

**WORLD TOWN
PLANNING DAY 2014
5-6-7 NOVEMBER**

Professional planning organizations around the world will mark World Town Planning Day 2014 with an international online conference on:

**EQUALITY IN THE
CITY – Making
Cities Socially
Cohesive**

In April 2014, thousands of participants in World Urban forum 7 gathered at Medellín, Colombia, culminating in the WUF7 Declaration calling for 'urban plans and policies that link current urban development with future needs, and that are solidly grounded in the fundamental principles of equity, justice and human rights'.

The focus of the 2014 WTPD online conference will be to showcase and celebrate such plans and policies around the world. We seek examples of projects, tools and programs that:

- have achieved measurable improvements towards social cohesion
- can be replicated around the world to address similar issues in other communities
- are inclusive and engage with all sectors of the community.

We invite you to contribute to the 6th Online Conference for World Town Planning Day by submitting a paper relating to the conference title and the following session themes.

WTPD 2014



**EQUALITY IN
THE CITY**

CALL FOR PAPERS

INCLUSIVITY

- *How do we develop programmes and policies that address the needs of marginalized groups?*
- *How do we strengthen civic engagement amongst marginalized people?*

GOVERNANCE

- *How can urban governance contribute to social cohesion?*
- *How can we improve co-operation and co-ordination between different levels of government?*

LAWS /REGULATIONS

- *Can laws/ regulations/ statutory instruments enhance equality in urban areas?*
- *Can planning laws mitigate the exclusionary effects often created by planning laws?*
- *Any truly innovative approaches to a planning process that reflect social complexities*

KNOWLEDGE

- *How can we use the power of technology to foster social cohesion?*
- *What innovations have been put into practice to increase information and knowledge transfer to communities?*

**GRASSROOTS
INVOLVEMENT**

- *What factors impede grassroots participation in development programmes?*
- *How can we encourage grassroots participation in governance?*

ACCESS

- *Gated communities: what are the security, social and economic consequences?*
- *Privatization of public space: whose right to the city's spaces?*

UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

A place to explain bravely, ideas that didn't quite work out, or had unexpected results

We invite offers of abstracts

The themes above may inspire you, or you can offer an abstract on some other aspect of the broad conference topic. We will favor papers that are thought-provoking, relevant and creative, stimulating delegates' interest throughout the conference program.

Each presentation should last 20 minutes. There will be 10 minutes for questions after each paper, as well as an opportunity at the end of the conference to have a more general discussion on topics raised. We also offer shorter presentation options if you prefer to speak for less than 10 minutes.

Online Conference Support

Perhaps you have never presented at an online conference before: we can reassure you that it is easy and enjoyable and we are here to support you. No special computer equipment is required, just a reliable internet connection and a speaker/microphone headset connected to your computer, and you may need to download a small piece of software to your computer. We provide training sessions and try-outs before the conference for all speakers at convenient times.

Conference Timing and Time-zones

The online conference will start at 12:00 UCT (Universal Co-ordinated Time) on Wednesday 5 November and finish at 14:00 UCT on Thursday 6 November. In other time-zones:

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|------------------|---|
| New York | Start 7 am (07:00) on 5 November, end 9 am (09:00) 6 November |
| London | Start 12 noon (12:00) on 5 November, end 2 pm (14:00) 6 November |
| Jo'burg | Start 2 pm (14:00) on 5 November, end 4 pm (16:00) on 6 November |
| New Delhi | Start 5.30 pm (17:30) on 5 November, end 7:30 pm (19:30) 6 November |
| Sydney | Start 11 pm (23:00) on 5 November, end 1 am (01:00) 7 November |

Sessions will be arranged within this 26-hour period so that presenters can give their papers at times of day that suit them. We try to ensure that conference participants in every time-zone can join at least some sessions during business hours. The program which will be published in September will show the schedule for time-zones round the world.

Key Dates

- **15 July** Abstracts for papers
- **In September** Acceptance notified
- **30 September** Full papers due
- **17 October** Slide presentations due
- **Late October** **Training for presenters**

The dedicated website
for the conference is
www.planningtheworld.net

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ABSTRACT

Please email the following information and documents in Microsoft Word (.doc) format by 15 July 2014 to

planningtheworld@gmail.com

- Name of presenter(s)
- Title of session
- Theme to which it relates (if any – see list on first page)
- Abstract, maximum 200 words
- Note about each presenter, maximum 75 words (not full CV!)
- Organization e.g. employer, school, other institution as relevant