



**International Society of City and Regional Planners  
Non-Governmental Organization Official Partner of UNESCO**

## **ISOCARP-UNESCO SPECIAL EVENT**

**PORTLAND, OREGON, 23 OCTOBER 2017**

**“TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE CITIES WE NEED:  
AN OBLIGED WAY IN ORDER TO SAVE LIFE ON OUR LOVELY PLANET”**

### **A MEMORABLE HISTORIC EVENT**

**The Special Event was organized in the follow up of the 2016 ISOCARP Congress,  
held in Durban, South Africa, on the topic “Cities we Have vs. Cities we Need”.**

#### **PRIOR TO THAT UNFORGETTABLE DAY**

On Saturday, even it was raining cats and dogs, ISOCARP Special Guest, Hawa Dème, UMUGANGA AFIKA, from Mali, also consultant near the Permanent Delegation of Mali at UNESCO, was lucky to find time to be ready for that memorable day.



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Hawa DEME, UMUGANGA AFRICA, Mali**

On Sunday, she accepted to meet the Young Planning Professionals during their Young Planning Professionals Workshop organized by Piotr Lorens, ISOCARP VP YPPs, for a debate with them on the accordance between the aims and work of her association “Community Work Africa” and the objectives of their workshop on the Oregon region.

## Registration of the participants



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Attendance was free, but registration asked from all participants.  
Here we can see some students from the University of Oregon.  
Registration: Gaby Kurth and Monica Ornek

## OPENING CEREMONY



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Derrick Olsen, President of the World Affairs Council of Oregon  
Welcoming the Audience to Portland and Oregon

Chaired by ISOCARP President, Ric Stephens, the Opening Ceremony aimed to welcome the audience and have a view on the UNESCO's Flag Action "UNESCO's Soft Power today" around the Sustainable Development Goals and the involvement of ISOCARP in COP21 and the HABITAT III New Agenda.

Presenting Portland and Oregon, Derrick Olsen, President of the World Affairs Council of Oregon, the activities of which are in complete accordance with UNESCO’s Objectives and Programs, delivered a speech to welcome at the same time the ISOCARP members, the civil society of Oregon, the Young planning professionals, the students of Oregon University and ISOCARP Special Guest Hawa Dème, from Mali.



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**Hawa Dème, Special Guest, explaining the UNESCO’s Flag Action “UNESCO’s Soft Power today” around the “Sustainable Development Goals” she is showing**

Hawa Dème, co-founder of UMGANDA AFRIKA (Work Community Africa) and past consultant for the Permanent Delegation of Mali at UNESCO, focussed on the SDG as a tool to implement a better world that lets nobody by the wayside. She insisted on the inter-dependence of the different 17 SDG to go, step by step, towards “Sustainable Cities We Need”, such as it will be demonstrated during the Interactive Round Table following the Opening Ceremony.



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**17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD**



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**Importance of Youth, one of the major UNESCO's objectives, attending the Opening Ceremony**

ISOCARP President, Ric Stephens, focussed on the involvement of ISOCARP “Towards Sustainable Cities We Need” that is going on for numerous years. Before the venue of the COP21, several congresses, for instance “Low Carbon Cities”, worked on the matter. During the preparation of the COP21, Janine Marin, ISOCARP Ambassador near UNESCO, wrote a paper, “Mother Earth is Calling”, in a view to sensitize on that urgent matter; she sent it to the Division of UNESCO preparing the COP21. At Le Bourget, near Paris, during the venue of the COP21, ISOCARP Past President, Milica Bajic Brkovic, was a member of the High-Level Ban Ki Moon Team, and delivered a speech on “Transportation for sustainable cities”. Of course, the Durban Congress “Cities we Have vs. Cities we Need” was a great step on the good way. During the HABITAT III meeting in Quito, around the “New Urban Agenda”, ISOCARP organized an important workshop on the matter. And now, the Interactive Round Table, major moment of the Event, should make a new step on that good way.

**WELCOME COFFEE**



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**Between the Opening Ceremony and the Interactive Round Table, a moment of encounters. Moment to know each other, ISOCARP members, Oregon civil society, YPPs and University of Oregon students**

## INTERACTIVE ROUND TABLE

**Red thread: “Respect all Life”**

**Title:**

**PLANNING, HERITAGE AND MODERNITY, SOCIAL INCLUSION  
FOR PROMOTING INTELLIGENT CITIES FOR PEOPLE.**

**Issue:**

**How could “Respect all life” be the demonstration that  
It is “life” which is the crucial theme of the Special Event?**

**Our planet Earth is lovely because we can see all it offers us!  
All is “all life”,  
and protecting our planet is a major issue for us and all life,  
not for the planet.**

**Method: Systemic Approach to demonstrate that one SDG cannot be implemented alone and is  
always linked with some others.**



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**Nicholas You, Chair, delivering his keynote speech, Hawa Dème and Ric Stephens on the Podium**

Keynote speaker Nicholas YOU, also keynote speaker during the ISOCARP Durban Congress, internationally recognized, with a long experience in city and regional planning, could make the link between *“urban sustainability and urban innovation, to promote intelligent cities for people”*. He insisted on *“Smart approaches to sustainable urban development”*, what is a major issue.

The quotation from the UNESCO Manifesto 2000 aims to show that, from 2001, ISOCARP, entering the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, has chosen to lead urban planning towards the new realities and challenges to be overcome. That is why the moto of the Association became *“Knowledge for better cities”*. Knowledge means having a global vision of the earthen ecosystem and, by the way, of the needs for sustainable cities at a crucial moment when the urban population of our Planet is over 50%.

The different points of Goal 11 for Sustainable Development *“Sustainable Cities: Why they Matter”* will be taken into account to try to demonstrate how relevant they are for a correct vision towards 2030.

**Heritage** has also to be taken into account, since it can provide a lot of assets for a better understanding of the future; **modernity** can give an open mind to better and quicker reaching our aims to implement intelligent cities; **social inclusion** being an obliged path for a real sustainable development towards a **culture of peace**.

The UNESCO Priorities and Objectives will have to be accordingly considered:  
Africa, Gender Equality, Youth, Education first, Eradication of Poverty, Living together.  
And: New Humanism, Rencontre of Cultures, Cultural Heritage, SDG (11).  
As well as: UNESCO Soft Power Today High Level Conferences.

### **SDGs and a Systems Approach to Implementation**

**The Systems Approach will consider 4 UNESCO's priorities or programs around the quality of life within the cities we need: culture, social, economy and governance for sustainable cities.**

**“The first action area** is to adopt a “systems” approach to the implementation of the SDGs. Sustainable urbanization will not be achieved if we continue to work in silos and do not coordinate our policies and strategies across jurisdictions. This does not imply that we have to tackle the aforementioned SDGs all at the same time. It does however imply that we are aware of the linkages between them, how they are mutually reinforcing and that we seek to bridge them as well as other SDGs as we move forward. Such a systems approach would allow us to realize substantial cost efficiencies, to leverage resources and to have a culminate impact.

**The second action area** is how we can become more effective as professional planners. We have heard how ISOCARP's initiatives are focusing on nurturing young professionals, focusing on learning and exchange and on providing advisory services. I believe we have a very important responsibility as “honest brokers” capable of facilitating dialogue between all actors and stakeholders: between communities and different tiers of government, between different tiers of government themselves and with business, other professions and sectors. As planners we understand the concerns of all actors and stakeholders and we have the means of forging consensus while focusing on **“putting people first”**.

**The third action area**, last but not least, I would like to stress the need, the imperative, of engaging all of our partners and actors in accelerated exchange of knowledge, expertise and experience – and especially in lessons learned from experience. Rapid urbanization is such that we will need to match our tools, competencies and abilities with the rapid pace of change and to learn in “real time”. We can no longer depend only on ex-post evaluation and research to give us pointers for the future. We need to “learn by doing” and harness the full potential of technology to help us solve problems and come up with solutions in collaboration with other actors, cities and communities. We have the means to do so with modern tools of communication, let's put them to good use.”

Nicholas You, Chair

After his speech, Nicholas YOU explained the systemic approach, for everybody could realize the relation and interdependence of the Sustainable Development Goals. By the way, the Round Table could be more interactive and clear for everyone.

**Ric Stephens, as Moderator, for a maximum of 3 minutes,  
gave the floor to every speaker,  
and, between two speakers, to the audience**

#### **FIRST PART OF THE ROUND TABLE RELATING TO SDG 11**

**Nicholas YOU, as Chair, announced the first point around SDG 11**

A few words on inclusive and sustainable planning will need strong links with the other chosen SDG for the participation of all in urban settlements planning can become an efficient task.

**Culture: SDG 11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities”**

“Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”

**Mairura OMWENGA, Kenya** (President Town and County Planners Association of Kenya)

Ensure access for all to safe and affordable housing, and upgrade slums is a major issue for Nairobi city and the region all around and concerns as well social and economic vision as well as a good governance.

**SDG 11 in relation with:**

- **Social:** SDG 4 “Quality Education”

**Hawa DEME, Mali** (special guest of the event, co-founder of UMUGANDA AFRIKA and past consultant near the Delegation of Mali at UNESCO) focussed on “Respecting Gender Equality and stopping prejudice against girls” during the urban work they implement together in different countries of Africa.

- **Economy:** SDG 1 & 2 “No Poverty” “Zero Hunger”

**Pablo PESSOA, Brazil** (University of Brasilia), who was speaker in Durban, has drawn the attention of the audience on a crucial matter putting into light that a high level of poverty and poor infrastructure do not allow a correct implementation of SDG 11.

- **Governance:** SDG 16 “Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions”

**Martin DUBBELING, the Netherlands** (VP Urban Planning Advisory Teams and President elect 2018) demonstrate how UPATS, that gather participants from different regions and associates young planners, do contribute to promote sustainable cities and communities to the benefit of a culture of peace.

#### **SECOND PART OF THE ROUND TABLE RELATING TO SDG 4**

**Nicholas YOU, as Chair, announce and briefly introduce the second point, around SDG 4**

Quality education is a basic necessity at all levels, for the respect of equal rights for all to economic resources and basic services, in a complete respect of human dignity.

**Social: SDG 4 “Quality Education”**

“Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”

**Daniele VETTORATO, Italy** (new VP ISOCARP Institute, who spoke instead of **Khalid EL ADLI, Egypt**) explained the role of ISOCARP Institute for Excellence to allow meetings respecting cultural diversity, as an asset to promote quality education, sharing relevant experiences from all over the world.

**SDG 4 in relation with:**

- **Culture:** SDG 11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities”

**Zeynep GUNAY, Turkey** (Academic teacher, Istanbul and VP YPPs 2018-2021) who attended Durban Congress, explained how safeguarding Cultural Heritage even considering modernity can request training and education to obtain the agreement of the concerned populations.

- **Economy:** SDG 1 & 2 “No Poverty” “Zero Hunger”

**Hawa DEME, Mali**, insisted on the fact that Quality education for girls and women and long-life learning is a crucial aim for them to control their own life, and basic to find a decent job and be able to help their children to obtain good results at school and beyond.

- **Governance:** SDG 16 “Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions”

**Slawomir LEDWON, Qatar/Poland** (VP Congresses and Conferences) could explain with some concrete examples, how the topic of the congresses are in accordance with the implementation of good governance to succeed in respecting human rights and quality education.

**THIRD PART OF THE ROUND TABLE RELATING TO SDG 1 & 2**

**Nicholas YOU, as Chair, announce and briefly introduce the third point, around SDG 1&2**

Those first SDG can be considered as crucial ones, face to the Agenda 2030 adopted in Quito during the UN Conference HABITAT III, where ISOCARP organized an important workshop.

**Economy: SDG 1 & 2 “No Poverty” “Zero Hunger”**

“End poverty in all its forms everywhere” and “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture” are basic SDG to respect Human Rights.

**Michael HARDMAN, United Kingdom** (Lecturer in Geography | Environment & Life Sciences, University of Salford, Manchester and Keynote speaker at the Durban Congress) explained how “Edible cities” can contribute to SDG 1&2 “With SDG 1, the edible cities idea could help to build resilience and act as a tool for improving community cohesion. In terms of SDG 2, it could help to tackle food insecurity and provide fresh produce to those in need within cities.”

**SDG 1&2 in relation with:**

- **Culture:** SDG 11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities”

**Shipra NARANG SURI, India** (VP representing ISOCARP near UN-HABITAT in Nairobi) explained how the Conference on Human settlements and sustainable urban development, HABITAT III, and the “New Urban Agenda” towards 2030, adopted in the Declaration of Quito, Ecuador, provides cities with ways to more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities at the 2030 horizon.

- **Social:** SDG 4 “Quality Education”

**Hawa DEME, Mali** (special guest of the Event), explained how “Empowering women by quality education will contribute to SDG 1&2”. Quality education provides the means to have a decent job, control their own lives and take care of their children given them a shelter, a family life and correct meals.

- **Governance:** SDG 16 “Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions”

**Hongyang WONG, China** (Winner of ISOCARP Awards for Excellence, General Rapporteur of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Congress) tell the audience how such awards give a good image of ISOCARP and its interest in the partnership with municipal authorities, but also can encourage Municipalities on Governance useful for any citizen.

#### **FOURTH PART RELATING TO SDG 16**

##### **Nicholas YOU, as Chair, announce and briefly introduce the fourth point, around SDG 16**

Developing “effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels” should be a matter of fact for all municipalities all around the world to walk towards a culture of peace, what is the *raison d’être* of UNESCO.

##### **Governance: SDG 16 “Peace, Justice, Strong Institutions”**

“Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all level”

**Estefania CHAVEZ BARRAGAN, Mexico** (University and Non-Governmental Organizations in Mexico, past Mayor) explained the basic role of women in urbanism for the city can become “the city of all”; in addition, her experience, as Mayor allowed her to affirm that play advocacy for justice and a better quality of life near mayors is a crucial asset for Gender equality and Human Rights for all in the city.

##### **SDG 16 is in relation with:**

- **Social:** SDG 4 “Quality Education”

**Piotr LORENS, Poland,** (VP ISOCARP YPPs Workshops) organizes Young Planning Professionals workshops, gathering ISOCARP young planners as well as planners who are not ISOCARP members, in different regions of the world and those training seminars, in addition to be examples of quality education, can provide Young Planners with SDG 16 aims.

- **Culture:** SDG 11 “Sustainable Cities and Communities”

**Andrew Potts, USA** (ICOMOS: International Council on Monuments and Sites) explained that the role of ICOMOS in different countries can provide justice and inclusion: “Cultural resources will play a key role in this shifting paradigm, so I expect to see historic preservation-based community revitalization.” But it is important to have a vision linking Cultural and Natural Heritage.

- **Economy:** SDG 1 & 2 “No Poverty” “Zero Hunger”

**Slawomir LEDWON, Qatar/Poland** (VP ISOCARP congresses and conferences) explained that ISOCARP and its partners all around the world make an efficient network to share planning experiences that can contribute to reach better quality of life for every citizen, providing jobs in more inclusive cities and

allowing, by the way, every family to have food enough for children and adults. Information and Communication through the ISOCARP network represents an important asset.

Every speaker, contributing to the collective reflection, could give an idea, an example, a best practice and suggest, so, guide lines for the 3 Workshops of the Afternoon Session.

The link between Interactive Round Table and Workshops will be so put into light for every participant.

Nicholas YOU, as Chair, provided a conclusion and some recommendations in relation with the issue of the Round Table and its red thread (Respect all life), that, thanks to a systemic approach showing that SDG 11, closely linked with other SDG, will conduct us “Towards Sustainable Cities We Need: an Obligated Way to Save Life on Our Lovely Planet” can become a reality.

“We have covered a very wide range of issues and themes this morning, ranging from the unpacking of SDGs 1,2 4,11 and 16 as well as the challenges we face in various parts of the world in order to effectively implement them. We were also very fortunate to have heard of what some cities, communities and actors are already doing going forward.

I would like to conclude our very rich discussions by suggesting that we need to focus on the three actions areas that I believe will be critical to making an effective difference.”

**Closing the Interactive Round Table, Ric Stephens, as ISOCARP President said to everyone  
“My sincerest thanks to those who have helped organize and conduct this vital program”**

## **THE WORKSHOPS**

Having in mind the 3 beacons for a non-governmental organization such as ISOCARP (“**Being useful for the others**” Max van den Berg, “**Involving people**” Peter Jonquière, and our motto “**Knowledge for Better Cities**”) the three chairs and the six experts had to take into account that an open mind is absolutely necessary to succeed in finding new solutions around the Sustainable Development Goals towards “Sustainable Cities We Need”.

### **WORKSHOP 1**

**LINKING RURAL AND URBAN PLANNING TO SET UP “URBAN” CITIES  
TAKING INTO ACCOUNT  
TO HAVE LESS UNWISHED MIGRATION AND A BETTER QUALITY OF LIFE**

**Red thread: “Listen to Understand”**

**Issue:**

**How could planning overcome the urban/rural divide (that is not an asset)  
and “Listen to understand”, change the overlook on the city  
to become a smart, innovative and sustainable place?**

**Michael HARDMAN, Chair, University of Salford, Manchester, UK  
who delivered a keynote speech on the matter in Durban “Edible Cities”.**

**INVITED SPEAKERS to contribute in the Workshop:**  
**Mairura OMWENGA, Chairman of the Town and County Planners Association of Kenya**  
**Hongyang WANG, Professor of Urban Planning and Design, Nanjing University, China**



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**Dr Michael Hardman (UK), Workshop Chair (University of Salford), precisising the subject, help by experts Mairura Omwenga (Kenia) and Hongyang Wang (China)**

## **Introduction**

This workshop aimed to explore innovative planning practice with regards to reconnecting the urban to rural. The workshop had a central key question which acted as a red thread for the discussions: ‘how could planning overcome the urban-rural divide and “listen to understand” how to change the overlook on the city to become a smart, innovative and sustainable place?’ With this in mind, the following structure was used to explore the key theme and question in the time allocated.

The initial link to Durban was made by the Chair (Dr Hardman, United Kingdom), using his keynote in South Africa to discuss potential linkages between the urban and rural. Of particular focus was the potential to alleviate pressure on the latter through moving some food production to the cityscape, in a process often labelled Urban Agriculture (UA). UA in its simplest form involves the growing of food or rearing of livestock in cities, enabling residents to be reconnected with produce (Wiskerke and Viljoen, 2012). Within these opening remarks, the Chair was keen to show caution with regards to the concept, demonstrating how UA could have a negative impact in the Global South, perhaps through encouraging more rural to urban migration and extra pressures on already fragile urban environments.

Although UA was not the focus of the workshop, it merely acted as an introduction to the wider theme of the urban and rural in harmony. The two expert speakers, Dr Omwenga (Kenya) and Prof Wang (China) aimed to take forward this theme in their individual talks, enabling the audience to gain an

insight into best practice within their respective geographical contexts. The introduction also served as a way of embedding ISOCARP and UNESCO's ethos, for example with the former the three beacons that underpin the organisation: i) 'to be useful to others ii) 'involving people and iii) knowledge for better cities.

### **Expert Presentations and Audience Discussion**

Following the introductory stage, the two expert speakers gave their presentations to further help to set the context and enable discussion on the workshop's core theme. Firstly Prof Wang presented his work in the Chinese context, reflecting on the extensive array of urban development projects he has led over a number of years. Nature was viewed as an important tool within these designs and the urban was often juxtaposed with rural traits in order to enable a better connection. Prof Wang explained how productive urban spaces were being pursued in some cases in order to take this connection to a new level; these were often in the peri-urban as opposed to central areas of cities.

Dr Omwenga followed on from this to provide a reflection on issues and opportunities in Kenya related to the workshop's theme. In a similar manner to Prof Wang, he reflected on the wider relationship between cities and the rural in his country; explaining that concepts such as UA were not widespread as in the other cities explored. He also focussed on the pressures facing rural dwellers and how many migrated to the city in order to access better job markets and opportunities. In this sense, UA was soon as a tool which could encourage more rural to urban migration and thus place more pressure on these cities, if authorities were not careful with how it was incorporated.

A connection between the speakers was that of urban sprawl and how such a process was having a negative impact on the rural. In both cases it was mentioned how tools were needed to tackle these issues and prevent the urbanisation of green belt and productive land. Linked to this, it was noted that when discussing the urban and rural linkages, too much emphasis is often placed on the former, with the city dominating the agenda. It was argued that more emphasis needed to be placed on the rural, particularly residents whose voices were often not heard in planning discussions.

Although the two speakers varied with their arguments, a central lens of urban food was used to explore the notion of linking the rural and urban. This was primarily due to the timeframe and broad focus of the workshop, through exploring the urban food argument, the speakers were able to focus on practice within their own countries and use this as a tool for further discussion. This was originally proposed as one solution to bring together the urban and rural; breaking down barriers whilst taking pressure off the latter. In both cases, it was shown how the concept is in its early development stage in China and Kenya, but potential exists, so long as the balance is correct. It was made clear by the speakers that regardless of the future of urban food, it will never be able to feed cities and should not take away a core industry from the rural sphere.

Following on from the expert presentations, discussion was opened up to the wider audience. This audience discussion varied and ranged from specific questions regarding projects presented by the expert speakers to more general comments on exemplar practice in the Oregon context. A key point raised was consultation and the process in each country explored. It became apparent how this varied drastically according to the countries explored, with some using a more informal process compared with more formal consultations elsewhere. It was agreed that listening to communities was vital, whether for the implementation of urban food projects or their views on the balance between urban/rural, strategies had to be in place to collect views from usual and non-usual participants alike.

Through doing so, the planning process would be more inclusive and enable projects to benefit a range of actors.

Another core discussion point centred on the need for urban food and its potential globally. Audience members questioned the potential yield from spaces and how many were merely for social reasons as opposed to productive. In many countries it appears that such activities occur on the peri-urban as opposed to the city centre, thus acting as a buffer between urban and rural. There was also scepticism with regards to how powerful planners are to enable such practice and how such actors should not be viewed as god-like creatures in being responsible for driving the concept forward.

## **Conclusion**

To conclude, the workshop raised a series of questions and issues regarding the relationship between urban and rural, along with potential opportunities to create better linkages going forward. It is apparent that the cities we have are often disconnected from the rural landscapes which often surround them, whether in the UK, China or African contexts, there is a real need to connect these spaces more effectively. The cities we need are those which offer a greater balance between the urban and rural, for example, through listening to dwellers from both spaces as opposed to the usual practice of focussing more explicitly on the city environments. Consultation is important here, allowing all to feed into any plans or strategies which affect both environments.

Using the lens of food, the workshop also explored the potential of creating better linkages through taking pressure of rural production systems. In this sense, whilst urban food was viewed as a tool, it was not a solution; whilst the concept may bring some form of balance, it could have a negative effect through encouraging migration from the rural to urban, if upscaled. Rather urban food was seen as a minor intervention which could help relieve tension and work in some cities, but not all globally.

Ultimately, it was argued that a generic methodology could allow for a better linking of the urban and rural globally: involving specific consultation strategies and spatial analysis tools to inform decision-making processes. Through doing so, context specific solutions would be enabled, avoiding a blanket approach to these issues; the diversity of challenges and geographical locations results in the latter not being viable.

The debates centred on urban sprawl and the dominance of the city over the rural.

Michael Hardman, Chair

## **WORKSHOP 2**

### **PUTTING INTO LIGHT THE BEST PRACTICES IN RETHINKING HUMAN SETTLEMENTS FOR ALL THAT LEAVE NOBODY BY THE WAYSIDE.**

**Red thread: “Rediscover solidarity”**

**Issue:**

**Which modern ways, which innovations, which new overlook,  
could be set up to “Rediscover Solidarity”  
for the benefit of all people in equal human dignity?**

**Pablo PESSOA, Chair, University of Brasilia, Brazil**  
who delivered a speech on the matter in the Durban Congress

**INVITED SPEAKERS to contribute in the Workshop:**  
**Daniele VETTORATO, VP ISOCARP Institute, Italy**  
**Martin DUBBELING, VP UPATs, ISOCARP President elect, the Netherlands**



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**Pablo Pessoa (Brazil), Chair, explaining the matter for a non-governmental organization**  
**Experts assisting him: Martin Dubbeling (Netherlands) and Daniele Vettorato (Italy)**

Workshop 2 pointed out a few interesting paths to be worked with in the future.

### **Introduction**

The theme of the workshop, which referred to the conclusions of the Durban Congress, the UNESCO's Manifesto 2000, the New Urban Agenda and the related SDGs, was presented to the audience who reacted by bringing even more interpretations of new solidarities.

### **Contributions of the two experts to the issue**

Daniele Vettorato, new VP ISOCARP Institute, explained, as expert assisting the Chair, how the publications of the Institute or the creation of a Journal could help in promoting new solidarities in a possible network, gathering members all around the world.

Martin Dubbeling, VP ISOCARP UPATs and now, President elect, explained how publications on Urban Planning Advisory Teams (UPATs), flag activity of ISOCARP, gathering any time, all over the world, team members from different regions and countries, can help to rediscover new kinds of solidarities in the framework of cultural diversity.

### **Debate with the audience**

Some participants contributed to the debate by presenting the meanings of solidarity on their own realities. Others presented the conceptual diversity of possible approaches to the theme, like it is addressed on urban sociology's open debate.

The implications of the presence (or lack thereof) of solidarity in conflicts with the use of natural resources were also discussed.

Another topic raised concerned about the allocation of funds to build and rebuild cities whenever it is needed, what is another kind of solidarity.

Even after the end of the session, the debate continued in small groups according the particular issues brought up by the discussion.

Pablo Pessao, Chair

### WORKSHOP 3

#### THE ROLE OF WOMEN, YOUTH AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN PROMOTING INTELLIGENT CITIES TAKING INTO ACCOUNT TRADITION, HERITAGE AND MODERNITY

**Red thread: "Protect the Planet"**

**Issue:**

**How could planning "Preserve the Planet"  
and take into account tradition and cultural heritage  
when deciding to "renew" some historic places in the framework new planning policies? Which  
role could play women, youth and civil society on the matter?**

**Zeynep GUNAY, Chair, Institute of Technology, Istanbul, Turkey  
who delivered a speech on the matter in the Durban Congress**

**INVITED SPEAKERS to contribute in the Workshop:  
Hawa DEME, Special Guest, co-founder of UMUGANDA AFRIKA, Mali  
Dra. Estefania CHAVEZ BARRAGAN, ISOCARP Member, Past Mayor in Mexico**



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**On the front right, Dra. Estefania Chavez (Mexico); left, Hawa Dème (Mali)  
The 2 experts assisting Zeynep Gunay in conducting the workshop.**

Our cities are being confronted by change through an extremely destructive restructuring increasingly over the past decades. There is vigorous, unprecedented socio-political conflict being waged on urban space and around issues of mobilities vs permanence, insiders vs outsiders, owners vs invaders, past vs future, old vs new, tradition vs modernity. Amidst these trends exists heritage. Heritage preservation is a fundamentally forward looking phenomenon, whereby society is constantly curating those elements of the past that will be passed to the future. These actions can be particularly problematic for women and youth, in a way complementing the threshold between past and future.

Given the important role assigned to heritage in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (e.g. SDG 11.4) and the New Urban Agenda, these questions have increased prominence. While revanchist trends capture our everyday urban routines and life within, the questions on the ways of preserving this unique planet not only necessitate an alternative discourse on preservation or development, but also the rights, values and traditions as a survival kit. This workshop is, therefore, a major attempt to question the ways in which urban politics can respond to the problematic of the role of civil society, particularly women and youth as the vulnerables, in resolving challenges between tradition, heritage and modernity.

The remarks drawn from the workshop are as follows:

- Respond new discourses on heritage, tradition or gender roles not to cope up with the present but future agenda by preventing authorised biased knowledge or categorisations
- Promote change of emphasis on the role of public in reshaping cities in a way of defining not only the owners, but rather focusing on values, needs, diversities to put public as the subject not an object.
- Encourage a paradigm shift that foresees woman or youth not as targets, but a “map” of reshaping our cities that is based on protection and creation.
- Foster dialogue as the base of soft power to re-flourish the capacity of women to effect and lead change as proven in the history of civilisation - women have to remember they are women first!
- Advocate diverse mediums of education to flourish transformative power of the public with increased awareness and responsibility to bridge between generations, heritage and traditions. A future without knowledge on past and own histories and values cannot exist.
- Search for new ways of governance that are responsive, inclusive, context based rather than responding unfixed situations by fixed policies. In the heritage context, this includes inclusive, stake-holder driven models for addresses whose heritage will be considered and which elements of heritage will be conserved. Marrying SDG 11.4 and SDG 16.
- Stimulate soft power based on dialogue and communication -as key strengths of women- to empower rest of the public, and especially invisibles and vulnerables.
- Built heritage to place - Intangible heritage to people - woman and youth as the narrators free from boundaries, territories. Valorizing intangible heritage is key to realizing the potential of SDG 11.4 and women play a unique role in this process.
- Prepare the ground for civil society to explore its own role in reshaping cities - learn to lead, learn to select, learn to adapt.
- Learn from heritage and tradition to change future to educate the changers of future - need to know what we were to lead in the decision of what we want to be - the identity, memory and values of future as well as our cities depend on our current choices, and mostly the women.

contributors

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Zeynep Gunay, Chair

## CLOSING CEREMONY



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**Bayoan Ware, student, delivering the conclusions of the Workshop 1**  
**Podium: Ric Stephens (USA), Shipra Narang Suri (India), Martin Lewis (South Africa)**  
**Standing: Michael Hardman (UK)**

In a first time, the Closing Ceremony listened to the different rapporteurs of the Interactive Round Table and of the 3 Workshops, as we can see above.

Then, in complete accordance with the UNESCO's Objectives, Priorities and Programs, conclusions and recommendations could be provided to the audience.

Martin Lewis, as the local Organizer of the Durban Congress in 2016, could make the link with the Special Event that presents a new step "Towards Sustainable Cities we Need"; Shipra Narang Suri, representing UN HABITAT, could make the link with the New Agenda 2030 for a sustainable planning; Ric Stephens, as ISOCARP President was glad to thank the speakers and the audience for the success of the Special Event, and Jeannine Rustad could wish that the coming joint Conference OAPA/ISOCARP, the theme of which is "Smart Communities" could be another step on the same good way.



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**Such a picture could symbolize and summarize the intergenerational success of that “historic”  
ISOCARP-UNESCO Special Event held in Portland  
“That makes alive UNESCO in the Western Part of the United States of America” (Ric Stephens)**

Janine Marin  
ISOCARP  
Knowledge for Better Cities

ISOCARP Representative to UNESCO  
Coordinator for the ISOCARP-UNESCO Special Event in Portland