WUF10

AIA MEMBERS AT THE WORLD URBAN FORUM

ABU DHABI | FEBRUARY 8-13, 2020

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Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

Introduction

Welcome from the AIA Housing and Community Development Knowledge Community

The Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum (WUF10) commenced the Decade of Action, mobilizing local, national, and global communities toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The conference marked the end of an era before COVID-19 — yet brought upon an urgent call for addressing increasing inequality and climate emergencies.

WUF10 in Abu Dhabi brought together more than 13,000 participants from 169 countries, including over 30,000 cumulative attendees throughout the week. The forum was a catalyst to propel the New Urban Agenda and cement commitments and pledges toward achieving the SDGs by the end of the decade. An urgent call to action and creative problem solving was at the heart of every session throughout the week. Over the course of 500 sessions, urbanization solidified its place as a critical gateway to addressing the 17 SDGs and ensuring that no person, or place, is left behind.

The AIA Housing and Community Development Knowledge Community strives to bring these issues to the forefront of conversation between architects and allied partners, while affirming commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda.

This report synthesizes the experiences of our distinguished participants at WUF10 and lays the foundation for tackling the decade ahead. Our panelists embraced a wide range of topics and agency, from the New Urban Agenda and the Digital Revolution, to issues of climate change, inequity, and race.

With an international network of new partners and revitalized connections, work towards innovating for and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals together grows stronger than ever. Although 2020 and COVID-19 have demonstrated the future's uncertainty, what is certain is the urgent need to mobilize and act as a global community towards safeguarding the future of our home.

Etty Padmodipoetro, AIA
2020 Chair
Housing and Community Development
Knowledge Community
The American Institute of Architects

Elizabeth Debs, AIA
2021 Chair
Housing and Community Development
Knowledge Community
The American Institute of Architects

(Photo on facing page) Abu Dhabi, one of the members of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), hosted the 2020 World Urban Forum. Development strategies in this nation provided a framework for the conversations about international development and climate change. For example, the development of tourism strategies includes construction of destination cultural attractions. Constructed between 1996 and 2007, Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque interprets multiple Islamic architectural styles. It was designed and built by professionals and crafts people from across the planet, led by architect Yusef Abdelki of Halcrow Group.| Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

Closing Ceremony | Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

The Abu Dhabi Declared Actions of WUF10 recognize that:

- An increasingly urbanized world constitutes a transformative force which can be harnessed and steered for more sustainable development.

- Culture is an integral part of the solution to the challenges of urbanization and achieving the New Urban Agenda.

- Cities are centers of creativity and innovation as well as places with valuable cultural heritage and identity.

- Cities are incubators of social, economic, environmental, political and cultural progress.

- Innovation and advances in science and technology are critical for implementing the New Urban Agenda and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and other global development.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FINAL DECLARED ACTIONS ▸

One billion people live in slums

1.8 billion do not have adequate sanitation

1.6 billion have inadequate housing

Morocco launched its Cities Without Slums (VSB) program in 2004. Since that time slums have been eliminated in 59 of 85 cities. Elements of the initiative include supporting the growth of real estate development companies, increasing availability of credit through development of the secondary market, and encouraging investment by residents living abroad.[1,2]

1. https://oxfordbusinessgroup.com/overview/path-ahead-government-programmes-look-reduce-housing-deficit-while-demand-high-quality-office-space

2. Refusing a "City without Slums": Moroccan slum dwellers' non movements and the art of presence

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

1 NO POVERTY

2 ZERO HUNGER

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

5 GENDER EQUALITY

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

9 INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION

13 CLIMATE ACTION

14 LIFE BELOW WATER

15 LIFE ON LAND

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals

LEARN MORE ▸

Image credit: https://sdgs.un.org/goals

Land Use and Land Policy Addressed at World Urban Forum 10

Anthony Flint, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

The Sheikh Zayed Bridge | Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

Key issues related to land and land use have long been a foundational part of UN-Habitat's World Urban Forum series. But land – which is "underneath" so many global challenges, from climate resilience to informal settlement – occupied a prominent place in the proceedings of World Urban Forum 10 in Abu Dhabi in February of 2020.

Land is also central to many of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly goal 11: "Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable." The goal's description states that "Rapid urbanization is resulting in a growing number of slum dwellers, inadequate and overburdened infrastructure and services (such as waste collection, water and sanitation systems, roads and transport), worsening air pollution, and unplanned urban sprawl." Land policy is inherent in the regularization of informal settlements, slum prevention by way of better functioning land markets, and the orderly establishment of critical infrastructure to create serviced urban districts.

Land plays a central role in the financing of that infrastructure, as well as such essential elements as affordable housing, and parks and open space. In several sessions (see partial list on the following page), panelists reflected on the financing mechanism known as land value capture.

Land value capture (or land value return) is the recovery and reinvestment of land value increases that result from public investment and other government actions.

Both practitioners and scholars shared the experiences of several places that have tried different versions of land value capture, from São Paulo, Brazil, to Colombia, India, Europe, Japan, and beyond. Land-based financing promises to get more attention in the years ahead, as the need for resources and investment rises dramatically in urban areas.

Mechanisms such as land value capture attempt to distribute the burdens and opportunities of urban development more equitably, amid competing and oftentimes irreconcilable demands for land and natural resources, according to Enrique Silva, director of international initiatives at the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

As pressing challenges lie ahead including climate change and pandemic recovery, the role of land will continue to be central, and will surely be part of the fabric of the next World Urban Forum.

Resources

[Global Innovations in Land Value Capture for Sustainable and Equitable Cities](#)

Rudiger Ahrend, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Lamai Kamal-Chaoui, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Rachelle Alterman, Technion University

Martim Smolka, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Robin King, World Resources Institute Ross Center for Sustainable Cities

Aditya Kumar, Development Action Group

Enrique Silva, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

[Challenging the Culture of Planning: New Ways of Addressing Inclusionary Housing Through Land Use](#)

Martim Smolka, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Clauio Acioly Jr., UN-Habitat

Cynthia Goytia, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella

[Financing for Sustainable Urban Transport Systems, Transit-Oriented Development, and Land Value Capture](#)

Gilberto Chonan, Inter-American Development Bank

Debashish Bhattacharjee, UN-Habitat

Enrique Silva, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Nicolás Galarza, Ministry of Housing, City, and Territory, Colombia

Daniel Navarro, Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements, Costa Rica

Aimee Gauthier, ITDP Africa

Samuel Omer, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, Kenya

Ronald Lwakatare, Dar Rapid Transit Authority, Tanzania

BAH Madina Diawara, Ministry of Transport, Guinea

Charles Mariki, Regional Administration & Local Government (RALG), Tanzania

[Land Governance and Urban Growth: Leveraging Land Value to Achieve Sustainable Urbanization](#)

Enrique Silva, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Sameh Wahba, World Bank

Carol Archer, University of Technology, Jamaica

Rene Hohmann, Cities Alliance

Diane Dumashie, International Federation of Surveyors

Sarah Nandunu, Slum Dwellers International

Oumar Sylla, UN-Habitat

Marcela Villarreal, Division of Partnership and South-South Corporation, FAO

Undeveloped land in Abu Dhabi | Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

The New Urban Agenda Task Force and its Work for Architects and the Communities We Serve

Philip Bona, FAIA | Chere LeClair, FAIA | Melissa Wackerle, LEED AP ND

Masdar City is a model sustainable community being constructed as part of a strategy to move Abu Dhabi from an oil-based to a renewable economy. Masdar clean energy is deploying utility scale solutions in more that 30 countries. | Photo credit: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

In a self-driving car in Masdar City | Photo credit: R. Denise Everson

Background

In 2018, the AIA adopted Resolution 18-5, formalizing our commitment to the principles of UN-Habitat's New Urban Agenda (NUA), associated Sustainable Development Goals, and the Paris Agreement on climate change. The resolution also called for the creation of the New Urban Agenda Task Force, to be convened from 2019-2021. The NUA Task Force is charged with the development of resources to enable architects to better understand and design more equitable communities. The NUA becomes a new cornerstone for designing sustainably; where everyone in society can thrive in an equitable environment and in harmony with regional ecology. Advancement of economic mobility, community and social resilience, and physical and mental health are essential components to designing sustainably. The creation of more tools for architects to create impact is imperative as, according to a recent survey, less than 40 percent of AIA members believe they can positively impact social equity in their communities.

The work of the NUA Task Force, focusing on improving social equity through architect's work in the built environment, is the next permutation of the AIA's initiative to address issues of equity, diversity, and inclusion within the profession. One example of efforts to transform the profession's workforce is the work of the Equity and the Future of Architecture Committee, who partnered with the University of Washington and University of Minnesota, to create the Guides for Equitable Practice. These guides provide tools to help the profession become more equitable and inclusive to reshape the demographic of the profession to align with the diversity represented in society.

The Work of the New Urban Agenda Task Force

The NUA Task Force seeks to promote and facilitate the design of equitable communities, resilient, sustainable cities, towns, and neighborhoods, mutually benefiting the public, the planet, and the profession. This work is a manifestation of the tenets of the New Urban Agenda. In order to achieve this, architects must embrace an ethos of humility and compassion. This is accomplished not as subject matter experts, but by employing their ability to be "big picture," holistic design thinkers. Applying unique skills, architects must drive impact and facilitate change by engaging key stakeholders such as policy makers, NGO's, and community leaders.

Currently, the NUA Task Force is undertaking research of existing frameworks that actively address issues of design equity, and studying those best practices to highlight the agency of the architect to build a more equitable foundation. Next, the task force plans to engage key stakeholders from outside the profession to listen and learn from their experiences of how the built environment can work with, and against equitable outcomes for communities. Then, the Task Force hopes to convene potential partners in collective and collaborative discussions to break down silos and establish mechanisms for delivering equity in the built environment. Lessons learned from existing frameworks and discussions with key stakeholders and partners will provide the basis for a toolkit to help architects facilitate more successful design of equitable communities.

This work is amplified by the AIA's recent push for urgent and sustained climate action. As part of that new focus, the AIA elevated the principles behind the Committee on the Environment (COTE®) Top Ten Awards as its Framework for Design Excellence. The Framework redefines good design to nurture equitable, resilient, healthy, and zero carbon architecture. As an extension of the AIA's commitment to the NUA Sustainable Development Goals, the Framework for Design Excellence includes Design for Equitable Communities as a key principle of good design.

Design solutions affect more than the client and current occupants. Good design positively impacts future occupants and the larger community.[3]

- What is the project's greater reach? How could this project contribute to creating a diverse, accessible, walkable, just, human-scaled community?
- Who might this project be forgetting? How can the design process and outcome remove barriers and promote inclusion and social equity, particularly with respect to vulnerable communities?
- What opportunities exist in this project to include, engage, and promote human connection?
- How can the design support health and resilience for the community during times of need or during emergencies?

Conclusions

The AIA is creating drivers for change. The work of the NUA Task Force hopes to build upon the work aleady set forth by the institute in order to provide tools and challenge architects to step to the forefront of design for equity.

The global pandemic and climate crises have only served to exacerbate and further expose the inequities that already exist in society. Architects must begin to question our roles in the continuum of power and assess the leverage points to help shift the equation toward a more just and equitable society. Some of these pivot points are the creation of transparent and inclusive community engagement in the design and approval processes, helping craft more effective and extensive low-income housing policies, and engaging finance and government entities in policy realignment. Architects must embrace the full extent of their agency and activate both their external and project specific advocacy on behalf of the underprivileged and disenfranchised in society.

3. Framework for Design Excellence, https://www.aia.org/showcases/6082410-design-for-equitable-communities

Presentations

AIA/HUD Secretary's Awards: Housing and Community Development Strategies for Achieving the UN Habitat Sustainable Development Goals

SPEAKERS:

Seth Appleton, Assistant Secretary for US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, District of Columbia
R. Denise Everson, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP, E3 Connections, Washington, District of Columbia
Simon Ha, AIA, LEED AP, Steinberg Hart, Los Angeles

MODERATOR:

Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA, LEED AP, Dorgan Architecture & Planning, Storrs, Connecticut

AIA/HUD Secretary's Awards Panel | Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

Community Informed Design Award	**Creating Community Connection Award**
Excellence in Affordable Housing Design Award	**Housing Accessibility: The Alan J. Rothman Award**

Description

For the past twenty years, the American Institute of Architects and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development have collaborated on an awards program designed to identify the best designed and most innovative projects that meet social, economic, and environmental requirements of low-income families and communities. Strategies employed by awardees include celebrating local culture, energy-efficiency, sustainability, self-help, and prefabrication.

A panel session presented award-winning housing and community development initiatives. Discussions followed, focusing on sustainable housing and community development that is inclusive, safe, and resilient. Panelists explored how

(Photo on facing page) A partnership between the UAE and France brought the Lourve Abu Dhabi to a new cultural district. Jean Nouvel designed the museum which has been at the center of numerous complaints about working conditions.| Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

developments respond to local conditions across multiple geographic, social, and economic contexts, including the role of the arts, equity and participation in achieving excellence.

Speakers provided an overview of the awards program and lessons learned. With focus on three projects, the case studies addressed objectives established in the **UN-Habitat** Sustainable Development Goals:

* **eliminating poverty,**
* **protecting quality-of-life,**
* **reducing carbon emissions.**

The session concluded with a discussion of strategies for implementing the New Urban Agenda through the engagement of design professionals.

1. Community Informed Design Award

The Alley Project
Detroit Collaborative Design Center, Detroit, Michigan

The Alley Project transformed a neighborhood alley and surrounding vacant lots into an inspirational graffiti art gallery. It connects neighbors and youth to each other as well as to community assets. This collaborative design process resulted in spaces and design elements that reflect the neighborhood's identity and vibrancy, embodied in a well-used community hub for creative programming and ongoing collaboration. It has made the community safer and healthier for women and children, and assisted in building social capital.
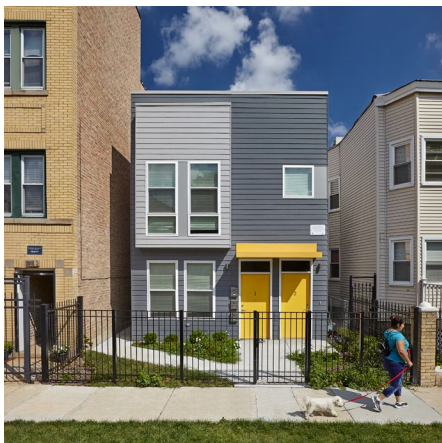
Photo credit: Erik Paul Howard

2. Excellence in Affordable Housing Design Award

Williams Terrace
David Baker Architects; McMillan Pazdan Smith, Charleston, South Carolina

Williams Terrace replaces an older development that sustained damage from Hurricane Hugo. This project was planned as housing for low-income seniors. The project team incorporated numerous resilient and environmentally sustainable elements into the building and the surrounding community that protect the property and residents in the event of another stress condition. It demonstrates how affordable housing design can promote equitable development and proves that good design is not exclusive to higher-income community projects.

Photo credit: Chris Luker

3. Housing Accessibility: The Alan J. Rothman Award

IFF Access Housing
Landon Bone Baker Architects, Chicago, Illinois

The IFF Access Housing's goal is to preserve affordable housing while creating accessible options for people with disabilities to live independently. What sets this project apart is its human focus and scale. Rather than concentrating people with disabilities in a single site, Access Housing gives people the opportunity to thrive in attractive homes that blend into communities of their choosing.

Photo credit: ©2017 dimitre.com

The Economic Policy for Sustainable Housing Cooperatives

SPEAKERS:

Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA, LEED AP, Principal of Dorgan Architecture & Planning, Storrs, Connecticut
Simon Ha, AIA, LEED AP, Partner of Steinberg Hart, Los Angeles
R. Denise Everson, Associate AIA, LEED AP, President of E3 Connections, Washington, District of Columbia
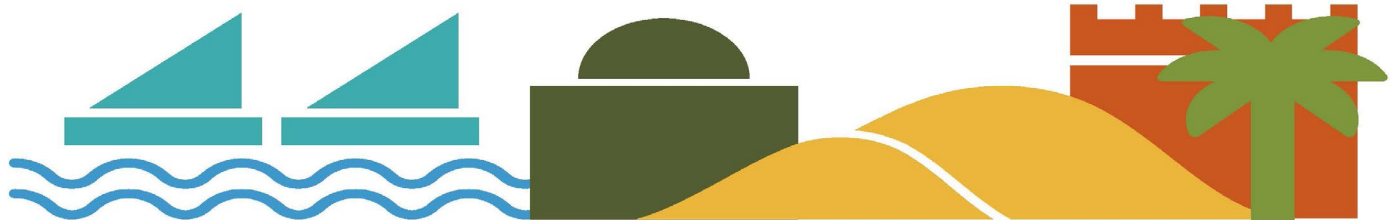Hoda El Masry, PhD, Architecture et Aménagement, Cairo, Egypt

WUF 10 Coop Panel: Simon Ha, AIA; Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA; R.Denise Everson, Assoc. AIA; Hoda El Masry, PhD
Photo and image credits: R. Denise Everson, Assoc. AIA

Description

Limited equity cooperatives are an important international model for providing long-term housing affordability. Residents generally experience a high level of satisfaction with this model of housing. Lower operating costs result in lower housing costs. In addition, cooperatives nurture local leaders and active citizens.

Cooperatives are a democratic form of ownership that provide residents with a sense of independence and leadership opportunities resulting in skill development and better health outcomes. In this housing model, multifamily properties are owned by a cooperative corporation. In addition to voting rights, shareholders hold a proprietary lease that enables them to occupy a specific unit in the property. Resale restrictions ensure that the housing will remain affordable.

Speakers shared updates about cooperative housing including:

- In the U.S. over 425,000 limited equity housing units were constructed through a variety of public and philanthropic programs. Unfortunately, more than half of these units were lost to the expiration of restrictions and other reasons. As many of these developments age they require technical assistance to restructure financing, build capacity and plan renovations. Two developments undergoing improvements, the 88-unit and Seabury Cooperative in New Haven, Connecticut and the 924-unit Success Village Cooperative in Bridgeport and Stratford, Connecticut, were profiled.

- About one-third of the Egyptian population is a member of a housing cooperative. This housing type is so vital to the nation that the government's responsibilities to cooperatives are enumerated in the constitution. Current initiatives include providing existing and new cooperatives with wraparound services that address education, health, recreation, employment and transportation. Projects include renovating building spaces to accommodate classrooms, recreation, medical clinics, job training programs and computer rooms.

- In Washington, District of Columbia cooperatives began in the 1920s as a solution for wealthy residents to own units in luxury apartment buildings. Later limited equity cooperatives were added to the affordable housing toolbox. The Tenant Opportunity Act of 1980 provides residents a first opportunity to purchase multifamily properties offered for sale. Beginning in 1997, residents of Carver Terrace used this law to purchase and subsequently renovate their homes with assistance from Telesis Corporation. Unfortunately, at about the same time, a cooperative with insufficient support failed. One Sursum Corda co-op was purchased by Toll Brothers and redeveloped as affordable rental housing.

The session included robust discussion among audience members about current strategies for implementing the New Urban Agenda through creating and sustaining housing cooperatives. There was general consensus that support services from government and NGOs are a vital component of the long-term success of housing cooperatives. Initiatives in Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa were highlighted in the conversation.

425,000
limited equity housing units were constructed through a variety of public and philanthropic programs in the U.S.

50 PERCENT +
of these units were lost to the expiration of restrictions and other reasons.

≈ 1/3
of the Egyptian population is a member of a housing cooperative.

1920s
Cooperatives began in Washington, District of Columbia as a solution for wealthy residents to own units in luxury apartment buildings.

1980
The Tenant Opportunity Act provided residents a first opportunity to purchase multifamily properties offered for sale.

1997
Residents of Carver Terrace used the Tenant Opportunity Act to purchase and subsequently renovate their homes with assistance from Telesis Corporation.

Small Steps towards Big Goals: Community Engagement in Placemaking — Sustainable Architecture at the Crossroad of Preservation of Cultural Heritage and Innovation

SPEAKER: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA, LEED AP, Dorgan Architecture & Planning, Storrs, Connecticut

Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

Image credit: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

Description

Neighborworks Blackstone River Valley (NWBRV) and its partners have established a project that starts with strong community development fundamentals. The project is rooted in the UN Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015.

The Millrace project in Woonsocket, Rhode Island is located on an attractive site with a river, mills, museum and park. Woonsocket has a similar history to many older industrial cities in the Northeast. With its strategic location by the power source of the Blackstone River, this city was one of the largest textile manufacturing centers in the United States by the mid-1800s. The area suffered greatly during the Great Depression, but bounced back during the wartime manufacturing surge. With the decline of manufacturing and increase in suburbanization over the next 50 years, the city experienced a decline in population. The city has continued to sustain its hard-working culture along with a continuing tradition of immigration, preserving through good times and bad.

Led by NWBRV, an established not-for-profit community development corporation, the Millrace project highlights the visual arts and community participation, and includes affordable housing, a kitchen incubator for food entrepreneurs, and on-site arts and entertainment programming. A wide variety of events and services were sponsored to compliment offerings from the Museum of Works & Culture, Woonsocket Historical Society and the River Falls restaurant. Placemaking events include weekend markets, food truck nights, special events, galleries and temporary installations. A Placemaking Lab studied use of the space to inform design and future uses.
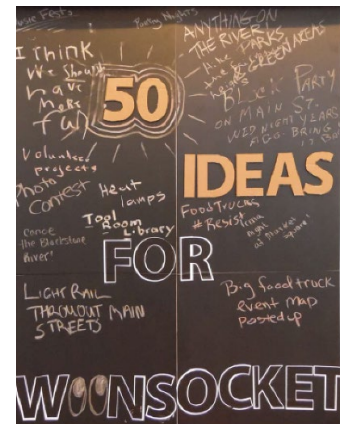
The design goals for Millrace were driven by community engagement:

- Space for different size gatherings
- Distinguish private and public events
- Safety – from car hazards
- Flexible – including storage
- Cost effective – including maintenance
- Design heritage
- Cool!

In addition, NWBRV's community goals are:

- Involve youth
- Employ local contractors/artists
- Engage new and existing partners
- Foster leadership
- Support self-employment
- Incorporate education

Take Away:

"Woonsocket needs more events like this. After a long week, I want a place to chat with friends and enjoy a pleasant relaxing atmosphere. It's important to let loose a bit and bond with people in the community. We shouldn't have to travel to other towns to have this experience."

– WOONSOCKET RESIDENT & TEACHER

The participatory process coordinated by Dorgan Architecture and Planning for the Millrace Patio included experimental temporary installations, capturing participant ideas and youth led activities.
Image credits: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

The Public Realm: from the Classical to the Digital

MODERATOR AND AUTHOR:
Lance Jay Brown, FAIA, DPACSA, Architect and Co-Founder and President of the *Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization*

SPEAKERS:
Luisa Bravo, Founder and President of the NPO City Space Architecture and Founder and Editor in Chief of The Journal of Public Space
Theodore Liebman, FAIA, Principal at Perkins Eastman Architects and *Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization* Board member
Dr. Anna Rubbo, LFAIA, Senior Scholar at the Center for Sustainable Urban Development in the Earth Institute at Columbia University
Genot Riether, Director of the School of Architecture at the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT)

The theme of the Tenth World Urban Forum was **Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation**. The discussion of public space that I moderated ranged broadly geographically and connected the classical and the digital in interesting new ways.

As I write in April 2020, the world is experiencing an outbreak of a radical and deadly novel coronavirus, COVID-19, that has ravaged mostly urban populations. In the environment of our global pandemic, and a new normal of social distancing, everything we discussed at WUF10 seems even more relevant.
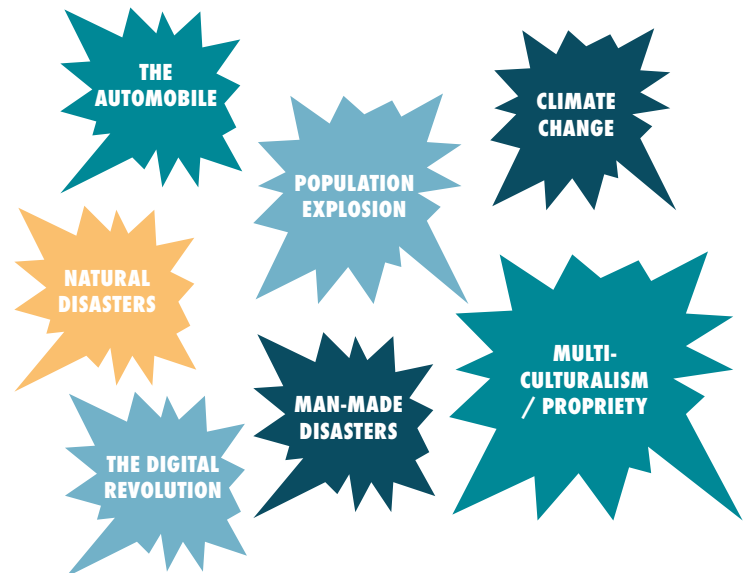
The sane response to managing this plague is for people to stay at home and, when out, keep their distance from one another. Public spaces are mostly, and appropriately, vacant. The long-range effect of this tragic illness is yet unknown and widely debated. Digital technologies have become our public realm for now. People gather using multi-screen images via Zoom, WebEx, and other platforms.

WUF 10 in Abu Dhabi, is the last large gathering I will attend for the foreseeable future. We are all thankful for the communication modalities that substitute for coming together physically but, make no mistake about it, we will miss actually being with each other. Urban design, density, public space and a legion of other issues and opportunities are being critically examined and adapted.

The question is: If we further expand ourselves and public space with IT, what will public space turn into?

Introduction

We opened our session on public spaces with examples and observations on the passage from the pre- to the post-industrial urban landscape. An illustrated typology of public space from Siena to the Ville Radieuse, served as a basic reference. We moved on to consider a selection of dramatic changes that have influenced the development of public space in the past 100 years including:

The Classical:

Luisa Bravo

Using a newspaper image of Jan Gehl, sitting in the Piazza del Popolo in Ascoli Piceno — her hometown — Luisa Bravo discussed the nature of classical space in Italy from an intimate point of view. Bravo successfully channeled the role of such spaces, for instance Pienza in Tuscany, in the preindustrial era. Gehl, our contemporary reincarnation of the great urbanist Camillo Sitte, sketched the piazza in 1965 and in 1971 he published his seminal book *Life Between Buildings: Using Public Space*. Bravo acknowledged that the experience of witnessing Gehl helped her focus her career on the importance of public space.

Bravo explained the classical approach to mapping public space, the digital approach to mapping public space, and the evolution of digital humanities noting:

"While they move in the city, people use digital media in specific locations, adding and sharing different contents, such as pictures or comments, tagging their position on the global map, thus reconnecting space and time through the imperative here-and-now: they actually promote participation and social engagement, working as place makers, marking the territory with episodes of public life, defining new publics and commons."

An article from a local newspaper in Ascoli Piceno (1965), which explains why they might see a 'beatnik' studying life at the main square Piazza del Popolo | Image credits: Gehl website, at: https://gehlpeople.com/story-article/observingpeople-in-italy/
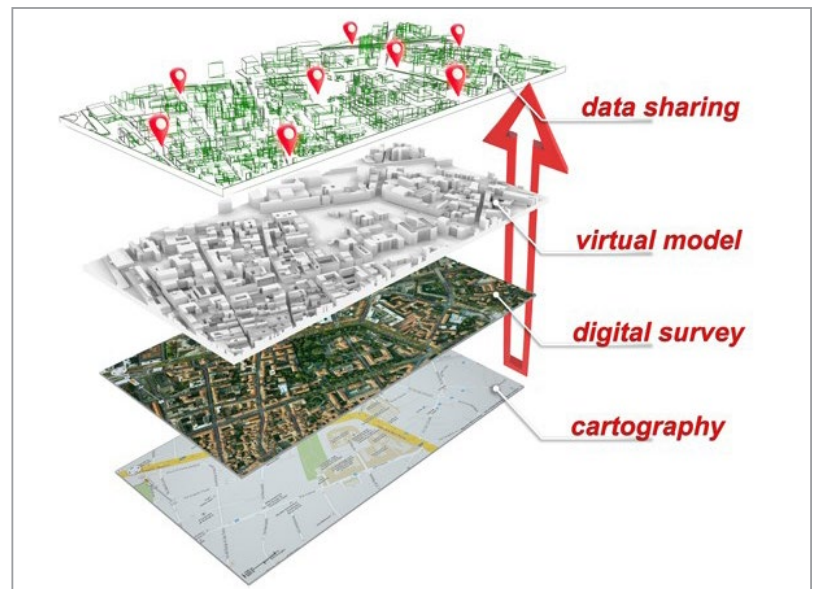
In Depth

Bravo's work is amplified in a paper she co-authored entitled: **The city as an extended network of public spaces: reconnecting the spirit of place and time through modeling of old realities and new virtualities.**

READ MORE▸

Piazza del Popolo in Ascoli Piceno, Italy. Behavioral mapping (on top right) is included as a case study in Gehl's books 'Life between buildings' (1987 - English version) and 'How to study public life' (2013) | Image credits: (left) Sandro Riga, (top) Jan Gehl, Life between buildings (1971), (bottom) Luisa Bravo.

Public space in the digital age: superimposition of data layers where different technologies cooperate in virtual simulation to document urban landscapes. Image credits: Luisa Bravo and Simone Garagnani (2013)

The Classical:

Theodore Liebman, FAIA

Theodore Liebman discussed two examples of contemporary center city multi-use/multi-modal developments that served many neighborhoods at the metropolitan scale. Classically derived, the Berlin example, the SONY Center, is a large post-WWII public-private partnership bringing together the complexities of the modern city under one roof, or in this case one multi-use gathering space for this historic Berlin gateway location. In contrast, the New York City project, a proposal for a new Port Authority Bus Terminal, indicated the value of a dispersed network of public spaces based on the city grid by coordinating, managing, refining, and landscaping the existing urban public pathways and transit connections.

Sony Center, Potsdamer Platz, Berlin, Tishman Speyer
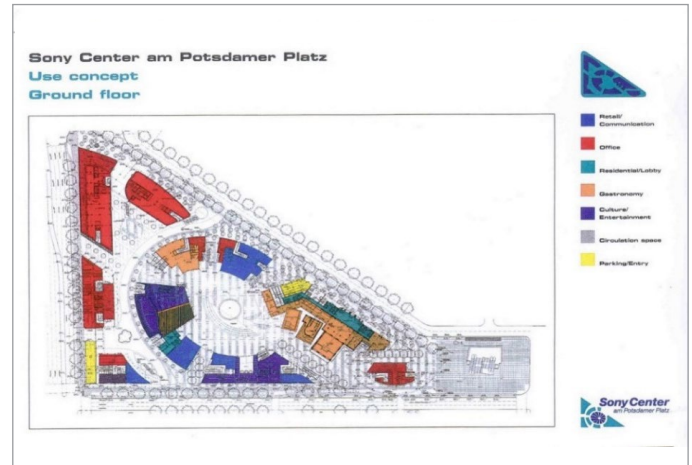Photo and image credits: Helmut Jahn

Port Authority Bus terminal Competition, New York, Perkins Eastman
Photo and image credits: Theodore Liebman, FAIA

Sony Center, Potsdamer Platz, Berlin, Tishman Speyer
Photo and image credits: Helmut Jahn

Port Authority Bus terminal Competition, New York, Perkins Eastman
Photo and image credits: Theodore Liebman, FAIA

In Transition:

Dr. Anna Rubbo, LFAIA

A three-year initiative, *Accelerating the SDGs (2018-2020)* and the *Local Project Challenge (LPC),* seek to identify and document examples of how the UN Habitat Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are being implemented globally.

Over one hundred submissions to the LPC focused heavily on the open, civic, and public spaces of their towns and cities which underscored the importance of such venues globally. While in many respects the spaces submitted evidenced classical function the use of digital technology in project definition, project development, and project communication was extensive.

WUF10 2020 presentation, Center for Sustainable Urban Development, Columbia University | Image credits: Anna Rubbo
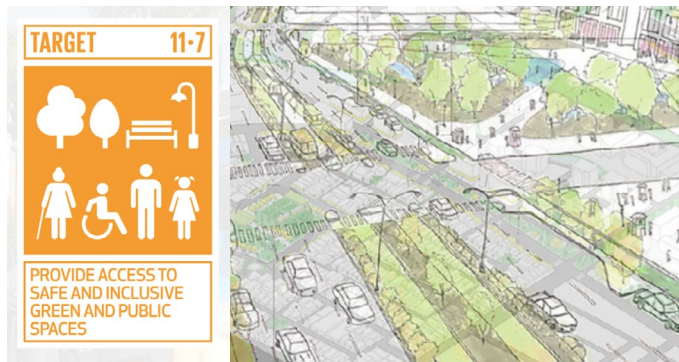

The Local Project Challenge, Public Space Project, Kibera, Kenya
A Civil Society-Professional collaboration. | Image credit: Anna Rubbo

Public Space project in Kibera, Nairobi with KDI (Kounkuey Design Initiative)

Student Public Space project, Guayaquil, Ecuador; a collaboration between the Catholic University and Perkins Eastman
Image credits: Anna Rubbo

UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon notes on the LPC website:

"I encourage you to share this important gallery with colleagues, fellow students, friends and family. I encourage everyone to ask how the SDGs can be incorporated in our daily lives. Their widespread adoption will help realize the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and create a more equal and livable future. To all who have taken this first step by submitting their projects to create this extraordinary resource, my warmest congratulations."

The LPC submissions are available online here.

The site is designed to accept updates from authors and as a source for seminars and exhibitions.

For instance, an example LPC, Crosswalk: 250 Meters of Happiness is located in a New Delhi neighborhood and involves multiple SDGs (3, 4, 5, 11, 17) that seek safety, gender equity, community cohesion, all actualized in the revised urban design of the street outside of a local school.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
Image credit: https://sdgs.un.org/goals

The Digital:

Genot Riether

The recent book, *Urban Machines: Public Space in a Digital Culture* edited by Marcella Del Signore and CSU Board member Gernot Riether has served as a catalyst for the discussion that embraces the public realm from the classical and the digital. The book describes this relationship between social media and public space and Reither notes:

"The introduction of new infrastructures can change the character of public space very quickly. Today it is IT that has already changed the way we communicate; the way we gain goods and the way we receive information. In the book Urban Machines - we analyze and speculate on how these changes impact and could impact the character of today's public space. The quality of a city is not measured by its skyline but on the quality of its public space… Soon access to the web will have to be a human right. This will impact our happiness and well-being and will or already has become the backbone of our personal and public life. The smartphone changed the way we use public space in 2013: In May of that year less than 10% accessed the Internet through mobile devices, a few months later that number changed from 10% to 70%. And there are studies that show how people are using public space differently with mobile devices: for example they meet more instantaneously and are more likely to linger in public spaces."

Reither's presentation addressed the advent of the wide range of digital technologies and communications as well as the pros and cons of the constantly emerging technological hardware and software. For example,

"In 2017 face recognition was introduced as Face ID for iPhone X and by Facebook to detect friends on your pictures and in the same year Chicago and Detroit became the first two cities in the US to purchase face recognition software for monitoring public space in selected neighborhoods."

Reither's case studies explore a range of constantly emerging new examples. He notes for instance that:

"Phones are used to take pictures, watches to measure the heart rate, we use Lyft or Uber to turn our car into a taxi, and we use Airbnb to turn our apartment into a hotel room."

Clearly there is a relation between information technology, the mobile device, social media, navigation and other apps and the way public spaces in cities are used.

The question is: If we further expand ourselves and public space with IT, what will public space turn into?

Brave New World

The gathering of humanity, from its tribal origins to our multicultural and diverse society, is fundamental to our existence. The subjects we discussed in Abu Dhabi dealt with just the tip of an iceberg. The concerns addressed were cross cutting, collaborative, interactive and multi-sectoral. Let our research, dialogue, and exploration continue.

Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU)

VISIT OUR WEBSITE▸

The Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization is a New York based, non-for-profit organization 501(c)(3) formed in 2008 to promote a better understanding of the role of sustainable urbanization and resilient design in the planning of our cities. Our purpose is to advocate for responsible and enlightened planning and design. We believe that a cross-sectoral approach can reduce the negative impact of mass migration to cities and improve the quality of life for all. We are committed to making urbanization sustainable.

We connect the global thought leaders concerned with urbanization in order to exchange ideas in high-level meetings and public forums. We disseminate information on-line, in print and in conferences. Our focus is on replicable ideas and concepts, best practices and speculative proposals

• The first event held at the United Nations headquarters in New York on October 5, 2015 is memorialized in the proceedings published under the program title of Public Spaces for Sustainable Urbanization.

• The CSU is currently preparing a publication of its 2019 United Nations program, The Power of Public Space in a Digital Age, for publication.

Lessons Learned

REFLECTIONS from WUF10

R. Denise Everson, Associate AIA, LEED AP, E3 Connections, Washington, District of Columbia

National Geographic Magazine, WUF10 Edition, 2020
Photo credit: R. Denise Everson, Assoc AIA

WUF 10. R. Denise Everson Assoc. AIA, 2020
Photo credit: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

On several past occasions, the AIA Housing and Community Development Knowledge Community ventured out into conference and convention cities to create personal experiences and garner first-hand knowledge. The World Urban Forum in Abu Dhabi would be no exception. A few members of the Knowledge Community planned a day trip outside of Abu Dhabi to see and experience a few historic sites, the first being Al Ain.

On our way to Al Ain, we made a pit stop. As I entered the convenience store, I noted the coolness of the air as it stood in stark contrast to the morning haze which covered the landscape. I picked up a few items including water and headed to the register to complete my purchase. As I glanced to the left, I saw it. The plastic wrapped special WUF10 edition of the National Geographic magazine featuring Black Barbie doll faces of all hues. It was as if time stood still in that moment. I quickly grabbed the magazine and added it to my order, never once considering the cost. I hurried back to the air-conditioned bus to express my unadulterated joy at this rare find. My colleagues were surprised to see my excitement as I carefully opened the

plastic cover and flipped through each page with the exuberance of an American child on Christmas morning. Although the magazine was written in Arabic, cover to cover, I inhaled each page as the photos told a story which connected and resonated with me.

While the guide was informative and the sites memorable, I returned to Abu Dhabi at sunset after a day's journey with my plastic wrapped magazine in hand with a feeling of having found a diamond in the desert.

It's been almost three months since I left the luxurious atmosphere of Abu Dhabi and headed back to the snail-paced bustle of America's capital city, Washington, District of Columbia. The world has changed. Amid a global health pandemic of COVID-19, I find myself returning to that plastic covered National Geographic magazine to celebrate a moment in time when I felt both heard and seen. The magazine captured the faces of Black dolls which was a rarity growing up in the 1980s in the American south. Various sections highlighted Black women completing

(Photo on facing page) The Masdar Institute of Science and Technology focuses on advanced energy and sustainable technology. Its campus by Foster + Partners features both active and passive environmental strategies including low carbon concrete, shading, natural ventilation and a 10-megawatt solar field.
Photo credit: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

daily activities such as braiding hair while their daughters played with Black dolls. I noted a two-page spread which illustrated a map of the transatlantic slave trade in a story highlighting the last known slave ship to arrive in America — Alabama, 1860. Even in Arabic, the graphic spoke for itself. I wondered what the words said noting National Geographic's racist history of presenting Black folks as exotic animals in the wild. This felt different. This felt true. I soon realized it was Black History Month. In remembering the joy I found on the cover and in the inner pages, I continue, months later, to reflect on the power of an image.

I left WUF10 with a prized magazine and a renewed sense of hope. Hope inspired by action and faith that I could say or do something which would improve the state of being for Black folks across the world. I started to write my reflections and then tragedy occurred. In the span of a few short months, three high-profile murders of unarmed Blacks shifted my world views, seemingly forever. First on February 23, Ahmaud Arbery was chased and gunned down by three vigilante white men as he jogged through a white neighborhood in my home state of Georgia. He survived the global pandemic of COVID-19, but not the American pandemic of systemic racism. On March 13, Breonna Taylor, a front-line medic working in Louisville, Kentucky fighting the COVID-19 was killed while she slept in her home by police serving a "no-knock" warrant. She survived the global pandemic of COVID-19, but not the American pandemic of systemic racism. Then on Memorial Day, four Minneapolis police arrested George Floyd and killed him on the street as onlookers screamed, "you're killing that man." He survived the global pandemic of COVID-19 having been diagnosed earlier in the year, but not the American pandemic of systemic racism. The scheduled writing on this article in which I planned to use my voice to highlight the desperate need for safe, livable, affordable housing was delayed. Inevitably, according to Maslow, humans have a hierarchy of needs, the preservation of life being first and foremost. I've decided to use my voice to fight for the preservation of Black lives throughout the world while fighting to shed light and dismantle the systems of oppression.

In the weeks following global protests sparked by the televised killing of George Floyd, I decided to write. As a descendant of survivors of the transatlantic slave trade and as a woman whose last name is a permanent reminder of the slave holding family who once owned my ancestors, I decided to be brave in a land which has never been my home. I am a Black person first. I am a woman next. I am an American last. Solution driven thoughts have overtaken my rage as I allowed myself to go through the process of grief. I, as many Black people, are grieving today. Sitting in this pain, I have thoughts of solutions to share.

My first suggestion, do something.

Write a check to support a bail fund for protestors.

Drop off water to protestors.

March.

Write.

Scream.

Yell.

Do something.

The United Nations issued a statement condemning America's treatment of Blacks. Amazon said something. Nike said something. A portion of my profession has done and said something. The National Organization of Minority Architects issued a statement which clearly articulated its stance and affirmed Black Lives Matter.

Although I am in love with architecture, my passion lies in community building. In Washington, District of Columbia I lead the Sustainable Communities Project®, a public-private-philanthropic effort birthed by ThinkBox and supported by The George Washington University. In my work, I often interact with residents of the D.C. Housing Authority and otherwise under-resourced community members. For the past few years, my work has generated replicable results which move the needle towards a more equitable society. The SCP focuses on four

programmatic areas: entrepreneurship, realistic jobs, wellness, and STEAM[4] education.
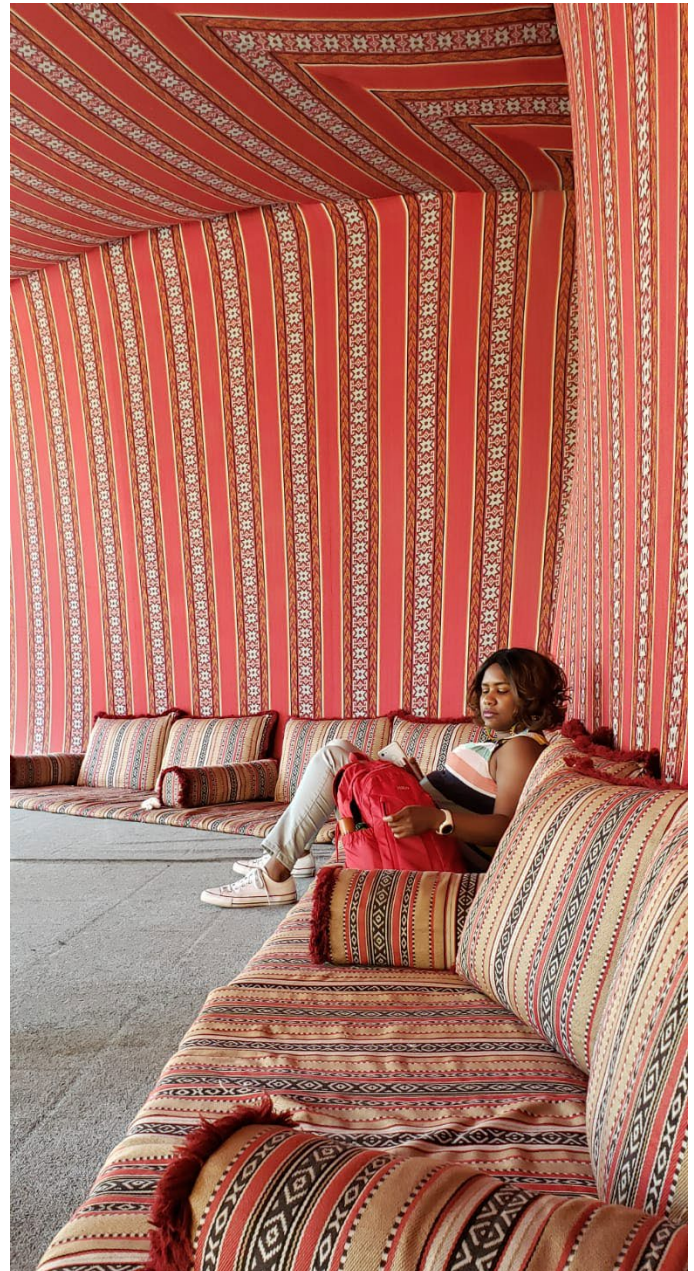
Entrepreneurship: In communities large and small, efforts should be made to identify, train, and support entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurship has the potential to be transformative because it often addresses known and unrealized unmet needs. It has the potential to create intergenerational wealth by passing learned experience on to future generations. Entrepreneurship also builds upon the legacy of generations before us who transformed vision into lucrative realities.

Realistic Jobs: In a world seemingly moving at the speed of light, it is vital to train for jobs of the future such as solar installation and medical technicians. Entry-level jobs, which provide a ladder to sustained careers, are needed today more than ever. Careers which require mental focus over brute strength are growing. COVID-19 has shed light on the importance of having a job which can be performed remotely, where possible. Across the globe, leaders should incorporate actual stakeholders in its plans to develop, build, and operate inclusive communities.

Wellness: COVID-19 has also exposed inequities in healthcare and access to care and redefined "essential workers." The United States of America suffered the greatest loss of life due to COVID-19. Blacks in America, although only 13% of the population, suffered loss of life at a disproportionate rate. During this pandemic, we've learned that many front-line workers such as grocery store workers, factory workers, EMTs, educators, and nurses are grossly underpaid.

Environmental factors, especially in housing, have contributed to inequity. By design, poor communities are often located near toxic dumps and brownfield sites. The infamous tale of Love Canal, a 70-acre landfill in the state of New York became a symbol of environmental disaster in the 1970's. Poor communities often suffer higher rates of upper respiratory ailments such as asthma. Homes covered with wall-to-wall carpet which traps particles for years have exasperated asthmatic conditions of children who are close to the ground. In all of our future build efforts, we must take into account past trauma and present pain.

4. STEAM: Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math

R. Denise Everson sitting in a shaded pavilion in Al Ain Palace Museum
Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

As we build new inclusive communities and reinvest in forgotten communities, we should strive to incorporate healthcare facilities in close proximity, include parks and safe spaces for physical exercise. Healthcare workers should be able to afford to live in communities near their places of employment. Intentional efforts must be enacted to guarantee the right to living a healthy life.

S.T.E.A.M. Education: Emerging education in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math is critical to the success of our shared future.

The inclusion of "the arts'' is important because most learners are visual. I've found during these past weeks in D.C. that murals painted on boarded up ground level businesses throughout the city have lifted my spirit. I've seen artists turn into activists as their innate need to create is unleashed upon us all. I've listened to R&B and Gospel artists sing my soul happy over the past weeks. I've dusted off records from the 60s and 70s which seem to be a soundtrack for today. Songs like Sam Cooke's *A Change is Gonna Come* and Marvin Gaye's *What's Going On* play in the midst of peaceful protests. In our future building, we must include and celebrate culture through various art forms.

Community plans could be enhanced by adding the SCP's four focus areas as they have been successful in Washington, District of Columbia. However, community plans, by definition, should always include the community's voice.

We are forever changed by COVID-19 and our vision has been made clear to the pandemic of racism. As we look forward to our next international gathering of the World Urban Forum, I trust anti-racism policies will lead topics of discussion. I look forward to learning from countries who have successfully reconciled over inequality. Saving lives and improving communities is a global challenge. America has a lot to learn. This time of unrest in America seems different. This time in the world seems transformative. I'm looking forward to a new future.

WUF 10 attendees, Abu Dhabi 2020
Photo credit: R. Denise Everson, Assoc AIA

Diversity

Diversity was more than rhetoric at the Forum. Programs, speakers and initiatives were carefully planned and measured against goals of diversity in representation by gender, age, region and partnership group.

More than 13,000 participants from 169 nations attended sessions, with 642 speakers (73, or 11 percent from North America) designed to share the most promising global initiatives, increase cooperation, debate ideas and gather insight from the diverse group of attendees that included activists, academia, government, the private sector and philanthropies. Topics of discussion were as varied as the participants:
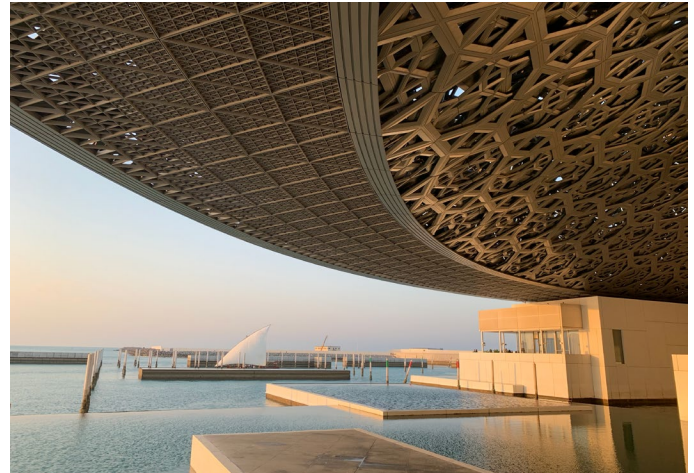
- Culture
- Innovation
- Urbanism
- Diversity
- Inclusion

WUF10 Offers Hope for a Just Future as the World Battles Climate Change

Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA, LEED AP, Dorgan Architecture & Planning, Storrs, Connecticut

Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque | Photo credit: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

Louvre Abu Dhabi | Photo credit: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

Now or Never was the terrifying yet motivating undercurrent that charged the individual conversations, educational programs, and the continuous calls to accelerating action at the 10th World Urban Forum of UN-Habitat in early February 2020. The world faces multiple emergencies that demand immediate action. The housing crisis cannot be solved without also simultaneously addressing climate change, urbanization, injustice, and COVID-19. Yet the 1.6 billion people without adequate housing[5] cannot be ignored for a moment. Without substantial changes in policy and practice the unhoused population is expected to reach 3 billion by 2030. Addressing housing needs is an imperative in planning for urbanization, climate resilience and just communities.

The official theme of "Cities of Opportunities: Connecting Culture and Innovation" seemed at first to lack the urgency of the pervasive reports of the humanitarian crises resulting from climate change, armed conflicts, crime-ridden neighborhoods, homelessness, rising housing costs, loss of arable land, filthy air, water scarcity, supply chain disruptions, and a series of diseases resulting from inadequate housing and loss of natural habitat. However, the good news from the meeting in Abu Dhabi is that all over the world effective partnerships are creating enviable sustainable and inclusive communities using both technology and local knowledge, and funded by an emerging set of robust financing tools. By following the lead of these innovators, if we act now, we can create the future we want for ourselves and our children!

A few weeks after WUF10 we would begin awaking to the catastrophes, including COVID-19, climate change, and injustice. The question now is, will we as American architects and citizens of the world step up to our responsibilities to join the UN-Habitat 'Decade of Action' designed to achieve all of the United Nation's seventeen ambitious Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. These goals listed on page 7 are designed to achieve UN-Habitat's overarching principal that everyone on the planet has the right to a decent place to live. To act effectively, we will need to be cooperative members of motivated teams inspiring, planning and implementing a war-like effort to change the way we make and preserve the built environment and implement the policies and practices that insure the rights of all people. We must act quickly and relentlessly.

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5. https://www.un.org/press/en/2020/soc4884.doc.htm

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are active participants in UN-Habitat. These canaries in the climate change coal mine informed all of the conversations about development strategies.[6] The challenges of each of these nations vary, yet each is experiencing catastrophic losses from climate change including disappearing land due to sea level rise, salinization, and increasing extreme weather events. For example, hurricane Ivan destroyed 90 percent of the infrastructure of Grenada.[7] SIDS are working both to encourage other nations to stop unsustainable practices as well as to respond to the changes that will take place even with zero additional emissions. With most of human settlement located along the coastline the concerns of island nations are becoming the concerns of all, as are the growing number of climate refugees. Ambassador Khaleel of the Maldives sums up the challenge of SIDS, *"Time is something we cannot afford. We need things to be done as quickly as possible. For us, it means do-or-die."*

Contemporary resources including online and cell phone communication, available data sets and responsive funding resources allow development to move both quickly and thoughtfully. This is critical as there is no longer time for long drawn out planning processes or half measures to address carbon emissions, homelessness, and inequality. Yet, we also cannot afford to go down the wrong path, which may lead to failed projects and ineffective measures. We already have far too many failed housing and development solutions, many which ended up as dangerous slums or piles of rubble.

This quandary caused by a perceived conflict between achieving quality and large-scale production was discussed throughout the Forum. In response to this concern, development is transitioning to an approach that includes evidence-based data-driven planning and practice. Programs and policies are informed by robust public and partner

participation that pays attention to culture and the needs of the spectrum of users including members of minority groups, people with disabilities, youth, and women. Implementation includes using technology and innovation to commence multiple demonstration locally responsive projects, studying these initiatives in real time, learning from the effort, rapidly adjusting programs based on findings, and constantly measuring achievement against important economic, environmental, social and justice goals and metrics such as the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Scale is generally achieved though connecting many small initiatives rather than singular large developments.

Master City Model | Photo credit: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

UN flagship programs designed to accomplish the SDG goals for people, the planet and prosperity include:

- People-Focused Smart Cities – deploys technical solutions for human-centered inclusive development. Successes include using the video game Minecraft to engage 45 girls in a vulnerable neighborhood in Hanoi in planning safety improvements in their community that were implemented by local government.

- City Investment Facility (CIF) – provides capital resources for the US$3.2 trillion per year needed to meet the SDGs. Its programs support taking ideas for strategic investment from concept to realization. For example, they held a shark tank-like forum at WUF10 where cities pitched projects to a range of potential investors.

6. https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10113-017-1248-8

7. https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/small-islands-rising-seas

Photo credits: Simon Ha, AIA

- **Inclusive, Vibrant Neighbourhoods and Communities** – reduces spatial inequalities and poverty through participatory initiatives. In Dandora, Nairobi over 500 partners were engaged in transforming a central street where businesses had to close by 7 pm due to fear of pervasive crime. This multidisciplinary initiative addressed issues from drainage to social capital resulting in positive health and economic outcomes as a result the shopping district that is now open safely until 11 pm. The Clean Green Cities program in Afghanistan engaged 20,500 people in an ambitious infrastructure improvement program.

- **RISE-UP: Resilient Settlements for the Urban Poor** - plans and implements large-scale strategies for adaptation and resilience in the most vulnerable communities. The Safer Schools Programme in Mozambique worked with partners to access storm damage, build construction capacity, and implement building standards as a result all of the schools built to the UN-Habitat standard resisted Cyclone Idai.

A series of tools and initiatives designed to align Development with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and in turn track progress were presented at the Forum. New York City was an early leader in developing a process for selecting and tracking SDGs as part of an initiative that includes the goal of becoming "the fairest city in North America." This initiative inspired and informed several other tools.

- **SDG Project Assessment Tool** – works in conjunction with an interactive process for aligning urban development with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and local conditions. It includes support from UN experts, the Tool was developed by the Global Future Cities Programme of the UK government's Prosperity Fund in collaboration with UN-Habitat.

- **SDG Impact Assessment Tool** – is a free online self-assessment tool developed by Chalmers University and a coalition of academic and public partners in northern Europe.

- **European Handbook for SDG Voluntary Local Review** - launched at WUF10 the handbook provides a detailed and useful framework for municipalities to undertake goal setting and benchmarking for achieving the SDGs. Linked to an interactive data and tracking tool, the handbook is published by the European Commission.

- **Culture 2030 Indicators** – includes indicators for assessing cultural value and preservation on the federal and local levels including environment, resilience, prosperity, livelihoods, participation, and gender equality. It includes formulas, checklists and a framework for measuring each of the proceedings developed by UNESCO.

Working with its partners, UN-Habitat is developing a UN system-wide Urban Monitoring Framework that is expected to be completed in March 2021. There have been multiple meetings with experts and constituents to advance this framework.

A plethora of educational programs and materials are available to inform practitioners, policy makers and the public including:

- **SDG Academy** – provides free courses taught by the world's leading experts on sustainable development. Additional services such as technical assistance and a peer-to-peer network that were offered on a fee basis are now available to government and non-profits without charge during 2020-21 in recognition of current economic hardships. The UN initiative is hosted by a nonprofit with a prominent board that includes Jeffery Sachs.

• Global Housing Network – inspires with its resources such as a virtual architecture conference that includes the video "3D-Printed Home Can Be Constructed For Under $4000." and the article "World's 3 Most Successful Public Housing Projects." Find these along with data on slum dwellers and fast-growing cities on the site provided by the nonprofit Global Housing Foundation and UN-Habitat.

• Housing 2030 – offers videos and podcasts addressing topics such as policy initiatives for affordable housing, the Netherlands initiative to remove seven million homes from the grid, and improving housing affordability. A partnership between the UN Economic Commission for Europe, Housing Europe, 56 governments and 43,000 housing providers, Housing 2030 provides a toolkit of workable solutions with the tagline *Time to Think and Do Differently*. It addresses the finding in *The State of Housing in the EU: 2019* that structural inequity in housing is being addressed "…with a patchwork of, often costly policy solutions"[8] by allowing policy makers and practitioners to share best practices and innovation strategies in order to meet the SDGs by 2030 and net zero greenhouse emissions by 2050.

• Housing Evolutions HUB – provides a search engine for European Union based resources such as the Responsible Housing Awards. It includes many high quality design projects. The site is provided by Housing Europe.

• UN Habitat 2020 Catalog of Services – provides an overview of UN-Habitat resources and initiatives including data, monitoring, participatory processes, policy, planning, design, housing delivery, public space, land, infrastructure, finance, climate change and capacity building. Resources include the SHERPA tool for analyzing housing development sustainability.

Pragmatism is today's prevailing development philosophy and the world is testing solutions for implementing UN-Habitat's New Urban Agenda and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals embedded in the Agenda. Of course,

for this approach to be successful it is the responsibility of professionals to both share their work and examine closely the outcomes of others' practices as we build the capacity to address the substantial challenges of the day. As further described in this publication AIA members were active participants in the learning exercises of the WUF. Members both shared their work and learned from the work of international practitioners. This interchange will continue.

Photo credit: R. Denise Everson

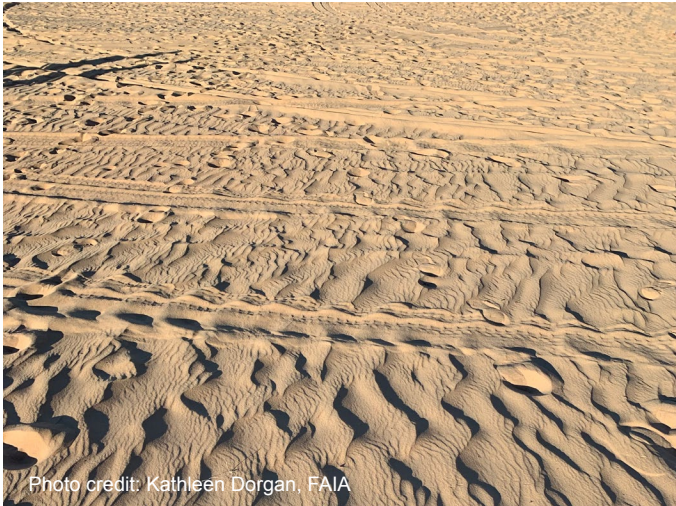8. https://www.housingeurope.eu/resource-1323/the-state-of-housing-in-the-eu-2019
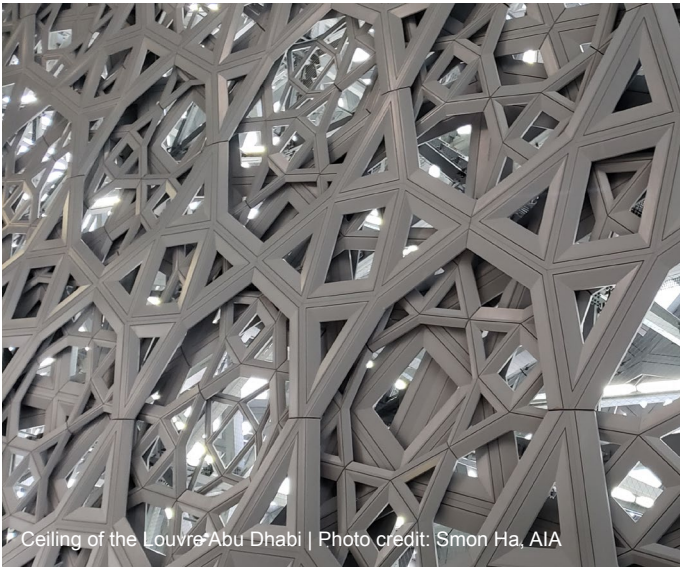
Photo credit: Kathleen Dorgan, FAIA

Al Ain Palace Museum | Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

Louvre Abu Dhabi | Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

Ceiling of the Louvre Abu Dhabi | Photo credit: Simon Ha, AIA

World Urban Forum Attendees

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Founder and President of the NPO City Space Architecture and Founder and Editor in Chief of The Journal of Public Space

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Senior Scholar at the Center for Sustainable Urban Development in the Earth Institute at Columbia University
New York

*AIA Housing and Community Development Knowledge Community Advisory Group

Masdar City | Photo credit: R. Denise Everson

Dinner with Seth Appleton | Photo credit: R. Denise Everson

Housing & Community Development

AIA Knowledge Community

The AIA Housing and Community Development Knowledge Community (HCD) is a network of architects and allied stakeholders that promotes equity in housing, excellence in residential design, and sustainable, vibrant communities for all, through education, research, awards, and advocacy.

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residential design, and sustainable, vibrant
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