

**International Congress & Forum on Urban Sustainability
“City for All”**

Congress: December 2-3, 2009

Forum: December 4, 2009

Introduction

The International Congress and Forum on Urban Sustainability aims to open the debate on urban sustainable development in relation to the concept of space. This forum approaches the concept of the "city" as a multi-disciplinary subject with its own complexities, and realizes that for a better understanding of Urban Space Quality one must first understand "human space". It is only then that we can begin to think about, initiate, and present designs for the promotion of Urban Quality.

This forum invites researchers, scholars, professionals, and academics to participate and present their ideas and perspectives on the concept of sustainable development with an approach to urban space development.

Slogan

"City for All"

Themes

1. Redefining the concept of space in a city,
2. Redefining the concept of urban sustainable development,
3. Relationship between the development and quality of the urban living environment,
4. Concept of space in the context of "City for All"
5. Redefining the concept of sustainability in a city

Side Event Theme Presented by Host

Urban sustainable development for Qazvin (approaches and challenges)

Location

Islamic Azad University
Qazvin, Iran

Date

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Invitation

When talking about cities, it becomes very important if they are discussed in terms of urban space.

Maybe, at first glance the “knowledge of space” does not seem so important when compared with other issues related to the city. However, any disregard for the urban space in our cities will have drastic and irreparable impact on their liveliness and prosperity.

It is clear that people’s “presence” in cities depends on the potentials offered by their general space and conditions as well as their inter-personal relations. In some countries, this objective is achieved through a social approach to urban planning.

Citizenship and cultural diversity are very significant in wealth distribution in the cities. Therefore, we proudly invite all scholars and researchers to take part in this forum and international congress.

Mohammad Nader Mohammadzadeh

Head of the Housing and Urban Planning Organization of Qazvin

Statement from the Secretary of the Congress & Forum

Urban sustainable development is a wide-ranging concept which directly affects city quality, which in turn directly affects the quality of life of its residents. This event aims to narrow this broad scope with a focus on "space" and in particular "urban space".

A person's home and their city both form the living environment of that person, but each in its own scope. The quality of space of both plays a significant role in the living environment of that person.

Interesting enough, even though the concepts of "development" and "space" both indicate different qualities they are strongly related to each other. This conference intends to open the debate on the recognition of these concepts in relation to both each other and the city.

The slogan of this forum emphasizes equal urban opportunities for all people in terms of living space, and promotes the fair and equal use of the city by all. Furthermore, it considers the access to sustainable development by all the people an absolute priority.

In this regard, it is my pleasure to invite all academics and scholars of urban sustainability to join our discussions on the themes of the event.

We also welcome initiatives by participants of the forum to share their practices from their home countries.

Finally, the issues discussed in the forum will be published in the form of a book.

Reza Pourvaziry

Secretary of the congress and forum

President, International Art & Architecture Research Association (IAARA)

Organizers

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The lead agency within the United Nations system to promote sustainable urbanization through policy formulation, institutional reform, capacity-building, technical cooperation and advocacy, and to monitor the state of human settlements in a rapidly urbanizing world, including, *inter alia*, the documentation of Best Practices (BP), and to promote and facilitate the exchange and transfer of experiences and knowledge for improving the living environment.

The International Art & Architecture Research Association (IAARA)

Established in 2003 as a non-profit and non-governmental association with the goal to be effective in designing process, production and rehabilitation of the urban environment. The advisors of the organization are a number of well-known architects and university professors. IAARA collaborates with national and international entities, universities and research institutions, in numerous architectural and operational training projects on urban management.

Housing & Urban Planning Organization of Qazvin Province

Established in 1997, the Housing & Urban Planning Organization of Qazvin is responsible for the planning, steering, and monitoring of all urban development projects in addition to providing housing for the poor. The organization is also involved in the Local Agenda 21 programme for the city of Qazvin.

Sponsors

- Islamic Azad University
- Qazvin Municipality
- Takestan Municipality
- Alvand Municipality
- Mohammadieh Municipality

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