Research, consultancy, design and communication in sustainable urban and regional planning

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‘Ten Years of UPAT Experience’

10 January - Dubai
16 January – Kabul
2 February – Barcelona
17 March - London
26 May – Nanjing
01 June - Berlin
06 June – Amsterdam
12-16 September - Durban

Martin Dubbeling, Urbanist @ Connecting Cities
Vice President UPATs @ ISOCARP
ISOCARP: to assist in a growing demand for exchange of knowledge and experience towards liveable and sustainable cities and smart urbanism
For UN-Habitat we have translated the Sustainable Development Goals into ten “Urban Principles”
The 10 ‘Urban Principles’ of the ‘City We Need’:

1. ... is socially inclusive and engaging
2. ... is affordable, accessible and equitable
3. ... is economically vibrant and inclusive
4. ... is collectively managed and democratically governed
5. ... fosters cohesive territorial development
6. ... is regenerative and resilient
7. ... has shared identities and sense of place
8. ... is well planned, walkable, and transit-friendly
9. ... is safe, healthy and promotes well-being
10. ... learns and innovates
• The International Society of City and Regional Planners
• 800 members worldwide in over 80 countries, founded in 1965
• Connected with UNDP, UNESCO, the World Bank, UN-Habitat (MoU)
• Worldwide and international society and network organization
• Meeting place of national governments, metropolitan regions, universities, cities, consultancies
• Congresses, awards, publications, workshops and training programs
ISOCARP has organized around 80 Young Planning Professionals (YPP) Workshops and Urban Planning Advisory Teams (UPATs or Urban Labs), Intensive Training Programmes and Regional Seminars on most continents.

- YPPs are intensive workshops with 20-30 participants.
- UPATs are international teams with 5-10 ISOCARP experts.
- Our keys of success: ‘innocence and experience’, ‘active team hunting’, ‘mixed teams’ and ‘dissemination’
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These publications are (soon) available on our website: www.isocarp.org/upats
- Urban Regeneration Sitges (2006-2010)
- Disaster Management Cancun (2006)
- Strategies for Airports in Vienna (2007) and Amsterdam (2006)
- Metropolitan strategies for Zürich (2008) and Szczecin (2009)
- Liveable Cities Singapore (2010)
- East Lake Scenic Area Wuhan (2012)
- Redevelopment of Historic Cities of Tlalnepantla and Shantou (2013)
- Jiangbei New District Nanjing (2013)
- Capacity Building Central West Bank and Gaza Strip (2015)
Central West Bank, Palestine – UN-Habitat (2015); Gaza Strip, Palestine – UNDP (2015); Nanjing, China – Jiangbei New District (2013); Shantou, China – Jury International Urban Design Competition New East Coastal Area (2013); Tlalnepantla, Mexico – Transformation Historic Centre Tlalnepantla (2013); Shantou, China – Organic Regeneration Historic Centre Shantou (2013); Perm, Russia - Science City and Knowledge Hub (2012); Wuhan, China - East Lake Scenic Area (2012); Sitges, Spain (V) - Railway system transformations and their impact at the Garraf County (2010); The Philips Center for Health and Well-being, Singapore - Livable Cities (2010); Sitges, Spain (IV) - El Garraf Natural Park (2009); Szczecin, Poland - Prospects for the Metropolitan Area (2009); Zurich, Switzerland - Regional Plan (2008); Guadalajara, México - Pan American Games Urban Legacy (2008); Lincoln City, USA - City Master Plan (2008); Cuenca, Spain - Upgrading and Mobility for the Historic Centre (2008); Sitges, Spain (III) - El Garraf Regional Plan (2007); Schwechat, Austria - Airport area Master Plan (2007); Rijswijk, The Netherlands - New functions for an Urban Hub (2007); Sitges, Spain (II) - Upgrading and Mobility for the Historic Centre (2006); Schiphol Region, The Netherlands - Ideas for the Master Plan (2006); Cancun, Mexico - Disaster Management (2006); Sitges, Spain (I) - Urban Regeneration (2005); La Rioja, Spain - Regional, Social and Economic Development (2004).

24 UPAT Workshops (Urban Labs) between 2004 and 2015
Example 1: Singapore, Liveable Cities in a Fast Urbanizing World for Philips Centre of Liveable Cities
Example 2: Nanjing, eight principles for the Jiangbei New District, urban development for 4 million inhabitants
Example 3: West Bank and Gaza, Visioning Workshops on Spatial Planning for the State of Palestine, UNDP and UN-Habitat
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January 2016: Scoping mission and field trips in and outside Kabul for UN-Habitat and Ministry of Urban Development Affairs
Key challenges

- There is and will be a huge demand for and interest in how to rapidly build, transform and rebuild cities
- Themes for the future: energy, water, health, food security, information and communication technology, identity
- Content, processes and the roles of actors and stakeholders in the urban planning profession change rapidly
- The urban planning profession should reinvent itself, join forces and take a more active or activist position in the planning of cities
Tradition is the passing of the flame, not the worship of the ashes

Gustav Mahler 1860 - 1911

Policy and practical recommendations
UPAT Programme

- 4-6 weeks for the Site Visit, Scope of Work, Terms of Reference, Budget and Planning, Call for Candidates
- 4-6 weeks for Team Hunting and for Selecting a Team with clear roles
- 1 week for the UPAT Workshop
- 4-6 weeks for every second or third Workshop
- 4-8 weeks for a Report or a Magazine
- Trends: Capacity Building and Intensive Training, Co-Creation and Co-Production
- Experience: Mixed teams are most successful and productive
We do the workshops and training programmes for our members and to generate an income for ISOCARP.

It is not a charitable activity.

We receive 40-50 applicants on every Call for Candidates.

We select new and veteran team members to pass the flame. The best can become team leaders and rapporteurs.

The collateral effect is that we have a worldwide pool of 100+ active and experienced planning professionals.
• Planning and transformation of cities need to be high on the political agenda as successful and adaptive cities are motors of the economy
• Connect Cities and stimulate the exchange of knowledge and experience
• Focus on the ‘Next Generation’ of planners: ‘innocence’ is much more effective than ‘seniority’
• Offer Young Planning Professionals the opportunity to travel, to interact and to gain experience in other cities.
What the role of urban planners and designers in the present age of smart cities? That is to take a more active position.
What can we learn from other professionals, like doctors, actors and chefs? That is to take a more active position.
What is our role in addressing urban challenges and contributing to urban solutions? That is to take a more active position.
Thank you for your attention. I suggest we meet again in Durban 12-16 September, ‘The Cities We Have vs. The Cities We Need’