

Salzburg Congress for Urban Planning and Development (SCUPAD)

Frontpage Planning: Before and After Major Events, Disasters, and Social Unrest

- CALL FOR PAPERS -

The Salzburg Congress on Urban Planning and Development (SCUPAD) solicits the submission of papers, workshops, and related proposals for its 2012 Congress, "Frontpage Planning: Before and After Major Events, Disasters, and Social Unrest," to be held 3 - 6 of May, 2012 in Salzburg, Austria.

This year's Congress seeks to examine the planning process that takes place before, during, and after major world events – events that often make headlines and appear on the "Frontpage" of international media. These "events" include large sporting events such as the Olympics or World Cup; natural and man-made disasters such as earthquakes and floods; and the reconstruction and rebuilding that occurs after major political, social, and economic upheavals. Specifically, we are interested in the following questions:

- How does the planning process that takes place before an event compare to the planning process that happens afterwards?
- What do planned and un-planned events share in common that might reflect anticipation, shock and response to major changes in cities and regions?
- What is the role of risk or opportunity in planning for these events?
- What are the short- and long-term effects of these events at multiple spatial scales, from the global to local?
- What is the impact of deadlines in the planning process?
- What is the role of media (print, electronic, internet, film and video) in convening citizen engagement in planning processes?

Researchers and practitioners in planning who wish to present and discuss their work are invited to submit an abstract of their proposed paper or summary description of their presentation. The abstract or summary description should be no more than 500 words long, and include the following:

1. Indication for which of the three thematic threads outlined below it is submitted
2. Title of Paper or Presentation
3. Presenter's name, affiliation and contact details (including email)
4. Outline of the problem or the strategy discussed, and its relevance to the workshop Theme
5. If relevant, references

Proposals should be submitted by email to baeing@gmail.com no later than **15th February 2012**. Presenters will be notified by March 1st, 2012 whether their paper is accepted for the Congress. A full version of each paper to be presented at the congress should be sent to SCUPAD prior to the congress. All papers accepted will be offered publication on the SCUPAD website. Upon acceptance of submitted proposals, authors will receive instructions on the format suggested for the papers and the presentations.

Background Information

The Institution:

SCUPAD is an independent, non-profit international organization of planners, whose members are based all over Europe, in the Middle East and North America and lately also in India and Northern Africa. All SCUPAD members are professionals working at a high level in their respective organizations: planning and other government authorities, educational and research institutions, private development and consultancy practices. With its annual Congresses since 1965, SCUPAD presents topics for discussion of a contemporary nature and of critical relevance to urban planning and development. Unlike most other international conventions, SCUPAD developed its characteristic style as a more personal exchange among experts, engendering informality, international and transdisciplinary discourse and a lively social and professional network that carries on beyond the Congresses.

The Congress Theme:

SCUPAD invites both academics and practitioners—and combinations thereof—to submit abstracts for papers addressing the topic of “Frontpage Planning”. We also welcome formats other than papers, such as dynamic visual presentations; exhibitions or films; and interactive workshops. After a keynote lecture and three case studies presented in the plenary the Congress will be split into three thematic tracks, mirroring the major thematic threads of the topic. We are particularly interested in submissions that address one of the three track topics:

1. **Major World Events:** In advance of the 2012 Summer Olympics in London and following the 2010 World Cup Championship in South Africa, the impact of events with worldwide significance is quite relevant. Cities seek to host these events for a variety of social and economic reasons, though the long-term impact of this sort of large-scale development is not always evaluated. While world sporting events come first to mind, we can also examine cultural events such as Biennials of the art and architecture worlds, as well as World Fairs and Expositions.
2. **Disasters:** After the spate of natural disasters in the past few years that have wreaked havoc in cities and countries across the globe, we have experienced a shift in planning and reconstruction *after* natural disasters to developing the newer practice of planning *in advance* of impending disaster. These disasters are also usually man-made as well, exposing social inequities and shortfalls of public policy. Beyond disasters induced by weather or geomorphology such as floods, hurricanes, earthquakes, volcanoes, fires, and tsunamis, we would also like to address man-made disasters such as major chemical or nuclear accidents.
3. **Social Unrest:** Inspired by the recent people’s movements across the Middle East and Africa—which have taken the form of demonstrations in reclaimed public space—we are interested in the role planning has (or can have) in rebuilding societies, both physically and socially, after these radical social shifts. This social unrest can take many forms—economic crisis, populist uprisings, outright revolution, and politic regime changes—but all force citizens and government bodies to regroup, reformulate goals and outcomes, and even rebuild. We are interested in comparing contemporary challenges in this area to historic examples of rebuilding cities, such as reconstructing Berlin after the fall of the wall and rebuilding lower Manhattan after 9/11 in New York City. Social unrest may also be seen when waves of immigrants or refugees establish residence in their adopted cities and through it, spark unrest among established residents who may fear their presence, such as the influx of Muslims in cities in the Netherlands and the U.S.

To register for the congress please visit the SCUPAD website at <http://www.scupad.org/>.