

Call for papers

For forthcoming book

Contemporary urbanization in developing countries: Trends, challenges and responses

Editors

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Introduction

Currently more than half of the global population lives in urban areas, and the projected future growth will be predominantly concentrated in Asia and Africa. Contemporary urbanization compared to tradition urbanization is expansive, rapid with high social and economic disparity. Disparities between urban and rural areas push more and more people into the cities because even slums (e.g. in Delhi and Mumbai, India) offer more opportunities than poor subsistence in villages. These cities are least able to handle the political, social, economic and environmental problems associated with rapid urbanization and face numerous challenges in meeting the needs of their growing urban population. Hence, managing cities has become one of the most important development challenges of the 21st century. Future development strategies should focus on creating inclusive cities with good environment, job opportunities, adequate infrastructure and services for all residents. A successful urban planning agenda will require that attention be given to all aspects of contemporary urbanization.

Social and ecological problems of contemporary urbanization have been addressed by several scientific disciplines. However, compartmentalised or isolated solutions within a discipline are no more applicable or are not able to provide solutions to the contemporary problems. An inter- and trans-disciplinary approach which permeates discipline boundaries to share resources and inform each other's work, and collaborates with non-academic stakeholders with an aim of exchanging information and transferring knowledge is an imperative. This approach connects planning, engineering, environmental and social and economic sciences thus facilitating the achievement of the common goal of better managed cities. For instance, interdisciplinary approach is the identification of significant human impact on land use and land cover change by combining GIS and vegetation measurement, or the mapping of disparities by combining GIS and infrastructure enumeration. This becomes transdisciplinary when scientists collaborate with non-academic stakeholders from business, government and civil-society to develop solutions and transfer knowledge for reducing the impact or the disparities.

Objectives

The twin objectives of the book are to highlight the significant aspects of contemporary urbanization for knowledge exchange and to draw attention to new inter- and trans-disciplinary research approaches for fostering planning processes for better growth management. An additional focus is on international case studies that deal with the questions of environmental change, spatial development and planning systems. The intended edited volume seeks high quality, scientific research chapters, providing a wide array of contemporary urbanization related aspects that contribute to the advancement and exchange of knowledge for managing growth in rapidly growing cities.

To support a holistic understanding of the cities submissions of chapter proposals from an extensive range of scientific disciplines such as urban and regional planning, sociology, geography, geographic information science, environment planning, transportation, and civil engineering are highly welcome from the editors.

The book is scheduled to be published by a reputed international publisher. It will cover several aspects of contemporary urbanization-related topics including but not limited to the following fields of application:

- Population and social dynamics
- Urban (spatial) dynamics and growth
- Land use planning
- Housing and real estate
- Urban transportation
- Urban and regional governance
- Environment and climate change
- Provision of infrastructure

Selection criteria and submission procedure

The submitted abstracts will be analyzed and the editors will get back to possible contributors with an assessment of their abstracts, indicating whether it has been accepted, accepted with comments or rejected. Rejection would not be a sign of poor submission, but rather an indication that the focus does not fit the purposes of the book. The papers will undergo an internal review process, where each paper will be reviewed by two to three reviewers.

Requirements for extended abstracts

Length: not more than 1000 words

Format: Word document

Abstract should contain the following:

- A brief introduction/summary
- A brief description of the case study
- Main research questions
- A brief indication of the methodology
- How the selected approach caters for the objectives of the book
- Result summary/ outcome

General

Submissions must include the author's name, affiliation, mailing address, and e-mail address.

In the case of multiple authors, all names, addresses, etc. must accompany the submission and a single individual must be identified as the primary contact.

If submitting a published conference paper, the author(s) must provide proof that the article's full copyright can be transferred.

Important dates

Abstract submission deadline:	30 th March 2015
Notification of accepted or rejected proposals:	30 th April 2015
Deadline for submitting full papers (8,000 to 10,000 words):	30 th July 2015
Feedback of the review:	15 th September 2015
Final submission containing revisions:	30 th October 2015
Tentative publication of the book:	Early 2016

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