“The Planned World: Urban, Rural, Wild”

an international conference

August 5th and 6th, 2010

Wosk Centre for Dialogue
Simon Fraser University
Vancouver, B.C.

Interdisciplinary Themes Conferences & Publishing
InterdisciplinaryThemes.org
All sessions will be held in Room 370

Conference Schedule
Registration packages can be picked up starting at 8:30 a.m. on the first day of the conference.

Thursday August 5, 2010

8:30 - 9:00 On-site registration and registration package pick up (desk will be open in front of the conference room for the duration of the conference)

Special Photographic Exhibit: Robert Silance, Clemson University (USA), “Dirt for Sale: Constructing the Landscape of the New American South”
(Photo montage and text will be displayed for the duration of the conference)

9:00 - 10:30 Session I

Chair, Shahid Kabir

Lenore Newman, Ann Dale (Royal Roads University, Canada), “The living city: Building neighbourhoods for food, forests, and flaneurs”

Hamid Reza Saremi (Iran), “Secure City From the Viewpoint of Islam”

Anand Singh (University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa), “Living alongside the unplanned: Acceptance and ambiguities among settled residents and squatters in Durban”

- break -

10:45 - 12:45 Session II

Chair: Lenore Newman

Hisham El Shimy (Pharos University, Egypt), “Measuring the economical impact to the sustainable development of architectural heritage sites and tourism areas in Metropolis: A pilot study for developing practical Elmouaz street, Fatimic Area, Cairo”

David Adelani Adeniran (Federal University of Technology MINNA, Nigeria) “Sustainable Intervention Policies & Stabilization in Post Conflict Societies: African Perspectives”


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12:45 - 1:45   Lunch Break – there are a number of food options, including a food court in the Harbour Centre directly across West Hastings Street

2:00 - 3:00   Session III: Featured Lecture – Patrick Y. Foong Chan (Architecture for Humanity Vancouver) & Robin Mills (UBC)

“Benedict Spinoza, The Urban-Scape and the Agricultural-Scape”

-break-

3:15 - 5:15   Session IV

Chair: Anand Singh


Michaellester Ordoñez Monteron (Mandanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology, Philippines), “Utilization of shrimp and crab and its perceived effects on selected coastal areas along Panguil Bay”


Rodolfo Torregroza (Universidad Externado, Colombia), “The social networks, social representations and transnational actors”

-Supper Break-

7:00 - 9:00   National Film Board of Canada Documentary Screenings.
The NFB has provided us with screening rights to several films
**August 6, 2010**

9:00 - 10:30  Session V

Chair: Kristi Dykema Cheramie

Hossein Behravan, Monireh Rassekhi (Ferdowsi University of Mashad, Iran) “Beneficiaries’ Tendency and Patterns of Participation in Civic Regeneration Plan: Case of Tabarsi Area, Mashhad City Centre, Iran.”


Leanna Marie Medal & Mark Boyer (University of Arkansas, USA), “Urban Slums in sub-Saharan Africa: Understanding their Origins/ Evolution and Methods for Improvement”

- break -

10:45 - 12:15  Session VI

Chair, Christian Riegel

Myron Belej (MCIP, AICP, CityPlanner Consulting, Ltd.; Edmonton, AB, Canada; cityplanner.ca), “Finding the Heart of the City in the Call of the Wild”

Jeremy Kargon (Morgan State University, USA), “The Irony of Intervention: Identifying Landscape Amid its Despoliation and Remediation”

Kristi Dykema Cheramie, Jeffrey A. Carney (Louisiana State University, USA), “Measured Change: Tracking Transformations in the Louisiana Long-Lot”

12:30 - 1:30  Lunch Break

1:30 - 2:30  Session VII: Roundtable Discussion: Architecture for Humanity Vancouver

Chair: Patrick Y. Foong Chan; Participants: Linus Lam, Neal LaMontagne, Theresa Fresco, Patrick Y. Foong Chan

- break -

2:45-4:45  Session VII

Chair: Jeremy Kargon

Farhad Amiri Fard (Iran), “Limiting the imbalanced development of big cities by granting immediate accessibility to amenities in suburban regions”

David Adelani Adeniran (Nigeria), “Global Climate Change and Sustainable Water Management for Energy Production in the Niger Basin of Nigeria”

Rodolfo Torregroza (Universidad Externado, Colombia), “The Social Representations of ‘the justice and peace Law’ in the Colombia’s Press”

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Abstracts

David Adelani Adeniran, “Global Climate Change and Sustainable Water Management for Energy Production in the Niger Basin of Nigeria’’

Water is vital to all sectors of the national economic development, particularly energy development. It is indispensable in the development of all the five major energy sources. It is of course the basic resource for hydropower generation, and its availability in adequate quantity all the time, for this most environmentally friendly energy source, is of utmost necessity. This is why any negative impact of global climate change on water availability represents a big threat to the already vulnerable hydropower development of Nigeria and of the Niger Basin as a whole.

Key aspects of strategies for sustainable development of the Niger Basin’s water resources in an integrated manner, which minimizes disputes among the riparian states, are discussed. The concept of integrated river basin development involves the solution of development problems which takes into account the interests of all sectors of the economy, branches of water management and social groups in a coordinated manner. Over the years, as integrated basin development became more or less universally accepted, progress was also made from single purpose to multipurpose water projects. In recent years, environmental criterion has become one of the important objectives of integrated basin development, as a major improvement over the narrow cost benefit approach. Together with efficiency of demand management, environmental friendliness constitutes the centre piece of sustainable development of water resources in a given river or lake basin especially in the light of climate change.

All of the present and envisaged hydropower projects (except for two or three) are based on the Niger river system. The Niger is the largest river system in West Africa. It drains a total area of nearly 2 million square km. Its main course runs from the head waters in the Fouta Djallon Highlands in Guinea for 4,200 km and drains nine countries including Nigeria. The fragile resource base of the riparian economies is under increasing threat by hydro climatic variability and associated disasters such as droughts and floods, coupled with poor land use; all of which result in soil erosion, and loss, water shortage and direct losses of products and lives. The current management approach has been to utilize multipurpose dam projects to provide over year storage for various uses. At present some 12 large dams exist, while 34 are at varying stages of planning and design. Although only seven of the dams have hydropower component, they account for 61 percent of the total available active storage capacity. The present paper focuses on the modality for achieving an acceptable balance with energy development in focus, in the light of the new dimension, global climate change.


Violence/conflict is both ugly and costly. Although conflicts always end, but is usually restart. Globally, with the first ten years of the end of a conflict, 31% of them have resumed. African conflicts are even more prone to restart than the global average: half of African peace restorations last less than a decade. By applying theoretical frameworks to newly developed data sets of conflicts, we find that the high incidence of peace collapse in Africa is not inevitable.

This paper explores strategic policies governance to building sustainable peace in post conflict societies. An overview of the problem of ethnic & religious conflict and wars is made. Analysis of risk factors which determine whether or not a conflict restarts, and show how the can be measured. By establishing the highest risk factors in a particular situation, it is possible to priorities policy interventions aimed at the risk reduction. Taking each risk inturn, then a reconsideration of how action by the larger society and a post conflict society might be able to reduce risks.
There are however, some risks factors that push a society towards conflict that are amendable to a range of policies. Analyses of such policies are made, and if it were employed, the global incidence of a conflict could be substantially reduced. The paper also focuses in turn on action by the international community and action by a post conflict government. It also focuses upon peace-building actions by the international community identifying circumstances in which United Nations (UN) intervention is most valuable. It then applies the analysis to Africa, showing the scope for UN intervention in African post conflict situations. The paper also examined the policy choices of a post conflict government, it focuses on two tasks: defusing a volatile military situation and making government more inclusive. The paper discusses how the military situation can be improved through disarmament, demobilization and re-integration; and how government can be made more inclusive through decentralisation and the co-option of traditional authorities’ decision making. The policies on part of both the international community and post-conflict governments have been highly inefficient. Thus with better policies, the risk of peace collapse after African Civil wars can be radically reduced. The papers outline some strategies that can assist war-to-peace transition in African.

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Myron Belej, “Finding the Heart of the City in the Call of the Wild”

The significant majority of Canadians live in cities. Our cities have become the economic, educational, and social centres of our planned world. Our ancestors had very good reasons for building cities. To survive, we protected ourselves from wild animals and harsh weather conditions. Out of necessity, we worked together to tend to our crops and families. Cities also connected us with friends. The heart of the city was, and remains, its people. In our cities today, we have universities, theatres, and places of worship. We have recreation centres, libraries, and civic buildings; restaurants, hospitals, and stadiums. Collectively, these amenities feed us, teach us, heal us, and help us laugh and grow.

But nature has these powers as well. The earliest designers of our planned environment understood “…that a crowded population, if they are to live in health and happiness, must have space for the enjoyment of that peaceful beauty of nature which, because it is the opposite of all that is sordid and artificial in our city lives, is so wonderfully refreshing to the tired souls of city dwellers;” (F. G. Todd, 1907) In our cities today, much is “sordid and artificial”. Harsh economic and social conditions perpetuate homelessness, and wild drivers cause collisions and ruin lives. Not enough Canadians tend to crops or their families. Many in our nation are poor, depressed, lonely and/or ill, and need community support. Our planned world now has gangs, shootings, theft, vandalism, run-down buildings and fear. Unsurprisingly, the trend of “escaping” the city to find nature continues. Where is the call of the wild today, and what does it mean for the heart of the city? Creative, well-traveled, and professionally certified city planner “Author” will explore this question, and will suggest how our cities may recapture what we desire most.

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Hossein Behravan & Monireh Rassekhi, “Beneficiaries’ Tendency and Patterns of Participation in Civic Regeneration Plan: Case of Tabarsi Area, Mashhad City Centre, Iran.”

The article aims to describe beneficiaries’ tendency and patterns of participation in civic regeneration plan in Tabarsi Aarea, Mashhad city centre, Iran. The method was survey and sample size (involving 64% of population) included 506 beneficiaries consisted of property owners (37.7%), renters (45.1%) and key money occupants (Sarghofldar[1]) (17.2%) who were selected randomly out of a list. Results showed that the tendency of participation differed between beneficiaries and was 81.2%, 52.4% and 51.4% respectively for key money occupants, renters and owners. Patterns of participation was also different according to all the five patterns between beneficiaries so that the highest percent of tendency to participate was in pattern one, indicating willing to pick out a property in the new project in exchange of his own property price, which amounted 67.9% for the key money occupants and 34.2% for owners. This pattern was not applicable for renters. The second highest percent was in pattern five, indicating willing to be stockholder of the total project plan via buying.
project stocks which amounted to 46.3%, 24.1% and 16.9% for renters, key money occupants and owners respectively. The third highest percent was in pattern two indicating willing to share with others to rebuild a separate project, which amounted to 22.6%, 22.4% and 9% for the key money occupants, owners and renters respectively. The fourth highest percent was in pattern three indicating willing to be stockholder of the total project plan in exchange of his own property price, which amounted to 17.1% and 14.1% for key money occupants and owners and not applicable for renters. The fifth highest percent was in pattern four indicating willing to exchange part of his property with total project plan stocks while other part with cash, which amounted to 15.7% and 9.8% for key money occupants and owners respectively and not applicable for renters. The author concluded that although owners are dominant because they also own renters’ occupant properties, they are less willing to participate than other groups of beneficiaries in patterns which involve stock exchange, despite the fact they are offered more alternatives for participation, while renters are more willing to participate in stockholding pattern because they have no property right. This may be due to the more essential legal property right of owners that means more chance of bargain and less confidence to the project plan managers and thus, the less willing to participate as stockholder of the total project plan.

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There is a need for informed decision-making in energy strategies for the built environment in realizing a renewable energy future for the planned world. To reach this goal, multidisciplinary collaboration and exploration of the relationship between energy sources, energy usage and community is necessary. This paper presents a Collaborative Effort – An Educational Experience – in information and building positive feedback interactions necessary to affect a reduced-carbon future of our built environment. Reaching this audience was the objective of a three-part experimental course introduced at the Pennsylvania State University. The course sequence and summer travel program to France and Germany brought together faculty and students in science, engineering and design. Through this class the principles, technologies, and impact of renewable energy systems were investigated at multiple scales—from materials, to systems, to buildings, to planning—in the interest of understanding interrelationships and the necessity for broader policy and planning thinking necessary for achieving a sustainable habitable environment.

Goals:
• Facilitate multidisciplinary group collaboration to develop a common literacy of energy usage, technology, and skills in research and design.
• Form future leaders in transitioning the built environment to a sustainable energy future.
• Foster community responsibility through individual actions and information exchange.
• Encourage collaboration and public coordination in physical design and planning.
• Equip students for global citizenship, facilitating literacy of energy use and technologies.
• Establish applied learning opportunities for the habitable environment.

Can a common scientific literacy and skills in research and design inspire future leaders in transitioning the built environment to a sustainable energy future? What can students learn from each other? How can they use their findings to inform others? This paper will investigate these questions looking beyond the agriculture beyond the boundaries that currently divide urban from agriculture in the current practice of urban agriculture. Toronto’s Food Stop and initiatives under San Francisco’s Mayor Gavin Newsom will be used to examine the interconnectivity between urban and agriculture.

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Patrick Y. Foong Chan & Robin Mills, “Benedict Spinoza, The Urban-Scape and the Agricultural-Scape”
The urban- scape is often opposed to the agricultural- scape by those who are pro-urban as well as those who are pro-agricultural landscape. For pro-urban supporters, the agricultural- scape is seen as less developed and less sophisticated, thus a threat to contemporary culture. For pro-agriculture supporters, the urban- scape is seen as a threat to the agricultural- scape that is perceived as more ‘true’ to the land. For example, in popularized books educating about food systems, such as Michael Pollan’s The Omnivore’s Dilemma, agricultural- scape is still opposed to urban- scape. Much current research on food security shows that the urban and agricultural are tied for the survival of the urban; yet the separation continues to be fortified through policy as well as socio-cultural misconceptions.

Using Benedict Spinoza’s notion of the connectedness of bodies as a theoretical framework, this paper strives to move beyond this dichotomous relationship that is often laden with unaddressed value judgment. The practical aim of this paper is to explore how connected urban and agricultural spaces (or “bodies” in Spinozan parlance) can lend to greater resilience in the context of food production and security. In addition to Spinoza’s philosophy, this paper builds on Condon, Mullinix and Fallick’s work on Municipal Enabled Agriculture to practically elaborate the concept of urban agriculture beyond the boundaries that currently divide urban from agriculture in the current practice of urban agriculture. Toronto’s Food Stop and initiatives under San Francisco’s Mayor Gavin Newsom will be used to examine the interconnectivity between urban and agriculture.

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Kristi Dykema Cheramie Jeffrey A. Carney, “Measured Change: Tracking Transformations in the Louisiana Long-Lot”

What we have in mind with the term history is not so much ‘the past’ in the sense of that which is past, but rather derivation from such a past. Anything that ‘has a history’ stands in the context of a becoming. In such becoming, ‘development’ is sometimes a rise and sometimes a fall. - from Being and Time, Martin Heidegger

The French unit of land division, the arpent, has since colonial times structured the engagement between human and environmental systems in Southern Louisiana. As syntax for the human landscape, the arpent system provides rules, orders and hierarchies that govern both ownership and occupation. But the arpent system is more than static structure; it enables the landscape to be inhabited with a great degree of variation. Under this system the landscape has shown a remarkable ability to develop rich transformations over time while maintaining overarching structural clarity and order. In the face of unprecedented environmental and social change, this paper will focus on the transformative capacity of the arpent to adapt to powerful forces along the coast of Louisiana.

Traditionally, the long-lot system offered a clear and simple means of parceling land appropriate to the landscape and economy of Southern Louisiana. Each parcel was given a two to three arpent-wide access to the bayou and its natural levees. Each property extends perpendicularly towards the marsh a uniform distance, usually 40 or 60 arpents, leaving a consistent and well-drained swath of land in between. Despite years of adaptations and transformations, much of the long-lot system has remained intact demonstrating tremendous capacity to structure variation over time.

This system of land division has impacted (and continues to impact) nearly every aspect of bayou life: land use, housing, public space, commerce, distribution of public services, circulation, and orientation. One of the clearest examples of this durable typology is found along Bayou Lafourche. Once the east fork of the Mississippi River, Bayou Lafourche is now a dammed, highly controlled water-body that services the industrial, commercial, and agricultural needs of much of South Louisiana.

However, below the town of Golden Meadow, where a series of locks provide the last line of man-made defense against hurricanes and surging tidal waters, this system of settlement begins to slip away. As land loss becomes an increasingly apparent reality and competing interest groups vie for the control of the remaining surface, the settlement patterns and land use practices shift, conforming less to an archaic system of land division and increasingly to a more fluid definition of surface and usable “ground.”
This paper will explore two case studies, one from the central Bayou Lafourche region that demonstrates a clear allegiance to the long-lot system and the variety of transformations it enables, and the other from beyond the locks, where the system is abandoned in favor of an ongoing negotiation between the need to secure a home and the inevitable shifting of the fragile marsh landscape.

Farhad Amiri Fard, “Limiting the imbalanced development of big cities by granting immediate accessibility to amenities in suburban regions”

The excessive expansion of big cities at a regional level is one of the grave problems of urban system due to fragile, regional balance. The existing imbalance is obviously seen in spatial structure of services, industries, and other activities’ settlement.

This problem exacerbates not only the rate of population elasticity for big cities, but also lack of spatial imbalance daily by attracting the urban dwellers and also villagers. Rasht in the regional skill in Guilan Province experienced a fast growth in population, services and activities settlement comparing to its suburban areas in recent years, hence faster and continual faster in the present and future situation. The basic and fundamental question is whether we can limit the development of major cities by a rise in accessibility to welfare services in the environment.

This question is influenced by different factors and reasons; therefore, to answer it we have to determine the diverse functional stance of sprawling cities on surrounding areas, requiring the application of spatial methodology associated with different time phases and present situation. In this method, we can analyze the problem by collecting necessary information in quantitative and geometrical methods model and as a result we come to a logical conclusion accompanied by recognizing the problematic aspects and setting aims and programs for the future.


“Rapidly accelerating climate change, caused by greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, is now fueling dangerous regional and global environmental events. Buildings are responsible for almost half (48%) of all GHG emissions annually and 76% of all electricity generated by US power plants goes to supply the building sector. Therefore, immediate action in design and planning is essential if we are to avoid hazardous climate change.”

The distribution of energy demand and the portfolio of required energy uses vary with respect to location and climatic condition. The European Union observes nearly 35° of latitude difference from Greece to Scandinavia. This spread is even larger in the North America. The technologies and strategies for achieving goals associated with carbon-reduction and transitioning to a renewable energy future exist within these environments, and although they will continue to improve with time, the precedents are sufficiently advanced at the present to allow for major penetrations of renewable energy into mainstream design and societal infrastructures. Hence, a focused interdisciplinary collaboration that explores precedents for sustainable building practices and solar energy in architecture and urban design projects in Europe and applies them to the building context of North America is of great value. The goal of this paper is to increase public awareness of the importance of efficient, sustainable energy at the building and community scales. The authors, representing different disciplines including architecture, material science and engineering, and economics, discuss the potential (focusing on energy supply and demand) and implementation (specifically policy and financial strategies) necessary in moving the planned world towards a renewable energy future. The strategies outlined in this paper will assist in furthering understanding of the advantages of a shift in thinking from individual building-scale sustainable design practices to realizing the social and environmental benefits of thinking about renewable energy within our communities.

2. Lisa D. Iulo, Assistant Professor of Architecture; Seth Blumsack, Assistant Professor of Energy Policy; Jeffrey R. S. Brownson, Assistant Professor of Energy and Mineral Engineering; R. Allen Kimel. Assistant Professor / Associate Head of Material Sciences, The Pennsylvania State University. 2010.


Due to a lack in foresight in urban and rural planning, many developing countries face challenges in implementing and monitoring the development of their cities, towns, rural areas, and residential communities. Some of the challenges that they face, such as pollution and traffic, can lead to conditions that are considered hazardous to human life, as well as to the environment, and can result in communities that do not run efficiently. With the right tools, planners, surveyors and engineers, who possess technical expertise, political know-how, and financial insight can transform a vision of tomorrow into a strategic action plan for today. Decision-making tools based on GIS and remote sensing data can help in the careful, creative and sustainable planning of societies and communities. This paper provides a critical review about the issues and challenges in urban and rural planning and development in developing countries with high population densities, specifically Indonesia and Bangladesh, and conventional solutions that are currently being employed, including those based on GIS and remote sensing data. This study is one component of an on-going research project that is focused on the development of an enhanced model for a spatial decision-support information system for Indonesia and Bangladesh, which employs GIS for such activities as natural resource assessment, natural disaster management, water shed development, environmental planning, land use monitoring, planning and management, and urban service planning. This model will be practically applied for the development of an early-warning escape plan for natural disaster management in Indonesia and for transportation network development and sustainable urban planning in Bangladesh.

Jeremy Kargon, “The Irony of Intervention: Identifying Landscape Amid its Despoliation and Remediation”

Few processes impose their mark upon the world more starkly than strip-mining. For how often does human work in the landscape overwhelm the scale of geology or natural geography? Such out-scaled development may often appear incredible, absurd, or even intentionally ironic. Yet the notion of irony, in which explicit meaning is different from intended meaning, may be a useful critical tool for extending certain concepts, which otherwise guide conventional discussion about design throughout the environment. J. B. Jackson, for instance, wrote about the “vernacular” landscape. But how can the word – which denotes characteristics unintended, unselfconscious, yet entirely artificial – be applied to landscape? Are there circumstances in which understanding the transition from a natural to man-made landscape can be moderated by “ironic” sensibilities?

On-going work by Shlomo Aronson at the Negev Phosphate Works is a useful example. This case study shows how a mining company solicited design expertise for essentially technical reasons. At Aronson’s direction, mining debris was collected and re-graded, according to specific designs, to anticipate and resist unwanted erosion. Yet of greater significance was the explicit relationship between the proposed forms and the adjacent, natural landscape. Aronson has written, in fact, of an “echo” between restructured mining debris and the surrounding geological formations. One can perceive, further, a kind of visual vernacular, established by the natural landscape’s own precedent at an existing place and time. Fidelity to this vernacular assures Aronson’s work its public and critical acceptance. But perception of this vernacular, in the first place,
depends upon the subtle, ironic chiasm between site specificity and its opposite: the general concept of landscape itself.

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Leanna Marie Medal & Mark Boyer, “Urban Slums in sub-Saharan Africa: Understanding their Origins/Evolution and Methods for Improvement”

Shockingly, it is currently estimated that one billion people in the world live in urban slums and that within the next twenty-five years their population will double (Tibaijuka 2005). For many sub-Saharan African countries, meeting the Millennium Development Goals set up by the United Nations is the most important upcoming measurable for their fight against poverty. According to the Millennium Development Goals 2008 Report, in 2005 slightly more than 60% of the urban population of sub-Saharan Africa was made of slum dwellers. In urban communities, slums present basic problems such as unclean water, little to no sanitation, a lack of adequate living space, a lack of durable housing, and no secure tenure. These four problems interest me because they are all in some ways related to both community design and environmental health.

Currently many organizations throughout the world are striving to upgrade existing slum conditions while also attempting to stop the urbanization of poverty from increasing. If they knew which methods worked best and could collaborate more, they could more effectively direct their time, money, and efforts to make a larger difference. Additionally, due to the projected increase in the urban slum population, identifying methodologies to improve and prevent urban slums is a step in the right direction toward decreasing the existence of poverty. The objective of this research then is to combine existing knowledge about the origins and evolution of urban slums with knowledge about current methods for improving and preventing urban slums in order to learn from the past and to project that comprehension into the future. Overall, my research will contribute to furthering the connection between community planning and the improvement of urban slums. In addition, I hope that connecting interdisciplinary research covering this topic will produce cooperative call for action.

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Michellester Ordoñez Monteron, “Utilization of shrimp and crab and its perceived effects on selected coastal areas along Panguil Bay”

The focal concern of this study is to examine the nature of utilizing shrimp and crab in two different habitats, namely sea and fishpond, and how these affect the five selected coastal areas along Panguil Bay. Undertaken in the months of December 2008 to October 2009, it basically employed a triangulation of quantitative and qualitative methods for data gathering and analysis. Primary data were generated through a combination of survey (n=60) and key informant interviews (n=15) supplemented by field observation and secondary sources. The quantitative data were analyzed using mean scores with the aid of Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS), whereas qualitative data were subjected to content analysis.

Among fisherfolks involved in the study, harvesting techniques are of two kinds, traditional and modern; those of the fishpond are of three types—traditional, semi-traditional and modern. The utilization of sea harvesting techniques and traditional fishpond design is conditioned on certain seasonal geophysical attributes of the Bay: seasonal wind direction, tidal meters, moon position/rotation, tidal cycle, and tidal current. On the other hand modern sea harvesting and semi-traditional and intensive fishpond design are basically operated using harmful chemicals and more advanced equipment like motor-canter boat with enlarged and modified parts. Traditional sea harvesting techniques consist of bu-bun, sanggab, pakot, baling, sud-sud de manu, bunsod, and paugmad and the modern ones include trawl and motorized sud-sud. In the case of fishpond habitat, this only involves three designs namely traditional, semi-traditional, and intensive design.

Both traditional in sea and fishpond habitats create relative damage on the environment emerging from their basic component parts, nature of operation, and volume of harvest. Damaging traditional sea
harvesting techniques involve equipment made with fine synthetic nettings that catch fine fishes (i.e., sanggab, bunsod and paugmad) or through their mode of operation disturb marine resources as they are dragged or pushed into seabed (i.e., baling and sud-sud de manu). Similarly, devastating effects are created by trawl and motorized sud-sud which are both equipped with heavy board and five synthetic nettings.

Similarly, semi-traditional and intensive fishpond designs create detrimental effects on marine resources since they involve the use of toxic chemicals during the pre-cultivation and harvesting activities. They likewise require the removal of mangrove areas for concreting of sub-floor and dikes to ensure easy water exchange and higher yields limiting productivity of other species around mangrove areas. Correspondingly, the greater the volume of harvest generated through these techniques, the greater the yield the worse harm is inflicted on marine resources. Among the environmental damage that these techniques have been commonly perceived to have brought about are dying of coral reefs, loss of fingerlings of sea grasses and subsidence of seabed.

The government however has not been remised in its responsibility in coastal management. It has implemented specific laws and measures for the protection and conservation of coastal resources base. Most of them involved community-based resource management schemes. However much has yet remains to be seen in terms of effectiveness with which these government measures have been implemented. This has been apparently attributed to lack of active participation among local constituents.

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Victor Manuel Neves, “Urban Sprawl/ The claim for limits”

The urban sprawl has terrible consequences in Europe, and specially in my country- Portugal, (member of the European Community) : occupation and degradation of agricultural soils; the contamination of water lines; the huge costs of infrastructures (for new urban settlements), and, last but not least, the visual and physical degradation of the landscape. But this phenomenon also affects the underdeveloped world and the poorest areas of the planet, and it is associated with the uncontrolled growth of cities, the increase of population and the lack of housing.

The archipelago of Cape Verde (a Portuguese colony until 1975) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cape_Verde is an interesting case-study. In Cape Verde, the phenomenon of urban sprawl is visible, especially in its major cities- Mindelo and Praia (the capital). Cape Verde seems to have everything that could be the harsh reality of the coming decades of the XXI century. Water shortage, deforestation, displacement of population from the country to the cities. And cities without limits. It is a good case-study to understand how our contemporary cities can be controlled in its growth. And the main question is: How can we limit the city, in our contemporary world? The classic use of highways, railway lines, water lines, are, as you know, easily surmountable by urban sprawl. And the forest? - The forest as we know, contains an environmental and economic potential. And has an ethical value still recognized by our society, because cutting down a tree is still objectionable in our society. But can it be a urban limit? And in the specific case of Cape Verde, is the forest sustainable as an urban containment? Can it be an element of the urban form? Is the forest viable in a territory with, very irregular and low rainfall?

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The twentieth century saw a concerted effort to plan urban spaces that excluded non-human ecosystems, agriculture, and organic self-ordering of the human cultures within them. This interruption of a more organic cityscape has come with the steam cost of long commutes, a growing and damaging alienation from other species, and a widespread decline in the social and spatial capital associated with walkable and vibrant public spaces. As humanity has become a predominantly urban species, however, diverse and complex
neighbourhoods that contain a rich intermingling of human and nonhuman spaces have become greatly desired, and command premium real estate values. This paper argues that nonhuman elements are a vital component of what we call "global agora neighbourhoods", yet the fostering of such neighbourhoods requires a seismic shift in North American planning. This presentation discusses examples of where the false dicotomy of nature/culture has been challenged in an urban setting, and suggest how planners can encourage the complex evolution of space that leads to great and green urban fabrics.

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HamidReza Saremi, “Secure City From the Viewpoint of Islam”

The idea of drawing secure cities from the vantage of Islam is a new and fundamental research into realizing the elimination of the insecurity-producing factors and creating the grounds for emergence of security in cities. Development of science and technology, with all positive changes it has induced, has not helped security of cities. The reports by reliable world organizations demonstrate that ever-increasing growth of threats of natural calamities, violence, crime, juvenile delinquency, marginal dwelling, and expansion of poverty are all against safety and security of cities. Need to security, among other things, is of higher importance. In the planning and urban development system, proofing against natural disasters and struggling against human-induced insecurity have not led to security in cities. Continuation of this process, too, will not result in improvement of security in cities. Holy Qur’an considers the bad deed of people as the cause of insecurity and natural disasters and sees the good deed a ground for realization of secure cities. From this viewpoint, change in behavior and social norms on the basis of Qur’anic teachings will lead to elimination of insecurity and realization of security in cities. The direct relationship between natural calamities and human acts and deed is a new idea and perspective in the arena of urban management.

This paper has been compiled, in this direction and by use of the infinite source of Qur’an for emergence of secure cities. Then, the factors inducing insecurity in cities have been dealt with. The strategies for creating secure cities from the viewpoint of Islam have been expressed, the human status and esteem as the surrogate of the Almighty have been regarded and the perspective and process of secure cities have been compiled. The characteristics of safe and secure cities have been expressed in the notion of ‘paradise’ as a human example on the Earth and its relationship with secure cities has been discussed. The fact is that Islam improves this world before the future life; and, so long as the individual world has not been improved, there exists no hope for improvement in the future life. The world of poverty, darkness, ignorance, disorder, hardness and insecurity will not lead to security, glory and greatness in the future life. In this regard, the principles of creating secure cities have been expressed on the basis of verses and narratives. Finally, the relationship of research findings with hypotheses and relationship of disasters with deeds and, also, the explanation of the ways of realizing safe and secure cities have been discussed.

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Hisham El Shimy,”Measuring the economical impact to the sustainable development of architectural heritage sites and tourism areas in Metropolis: A pilot study for developing practical Elmouaz street, Fatimic Area, Cairo”

The city's architectural heritage is a major part constitutes the essence and specific historical value, so the development of core areas of architectural heritage is an approach of the city development plan.

The importance of this study, is planning studies to address the analytical areas of architectural heritage with take into account the dimension of the economic side and a common link is restricted to return to the utilitarian perspective of economic development as a specific evaluative Standard and the main purpose of the study is to reach a matrix to measure the economic returns to the development of areas of architectural heritage as an input to the scheme of development of the Metropolis who has a pilot study of the study area. The aims, parallel with the purpose of the study, are concentrated in defining the future framework for the development of aspects of urban heritage development as part of the city’s Islamic and highlight the economic
output of the Architectural Heritage

The methodology of the study is the systematic nature, ranging through the stages of research seemed to view the inductive phase of the foundations of planning and development mechanisms for regions. Architectural Heritage Phase inferring through prioritization planning, and focus on the economic dimension as a parameter of the major graphic developmental studies, and phase is applied through the study of the analysis program to measure the economic impact and expected. Conclusions that can be out of this reach, the architectural heritage areas are important elements that can make use in the development of economic resources of the hinterland of the Metropolis and that the economic impacts of a specific development plans, there by helping to take executive decisions, as well as the adjustment of the administrative heritage of the interested parties is the key to the success of urban development projects of heritage areas and linking developmental nuclei of areas of the city's architectural heritage of the syllabus to draw a key linkages and the formation of axes of city development plans of the developing countries.

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Robert Silance “Dirt for Sale: Constructing the Landscape of the New American South”

The I-85 corridor between Charlotte, North Carolina, and Atlanta, Georgia, is one of the five fastest growing regions in the country. As this system intersects with the upstate counties of South Carolina, population growth and land use changes are increasing at alarming rates. In the resulting rural-urban fringe areas, the traditional boundaries between cities and the surrounding countryside are becoming eroded, and are being transformed into alternate economic and spatial conditions. This transformation is characterized by residential cul-de-sac subdivisions and commercial strip developments in undifferentiated and dispersed patterns that put enormous economic pressure on open farmland, forests, and otherwise idle property. The net result of this transformation is a degradation of the air and water quality, loss of wildlife habitat, a scarcity of open space and scenic vistas, and the overall fading of rural character.

The work presented here is a response to this dynamic condition and is part of a current, on-going body of work entitled: “Dirt for Sale: Constructing the Landscape of the New South”. It presents a photographic documentation of these varied physical conditions as the Southern Landscape is being transformed into something different.

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Anand Singh, “Living alongside the unplanned: Acceptance and ambiguities among settled residents and squatters in Durban”

This paper is about the ambiguities that have emerged over time among middle class Indian residents who have become accustomed to living alongside African squatters in informal settlements in Durban, South Africa. As a post-1994 phenomenon informal settlements have served to test the limits of racial tolerance and acceptance among classified groups of people who were previously ensconced in neighbourhoods that were not only strictly for classified racial groups, but also reflective of class positions. The unbridled sprouting of informal settlements have come to represent almost ad-hoc forms of post-apartheid social re-engineering that are akin to forced integration. This has led to both acceptance and rejection on both sides of the racial divide. While ordinary middle class residents responded with statements of abhorance, others such as entrepreneurs who are constantly in search of cheap labour, remain ambivalent, if not totally accepting of the informal settlements because of cheap labour. Squatters themelves prefer to remain in such shacks out of sheer economic necessity. This paper will aim to discuss how this phenomenon is not only likely to remain a long term one, but is also countervailed by bitter-sweet relations that has a tendency to re-racialise South Africa on the other hand.

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Rodolfo Torregroza, “The social networks, social representations and transnational actors”

The increasing complexity of development and economic and cultural networks that operate on a global scale and on a global basis that allows certain key ideas of local and national cross the boundaries of nation states getting involved in other extra-local and international recognition and legitimization of their needs and conflicts. Citizens groups and other informal networks of formal organization, in which communities of people from its online forums, they begin to imagine and perceive that they may be able to build translocal spaces for collective action.

Communities appear "virtual" opening new ways of interaction, to group interests and share experiences in the field of interactive communication. In this way, makes its appearance a global community of citizens around important issues of human life. Human rights, war, globalization, environment, objects are no longer the exclusive concern of States, institutions and media for topics through which others share information, provide resources or coordinate actions on them.

We can think of social representations as words or images "key" within the discourses of social actors: they are units that condense within these lines. Thus, guide and give meaning to social practices that develop these players on them, and are modified by such practices. Thus, it is interesting that these representations not only give meaning to social practices of certain players, but they specifically allow the establishment of certain transnational relations and, in turn, altered by their own development.

Rodolfo Torregroza, “The Social Representations of ‘the justice and peace law’ in Colombia’s Press”

The investigation finds through methods and support in the referring of the socials representations theory in order to describe the cognitive dimension of the Colombia’s Press on the justice and peace law. These representations are interpreted through formalizations that are satisfied segmenting in graphical forms )codes(, corpus of the news, considered as continuation of separated occurrences, to each other, by means of several delimited characters.


One of the major problems in solid waste management concerns the selection of an appropriate site for landfill. Despite some efforts to reduce and recycle the waste, landfill disposal is still the most preferable method. The aim of this research is to develop a landfill siting methodology by employing GIS. The chosen study area is the District of Klang, Selangor, Malaysia. For this purpose, eleven criteria have been identified relating to the social, environmental and economic aspects. The multi-criteria decision making )MCDM(, rule, which consist of analytical hierarchy processes )AHP(, and weighted linear combinations )WLC(, are integrated into a GIS environment. The GIS is used for inputting, managing and visualizing the geographic data, while the AHP and WLC methods are employed in order to analyze the data, to determine weights for the criteria, and to rank potential areas based on their suitability for landfill siting, according to the suitability index )SI( values.

Application of the presented method indicated 5 potential sites for landfill with SI values varying from 2.67 to 4.00. The results show that the use of GIS as a decision support system can be very helpful to policy makers in solid waste management issues.