

Planning for Better Cities & Regions

with

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



ISOCARP
Knowledge for Better Cities

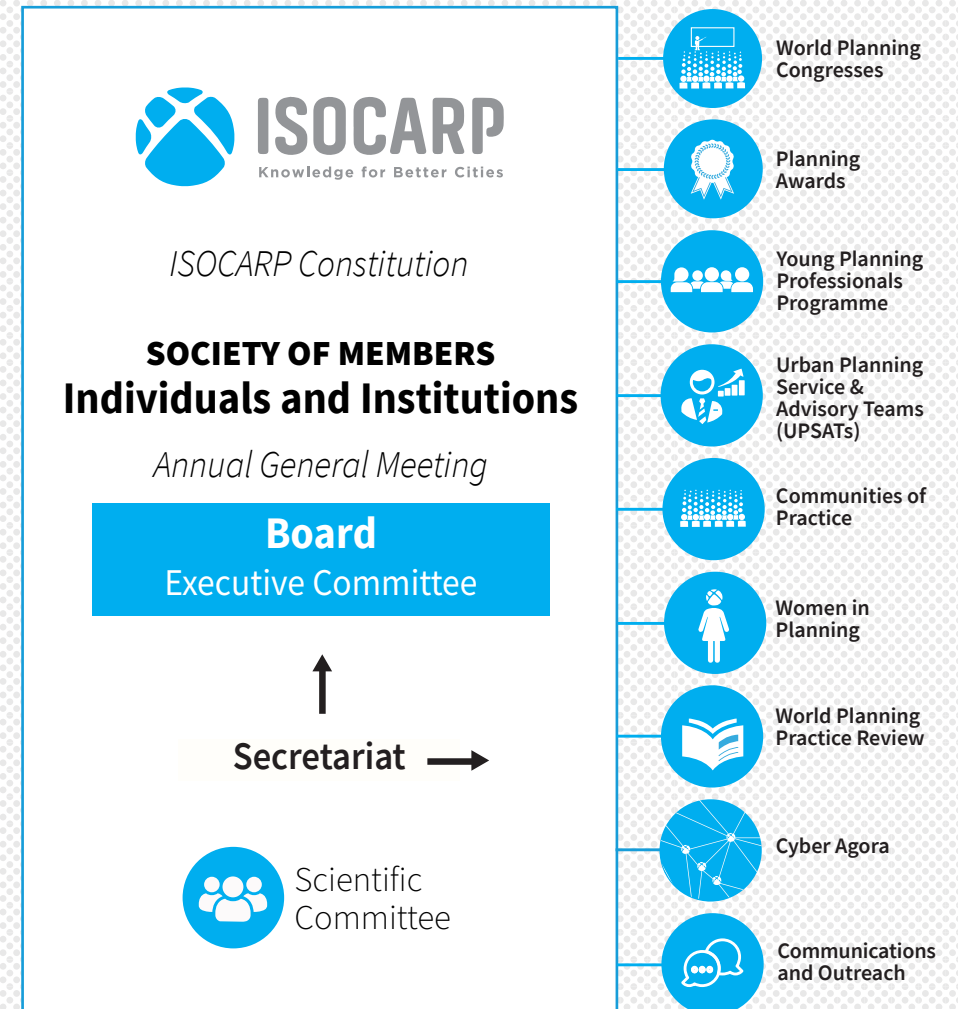
About

Since 1965, the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) has brought together individual and institutional members from over 90 countries, united by the vision of making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable through integrative and participatory urban and territorial planning.

In 2025, we celebrated the **60th anniversary** of our Society. This milestone provided an opportunity to reflect on our achievements in advancing planning practice by building a global network of professionals and encouraging the exchange of knowledge for better cities and regions. We also celebrated our 61st World Planning Congress in Riyadh, marking one of the most successful and impactful congresses in ISOCARP's history.

Guided by the theme “*Cities & Regions in Action: Planning Pathways to Resilience and Quality of Life*,” ISOCARP's 61st World Planning Congress moved beyond theory to focus on practical solutions that work on the ground. The Congress brought together more than 1,000 leaders, experts, and practitioners from around the world to address some of the most pressing urban challenges of our time. From the innovation showcased in the Young Planning Professionals workshops to the technical depth of the Masterclasses, there was a clear commitment to developing scalable solutions across diverse regional contexts.

One of ISOCARP's defining strengths is its identity as a truly global network. Planners from around the world find in ISOCARP a platform to connect with peers and access opportunities to develop, share, and compare ideas, initiatives, proposals, and projects. To support this global reach, national delegations carry out a range of activities to keep members informed about key ISOCARP events and initiatives. They also play a vital role in shaping the Society's future priorities and addressing emerging challenges.



Follow us to learn more at: <https://isocarp.org>



VISION

Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable through integrative participatory urban and territorial planning.

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 (1965-2025)

Riyadh, Siena, Toronto, Brussels, Doha, Jakarta, Bodø, Portland, Durban, Rotterdam, Gdynia, Brisbane, Perm, Wuhan, Nairobi, Porto, Dalian, Antwerp, Istanbul, Bilbao, Geneva, Cairo, Giffada, 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, Helsinki, Edinburgh, Munich, Zurich, Gothenburg, Antwerp, Aix-en-Provence, Dusseldorf, Torino, Lyon, Coimbra, Amsterdam

Young Planning Professionals Programme (1991-2026)

Montreal, Riyadh, Siena, New Clark City, Hong Kong, Almería, Toronto, Gdansk, Brussels, Kocaeli, Doha, Merano, Jakarta, Ningbo, Bodø, Kristiansand, Xi'an, Wrocław, Portland, Yekaterinburg, Gdynia, Durban, Rotterdam, Gdynia, Shenzhen, Moscow, Wrocław, Brisbane, Ulyanovsk, Perm, Puschino, Wuhan, Nairobi, Porto, Dalian, Antwerp, Istanbul, Bilbao, Geneva, Cairo, Athens, Enschede, Cancún, Gelsenkirchen, Azores, Ogaki, Jerusalem, Sydney, Prague, Glasgow, Cordoba, Guadalajara

Urban Planning Service and Advisory Team (2005-2026)

Kyiv, 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

New Cities International Conference (2024)

New Clark City

ISOCARP Regional Events (2021-2025)

The Hague, Vienna, Gdansk

ISOCARP World Planning Congress

A progressive international forum where
planning theory meets practice



“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



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.

Explore highlights from our 61st Annual Congress in Riyadh:
<https://riyadh2025.isocarp.org>



Urban Planning Service & Advisory Teams (UPSATs)



Placemaking Week
Wuhan - CHINA

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.



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

Awards

● Awards for Excellence

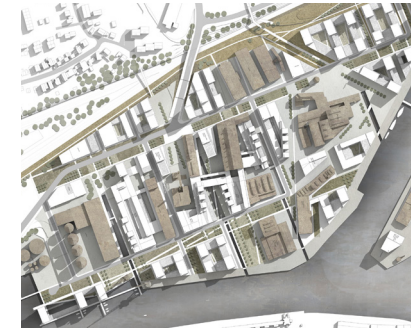
The Awards for Excellence are conferred in recognition of exceptionally innovative urban and regional plans in the design, project or implementation phase.



AFE 2025 Award Winner:
Tampelas, from intent to action

● Student Award

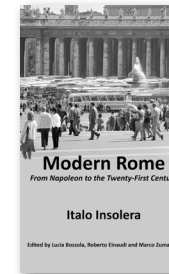
The Student Award is addressed to a student or student-group with outstanding results in urban and regional planning, or in a related field.



SA 2017 Winner:
Dockville by Jan Hoyer

● Gerd Albers Award

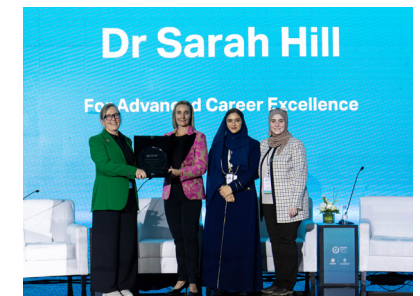
The Gerd Albers Award is given for the best publications by ISOCARP members, including books, chapters, journal articles and project reports.



GAA 2019 Best Book
Modern Rome: From Napoleon to the Twenty-First Century edited by Marco Zumaglini, Roberto Einaudi and Lucia Bozzola

● ISOCARP Women in Planning

New in 2025, this award recognizes outstanding contributions by women engaged within a comprehensive range of planning-related activities, including practitioners, academics, authority representatives and activists.



WIP Award 2025 Winner:
In the Advanced Career category: Dr Sarah Hill

Celebrating 35 years of empowering future leaders through the Young Planning Professionals Programme



YPP Workshop at the 58th ISOCARP World Planning Congress
Brussels, Belgium

- In 2026, we proudly celebrate 35 years of impact, growth, and achievement of our flagship YPP programme, marked by a series of special events that will bring together young planners to reflect, connect, and look ahead to the future
- 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.

Award to motivate and encourage future planners

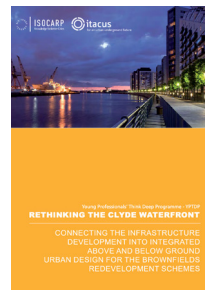
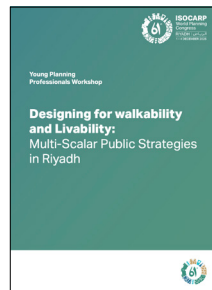
Legacy to mentor and sponsor young professionals

Publication to disseminate knowledge in an effective and creative ways

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:

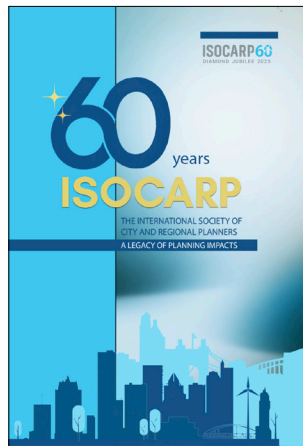
- **Young Planning Professionals' Workshop Publications**



- **Masterclass Publication**



- **ISOCARP 60th Anniversary Coffee Table Book**



- **Cities & Health Publications**

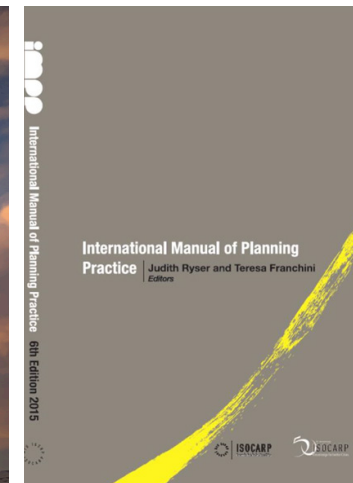
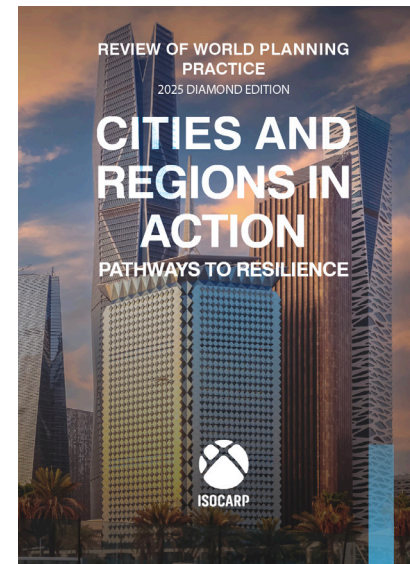


- **61st ISOCARP World Planning Congress Proceedings (forthcoming)**

- **UN-Habitat + ISOCARP Publication on Innovation & Quality of Life (forthcoming)**



- **PLAN Magazine, Urban Planning Advisory Team Reports**



- **International Manual of Planning Practice**

- **Review of World Planning Practice 2025 - Diamond Edition**



- **Annual World Planning Congress Review**



Become a Member!

Join ISOCARP's global network of over 750 professionals representing more than 90 countries

Apply via www.isocarp.org/join



Membership

Individual Membership:

for everyone professionally involved in city and regional planning

Membership: €75 annual fee

3-year Membership: €195

5-year Membership: €310

Life Membership: €1060

- *Global networking, career development and knowledge exchange*
- *Strengthen professional expertise by members-only opportunities and activities*
- *Access high-quality publications and receive exclusive discounts*
- *Actively participate and shape the professional planning community*

Institutional Membership:

for planning and housing agencies and associations, cities, universities, and planning consultancies

Platinum: €1.875 annual fee

Including ten individual memberships; three delegates to the annual World Planning Congress; a session at the World Planning Congress; and a reduced fee for Awards for Excellence.

Gold: €1.250 annual fee

Including six individual memberships; two delegates to the annual World Planning Congress; a reduced fee for Awards for Excellence.

Silver: €625 annual fee

Including two individual memberships; one delegate to the annual World Planning Congress; and a reduced fee for Awards for Excellence.

Active members

Strong association

Global community

Regional cooperation

ISOCARP's 60th World Planning Congress Diamond Anniversary Series

750+ members of 90+ countries



Board Members

- Elisabeth Belpaire *President, 2024-2027 (Belgium/Switzerland), Excom*
- Guy Vloebergh *Secretary-General, 2025-2028 (Belgium), Excom*
- Markus Appenzeller *2023-2026 (Netherlands/German), Excom*
- Tijana Tufek Memišević *2023-2026 (United States/Bosnia and Herzegovina), Excom*
- Wafa Al-Daily *2023-2026 (United States), Excom*
- Abdulaziz Aldusari *2025-2028 (Saudi Arabia)*
- Jua Cilliers *2025-2028 (Australia)*
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- Shi Nan *2020-2026 (China)*

Secretariat

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- Olaf Gerson *Project Manager*
- Akram Al-Qubati *Communications and Admin Assistant*

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