

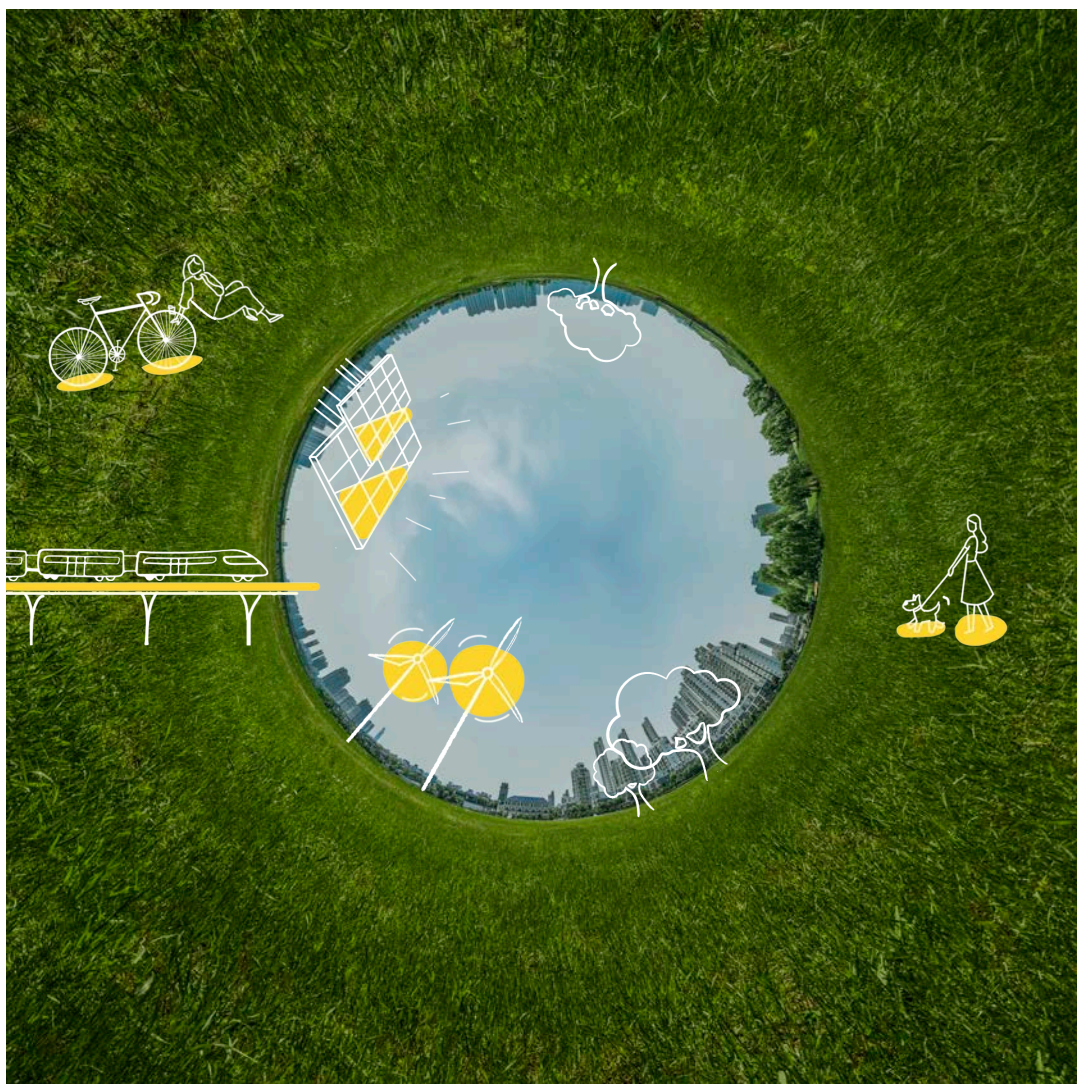
Expo 2020 Dubai

PROGRAMME FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET

WORLD MAJLIS AGENDA

URBAN AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK

31 October - 6 November 2021



ENGINEERING A BALANCED CITY

Reinventing world-class cities as social melting pots

In collaboration with Australia

DATE Sunday, 31 October 2021

TIME 4.00 to 6.00 PM UAE

VENUE Australia Pavilion



THE CONVERSATION TOPIC

ENGINEERING A BALANCED CITY

Reinventing world-class cities as social melting pots

Today more than ever, city planning is a challenging task. With 1.3 million people joining the urban population every week, there is an imperative for cities to rethink themselves.

Urbanisation has been one of the most significant driving forces of recent global development. Today, 55 per cent of the world's population lives in urban centres, a number expected to grow to 70 per cent by 2050.

While the importance of cities as growth powerhouses and innovation hubs is undeniable, the pace of urbanisation has also created socio-economic, ecological and health challenges for many people across the world. Unplanned, megacities can reinforce inequalities, put stress on resources and lead to fragmented societies

Tomorrow's urban centres are asked to reduce poverty and fight exclusion, encourage cultural exchange, create jobs, improve mobility, enhance quality of life, adapt to climate change and increase biodiversity.

What would a "people-focused" city of the future look like?

How are we going to design and build it?

What lessons can we learn from past experiences in urban planning?

What technologies and innovations should we prioritise to improve people's lives?

MODERATOR



EITHNE TREANOR

Managing Director, E Treanor Media

Eithne Treanor is a professional conference moderator and international communications consultant. Having worked as a business TV reporter, her knowledge covers energy, technology, security, infrastructure, and leadership.

She is the managing director and founder of E Treanor Media based in Dubai, UAE. In recent months, she has moved her reporting and moderating skills on-line to facilitate a number of major global conferences.

As a former international broadcast journalist, her TV reporting experience spans major television networks including ABC News, Sky News, BBC World, Bloomberg and CNBC International.

She also provides dynamic and energetic bespoke media and presentation trainings for government officials, corporate executives and leaders. To meet client demand, her latest offering is moderator and webinar training to help people be more effective and impactful delivering conference content in the virtual world. Eithne has interviewed politicians, dignitaries, and high-ranking business people and has written and reported for television, radio and print publications.

PARTICIPANTS



IÑAQUI CARNICERO ALONSO-COLMENARES

Director General of Urban Agenda and Architecture at the Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda, Spain

PhD Polytechnic University of Madrid, cum laude, and awarded the scholarship of the Royal Academy of Spain in Rome. His built work, is mostly result of winning public competitions, and it has been recognized nationally and internationally. In addition to his professional work as an architect, he has developed activity as teacher, researcher and curator, in the filed of housing, urban and renovation.

His teaching experience includes 12 years as an Associate Professor at the University of Madrid, and 8 years as a visiting professor at various international universities. In other international activities stands out the co-direction and design of the Pavilion of Spain at the 2016 Venice Biennale with the exhibition "Unfinished", awarded with the highest award, the Golden Lion for the best national pavilion. He has also played an important role in the dissemination of Spanish architecture internationally having been invited as speaker in conferences and seminars in more than 20 countries. His work has been included in numerous exhibitions and publications.

At the Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda, he is working to promote a new law for the quality of the architecture ("a law for everyone") and a pilot plan for promoting renovation of public buildings focusing in sustainability and inclusive aspect, very close to the spirit of Renovation Wave and the New Bauhaus, two European relevant ongoing initiatives.



DANIEL GRIBBIN

Corporate Sustainability Lead, WSP, Australia

Daniel is the Corporate Sustainability Lead for WSP. He is a Sustainability Advisory and Assurance expert with extensive experience across Australia, South America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East in sectors including construction, natural resources, transport, food and beverage, government, financial services and manufacturing. In 2021, Daniel was ranked as one of the "Top 20 sustainable MENA real estate professionals in the Middle East" by City Scape Mena. Daniel is passionate about and works with clients to help improve their strategy development / integration, public sustainability reporting, net zero / climate change adaptation and mitigation, social impact, and alignment with global frameworks such as the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), the UN Global Compact and Sustainable Development Goals.



RAWAN KASHKOUSH

Founder, beyyn, UK

Rawan is committed to establishing opportunities for design practitioners to be represented, developed and promoted. She is founder of beyyn - 'to reveal' in Arabic, an online platform for Arab designers and their products to be accessed by global audiences.

Educated in interior architecture in Beirut and Milan, Rawan's career began in designing retail and hospitality interiors in Amman and Beirut. During this time, the turbulent political landscape of the region led to a strong shift in perspective that prompted her to acquire knowledge in placemaking. In the process of founding a crowdfunding initiative to improve public space in Amman, Rawan secured a mentorship with the UN - Entrepreneurs for Social Change and gained an opportunity to speak at the UN World Cities Day in New York.

This path led to Dubai in 2015 where she generated exhibitions, public-realm installations and knowledge-exchange programmes with the Art Dubai Group; as Head of Programming for two editions of Design Days Dubai, the Middle East's first collectible design fair, and as Head of Programming and Creative Director of five editions of Dubai Design Week, the region's largest design festival, where she was responsible for the development of content through national and international partnerships, and working with diverse stakeholders to develop and deliver projects to strengthen the regional creative economies and design landscape. Collectively, these experiences have offered significant access to a broad scope of talent from the Arab world and has fuelled Rawan's desire to ensure access to it is improved.



JEFF RISOM

Chief innovation officer, Gehl, Denmark

As Chief Innovation Officer, Jeff is passionate about the relationship between human experience and design and works to apply people-first design principals to communal ecosystems, such as streets, public space, food systems, and energy. Working at the intersection of urban governance, business and culture, Jeff delivers projects that are economically viable and socially equitable, as well as sustainable in terms of using energy, land and time. With degrees in Architectural Engineering from the US and City Design and Social Science from London School of Economics, Jeff's multi-disciplinary background has shaped his cross-cutting holistic approach to all projects. He has worked with both public and private clients as well as non-governmental organizations in Europe, USA, Latin America, India and China.



DR SHIPRA NARANG SURI

Chief, Urban Practices Branch, UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya

Dr. Shipra Narang Suri is an urban planner with a Ph.D. in Post-War Recovery Studies from the University of York, UK. She leads UN-Habitat's Urban Practices Branch, which is the hub for UN-Habitat's normative work and the home of its portfolio of global programmes. Shipra is also the senior advisor within UN-Habitat for local governments and their networks.

Shipra has extensive experience in advising national and local governments, as well as private sector organisations and networks, on issues of urban planning and management, good urban governance and indicators, livability and sustainability of cities, urban safety, women and cities, as well as post-conflict/ post-disaster recovery. She has worked with the United Nations, specifically, UN-HABITAT, UNDP, and UNESCO, as well as international NGOs and private sector organisations, for over two decades. She is the former co-Chair of the World Urban Campaign, and the former Vice-President of the General Assembly of Partners, a platform established to bring stakeholder voices to Habitat III and in the drafting of the New Urban Agenda. She is also a former Vice-President of ISOCARP, the International Society of City and Regional Planners. She is a regular public speaker at national and international fora, and has several publications to her credit.

**VIRTUAL
PARTICIPANT**



PROFESSOR MICHELE ACUTO

Director, Melbourne Centre for Cities, University of Melbourne, Australia

Professor Michele Acuto is an expert of urban governance and international affairs. He is Director of the Melbourne Centre for Cities at the University of Melbourne, where he is also Vice Dean (Research) and Professor of Global Urban Politics in the Melbourne School of Design. He is also a fellow of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and a member of the City of Melbourne Night-time Economy Committee.

Michele was previously Barter Fellow in the Oxford Programme for the Future of Cities at the University of Oxford, and Professor of Urban Theory at University College London, having taught at the Australian National University, University of Southern California and National University of Singapore. Outside academia, Michele has worked as a diplomat on city leadership for the World Bank Group and the European Commission, and as expert advisor for the World Health Organisation. He has written and led international programs focused on how cities manage globalisation, infrastructure, innovation, sustainable development, and pandemic responses. Michele recently co-chaired the Nature Sustainability international panel on "science and the future of cities". He is the author of, amongst others, *Leading Cities*, *the Urban Link*, *Managing Cities at Night* and *How to Build a Global City*.