

# Planning for Better Cities & Regions

**The International  
Society of City and  
Regional Planners**

[www.isocarp.org](http://www.isocarp.org)



**ISOCARP**

Knowledge for Better Cities

# About

Founded in 1965, the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) is a global association of professional urban and regional planners. Our network brings together 1000 individual and institutional members from more than 90 countries, who work in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.

Since its inception, ISOCARP has included professionals, researchers, public and private administrators, and representatives of the third sector in its partnership, placing a strong emphasis on the concept of planning together with local communities.

- *With over five decades of accumulated knowledge and expertise manifested in both our members and within the Society, we initiated “ISOCARP Institute” as the operational arm of the “ISOCARP Society” with regard to capacity building, professional services of and for planning, applied research. Institute was established to ensure the continuity of Society’s cultural activities.*
- *ISOCARP has successfully organised annual World Planning Congresses with thousands of papers, articles and contributions, accruing a wealth of knowledge for cities and territories.*
- *Society and Institute are the pillars of the ISOCARP ECOSYSTEM: An interactive global platform for design, research and networking. Get more at: <https://www.isocarp-institute.org/>*



**ISOCARP INSTITUTE**  
Centre for Urban Excellence



**DEVELOP** and **MAINTAIN** altruistic relations between members

**ENCOURAGE** the professional exchange of knowledge

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

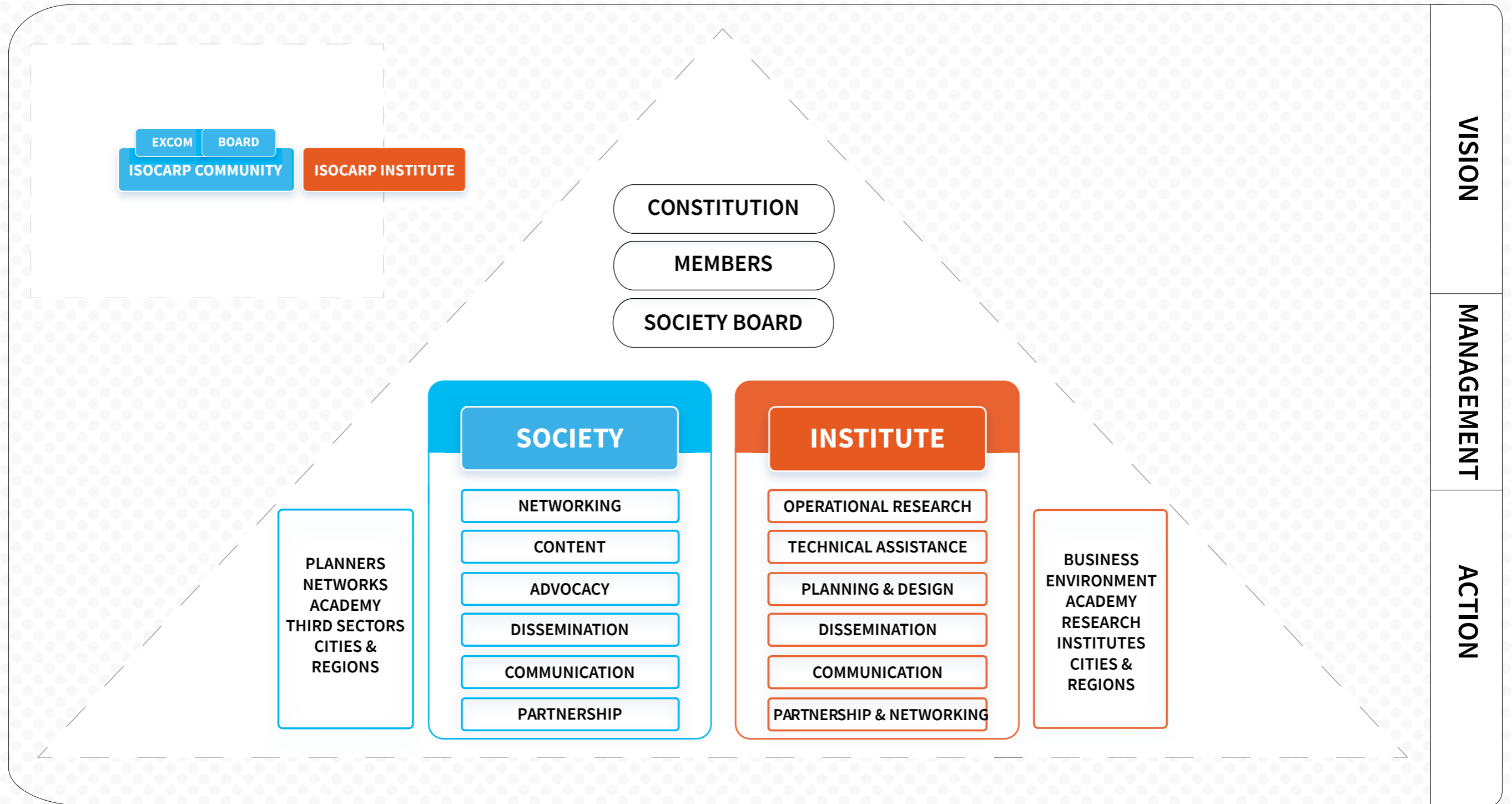
**FOSTER** planning research, training, and education

**ENHANCE** public awareness and understanding of major planning issues at the global level

**SUPPORT** and **PROTECT** planning interests and professional planners



# ISOCARP ECOSYSTEM



# VISION

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable through sustainable, inclusive and integrated planning approaches.

# MISSION

Mobilise professional urban and regional planners to co-implement the vision enshrined in the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda by:

- promoting the planning profession, education and research, accessible for all
- representing and providing networks and communication channels for its members and partners
- developing urban and regional planning services and resources
- creating and sharing knowledge through meetings, projects and publications
- Investing and contributing in high level applied research on spatial and territorial planning



## How do we contribute to the Global Agenda?

- ISOCARP promotes good health and well-being in policies, plans and designs (SDG 13)
- ISOCARP contributes to quality education and gender equality through training programmes and young planners' workshops in both Global South and Global North (SDGs 4 and 5)
- ISOCARP promotes clean water, renewable energy, sustainable innovation and infrastructure, reduced inequalities, responsible consumption, climate action and protection of life on land and below water in the city and regional planning, through its planning services, projects, publications, and World Planning Congresses (SDGs 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14 and 15)
- ISOCARP invests in partnerships for the goals, e.g. by joining UN-Habitat's Planners for Climate Action and co-implementing European projects, e.g. +CityxChange, ThinkNature (SDG 17)
- ISOCARP's main focus, however, 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 to turn inspiring planning practices into science and put theories into practice.



# Activities

## World Planning Congresses (1965-2022)

Brussels, Doha, Jakarta, Bodø, Portland, Durban, Rotterdam, Gdynia, Brisbane, Perm, Wuhan, Nairobi, Porto, Dalian, Antwerp, Istanbul, Bilbao, Geneva, Cairo, Glifada, Athens, Utrecht, Cancun, Gelsenkirchen, Azores, Ogaki, Jerusalem, Sydney, Prague, Glasgow, Cordoba, Guadalajara, Warsaw, Basel, Taormina, Delhi, Paris, Berlin, Braga, Amsterdam, Istanbul, Stockholm, Tunis, Strasbourg, Montreal, Athens, Helsenki, Edinburg, Munich, Zurich, Gothenburg, Antwerp, Aix-en-Provence, Dusseldorf, Torino, Lyon, Coimbra

## Young Planning Professionals Programme (1991-2022)

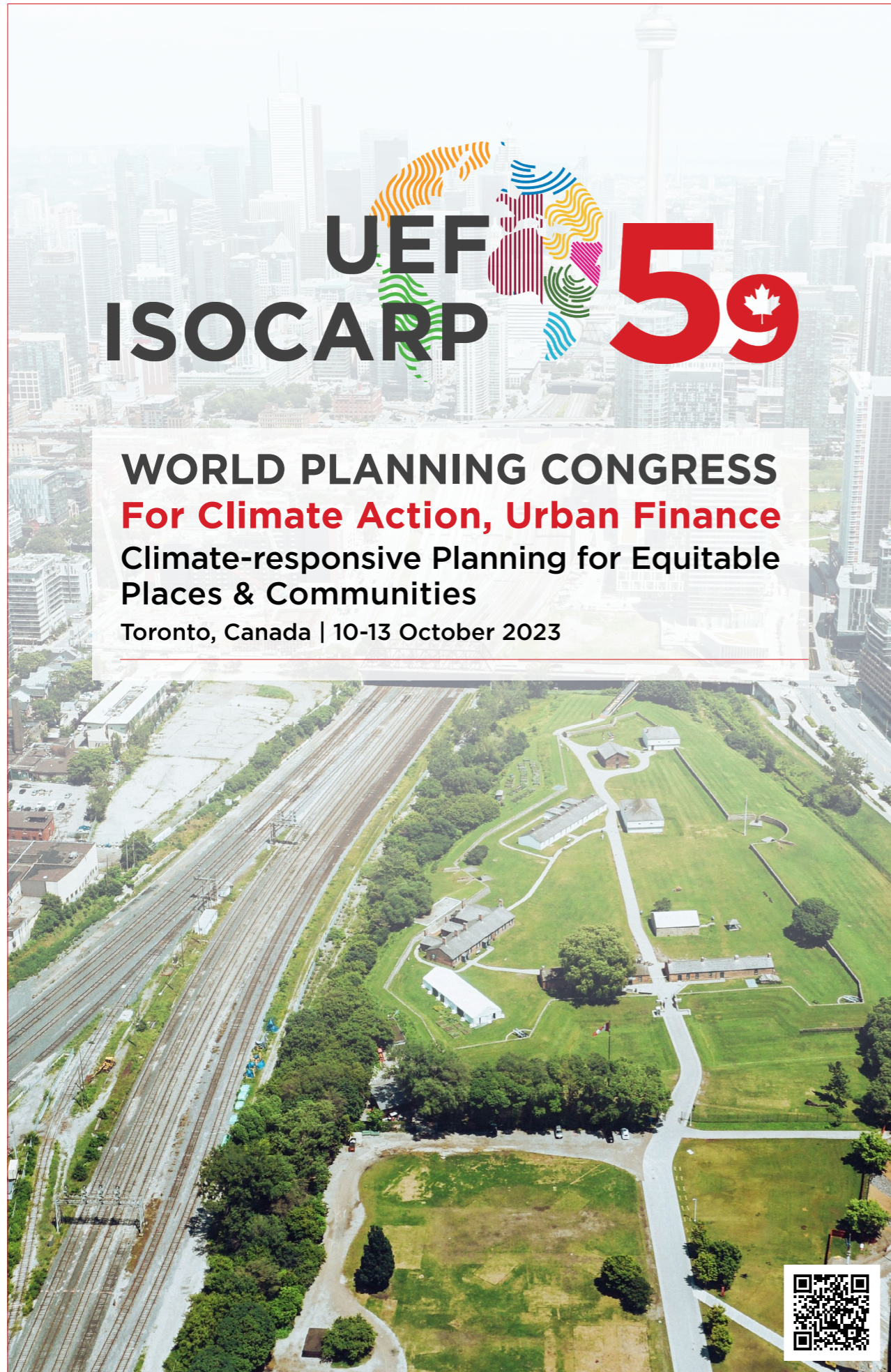
Gdansk, Brussels, Kocaeli, Doha, Merano, Jakarta, Bogor, Ningbo, Bodø, Kristiansand, Portland, Gdynia, Glasgow, Durban, Moscow, Guangzhou, Xi'An, Wrocław, Shenzhen, Al Ain, Abu Dhabi, Brisbane, Ulyanovsk, Lisbon, Puschino, Perm, Yekaterinburg, Wuhan, Nairobi, Porto, Dalian, Antwerp, Istanbul, Bilbao, Geneva, Cairo, Athens, Enschede, Cancún, Gelsenkirchen, Azores, Ogaki, Jerusalem, Sydney, Prague, Cordoba, Guadalajara

## Urban Planning Advisory Team (2005-2022)

Mexico, Qingdao, Wuhan, Suzhou, Guangzhou, Durban, Ningbo, Bodø, Wuhan, Gaza, West Bank, Nanjing, Tlalnepantla, Shantou, Perm, Sitges, Singapore, Szczecin, Zürich Limmat Valley, Guadalajara, Lincoln City, Cuenca, Schwechat, Rijswijk, Schiphol Region, Cancun, La Rioja

## ISOCARP Regional Events (2021-2022)

Gdansk, Vienna



The Society's main event is the annual ISOCARP World Planning Congress, which focuses on a globally significant planning theme each year.

Since 1965, the Congress has always promoted the creation and sharing of knowledge in the planning profession, combining a unique, triple perspective on theory, policy and practice. Held in a different city each year, the Congress is attended by some 500-700 local and international delegates for an action-packed programme from plenary sessions to technical tours, to networking events, to mentoring and focused seminars. ISOCARP has pioneered the focus of the planning profession on issues such as regional urban planning (1966), urban regeneration (1981), planning for land and water (1998), the creative economy (2005), low carbon cities (2009), climate change planning (2018), planning unlocked (2021). The Congress is open to both members and non-members. Check the Congress website: <https://toronto2023.isocarp.org/>

**Elisabeth Belpaire**  
59WPC Congress Director

# Urban Planning Advisory Teams



**Design Planning Workshop**  
Ribera de Chapala - Mexico



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



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

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.

**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

For questions regarding this activity, please reach out to Director UPAT and ISOCARP Board Member, Eric Huybrechts at [huybrechts@isocarp.org](mailto:huybrechts@isocarp.org) and to President of ISOCARP, Pietro Elisei at [president@isocarp.org](mailto:president@isocarp.org)



**Pietro Elisei**  
President, ISOCARP



**Eric Huybrechts**  
Director, UPAT



# 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.*



**Zeynep Gunay**  
Director, YPP

**Award to motivate and encourage future planners**

**Legacy to mentor and sponsor young professionals**

**Publication to disseminate knowledge in an effective and creative ways**



**Rolf Schuett**  
ISOCARP Board Member

*For questions regarding this activity, please reach out to Zeynep Gunay, ISOCARP Board, Director YPP at [gunay@isocarp.org](mailto:gunay@isocarp.org) and ISOCARP Board member Rolf Schuett at [schuett@isocarp.org](mailto:schuett@isocarp.org)*



# ISOCARP Regional Events



**International Regional Event #1**  
Vienna - Austria



**International Regional Event #1**  
Vienna - Austria



**International Conference**  
Gdańsk - Poland

We have implemented international small-scale events to address issues at a local level.

Our vision is to replicate this activity throughout the year in regional and macro-regional contexts.

**ISOCARP is committed to think global and act local!**

- EXCHANGE IDEAS:  
Between Professionals in  
Urban Planning**
- BRING GLOBAL ISSUES:  
To Specific Macro-regional  
Contexts**
- POLICIES AND STRATEGIES:  
With the Implementation  
Context and Practices  
(plans and tools)**

For questions regarding this activity, please reach out to President of ISOCARP, Pietro Elisei at [president@isocarp.org](mailto:president@isocarp.org)



**Pietro Elisei**  
President, ISOCARP



**Shi Nan**  
Board Member



## *Where to find us?*

*[www.isocarp.org](http://www.isocarp.org) and [www.isocarp-institute.org](http://www.isocarp-institute.org)*



[twitter.com/isocarp](https://twitter.com/isocarp)



[facebook.com/ISOCARP1965](https://facebook.com/ISOCARP1965)



[linkedin.com/company/isocarp](https://linkedin.com/company/isocarp)

## **ISOCARP Secretariat**

*Waldorpstraat 17*

*2521 CA The Hague*

*The Netherlands*

*[www.isocarp.org](http://www.isocarp.org)*

*+ 31 (70) 346 2654*

*[isocarp@isocarp.org](mailto:isocarp@isocarp.org)*

*Chamber of Commerce no.: 4039.7271*