SUMMARIES OF KEYNOTE SPEECHES IN FOUR PLENARY SESSIONS
KEYNOTES ON HIGH-SPEED URBAN CHANGE, RAPID URBANIZATION IN ASIA AND ON FAST FORWARD FOR PLANNING IN RUSSIA

Stefan Rau, Congress General Rapporteur

OVERVIEW
A record total of sixteen highly relevant keynote speeches and several welcoming addresses as well as introduction and conclusion presentations by the GR and his congress team were delivered at the 2012 ISOCARP congress in Perm contributing with theory and case studies to the topic of high-speed urban change. All these contributions are available at www.isocarp.org under the Perm congress sub-site. Three topics of keynote speeches were delivered in four plenary sessions at the congress. The opening and closing sessions included keynote speeches on the general topic of the congress that can be titled “Nature and Challenges of High-Speed Urban Change”, predominantly rapid urbanization as a global mega-trend. The second day plenary session focused on “Rapid Urbanization in Asia”, the region that has been and continuously is experiencing the largest amount of urbanization from natural growth and rural to urban migration. Central- and South-America, a region that has experienced much urbanization in the past several decades as well as Africa, the region with the highest proportional rate of urbanization, especially in the years to come have both been represented with excellent case studies in the paper sessions. In the third day plenary session keynote speeches were delivered on “Fast Forward for Planning in Russia”. Several speakers analyzed that the civilized world is at a turning point at which the challenges of next generation of urban territories are larger than life and spatial planners, charged with a major responsibility need to organize as a global force providing sustainable solutions. Fast Forward!

KEYNOTES ON NATURE AND CHALLENGES OF HIGH-SPEED URBAN CHANGE
At the very beginning of the congress Naison Mutizwa-Mengiza alerted the planning community with a wake-up call highlighting some of the shortcomings of planning such as failing to provide appropriate guidance for balanced physical, social, economic and environmental development in a reality of hyper-dynamic urban growth in developing and emerging countries leaving many of the most pressing challenges such as increasing social divide and physical segregation, parallel worlds of disintegrated informality, environmental degradation etc. unsolved. Nicholas You presented the biggest challenges the society and planners at large have to solve in an urban world and showcased some encouraging best practices where integrated approaches succeeded in socially inclusive and balanced development between housing and commercial interests. He encouraged the planning community to make Habitat III in 2016 a planning summit emphasizing the high relevance of fast forwarding best practices planning in this rapidly urbanizing world. Along this notion, a “Decade of Planning” has been announced by Dominique Lancrenon asking for a meta-summary of all spatial planning theory and practice culminating in an encyclopedia of do’s and don’ts. Alain Thierstein in his introduction offered theoretical insight into the phenomenon of high-speed urban change relating various systems speeds and their and inertia episodes to each other. He argued that one of the most critical factors of competitiveness and thus dynamics of
urban and economic development is the performance of a place in the knowledge economy. He supported this with a case study in Germany. The General Rapporteur in his introduction to the congress topic demanded a proactive approach of planning for hyper-dynamic urban change at the core of which must be the emergence of a theory based on data evidence and practical case study knowledge. Following are summaries of the keynote speeches.

Naison Mutizwa-Mangiza (UN Habitat)

**Planning the Twenty-first Century City in Developing Countries: UN-Habitat's Perspective**

Mr. Mutizwa-Mangiza expressed his concerns of effectiveness of spatial planning on both regional and national scales under current conditions: “Fast growth rates and lack of adequate planning frameworks are resulting in widespread informality, loss of opportunities and, in general, in possible compromise of the urban future by locking resources in urban patterns that are both inefficient and ineffective from an environmental, economic and social point of view….In UN-Habitat's view, urban planning responses, already not necessarily successful in the past, need to be profoundly revised to cope with the scale of the phenomena shaping twenty-first century cities….There has been a failure to recognize the positive correlation between national development and urbanization…urbanization (occurs) with inadequate industrialization, and by a serious lack of capacity and resources to control and shape urban growth, what needs to be done? Planners need to reinvent themselves, armed with new tools and new approaches. The response cannot be in the modernist approaches that have created the mass city and its dependence on fossil fuels and on division of labor; it cannot be in the wholly controlled approaches to planning that foresee the 'ready-to-buy' city, where the city is a clear and univocal project, projected unchanged into the future; nor can it be a laissez faire city where nobody seems capable of protecting and nurturing the public interest as the basis for sound development prospects."

He pointed out a critical factor for urban poverty in growing cities in developing countries: “The present day urbanization process is happening in a context of poverty and underdevelopment, in countries that, in most cases, are not witnessing a solid industrial development and related job creation. The difference with preceding processes of urbanization is this respect is enormous.” And “Informal occupation of land outside any planning framework has overloaded the capacity of local authorities to provide basic services and compounded the fragility of the service delivery systems.” A major difference was reported to distinguish current urbanization in the global south from the industrialization age: “Urbanization is happening before jobs are created and before systems are in place to support it.” At the same time: “from history, it is clear that urbanization is an important tool of development, not just an outcome of it. Urbanization is the main mechanism for improving access to services, economic and social opportunities.”

Mr. Mutizwa-Mangiza stated that “by defining key principles and measures, UN-Habitat aims at contributing to the development of a new urban agenda for the twenty-first century – an agenda that includes national urban policy and planned urban extension in developing countries as important dimensions.”

Nicholas You (World Urban Campaign)

**Planning in a Rapidly Urbanizing World**

Mr. You presented an overview of some of the large issues of our time. Urbanization, globalization & climate change are mega-trends of the 21st century as well as a growing world population increasingly being an urban population. “According to estimates urbanization will add 497 million people to cities in India, 341 million in China, 200 million in Nigeria, 103 million in the USA and 92 million in Indonesia. Also growing are deficits of housing, water and sanitation. Globalization brings economic growth but also urbanization of poverty and social exclusion with 30% to 60% urban population living in slums in the global south. At the same time we observe shrinking cities in the north. Rising perceptions of injustice are leading to crime & violence. Climate change and the role of
Urbanization with irreversible changes in the way we use land, water and energy. Cities generate 80% of all waste and 70% of green house gas emissions. Cities are both the cause and the victims of climate change. There is a governance challenge as well and an inability to predict and/or contain the energy crisis, food crisis, financial crisis and political crisis." He gave examples of successful planning principles that are now mainstream opinion in contemporary planning but still need to be applied widely: planning responses need to integrate housing and planning and ensure adequate supply of land for balance between housing, commerce and services. Avoid urban sprawl and unplanned settlements; create compact, complete and mixed-income communities. Facilitate housing diversity and accessibility; Integrate jobs, services, retail, recreation and housing within walking distances. Design transit-oriented development.” His questioned how we can measure the progress. “Overcoming barriers we need to develop alternative policy options, invest in education and develop models to planning for greater regions including the design of agreements, planning and use of technology. Mr. You encouraged the planning community to make the agenda for Habitat III (2016) being a planning summit emphasizing the importance of planning and “the role of the planner is to turn vision into reality”.

Copyright: Mr. Nicholas You.

Dominique Lancrenon (ECTP-CEU)

Decade of Planning. Fast Forward 2010 - 2020

The Decade of Planning is an initiative by the European Council of Spatial Planners proposed to become a common umbrella sharing events, manifestations, publications, celebrations to create a wide public visibility of the spatial planning professions. The Decade of planning is an invitation to develop wider understanding about spatial planning, a long term activity, needed to support economical and social transformations of society. It is a proposal to create a common Encyclopedia which can help to define our concepts in the different languages. I.e. spatial planning both in rural and urban areas, territorial cohesion and a sustainable future for both growing or shrinking regions, strategic planning and public consultation/ participation, enhance cultural heritage and landscape identity. It is an effort joined by many organizations i.e. ISOCARP, ECTP-CEU, AESOP, IFHP, INTA, FIHUAT, EFLA, ICOMOS, and APEREAU. Exhibitions and debate should be organized reaching a wide audience, using the memory of the past centenary in planning to enhance the future centenary, measuring and debating about the fast growing and the need to define what we have in common to make places livable with a quality of life. Celebrate founder planners. A presentation of the study is in progress between ECTP-CEU and AESOP to enhance recognition of the qualification of European spatial planners. The study is now starting a new step, analyzing in detail the level of training and qualification of each country member, and preparing the possibility of establishing a common European certification system for spatial planners.
Alain Thierstein (University of Munich)

Hyper dynamic, rapid, on the quiet. Spatial transformation and the Knowledge Economy in cities of Western Europe

Professor Thierstein offered some theoretical insight into the "speed" topic. “Economic transformation is the driving factor for the speed of change. The fast pace of change, economic transformation the move from industrial based economy to a Knowledge Economy… de-industrialization, deserted social housing, jobs gone, hope gone, people gone…We have, on one hand, changes associated to economic transformation, and, on the other hand, a spatial context that has a different pace of change. Spatial transformation takes time and is not always immediately visible…sometimes the pace of spatial transformation can be expedited… often in the process of speeding up spatial transformation the old, the appraised, the vibrant is lost…It is important to…look at the relative speed of change of these factors…The figure on the left below illustrates how a hyper-dynamic context of change within the urban environment, set at 10 years, supersedes changes in social attitudes, educational systems and even the life cycle of built environments. Hence, within hyper-dynamic contexts of change, we frequently witness the bulldozing of functioning buildings to give way to new ones; changes within social attitudes on average lag behind, frequently resulting in severe social problems as societies cannot cope fast enough with the speed of change. It also illustrates how political actors have a vested interest in changes occurring within their electoral cycles. This helps explain the disinterest among politicians in kick-starting changes whose results are manifested way after their political cycles have been completed. As a result, it is no surprise that issues, such as environmental ones, which demand a long-term approach, are addressed within a short-term perspective for fast results.”

However, if we consider change as an evolving process that occurs within cycles, it is possible to identify the intersections of cycles of change as windows of opportunity. For example, the figure on the right depicts a hypothetical situation in which the urban fabric has reached the end of a cycle, where refurbishment is necessary. This end of cycle coincides with the need to address pressing environmental concerns and the beginning of change in societal attitudes. To make things even more opportune all of this happens within an electoral cycle. Hence, in our figure all the factors of change have come happily together. We can also add the fact that the different cycles can support each other positively; for example, it is possible to achieve faster cycles of environmental change if societal attitudes change in ways that support this. Hence, as we consider the intersection of different cycles of change and the possible mutual reinforcements, we become able to identify historic coincidences as such. As a result, it becomes possible to utilize all the available levers for steering change within an intended direction…In addition change can be experienced at various speeds, intensities, scopes, scales and certainties.”
Mr. Thierstein emphasized the importance of the knowledge economy for economic development in our time: “Spatial demands of the knowledge economy re-structure space. Knowledge is a key driver for the competitiveness of companies, cities and regions. For firms, knowledge is an important resource for innovation, which, in turn, is one of the major drivers of economic growth. The process of knowledge creation requires a dynamic interplay between tacit and explicit forms of knowledge as well as strong interaction between people within organizations and between them. Therefore, knowledge intensive firms require access to information and the ability to acquire experienced based knowledge by face-to-face contacts. The knowledge economy is this part of the economy, in which highly specialized knowledge and skills are strategically combined from different parts of the value chain in order to create innovations and to sustain competitive advantage. (A. Thierstein) This definition underlines that the knowledge economy is causally determined by four mutually reinforcing attributes. Firstly, the knowledge economy uses highly specialized knowledge and skills based on the combination of scientific knowledge and operating experiences. So, a key component of the knowledge economy is a greater reliance on intellectual capabilities than on physical inputs or natural resources. Secondly, as knowledge and technology have become increasingly complex, the knowledge economy establishes strategic links between firms and other organizations as a way to acquire specialized knowledge from different parts of the value chain. By taking such a network perspective, the knowledge economy is viewed as a dynamic process, characterized by continuous interactions and division of labour within a firm and between different firms of a production network. Thirdly, the outcome of these network activities are innovations in a Schumpeterian sense, that is to create new products, new production methods, new services, new markets or new organizational structures, and – most importantly – to transform them into marketable results. And finally, the continuous development of new knowledge and innovations enables the knowledge economy to benefit from temporary monopoly profits and to sustain competitive advantage. This feeds back to the core competencies and knowledge resources of the firm, enhancing the development of new specialized knowledge and skills.”

“In areas of rapid change of economic structure, industrialization, mass production, influx of migrant workers, and families, demand for housing and all kinds of infrastructure, and absence of integrated planning then situations are to described as ‘hyper-dynamic’.” He elaborated his thoughts with a case in the city of Nuremberg in southern Germany.

Impact oriented approach to planning. Copyright Alain Thierstein.

KEYNOTES ON RAPID URBANIZATION IN ASIA

Reports on Recent trends of high-speed urban development in four of the most populous countries in Asia and the world were eye-opening to the planning audience: China, India, Indonesia and the Philippines. As described by many planners and documented by UN agencies, clustering of economic activities and mega-city development have been substantiated through statistical evidence within the mega-trend of rapid urbanization. Some scholars even postulate that Zipf's law holds on the global scale with regards to the distribution of urban mega-regions (i.e. Richard Florida in “Who is your city”). However, three of the four countries reported of policies that were attempting to decentralize economic activities and urban over-concentration both within the country
and within mega-city regions – countering the trend of strong growth of these largest agglomerations. All of these seem to have failed to have significant impacts on migration and investments.

One of the primary challenges for all four countries is the timely delivery of infrastructure, services and sustainable urban structures as well as green spaces and ecological infrastructures for climate change resilience to the rapidly growing urban population. Some of the common challenges for three of the four countries in governance of high-speed urbanization are that too much planning authority has been passed on from the central governments to local governments making it difficult to plan cohesively for metropolitan and mega-city regions. On the other hand, all countries emphasized that participatory planning inclusive of the communities is of the essence for guiding rapid development sustainably. Corruption has been reported to be a significant hindering factor for enabling inclusive urban development. Following are summaries of the four keynotes.

Arturo G. Corpuz (Ayala Land Incorporated, Manila)

Spatial Trends of Metro Manila during a Period of Rapid Growth

Corpuz demonstrated how Metro Manila is a highly primate city that dominates the economy and distribution of population in the Philippines. It is very dense compared to other megacities globally. Growth has been rapid over the last 30 years and continues at high speed. He illustrated the trajectories of Manila’s high-speed urban growth from 1980: First rapid growth occurred in the core center, then in the metro area and later high-speed growth occurred primarily in the periphery while the center increased in density. Government policy responses to Metro Manila’s dominance have been to decongest and spread development to other regions in the country developing other centers as outlined in a medium term plan from 2004-2010. However, growth of the Metro-Region and the Mega-Region, including 6 adjacent provinces continued (4% of land area, 30% of population, 50% of GDP). Dr. Corpuz demonstrated that a city size distribution following Zip’s law is rather common in many countries and even in other areas. He summarized that Metro and Mega Manila will continue to grow rapidly by global standards and while core area densities will increase overall density of urban areas will decrease and the biggest changes will occur in the urbanizing periphery. There is “not much government can do as far as these overall trends are concerned. What government can do: Manage growth: maximize opportunities and minimize negative impacts; Embrace hierarchy; inequality is part of efficiency; Provide infrastructure and service in support of the trend; Make use of density; Retool its governance and management institutions but be realistic about structural change (i.e. local autonomy is difficult to withdraw); Act strategically and decisively”

Spatial Population Development Trends of Metro Manila (upper images) and Mega Manila (lower maps). Copyright: Dr. Arturo G. Corpuz
Djoko Kirmanto (Minister of Public Works, Republic of Indonesia)

**Indonesia Green City Development Program: A New Endeavour in Planning Practices**

Minister Kirmanto offered a comprehensive and insightful introduction to the urban system and rapid urbanization in Indonesia followed by a report on his new program to develop holistically sustainable Green Cities in Indonesia to address its high-speed urbanization challenges: "Urban economic growth generated: unequal distribution of welfare, poverty and indecent quality of life, proliferation of slums and social segregation. Rapid urban change provoked: degradation of environmental quality, depletion of finite resources, high carbon footprints, and acute pollution."

The Green City Development Program (GCDP) is designed to tackle some of the challenges of rapid urbanization in a comprehensive way. The milestone for 2011 is to enroll a total of 60 cities from a total of 491 local governments nationwide to apply joining the program. A commitment for actions from the mayors is required. Minister Kirmanto explained that the GCDP is comprehensive and it also includes an emphasis on Public Green Open Space as an integrated part and ecological infrastructure. "Fulfilling 30% minimum green open space is mandated, simultaneously treating green city sub-systems, mainly linked to infrastructure... Based on pro-green master planning and design as guidance for inclusive infrastructure development as an innovation in Indonesian urban planning practices is intended to be a down-to-earth planning with an ultimate goal to become mainstream in the country. The key players of the program are local administration and communities that engage in a binding and inclusive process with support from the Provincial Governments and under the umbrella of the national government’s program. "GCDP reframes urban planning practices with more emphasize to local actions. Under the framework of GCDP, urban planners, architects, local leaders and communities must work in collaboration to achieving local and regional sustainability objectives. It is expected to be a strong driver for urban sustainability movement in Indonesia. Thus GCDP is an endeavor that empowers local governments to respond effectively and “fast-forward” sustainable urban change."

Kavas Kapadia (Professor, School of Planning and Architecture, Delhi)

**Planning in the Hyper Dynamic Context of India: Delhi and National Capital Region (NCR)**

Professor Kapadia gave an overview of rapid urban development identifying a large gap between planning and the reality on the ground both in terms of shortfalls in physical planning and its implementation as well as with respect to the low percentage of national funds reaching the local beneficiaries. The speed of India’s urbanization is astounding: "It took nearly 40 years (1971-2008) for India’s urban population to rise by 230 million. It could take only half that time to add the next 250 million. Urban population in 2001 was..."
285 million. In the year 2011 urban population was 377 million and it is likely to be 519 by 2025." That is an increase of urban population by 140 million in the next 12 years. A concentration of urban population occurs in a limited number of metro- and mega-cities. The number of metro-cities (1 million plus) increased from 35 to 53 between 2001 and 2011 (plus 51%) and the number of towns increased from 5,161 to 7,935 (plus 54%) with many of them located just outside metropolitan cities.

Quality of urban development is reportedly falling behind. “If the urban India of tomorrow is anything like the state of cities today then there is a cause for concern. It is of enormous importance that the state of the city be given a serious thought for they not only generate wealth, encourage economic growth, provide social security but in a global economy of today ensure that the city marches along with other cities that form and hold together the global network. Planning for and managing urbanization will have to begin with a belief that we cannot afford to fail. And cities are central to this belief.” And poverty both rural and urban remains an alarming challenge for India. “It is estimated that by 2030 cities will generate 70% of jobs and account for more than 75% of India’s GDP... Almost 38% of the population is categorized as below poverty line...nearly 75% of the urban population survives on less than 1.8$ per day and 54% of that population is under the age of 24 years.”

“Delhi being the core of the National Capital Region (NCR) with an estimated population of 17 million is estimated to grow by approximately 300,000 annually. Delhi has a population of 1.4% and contributes 3.8% of GDP of the country. There is a virtual urban continuum between Delhi and the surrounding areas under the jurisdiction of three other states. “According to some official estimate almost 75% of Delhi is constructed ‘unauthorized’. The rapid pace of growth has just left the lethargic system of planning way behind. Nearly 600 illegal colonies, ill planned and with inadequate facilities, were regularized between 1960 and 1993 alone” (political campaigns to win elections). A program demanded 15% of the FAR or 35% of the dwelling units to be social housing in new developments. However the distribution has not been enforced and thus units were sold to highest bidders.

Professor Kapadia concluded with recommendations to improve governance (political will, transparency, accountability), widen participation and monitoring in the planning and implementation process, enforcing commitments i.e. from the JNNURM urban development program and to improve livability and connectivity within Delhi and the NCR.
LI Xiaojiang (President China Academy of Urban Planning and Design)

China’s Urbanization Development

President Li presented an update on trends of urbanization in China from a just concluded study of the academy with some rather interesting findings and concluded with policy recommendations. He illustrated four phases of urbanization speeds: from 1949 to 1957 with annual urbanization growth rates of about 0.5% on average, from 1958-1977 with negligible urbanization (except singularities), and then accelerating from 1978 to 1994 to an average of about 0.65% followed by a period of rapid urban growth of almost 1.5% annually between 1995 and 2010. Urbanization of 300 million residents within 20 years in a single country has been unprecedented in the history of civilization. In an evaluation by President Li and his team it is remarkable that in the case of the emerging economy China there seems to be no “over-urbanization”, no oversupply of new migrants turning into urban poor without sufficient job supply. That’s great news. However, high speed of urbanization in China also comes at a high prize. While land prizes for manufacturing may be low to attract investments, infrastructure has been inadequate. Long term (external) costs have been accumulated such as farmland conversion, sacrificing farmers land rights, urban migrants without access to education and welfare, ecological deterioration etc.

Between 2005 and 2010 top speeds of urbanization especially for population increases but also for GDP increase (a little more spread for the latter) were measured in the three major mega-city regions and generally on China’s coast and in Chongqing/Chengdu, supported also by massive transportation corridor infrastructure. These four mega-regions account for 27.4% of the country’s total and 34.6% of its urban population and 40.9% of China’s GDP. A clear pattern of a country of two speeds is emerging with large areas in central and south-east China losing significant population. This challenge is even more dramatic in light of demographic change of an ageing society that is amplified in the rural areas with an out-migrating youth.

A truly remarkable finding is the new pattern of industrial development with moderate to strong decline in the entire coastal region and growth in central and western areas of the mainland. Li explained that in rural county towns a new service industry is emerging developed by returning migrant workers building on their urban experience and also a modernized agri-business.

New policy principles are enhancing national competitiveness and balancing regional disparity and reducing poverty on the national level. And on the local level urban development is promoted in the central cities and the surrounding areas while coordinating urban and rural development with surrounding county towns.

President Li concluded with policy recommendations to focus on domestic demand, fairness including regional balance and rural development and a focus on sustainable, green and low-carbon development.
KEYNOTES ON FAST FORWARD FOR PLANNING IN RUSSIA

These sessions brought about lively debate with various viewpoints on how to move planning forward in Russia. Three presentations were given by Russian scholars, one from an Eastern European planner and three keynotes were from Central European Planners involved in and reflecting on urban development in Russia. Kosareva, Vendina and Meerovich reported on urban development and planning throughout the last 100 years including rapid population growth in Moscow and St. Petersburg and moderate growth in 1 million+ cities mostly in the west and shrinkage in smaller cities and the eastern region, urban policies and urban formation during and after the Soviet era and they reflect recent changes in social, political, cultural, environmental and professional dimensions and in light of fairly new context in Russia of global planning and building environment. Their recommendations highlighted the need for a change of current planning and development practice towards a more people-driven and inclusive development as opposed to the private-interest based, profit-centered developments and exclusive urban areas and patterns. Goldhoorn’s report critically reviewed urban morphology, housing form and architectural expression both of soviet era and recent housing in Russia. Professor Dr. Johann Jessen presented a report on Germany’s comprehensive intervention proactively managing urban decline of former East-German prefabricated housing districts. This example in which significant government funds were used to demolish and reconfigure eleven-storey housing blocks may serve as example to other countries. Cities experiencing population loss as in Germany’s reunited East and possibly also in Russia, may upgrade the urban environment, diversify the housing type composition and turn around the housing market if proactive government programs to guide comprehensive planning for urban sustainability substantiated with public funds for demolition, infrastructure upgrading, open spaces etc. and ideally supported with regional economic development programs as in Germany’s policy.

Two European planners gave insight into specific examples for planning one of the conference host city of Perm (Kees Christiaanse’s office) and planning initiatives for the city of Wroclav in Poland (Mr. Ossowicz). Perm has won international recognition for its forward looking, non-soviet-planning style plan, consolidating urban areas, improving public spaces and ecological infrastructure, public arts program etc. Following are summaries of the keynotes.

Nadezhda B. Kosareva (President, Institute for Urban Economics Moscow)

Development of Russian cities and urban development policies

Ms. Kosareva gave an overview of the urbanization in Russia with 73% urban population and large agglomerations growing fastest. She elaborated on past and recent urban development and housing policies of delivering mass housing and jobs in the Soviet era and profit-oriented ego-driven investor developments after 1992. Now the trend went back to massive high-rise developments in contemporary forms with fences and gates. What experts are offering supposedly is diversity and pleasant urban environments, esthetics, mix of uses, transportation, environmental safety and energy efficiency etc. She sees a need for urban management skills in an increasingly uncertain environment including measures for how to increase or reduce the number of cities managing demographic challenges. She sees a need for new management techniques to address processes of growing agglomerations, the establishment of new housing standards and address an increasing social divide and challenges of adaptation of migrants to new environments. Generally she asks for a new urban policy. Kosareva demands cities to be given a critical role in the transition from a “raw model” of economic development (neo-liberalism) towards an “innovative model”, “an independent economic entity in a competitive environment for attracting business and human potential. A city should provide the conditions…where individuals can select freely their opportunity from a wide range of social roles. A city should create an attractive urban environment.
Olga Vendina (Institute of Geography, Russian Academy of Sciences)

Paradoxes of Urban Development: Ideas in Administration, Inertia in Urban Planning and Social Challenges

“Two main scenarios are possible at this juncture for Russia: follow global trends of modernization, service economy, from the industrial to the post industrial city and society to new industries (new economy), creative/knowledge economy, or: preserve the achievements of the past and allow modernization in niches and on the periphery”. This polarization of two extreme futures according to Ms. Vendina has an impact on the speed of urban change: “The reality of urban and demographic development is: different scenarios expect (result in) different speeds of change and different directions of change. That is vast shrinking regions and cities in the eastern part of the country and growth in the largest agglomerations. Slow growth, no growth or negative growth is the reality for many cities in Russia. And what most cities have in common is the progressive trend of an ageing society.” She argues that “urban planners are not ready to respond to migration and diversity of a city” which allows diverse functions, lifestyles etc. to coexist simultaneously both on national, provincial, city and neighborhood levels. Examples of inadequate planning decisions taken by the administration are given for urban expansions in Moscow and Yekaterinburg which “cannot be taken in a simplistic way, like find a vacant site and develop it”. She recommends a new culture for the planning administration that follows a search process rather that imposing preconceived concepts.

Vendina observes four paradoxes that challenge current planning in Russia. The paradox of urban development related to the "liberation from industry" conceived as sources of pollution and social deprivation. Along with this goes a “loss of clarity” of a development vision and deindustrialization has “narrowed channels of social mobility and enhance human capital and decreased the variety of opportunities on the labor market...The Paradox of "independence" of parents from the children and children from their parents is an important social achievement. Independence as a social value requires a review of 1) public space, and 2) housing - not home ownership and the availability of rental housing...The Paradox of "Mobility", social mobility and migration is actual blurring boundaries. A phenomenon is nomads of globalization with migrant workers and the creative class. Contrary to expectations mobility alienates and does not create approachability. It promotes the flow of migrants into the city.
and “pushes” local residents to the suburbs... The Paradox of "enrichment" is expressed in the contradiction between the urban space as a public good and as a super-valuable real estate. The richer the city, the more clearly it manifests Inequality in access to goods and more difficult to escape from poverty... The Paradox of "environment and transport" which indicates that improvement of the environmental conditions of human life requires not only the ‘protection' of nature, but also the city, city - nature combination."

Mark Meerovich (Prof. Dr., RAASN)

East and West - Two Cultures of Urbanization – Two Paths of Decision Making

Mr. Meerovich demands a reinstatement of a balance between private and public interests driving the development and decisions in Russian cities. “Because if there is bias in favor of the public interest then urban environment starts to lose economically as investors don’t enter the territory and private initiative recedes. And if there is bias in favor of private interests then discontented citizens will not re-elect its leadership. In Russia today, this balance is seriously skewed in favor of the interests of private businesses and public interest seems forgotten.” He claims that despite the system changes from Russia to the Soviet Union to contemporary Russia still a strong hierarchy and principle of "order and fulfilment" exists in planning, despite of legal guarantees ensuring public interests are heard and met. "Today, the practice of professional planners Russian side by side two opposite professional mentality based: 1) on a democratic basis, providing legal guarantees for the protection of "public interest", incorporated in the Town Planning Code of the Russian Federation; 2) on the real decision-making mechanisms from the outside - from outside the planning activities - in the echelons of power, as well as informal mechanisms of coercion, force developers to visualize spatial planning documents and to present these external "alien" solutions...Every year in Russia the role of government in matters of territorial development is enhanced. Power, government and authority and not the people, as it was in the Soviet period, remains the main driver dictating urban strategies. Power in Russia used to be the main "beneficiary." It does not want to give up the benefits of a monopoly in the management of land and real estate. It does not want to lose the unique opportunities in this segment of the global market. And invent ways to enable it to create "gaps" in the legislation to preserve the right to bestow and to command."

Mr. Meerovich sees a threat to the current urban development in Russia from importing planners and architects from the west with the leaders asking them to follow their ideas and them executing estranged dropped concepts of urban form with no relevance to cultural, social and environmental context of Russia and other Eastern countries. He explains that both “centralized administrative-command systems are not able to satisfactorily act as a "complete" customer (client, designer, contractor and lessee at the same time).” On the other hand he argues “market liberalism, not limited to public scrutiny, does not lead to the spontaneous saturation of the various urban functions and, consequently, to improved quality of life…but leads only to plunder urban areas and enrichment of individuals (or clan) through land speculation.” Further, he explains “no city can develop outside initiatives and control on the part of its residents. However, the people of Russian cities today have no rights and are only formally organized geographically…not by themselves, they are easily manipulated, and, for the most part, devoid of values (moral, environmental, cultural, historic, democratic, and so on.) It is self-serving and its decisions do not lead to the rational order of the territory and the quality of life.”

He concludes with a proposal that during the 80th anniversary of the adoption in 1933 of the IV International Congress of Modern Architecture – CIAM, in 2013 planners should embark on a similar journey as the CIAM members of 1933. And we should adopt a new set of requirements for new cities and urban territories. Based on best practices experiences international planners organizations like ISOCARP develop “recommendations, postulates, ideology, theory and methodology of strategic planning.”
Andrey Mushchinkin (Prognoz)

**Business Intelligence Technologies for Managing Socioeconomic and Urban Development**

Mr. Mushchinkin demonstrated with his overview of advanced analysis, macroeconomic modelling, indicator benchmarking and digital integration platforms the possibilities modern planners’ tools look like and how they can be effective instruments assisting planning in a rapid changing context. Integrative solutions for real life data from remote sensing, or GIS based project and cost management, infrastructure investment programming and cost controlling, traffic safety monitoring etc. offer planners invaluable information, visualization tools and communication platforms. Some solutions have been developed to facilitate public diplomacy and stakeholder participation. Best practices applications were given of projects for Russian cities including for Perm.

Bart Goldhoorn (Project Russia Magazine)

**Block City. Towards an industry standard for urban blocks.**

This presentation has been a critical review of housing in Russia from the invention of the modernist superblock to its adjustment in the post-soviet era and new forms of high-rise high-density housing blocks. Mr. Goldhoorn illustrated how public space, safety and security, population by cars etc. lead to significant challenges and alienation of this urban typology. He summarized that the age of “mass urbanization is a problem of mass housing.” To meet that challenge and address the high speeds needed to serve the demands, he proposed a form of industrialization of housing “from custom design to mass customization” by standardizing block sizes and adapting various needs and cultures within.

Johann Jessen (Prof. Dr. Habil., University of Stuttgart)

**High Speed Suburban Decline – The Case of Cities in Eastern Germany**

Professor Jessen presented a comprehensive report on former East German’s housing block development and the collapse of the housing market and suburban decline following the reunification. Ensuing Germany’s programs addressed the cities’ economic decline and population loss at high speeds especially in eastern provinces of the country subsequent to Germany’s reunification. This proactive approach included significant investments to produce comprehensive, integrated development plans for the cities and also demolition of inadequate oversupply of prefabricated concrete housing stock and a new kind of planning. Between 2002 and 2009 a total of almost 300,000 units were torn down subsidized by federal government funds to stabilize the housing market reducing oversupply and improve urban environment. This keynote was particularly relevant for Russia as it may demonstrate an analytical framework and serve as one possible path for a policy and action program in Russia for cities experiencing economic decline and population loss. The significance of this program in Germany was not only its reach and scale having been applied to 442 cities and their large settlements from the 1970s and 80s, but also its investment volume of a total of 2.7 billion Euros spent between 2002 and 2012.
However the overall approach, its national guidance and local stewardship in itself is a landmark effort and a showcase of a highly successful state intervention in urban development with a supportive institutional and academic framework on many government levels and across sectors of administrations.

Han van den Born (in lieu of Ruurd Gietema) (Partner, KCAP Kees Christiaanse Architects Planners)

The Masterplan for the City of Perm

KCAP provided a strategic development framework for spatial development of Perm for the next 50 years. A clear departure from previous plans of extensive Greenfield urban expansion, this masterplan suggested infill development and compactness on the one hand and growth boundaries with open space preservation on the periphery through its “red and green strategy”. Mix of uses, attractive urban environment and the introduction of an open space network, public transportation, non-motorized transportation were some of the key strategies. Adaptive redevelopment of the super-blocks of the micro-rayon structure towards smaller, urbane perimeter blocks has been proposed as an instrument to create an urban fabric and guidelines for urban massing, able to accommodate a variety of urban uses has been proposed as a robust urban design concept. Through public consultations in the process the planners engaged the public and generated broad discussion and ownership of the strategy. The city and its plan has received several international awards.
Tomasz Ossowicz (Prof., Wrocław University of Technology, Director of Wrocław Development Office)

**How to Integrate Strong Change Forces and Quality of Space. The Wrocław Model.**

Migration and functional allocations are hardly controlled on the national level in Poland according to Mr. Ossowicz. Cities are exposed to forces of flows, inflows and outflows, some of which produce negative, alarming effects which planners can act on with countermeasures. Ossowicz names five critical forces on Wrocław planners acted upon: Retail, housing, business, people and traffic. Some of the instruments used in the city were: limitation or halting, site planning, infrastructure planning, incentives, comprehensive urban development, revitalization, large events.

Wrocław experienced an outflow of retail and an inflow of discounters and informal retailers. Alarming effects were a crisis of the city and district centers and public spaces. Through a restoration and revitalization of the historic center, infill development, incentives and limitations for discounters the city center has been successfully turned around. The second force “housing” results in suburban sprawl and developers responding to the demand of low-income housing in the center. Chaotic settlements and traffic congestion, segregation were alarming and addressed through comprehensive land use planning, housing restoration, model housing projects and sprawl control. Business, the third force led sudden massive outflow of manufacturing and inflow of office and student population. Consequences were chaotic arrangements, conflicting land use mixtures, chaotic allocation of office buildings and educational facilities. Actions were taken to cluster uses and form districts i.e. for education. The fourth force also had an out flowing trajectory with young people migrating to other EU countries resulting in negative demographic trend for the city and some in-migration. Policies to create a variety of jobs and highly qualified jobs, affordable housing, cultural investments and green parks were designed to reverse negative population growth. A significant increase in vehicles flooded the city’s roads and public spaces as an inflowing fifth force: traffic. To fight traffic congestion, noise and air pollution and reduce accidents, by-pass roads, public transportation and non-motorized transport, pedestrian zones were developed and promoted. The success story of Wrocław may well serve medium-sized Russian cities as a best practices model as similar forces apply and similar conditions of post-socialist development dynamics were managed with excellence.