

# Congress Structure

The Congress format will be as follows:

The introduction to the opening plenary will be given by invited speakers: Jose Maria Benjumea/ Javier de Mesones (Spain), Dianne Leeson (Australia), Athanassios Aravantinos (Greece), Philippe Bovy (Switzerland) and Ali Kazancigil (UNESCO). In the parallel working sessions there will be a distinction between contributions directly connected with the Congress theme and objectives on the one hand, and those of more general interest on the other.

Three (3) parallel sessions will be organised with a careful selection of contributions and discussions on different sub-aspects of the central theme. Case studies will illustrate real-world professional experience in dealing with the pulsar effect, providing knowledge and skills of value in the professional development field.

## **Parallel Session 1:**

Planning for Pulses and Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD): Are they Compatible?

### **Topic**

Can planning for pulses be compatible with planning for ecologically sustainable development? What adverse environmental impacts are typically associated with big events – and how can they be minimised? Can the momentum which is driving the big event be used creatively to bring about real advances in design for the city of the future? What do we do to minimise the post-event trauma? How do we deal ecologically with demands which are suddenly and temporarily trebled or quadrupled?

### **Call**

We are looking for the following contributions to this parallel session  
Contributions giving an overview of relevant theoretical literature; and  
Case studies revealing the degree of compatibility or incompatibility of planning for pulses and planning for ESD (ecologically sustainable development). We hope for examples from all over the world.

## **Parallel Session 2:**

Flexible and Adaptable Infrastructure in a 'Pulsar' Context: Dream or Reality?

### **Topic**

How do we deal with infrastructure demands which are suddenly and temporarily trebled or quadrupled? Can 'normal' government services be maintained whilst at the same time providing for the abnormal demands of the pulse event? Can traditional official urban planning arrangements cope? Are there flexible solutions available? What follow-up actions can be planned for and implemented –

perhaps involving options such as recycling, refitting, and sharing of surplus or redundant infrastructure (including empty hotel beds and stadium seats)?

### **Call**

We are looking for the following contributions to this parallel session  
Contributions giving an overview of relevant theoretical literature; and  
Case studies illustrating attempts – successful or otherwise – at achieving compatibility of infrastructure with the demands of flexibility and adaptability. We hope for examples from all over the world.

### **Parallel Session 3:**

The Socio-economic Impact of 'Big Bang' Events

### **Topic**

Can an improved quality of life be guaranteed or planned for as an integral part of the process of planning for pulses? How does the big event affect the every-day life of the people – especially those who are on the margins or who are unable to insulate themselves from negative impacts? How can adverse or beneficial impacts be identified and quantified? What are the overall economic effects of big bang events, and how can they realistically be measured? Which sectors of society actually pay the costs or enjoy the benefits when demands are suddenly and temporarily trebled or quadrupled? How can we protect future generations from being burdened with today's costs?

### **Call**

We are looking for the following contributions to this parallel session  
Contributions giving an overview of relevant theoretical literature; and  
Case studies illustrating the socio-economic impact of big bang events. We hope for examples from all over the world.

### **Marketplace Session:**

Open Platform

### **Topic**

This session offers an opportunity to move away from the Core Congress theme with an invitation for contributions on any other topic of professional interest to planners. The marketplace will be structured as far as possible by the General Rapporteur, before the Congress.

### **Call**

For the marketplace session we are looking for two kinds of contribution:  
Short paper presentations  
Poster presentations for possible inclusion in the Congress exhibition.