constructed a built environment of paved streets, malls, houses, factories, office buildings, and etc., and altered urban riverscapes according to human needs, aesthetic ideals and technical options. The protection of a heritage such as individual buildings and monuments or an entire district or town is rarely a problem, because of the existing legislation. However, there is no restriction about the alteration of the urban riverscape. Hence, the most pressing problem is that how a city's riverscape, which is a historical resource, can be easily changed.

This paper aimed to assess the relation of integration between city and its river and describe the loss of the riverscape which is a part of the cultural landscape due to the urban expansion in an Anatolian city, Kayseri, between 1882 and 2012. To address this transformation issue clearly, a case study approach was chosen and the data was gained from the historical maps, aerial photos, urban development plans and newspapers. The main result is that the spread of urban populations and urban land use has reshaped and destroyed the river landscape of the city of Kayseri. This study showed that a river which takes a critic role in urban history is a non-renewable product. These results provide a general idea that rivers are not compensable urban resources; therefore, they can't be replicated.

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Communicating Spatial Change in Polish Municipalities

Contemporary decision-making standards require that each significant change in the local landscape (and in the local environment) should be co-decided by the citizens in a transparent process of public communication. This applies especially to the rapidly changing areas, experiencing strong development pressures, where the relationship between public planning and public communication gains a very high importance. In this study I look for some general patterns of spatial change in Poland, reflected by the planning activity on the local level, and I present the municipalities that have been most busy in their planning duties in the recent years. Then I examine 18 municipalities, representing different types of settlements, located in various regional settings. A statistical analysis of their planning situation proves that they are particularly expansive in urban planning due to the rising needs of spatial development. Interviews with the local officials responsible for the planning process show a variety of attitudes towards public communication and enable listing the most popular practices of citizen participation. The paper concludes with a typology of communication strategies on the municipal level, depending on the local experience in urban planning, geographical location and population size. Finally, the paper proposes necessary improvements in the structures and processes of urban governance, aiming to deal with the dynamic spatial changes.

Sarah Fitton

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The Social Perspective of Flood Infrastructure Design

The argument presented in this paper calls for an approach to flood infrastructure design that considers not only the need for a technical perspective in design but a social perspective also. As a result of climate change and changing weather patterns, it is predicted that more intense rainfall will be experienced with rising sea levels resulting in a greater number of people across the world at risk and vulnerable to flood events. The need for flood defence infrastructure is only going to become more critical. This paper examines the preliminary findings from research that seeks to understand how the social value of UK flood defence schemes is interpreted and discussed by both communities and industry professionals responsible for flood infrastructure design. The preliminary findings are taken from a pilot case study conducted between April and August 2013 in Manchester, UK. A series of semi-structured interviews were conducted with both the community and industry professionals responsible for the local scheme. The findings presented will demonstrate how social value is articulated and if a difference in interpretation exists between the communities it is designed for compared to the industry professionals that design it. The conclusions drawn from the preliminary research corroborates the argument that adopting a social perspective in flood infrastructure design produces not only a technically successful scheme, but a considered and socially acceptable scheme. Industry professionals responsible for design have often neglected to see flooding as a social problem and consequently only developed technical and cost-effective, not social end user orientated solutions. Adopting a socially as well as technically considerate approach for future flood infrastructure design is critical as more communities around the world are exposed to the very real risk of flood events.

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Shared Space in Conflict Areas: Exploring the Case of Nicosia's Buffer Zone

The physical divide of urban areas, often the extreme result of conflict and state contestation is considered a non-sustainable long-term solution. However, a political settlement of the conflict is, in most cases, considered a prerequisite for cooperative development. Thus, where consensus remains unachievable, this temporary situation is becoming permanent, affecting the city's physical landscape, and penetrating various levels of urban life.

Towards the goal of exploring the broader questions of emergence of this type of city as a norm and its viability, the city of Nicosia provides an apt framework for a case study. Officially divided since 1974 between Turkish and Greek Cypriots, this city demonstrates an elaborate Master Plan facilitating professional collaboration between opposing parties. Furthermore, during the last decade, Nicosia has been experiencing a shift of paradigm mainly due to the restitution of mobility between its two sectors in 2003.

This paper is looking at local initiatives in Nicosia's urban core, the Walled City, and focuses on spatial practices that contest the established notions regarding the infrastructure of partition, with special attention to the Buffer Zone. The analysis, based on qualitative data collected on field, is centered on the actions and activities of NGOs and radicalized groups, in order to explore some of the socio-spatial processes through which diverse groups of people come together and negotiate their understanding of belonging, thus renegotiating, in this context, notions of identity, citizenship, and memory.

I argue that Nicosia's Buffer Zone is a dynamic social construction; and as such it induces various interpretations and discourses, while it simultaneously provides the space for their physical expression. In conclusion, this space is being transformed, even briefly, into shared space, produced by the combined efforts of civil society. This paper aims at highlighting this rarely acknowledged perspective of space production under contested state.

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Speed/Walking: From the Flâneur to the Ferrari: How the Acceleration of the Modern City has Resulted in a Shift in Urban Perception.

(This paper plans to investigate the relationship between speed and perception, in reference to how we read the city at varying velocities – specifically that of the pedestrian and the car – and seeks to understand how this shift has affected our urban consciousness.)

The pace of modern urbanity is increasing at ‘breakneck’ speeds, as we are moving exponentially faster physically and virtually than ever before. Yet with all of the breakthroughs that come from this technology, and the pace at which it is moving, there has been a necessary trade-off. And this has come in the form of our own consciousness, for how can we possibly perceive the nuances of the city or moments of curiosity when we are moving at rates that blur our urban landscapes?

In order to understand how we have arrived at a place and pace of unconscious urban movement, it is important to first understand the changing nature of the speed of society and its relationship to our perception of the city. With the Parisian, urban, walking practice of the Flâneur, characterized in Louis Aragon, Paris Peasant and Walter Benjamin’s *The Arcades Project*, an appreciation for slowness gives way to social surveying and the ability to uncover the beauty and mystery in the seemingly mundane existence of the everyday.

Yet with the Haussmannian renovations of Paris, the arcades – home to the professional stroller – were to be demolished, paving the way for the grand boulevards and ultimately the car. This break, from the arcade to the street and from the pedestrian to the car, was the signifier of the modern city, and with it, the loss of the explicitly conscious stroller in favour of rapidity.

This ultimately leads to Claude Lelouch’s 1976 high-speed car-race short film, *C’était un Rendez-vous*, which polarizes our understanding of speed and its relationship to how we perceive the city. As will be seen, this acceleration of the pace of everyday life, and our movement through the city, has led to a slippage of perception and ultimately a loss of consciousness and clear vision of the city.

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The Politics of Open Urban Processes. Mapping Collective Networks within European Architectural Competition Platform

The concept of collective intelligence opens up new avenues in the potential approaches to many contemporary issues of a political, economic, social and moral nature, by laying great emphasis on the dynamic relations which are developed among the contributing parties.

In turn, the collective space that emerges as the outcome of this 'open' process can function as the field where uncertainties will be revealed as well as the confrontation with differences, contrasts, conflicts and controversies that define architecture on the making, will take place.

This paper investigates the hypothesis that the creation of knowledge occurring through the detailed mapping of European networks, may be a key factor in developing a common ground for communication, resulting in citizens' participation in public affairs. The paper will seek to demonstrate that any spatial issue can be grounded on the desire to render visible the network to which it belongs, in order to efficiently respond to any requirements that this network specifies.

Through mapping and documentation over time, of specific controversies between actors (human and nonhuman) who participate in a design process and constitute the networks and under the lens on ANT theory, I investigate the contribution of European's architectural competition networks to the development of an 'open' design process, and their potential to develop into Collective Intelligence Networks.

The acknowledgement of the networks' development and operation can reveal possible implications that the emergent knowledge can have. Every kind of knowledge around a topic provides and maintains the capacity to develop related forms of reactions. In a similar way, acknowledgement of European's architectural competition network, could contribute to the evolution of the term 'design' in planning, in terms of its connotation as a collective process, its understanding as an 'open' research process, and it could also correlate physical space design processes with politics.

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An Analytical View on Resilience Urban Planning, Focusing on Urban Transportation Systems and Climate Changes

Increasing economic, social and spatial vulnerabilities and pressures due to incorporation of urban areas into the new global economy and opening the door to external pressures necessitate building resilient urban systems. The entrepreneurial logic in property markets decreases the opportunity for public concerns, and unequal power relations and the privatization of the state make proactive measures to unexpected crisis and hazards difficult. Moreover, increasing ecological vulnerabilities require connecting planning and science of ecology and enhancing ecological resilience of urban systems.

Over the coming decades, the need to build capacity for greater resilience will require our cities to develop strategies for coping with the future shocks and stresses to our urban infrastructure systems associated with climate change. Our cities will also have to find ways to significantly reduce their dependence on oil and other fossil fuels - to find ways to become more self-sufficient and energy efficient in the face of the economic realities of energy transition associated with energy scarcity. In fact, an effective urban planning could play an important role in facilitating the development of a greater capacity for future resilience. In addition, the transportation sector as one of the three most important energy End-users, consumes approximately up to 30% of the world energy production and causes the main ecological problems. Therefore the main focus of the present research is mainly on resilience urban planning and specifically resilience urban transport and its impact on climate change.

The main aim of the article is provision of a deep and easily understandable analytic theoretical background of resilience with a specific focus on urban planning, urban transportation planning and ecological issues. Besides, the key factors of resilience urban transport approach will be surveyed and analyzed which in the final stage will be led to the main principles of resilience transportation systems.

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Planning in Polycentric Regions - The Case Study of the Austrian Rhine Valley Agglomeration

Transport and land use planning is a complex undertaking for any city, but it is even more complex when urban functions, people and mobility are scattered in different poles of a region. Poly-SUMP is a research project funded by the European Commission analysing planning concepts and develops sustainable urban mobility plans for polycentric regions. The polycentric agglomeration concept need to the balance concentration versus distribution of the population, jobs, and attractors etc. who generate daily mobility flows. The idea of the project is to understand elements of a successful implementation of a polycentric co-operation, to analyse to which extent polycentric structures are able to support sustainable mobility and land use and to exchange experiences with other regions on a European level. The Austrian Rhine Valley has been selected as one demonstration site. Since 2003 a co-operation among the 29 municipalities of the region exists following the aim of a common development under the umbrella of a common planning platform called as "Vision Rheintal". This includes a balanced distribution of economic, cultural, educational, retail, recreational and administrative institutions across different locations.

For a better understanding of the situation, databases on land use and mobility demand were analysed, interviews with stakeholders were carried out and a two days future search workshop was organised in the region in autumn 2013. The presentation will give an overview how the planning processes are organised with the given hierarchical background and competences of the different actors involved and will reflect on the current challenges and achievements. Main aspects of the current planning are strategies to influence the mobility behaviour, to define the optimal infrastructure supply for the region including all modes of transport (public transport, non motorised modes and private motorised car traffic) and to concentrate the settlement developments on preferred locations with compact structures.

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Spatial Vulnerability Assessment of Land-use Change in Taipei City: An Application of FANP, GIS and LSA

The assessment reports (1st to 4th) of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) drive research on adaptation, mitigation, vulnerability and resilience for global climate change. Climate change adaptation, vulnerability and resilience assessments have become the most important issues to respond to climate change impact locally. After IPCC (2001) proposed definition for vulnerability as exposure, impact and autonomous adaptation, these three perspectives start to be adopted to explore vulnerability.

However, there is a lack of system framework to assess vulnerability and autonomous adaptation based on comprehensive land-use change and their biophysical conditions. Therefore, this 2-year research proposes a comprehensive framework to assess spatial pattern of exposure and impact due to land-use change from 1971 to 2006 for Taipei City based on Fuzzy Analytical Network Process (FANP), Geographical Information System (GIS) and Land Suitability Analysis (LSA) in the 1st year. Furthermore, the 2nd year research will adopt the concept of turnover time from system ecology to analyze spatial pattern of autonomous adaptation for Taipei City. Moreover, location of high vulnerability and low autonomous adaptation are identified for exploring climate change adaptation policy for Taipei City.

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The Geographic Location and Mobility of Immigrant Entrepreneurs in US Cities

The study of ethnic and immigrant entrepreneurship has both academic significance and policy impact. Immigrant self-employment not only provides an alternative route to economic mobility but also through their businesses has the potential of employing co-ethnic employees, generating growth in ethnic communities, promoting innovation, and combating economic downturn in the current financial climate. In an era of economic restructuring and globalization, urban policies in the U.S. have begun to emphasize the importance of brain gain and attracting foreign human capital in order to spark economic development (e.g., Global Detroit and Global Pittsburgh strategies). Thus, understanding the current geographic profile and socioeconomic contexts of this diverse group as well as their location choices has important bearings on urban planning.

This paper systematically examines the spatial pattern and geographic mobility of immigrant entrepreneurs on the metropolitan area level. This research will mainly make use of the American Community Survey (ACS) 5 year combined sample (2007-2011) microdata to answer three specific research questions:

1. How are immigrant entrepreneurs distributed among metropolitan areas in the U.S., and how do these patterns vary by race/ethnicity, skills and industrial sectors. A typology will be developed to categorize these immigrant entrepreneurial destinations based on these dimensions.
2. Besides absolute concentration, what are the new metropolitan destinations that have been attracting immigrant entrepreneurs in the past year either from abroad or from elsewhere in the U.S.? These emerging magnets might differ from the established immigrant destinations.
3. What are the individual- and household-level characteristics as well as metropolitan-level factors that underlie the geographic mobility and location choice of immigrant entrepreneurs?

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Suburbanization in Flanders (Belgium)

Flanders (Belgium) is a highly urbanized region. It has three main cities (Brussels, Antwerp and Ghent), eleven regional cities and fifty small towns. In addition, there are many villages with urban characteristics because of their economic activities and the present public facilities. It is dominated by a network of small towns and villages. The scattered settlement pattern differs from the neighboring regions (compact cities in the Netherlands, France, Luxembourg, Germany).

This settlement pattern is a consequence of suburbanization. One of the objectives of the Spatial Structure Plan for Flanders and the Spatial Policy Plan- Green Paper is to counteract that suburbanization. This is not possible given the one hand, the large range of available vacant lots in Flanders, especially in the rural regions. On the other hand, there is an existing migration trend away from the cities. This enhances suburbanization.

This article examines whether in the recent period 1991-2012 suburbanization persisted or not, for various cities in Flanders. A distinction is made between the large, regional and small urban areas. Finally, the article evaluates the risk that the suburbanization is further maintained by the available supply of building plots. This shows that especially in large urban areas and regional areas suburbanization continues: the growth of households on the outskirts of these cities was greater than the increase in the cities themselves. In small urban areas, additional urbanization was assessed. Suburbanization is not only seen in the edge of cities but also further away from the cities, in more rural areas. The migration flows studied show a similar pattern.

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Coimbra: [Re]Stitching the Urban Fabric

During the last three decades, urban growth in Portugal has been largely supported by the expansion of urban perimeters. This peripheral urban growth has been accompanied by a consequent depopulation of the city centre, contributing to the fragmentation and impoverishment of the urban structure and lifestyle (e.g. the defragmentation of economic, environmental and health sustainability, the loss of quality of life and the reduction of population's social cohesion). Despite evident concerns about the consequences of urban spread amongst both politicians and professionals operating on the ground there are numerous factors that require more in-depth research and reflection, sustained by concrete data.

This article results from research undertaken in the ambit of a PhD dissertation in architecture and urbanism and aims to contribute to the debate about how to contain extensive and dispersed urban growth, focusing upon the serious problem of city centre depopulation. Our case study is the city of Coimbra (one of Europe's oldest university cities, classified by UNESCO as an urban and cultural heritage). Through an extensive analysis of geo-demographic data crossed with the urban network evolution we can observe that the depopulation of Coimbra city centre has occurred at the expense of extensive and disperse territorial advances, which reinforce the need for a change in urban practices and policies.

City centre (re)densification (residents, services, commerce functions, etc.) is viewed as an alternative to the extensive dispersed growth and is presented as an urban strategy that focuses on a better use of the existing built-up areas. For this purpose, we identified the urban voids at the centre (some that were forgotten during the peripheral growth) and present strategic proposals that seek to generate new dynamics, improve mobility, increase social interaction, and boost local economic development at the same time.

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The Imaginary of Suburbia: From the American Dream to the Quest for Social Advancement in Chile

The so called 20th Century “American dream”¹ deeply rooted in the suburban culture, was shaped by the political will in times of profound transformations during the post-depression years, exploiting the desire for freedom and prosperity that has characterized the American people since the days of the conquest of the western territories. The car industry in Detroit, the Levittown model and the post-war consumption frenzy have marked an essentially ephemeral suburban society, that seems to be consubstantial to sprawl, transforming a town and community based social structure into a rather individualistic car oriented people.

In the framework of globalization, the cultural transfers of the American model to other countries has not always responded to the local realities, aggravating existing urban conflicts, and by doing so, undermining the expectations of the emerging social classes. In the Latin-American context, the case of Chile vividly reflects the contradictions of a model introduced early during a de facto government that started radical changes in the urban landscape through neoliberal policies that stimulated sprawl and encouraged gentrification and segregation. Within this context one can appreciate an increasing quest for social advancement tightly related to suburbia, despite the dysfunctional aspects of the model and the shortcomings of an unplanned development that affect people’s everyday life directly. The rich urban fabric of the historic centers and the early expansions of the cities, capturing the essence of local identities, succumb to urban decay or speculative forces, giving way to standardized residential developments that appeal to the aspirations of the underprivileged middle classes and to the pursuit of exclusiveness of the wealthy as well.

¹ As popularized by James Truslow Adams in 1931.

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Life Cycle Assessment of Technologies to Treat Unsorted Municipal Solid Waste

Despite efforts to increase the selective collection of municipal solid waste (MSW) in developed countries, the amount of unsorted waste remains high, with the consequent difficulty of material recovery and recycling. In 2010, 61% of the MSW generated in the European Union (EU) ended up in landfill and incineration facilities. Autoclaving is a novel technology that can be used to treat unsorted MSW, producing organic fibers that can be composted. The life cycle analysis (LCA) was used to assess the effectiveness of autoclaving unsorted MSW and various alternative methods for treating organic fibers produced through this process. The alternative methods that were considered included composting in tunnels, composting in confined windrow and composting in turning windrow as well as anaerobic digestion. The environmental assessment results were compared to those associated with incineration and landfill. The results of this study showed that autoclaving with sorting, digesting anaerobically and composting had the lowest impact values for eutrophication and the global warming potential. It was also found that autoclaving is justified only if the products of the process, that is, polyethylene terephthalate, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, are recycled to avoid virgin material production and if the remaining mixed plastic wastes are incinerated for energy recovery.

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Urban Green Spaces in the Cities of Coimbra (Portugal) and Salamanca (Spain): Distribution and Utilization

Science has shown how important urban green spaces are for health. The effects are both direct (they are associated with good self-assessed health status and longevity) and indirect, through improved environment quality. In a society that increasingly values well-being, health and leisure activities, the provision of urban green spaces near residential areas has become a citizens' right and demand. In order for current and future green spaces to be adapted to the inhabitants' requirements, it is necessary for us to understand their main characteristics, such as location, size, security, maintenance, facilities, etc..

This paper analyses the distribution and accessibility of urban green spaces in the cities of Coimbra (Portugal) and Salamanca (Spain) and evaluates their adequacy (or otherwise) to the needs of the resident population, in terms of use and use-frequency. After selecting the green urban spaces most propitious for leisure activities, we surveyed the users of these spaces in order to define patterns of use (frequency of use, schedule, proximity from home and transportation mode) and motivation (feelings, constraints to the utilization, etc.).

In Coimbra we found a concentration of urban green spaces whereas in Salamanca there was dispersion, with repercussions on the use that people make of them. In fact, although Coimbra has more urban green space (per inhabitant), it is underused, and people go there mainly by car, contrary to what happens in Salamanca. Thus, we can conclude that Coimbra's inhabitants choose these green spaces for the activities that they can perform there, whereas Salamanca's inhabitants choose them for their proximity.

This study identifies the aspects of both cities that contribute to the use of their urban green spaces, thus enabling them to be improved in order to better respond to the needs of the citizens.

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Patterns of Socio-Economic Deprivation and its Impact on Quality of Life: Case of a Less Developed Region in West Bengal, India

In the current context of regional planning, the issue of socio-economic deprivation and its impact on quality of life is becoming highly significant. Though several regions in cities and their fringe areas are continuously developing, but the community development blocks of various sub regions in them exhibit a fairly evident pattern of dichotomy and duality in development. Consequently, the sub regions become more socio-economically susceptible and more prone to vulnerability compared to the cities having a higher level of preparedness in development. The key reason is the unequal distribution of national assets and resources across the systems of sub regions. Hence, there is a need to evaluate the degree of susceptibility in the different sub regions. The susceptibility in the process of development can be spatially explained by studying the patterns of deprivation in the sub regions. Additionally there is an observation on quality of life in terms of poor physical infrastructure and housing conditions, which has bearing with susceptibility. The present paper tries to identify the patterns of deprivation and its impact on quality of life from these two observations. The study has been performed based on the performances of fifteen socio-economic growth indicators, broadly categorized as health, education and economic indicators following HDI guidelines. The patterns of deprivation of a sub region have been identified by calculating the distribution of deprivation index across the region. Finally, the paper has tried to establish the nature of relationship between deprivation index and quality of life indicators. There is a specific case of Malda, a comparatively less developed region of West Bengal which has been selected as the case study to best forward the concerns of the paper.

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A Feasibility Study Using Life Cycle Cost Analysis for a Sustainable Public Transit Railway Network Linking Tripoli to Beirut Cities in Lebanon

Due to the increasing population and number of cars for a small and limited space country, Lebanon is facing a major traffic congestion problem. The Lebanese Ministry of Interior Affairs has reported that there exist 1.8 million cars in Lebanon, whereas its total population is around 4 million. According to a report of the Lebanese Ministry of Environment, each car emits 4,500 kg of pollutant gas per year, totaling to 8.1 billion kg of air pollutants per year. On the other hand, the Lebanese government is unable to face this major problem and find a sustainable solution for its air environment quality. This research proposes public transportation as a sustainable solution.

The main objective of this research is to perform an economic feasibility study using Life Cycle Cost Analysis (LCCA) method of a railway network linking Tripoli to Beirut cities. Two alternatives are proposed: Alternative (1): an underground subway line; and Alternative (2) an aboveground railway line. The LCCA applies the Benefit to Cost (B/C) ratio for governmental projects in order to evaluate the two alternatives. The economic evaluation advises that both alternatives are feasible; however Alternative (2) is preferred and more profitable.

A sensitivity analysis is also performed in order to evaluate the effect of uncertainties of benefits, costs and discount rate on the decision. It is observed that changes in the Benefits significantly change the B/C ratio, while the Alternative (2) remains feasible. This research is relevant and important to the Lebanese government.

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Urban and Rural Dynamics from Censuses and GIS Data: A Spatial Analysis for the Last 20 Years in Spain

Spain, as in many other countries of Europe and of the rest of the world, has been involved in significant territorial changes that have modified the elder landscapes and has produced considerable socio-environmental consequences. One of the main modifications has implicated the traditional urban and rural dichotomy, causing new and more complex relationships. There are some examples of works related with urban and rural characterization but usually they have a static point of view, with a specific year of reference, or the analysis is just based on percentages of change from a particular variable (for example, increasing percentage of built-up area). Another outlook to be considered is the scale of research because there is a predominance of studying big extensions at low scale whereas the local scales have been less explored. Therefore, a deep knowledge of spatial dynamics requires specific analytical tools in order to improve the analysis of main changes.

This work is an example of such investigation based on a protocol applied to the about 8,000 peninsular Spanish municipalities, the local administrative level (NUTS-5), in three periods of time: 1990, 2000 and 2010. The statistical methodology uses more than 30 variables provided from different sources (mainly from censuses and from GIS data) to obtain a smaller number of common factors that characterized each of the periods. After applying a non-hierarchical clustering analysis, the main urban and rural dynamics were synthesized. The results show the spatial consequences related with urban sprawl of metropolitan regions, depopulation of mountain areas, reterritorialization from protected sites, evolution of agricultural irrigation and coastalization.

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Mi Casa Es Tu Casa: The Creation of the New Rambla Del Raval in the Historic Center of Barcelona, between Urban Renewal and Touristic Branding

In the last twenty years Barcelona has become a top touristic destination. An important part in this achievement is due to the extensive effort in urban reshaping started in the 80's of the last century. The interventions in the historic center have had a key role in the regeneration and the promotion of the city on the global stage. The operations in the Old City (Ciutat Vella), led by famous architects like Bohigas and Busquets, were based on Aldo Rossi's theories on urban shapes, and followed an unusual dialogue between existing and new architecture. The creation of the whole new Rambla del Raval (1996-2001) throughout the demolition of almost 3000 houses in the historic tissue has been the most consistent operation. The physical impact of the Rambla had been vast and deep: the transformations have gone way beyond the expected effects and one of the first consequences has been the creation of an ideal terrain vague where the increasing communities of non-European immigrants filled both the physical and social voids created by the interventions. The 'new' Old City of Barcelona entered in a process of gentrification, becoming a incredibly popular touristic destination, a result that was out of any plan when the renovation started. Newcomers (tourists, visitors and immigrants) have, quite obviously, adapted faster and better to the new morphology of the center and, differently from the locals, they appreciate the original historic features of old urban tissue.

The paper, based on my PhD research, aims to describe how the urban process triggered by the Rambla del Raval has generated both physical and social transformations which had a mutual influence, far beyond the original intentions of planners, administrators and inhabitants.

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Location-Based Social Media and Urban Analysis. Using Foursquare Data to Map City Emotions

Nowadays, due to the rapid development of the cities and the information society, planners are reconsidering the way in which urban planning is done. In this framework, the collection of location-based social media data is beginning to be explored as an opportunity to obtain valuable information related with the whereabouts of the people and their activities, but further work should still be done to find suitable approaches to produce meaningful interpretations of that data. Considering these facts, this paper presents a research work that started from the assumption that an analysis of the aggregate activity generated by such networks can help us to unveil the emotions its users experiment in order to create maps, useful for urban analysis, that represent the “Emotional Areas” of the city. For this purpose, the examination and analysis of Foursquare data is proposed through the creation of a suitable algorithm that would help making the interpretation of the data gotten into representations of the users’ emotions and perceptions. The main focus is to explore how the flow of information generated by location-based social media could be used as a tool to understand people’s feelings and sentiments about different city places. The work developed and the analysis made shows, on the one hand, that the analysis of the social interactions in real-time would contribute to produce a deeper insight about the dynamic aspect of the city and how the social virtual interactions and emotions could be related with the physical landscape, while, on the other hand, it provides a better understanding of the impact and potentialities of location-based social media data in the context of urban analysis.

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&

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Use of GIS Spatial Analysis to Identify Food Deserts in the State of Alabama

Availability and accessibility to fresh produce plays an essential role in public health and individual wellbeing. Unfortunately, a significant amount of the US population today has limited access to supermarkets, farmers markets or other sources of healthy, nutritious and affordable whole food diet options. This phenomenon is known as "food deserts". Current literature suggests that there is a link between food deserts and high obesity and poverty rates. Identifying the exact location of food deserts, analyzing contributing factors and social demographics can help to minimize the negative social effects of food deserts. This study investigated the extent of the food desert problem in Alabama and its potential repercussions on the health and wellbeing of Alabamians. Data were obtained from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and analyzed using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysis tools. A base GIS map layer for county level analysis was obtained from census.gov. The base layer was joined with the data file and different variables and their incidence were displayed on maps created in ArcGIS software. Moran's statistics were implemented to determine hot and cold spots and statistical significance. The analysis results identified counties with the greater need for accessibility to fresh foods. Such information is very useful for urban planning purposes and for prioritizing efforts to minimize the negative social effects of food deserts in the future. The analysis revealed that the most affected counties in Alabama in terms of low access to nutritious foods, high obesity and poverty rates are Sumter, Greene, Wilcox, Monroe, and Bullock counties. Implementation of initiatives that educate local residents about the importance of making healthy food choices and increase of the number of stores providing fresh foods, and the access to such establishments should be considered as a priority.

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Transformation and Modification of Historical Building use and Owner's Motivation on Urban Conservation in Nineizaka-Sanneizaka Preservation District, Kyoto, Japan

This paper is the study of relationship between the change in building use and the user's aspect in Nineizaka - Sanneizaka Preservation District for Group of Historical Buildings in Kyoto.

Based on field survey study in 2013 and detail map in 1977, 1999 to 2013. This study will analyze change in building use and user modification on urban conservation in Japan.

The result has been found that most of the building in Nineizaka-Sanneizaka preservation district has change and be transforming from shop-house (machiya) and living house in the past to be a full function commercial store. Only Traditional facade was restored after the area was designated as the first preservation districts since 1976. With the traditional characteristic of the building and environment bring a large number of tourists bring many impact to traditional site. Motivation factors from user scale to community (village) scale according to sustainable tourism concepts are presented through cultural conservation of traditional building design which has got budget from the government, on another side, there found many changes in the building space, cultural activities and traditional celebrations, and the local ways of life in the area.

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Urban Renewal in Historical Cities in China: Exploring Methods Based on Urban Form Studies

With unprecedented urban extension in China, issues concerned with urban renewal have drawn wider attentions than ever before especially in historical cities. However, an unreasonable short-term process including investment, demolition and redevelopment which accords with neither the status quo in China nor the objectives of urban renewal, has taken place in many Chinese cities for years. The main purpose of this paper is to explore a solution to the urban renewal in historical cities in China.

By utilizing a morphological approach based on historic-geographical environment which is developed by Conzenian Schools, this paper first releases a series of urban form analysis, which includes three figures involving ground plan (including sites, streets, plots and the ground-floor plan of the buildings), building fabric (especially building types) and land utilization in the case study of Ayidun area in Yining of China. Then, a composite map of urban landscape units is accomplished based on the three figures above and historical maps (i.e.1956, 1978, 2003, and 2013). The hierarchy of priority for conservation is delimited by studies upon the landscape unit map afterwards. Moreover, a series of recommended management for urban renewal about each landscape unit, respectively, which can be adopted by the authorities in future managing affairs, is tentatively laid out. In the end, perspectives from public participation in the process of urban renewal are also discussed.

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Which Metropolitan Forest do you Prefer? An Evaluation of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on the Paris Region

Considering the urban development imperatives and the increased land use conflicts in terms of consumption in metropolitan areas, what perceptions do people have of forest areas and forest ecosystem services? What is the social demand of urban forest areas estimated by the housing market?

The main purpose of this paper is to analyze the urban forests and ecosystems services furniture to help public policies involving issues related to forest, housing and human well-being while accounting for other environmental variables. This study aims at estimating WTP for an original typology of recreational and cultural aggregate ecosystem services of urban forest using housing prices.

Several methods for assessing ecosystem services are used to value natural areas and ecosystem services in cities, thanks to the estimation of willingness to pay. Rosen (1974) introduced the hedonic price method, which will be used as an evaluation method in this article.

In order to obtain relevant results for such an assessment, a large database and the use of several variables are required, related to the housing, the social and environmental amenities, the environment and neighbourhood of the good, and the socio-economic and environmental characteristics of the studied area. A mapping of biodiversity, cultural and recreational services drawn from the Atlas of biodiversity in Paris region and data on environmental planning (IAURIF) is used to build an original typology of recreational services in the territory. To identify the socio-economic value of the housing we use the BIEN database (2001-2008) from Paris' Chamber of Notaries.

Empirical results tend to show that there exists a significant impact of forest proximity and ecosystem services on housing prices. These global results tend to show that the urban population wants a non-attractive and non-touristic medium public forest with protected biodiversity and some facilities

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A Multi-Criteria Optimization Model for Land Readjustment Projects

The main process of land readjustment (LR) can be generalized as landowners in the project border contribute some of their land for the public uses and infrastructure also more for a special land for the cost for the project. Then the remaining areas are distributed to the landowners in proportion to share in the project, based on area or value. The allocation is one of the most important processes in LR projects considering that it is re-arranging the property rights, directly related to the adaptation and the success with the project. Hence, the decision regarding the allocation should concentrate on reaching the possible best ending for every landowner in a fair, logical and mathematically explainable way. This paper presents an integrated technique by using analytical hierarchical process (AHP) and linear programming (LP) to reach the highest value of the public interest by maximizing every individual's benefit in land allocation phase of the LR projects. For each landowner, the benefit gained from the allocation can be defined and calculated via AHP. Then, the allocation design which gives the highest benefit value can be reached by maximizing every landowners benefit via LP. A LR project from Istanbul; Turkey is used for testing the model. As a result, the possible highest benefit value of the project is calculated by the benefit values of the landowners in a fair, logical and mathematically explainable way. The method and principle in this paper can provide a theoretical method for the allocation process of urban and rural land in a way that more consistently realizes the transparency and common good.

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Contemporary Urban Design in China

The research discusses the booming practice of place making in Chinese cities in the last 20 years. It analyzes the background of the development strategy including China's rapid urbanization and increasing competition at both international and domestic stages. The study identifies three types of urban design projects: urban renewal projects (using the cases of Shanghai and Shenzhen); new town development (such as cases in Hangzhou and Suzhou); and design projects for "Big Events" including Olympic Games 2008 (Beijing), World Expo2010 (Shanghai), and Asian Games 2012 (Guangzhou). Those projects have similar characteristics: Most of them are government invested and government led; involving large development scale and huge amount of investment; and a large number of projects designed by top American and European urban design firms and star architects (SOM, Sasaki, KPF, Hadid, Koolhaas....) so these projects representing the world-class contemporary urban design quality and direction.

The study also analyzes challenges facing Chinese urban design projects: uneven development; conflict between modernization and traditional values; Westernization vs. the Chinese culture; physical improvement vs. social issues; and environment problems.

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The New Development of Landscape Architecture under Global Climate Change

Precedents for the question of ecological limits have existed from recorded history onward, from the time of the ecological demise of the Greek cities of the southwest Aegean. Climate is one of the main factors influencing landscape and gardening in the current background of climate change, the form of landscape, landscape evaluation standard and garden building method have changed a lot comparing to traditional landscape and gardening concepts, which creates great challenge to the landscape architects' work in this new era. To adapt to and suspend the change in climate, landscape architects must rediscover and gain new understanding of the nature as well as consider sustainable landscape development pattern. In this paper, we focus on the influence of the global climate change on landscape and gardening, the great responsibility of landscape architects in the process of policy execution to deal with climate change and the strategy of using landscape to prevent global climate change. See it in a different way, the global climate crisis is also an opportunity because the subject of landscape has evolved and improved itself in the process of preventing global climate change.

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Multiple Pathways towards World Cities Formation: A Tale of Guangzhou and Shenzhen

Since the 1970s, globalization has profoundly altered the spatial organizations of the world economy. One prominent outcome is that major cities have become the “command and control” centers of the global economic system, articulating different regions and states with the world economy. While global or world cities research has become one of the most vibrant fields in contemporary urban studies, there are also some critiques, especially against the theoretical dependence on the experiences of a few hyper world cities from the “Global North” and the overemphasis on the economic domain of cities in literatures. This paper tries to bring a historical and institutional perspective into world cities research based on a comparative study of two fast-growing and globalizing cities, Guangzhou and Shenzhen, in the Pearl River Delta region in China. It firstly examines the developmental trajectories and globalizing processes of Guangzhou and Shenzhen after China opened this region to the world in the late 1970s. After that, the paper seeks to understand, based on in-depth interviews with firms and other local actors, how two cities’ different institutional environments, which are formed in history, impact their current comparative advantages in the leading economic sectors of world cities- knowledge-intensive producer services. The finding of this paper reveals that although world city functions or dynamics have become a major driving force of urban development, even in newly emerging countries, in a globalizing world, the specific intuitional and cultural contexts deeply rooted in history are still important factors in explaining cities’ different modes of development and ways to integrate with the global system.