

PEARLS Promoting a New Community of Knowledge and Practice on People Centered and Resilient Spaces related to Urban Rivers

Networking Event NE 130
Wednesday 29 June, 2.30 - 4.00 PM
ICC Multifunction Hall: Room 10

Summary of the event

In the pursuit for economic development cities have exploited rivers indiscriminately. Today many of our rivers are extensively becoming the dumping grounds for waste and wastewater discharge and are in a highly vulnerable condition. Even so there is an increasing understanding that ecological restoration and rivers are often referred to as the arteries of life of entire regions and of their populations. Therefore Urban Rivers have the potential become central elements of sustainable urban transformation. This networking event seeks to promote urban transformation towards more inclusive, liveable, prosperous and climate-friendly cities through establishing a new community of knowledge and practice on People Centred and Resilient Spaces related to Urban Rivers (PEARLS). The central assumption of PEARLS is that social sustainability and environmental sustainability are closely intertwined, and hence, the success in urban transformation will depend on social resilience for which urban public space plays a crucial role in promoting both collective and individual resilience.

Words of welcome

Mr. Erik Berg, Chair, Habitat Norway

Three Case Studies

- Ms. Vanesha Manuturi, Ms. Fildzah Husna, from Kota Kita, Indonesia - Codesign and Placemaking Approach in the Informal Riverbanks Settlements of Solo and Banjarmasin, Indonesia.
- Ms. Regina Opondo, Kounkuey Design Initiative, Kenya - Nairobi River of Life Project: Peace, rights, environmental justice
- Ms. Ellen de Vibe, Former Chief City Planner of Oslo, Habitat Norway - Oslo rivers - the backbone of development

Moderator

Mr. Peter Gotsch, NTNU

Brief Workshop (with all attendants)

Panel Discussion (with the speakers and additional comments):

Mr. Gilbert Siame, NTNU; Mr. Joe Mulligan, KDI;
Ms. Joy Mutai, UN-Habitat

Closing

Mr. Jose Chong, Global Public Space Program, UN-Habitat

Organising Partners

Program for Urban Ecological Planning, NTNU, Norway, Habitat Norway, Global Program on Public Space, UN Habitat

Associate Partners

Kounkuey Design Initiative, Kenya, Kota Kita Foundation, Indonesia, Lima Como Vamos, Lima (tbc), World Resources Institute, Ethiopia (tbc), Lagos urban Development Initiative (tbc), Centre for Applied Research and Development, Nepal (tbc)