About

Founded in 1965, the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) is a global organisation of professional urban and regional planners and placemakers from more than 90 countries across all sectors.

ISOCARP’s mission is to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable through integrative participatory urban and territorial planning, and by the mobilisation of planners in the co-implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The ISOCARP Institute, the research entity, and the annual ISOCARP World Planning Congresses work together as an ecosystem for generating and disseminating knowledge for better cities.

Sectors

- Private practice: 44%
- Governmental/multilateral agencies: 29%
- Education/Research: 22%
- NGO/Community organisations: 5%

IMPROVE planning practice through a global network of practitioners

DEVELOP and MAINTAIN altruistic relations between members

ENCOURAGE professional knowledge exchange

PROMOTE the planning profession and excellence in practice in all its forms

FOSTER planning research, training, and education that is accessible for all

ENHANCE public awareness and understanding of global planning issues

SUPPORT and PROTECT planning interests and professional planners
Become a Member!

Apply via www.isocarp.org/join

Join ISOCARP’s global association of 800+ members.
How do we contribute to the Global Agenda?

- ISOCARP promotes good health and well-being in policies, plans and designs (SDG 3)
- ISOCARP supports quality education and gender equality through training programs and young planners’ workshops in both Global South and North (SDGs 4 and 5)
- ISOCARP promotes clean water, renewable energy, sustainable innovation and infrastructure, reduced inequalities, responsible consumption, climate action through its planning services, projects, publications, and World Planning Congresses (SDGs 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15)
- ISOCARP’s main focus is the implementation of SDG 11 on creating ‘Sustainable Cities and Communities’, through the application of the United Nations New Urban Agenda (NUA) and UN-Habitat’s International Guidelines on Urban and Territorial Planning (IG-UTP), by providing a unique platform for putting planning theories to practice.
- ISOCARP is recognized as a planning professional non-profit organization by the United Nations System, through ECOSOC (United Nations Economic and Social Council). ISOCARP enjoys special partnerships with UNESCO and most notably, UN-Habitat, with whom a 10-year MoU was renewed in 2020, to jointly contribute to the Decade of Action and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. ISOCARP is a member of UN-Habitat’s World Urban Campaign as well of the UN-Habitat Habitat Professionals Forum.
Impact

World Planning Congresses (1965-2021)


Young Planning Professionals Programme (1991-2021)

Doha, Jakarta, Bogor, Ningbo, Bodø, Kristiansand, Portland, Gdynia, Glasgow, Durban, Moscow, Guangzhou, Xi’An, Wroclaw, Shenzhen, Al Ain, Abu Dhabi, Brisbane, Ulyanovsk, Lisbon, Puschino, Perm, Yekaterinburg, Wuhan, Nairobi, Porto, Dalian.
Urban Planning Advisory Team (2005–2020)

Antwerp, Istanbul, Bilbao, Geneva, Cairo, Athens, Enschede, Cancún, Gelsenkirchen, Azores, Ogaki, Jerusalem, Sydney, Prague, Cordoba, Guadalajara

Wuhan, Suzhou, Guangzhou, Durban, Ningbo, Boa, Wuhan, Gaza, West Bank, Nanjing, Tlalnepantla, Shantou, Perm, Sitges, Singapore, Szczecin, Zürich Limmat Valley, Guadalajara, Lincoln City, Cuenca, Schwechat, Rijswijk, Schiphol Region, Cancún, La Rioja
ISOCARP
World Planning Congress

A progressive international forum where planning theory meets practice

58TH
ISOCARP
WORLD
PLANNING
CONGRESS

FROM
WEALTHY
TO
HEALTHY
CITIES

URBANISM AND
PLANNING FOR
THE WELL-BEING
OF CITIZENS

3-6 OCTOBER
2022
BRUSSELS
BELGIUM

“ISOCARP World Planning Congress has more than half a century of tradition in bringing together the top international experts in the planning field. Hosted every year in a different part of the world, we discuss the most current issues that cities and regions are facing, and we look beyond. A global event not to be missed.”

- Sławomir Ledwoń, ISOCARP Congress Director 2013-2019
ISOCARP’s Main Event: The World Planning Congress focuses on a globally significant planning theme each year

Since 1965, the Congress has promoted the advancement of the planning profession and knowledge sharing, leveraging a unique perspective spanning theory, policy and practice. Hosted every year in a different part of the world, the Congress brings together 500-700 delegates for a progressive programme that engages local and global planning communities on cutting edge themes that have included urban regeneration (1981), the creative economy (2005), low carbon cities (2009), climate change planning (2018), and planning for a post-oil city (2020).
Young Planning Professionals Programme

- Workshop to share knowledge, skills, and experience in a multi-disciplinary approach
- Training to apply theory in practice to a complex planning challenge
- Network to meet leading professionals and grow a career

A particular focus and commitment of ISOCARP is on young generations through facilitating knowledge for better cities with the youth. Since 1991 the Young Planning Professionals’ Programme has been a crucial component of ISOCARP’s dedication to promote and enhance the planning profession. The objective is to contribute to the knowledge base and improve the skills of young professionals, the future leaders of our profession.
Awards

- **Awards for Excellence**
The Awards for Excellence are conferred in recognition of exceptionally innovative urban and regional plans in the design, project or implementation phase.

- **Student Award**
The Student Award is addressed to a student or student-group with outstanding results in urban and regional planning, or in a related field.

- **Gerd Albers Award**
The Gerd Albers Award is given for the best publications by ISOCARP members, including books, chapters, journal articles and project reports.

- **ISOCARP Awards highlight and celebrate inspiring planning achievement**

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AIE 2019 Award Winner:
Strategy masterplan of urban transition of Turkistan City, by Urban Sustain Architects, Ukraine, and Frame Art, Kazakhstan

SA 2017 Winner:
Dockville by Jan Hoyer

GAA 2019 Best Book
Modern Rome: From Napoleon to the Twenty-First Century edited by Marco Zumaglini, Roberto Einaudi and Lucia Bozzola
The goal of UPATs is to mobilise the extensive planning expertise of ISOCARP members in order to assist cities and regions with their projects, programmes, and policies on spatial planning, urban design and placemaking. UPATs are organised on demand, comprising both senior and junior planners, and they present their advice in a dedicated report and/or Plan Magazine.

**Placemaking Week**  
Wuhan - CHINA

**Revitalisation of the heritage area**  
Guangzhou - CHINA

**Financial cooperation models for urban transformation**  
Durban - SOUTH AFRICA

**PRACTICE AND RESEARCH:**  
Design Charrettes, Consultancy Projects, Studio Workshops

**CAPACITY BUILDING:**  
Training, Field Workshops

**RESEARCH AND CAPACITY BUILDING:**  
Makeathon Workshops

**REPORTS AND MAGAZINES:**  
Publications and visibility
Publications

ISOCARP thematic publications support the Society’s goal to create and disseminate knowledge for better cities and territories. The ISOCARP Review, prepared for the annual World Planning Congress, and the International Manual of Planning Practice are the flagship publications. Other publications include:

- **Young Planning Professionals’ Publications**
  - PLAN Magazine, Urban Planning Advisory Team Reports
  - Annual World Planning Congress Review
  - International Manual of Planning Practice
Worldwide Projects

Jointly with the ISOCARP Institute, the Society participates in a wide variety of collaborations, partnerships and consortiums worldwide, e.g. with the European Union, UN-Habitat, UNICEF, Planners for Climate Action and others.

JUSTNature is an EU funded project under Horizon 2020. Its overall objective is the activation of nature-based solutions (NbS) to ensure a just transition towards low-carbon cities based on principles such as the right to ecological space, the right to clean air, thermal comfort, and a thriving biodiversity. The project will support seven European City Practice Labs in the co-design and co-creation of local low carbon and high air quality NbS.

CityxChange is a smart city project funded by the EU Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme. It brings the two aspiring Lighthouse Cities Trondheim (NO) and Limerick (IE) together with their distinguished Follower Cities Alba Iulia (RO), Pisek (CZ), Võru (EST), Smolyan (BG) and Sestao (ES), to underline their ambition to achieve sustainable urban ecosystems that have zero emissions and establish a 100% renewable energy city-region by 2050.

Water Areas Vision for Europe (WAVE) aims to create integrated knowledge and visions for sustainable water landscapes in Europe. WAVE Living Labs Constanta (RO), Bucharest (RO), Naples (IT), Tartu (EE), Brussels (BE), Freising (GE), and Nürtingen (GE) will bring educational institutions and communities together to collaborate. During the WAVE project the universities will partner with local NGOs, schools, stakeholders, and other beneficiary groups to initiate the resolution of water related landscape challenges specific to their local contexts.

VARCITIES is an ambitious project that puts the citizens and the “human communities” at the centre of future cities’ vision. The project officially started in September 2020 and it will last until February 2025. Eight Pilot Cities will test and implement a series of innovative nature-based actions that support creativity, inclusivity, health, and happiness.
Executive Committee

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