

"WORLD CLASS CITIES: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS, PLANNING OPPORTUNITIES?"

The 7th International Symposium of the International Urban Planning and Environment Association (UPE 7) will be held 3-5 January 2007, in Bangkok Thailand.

Summary Description follows here.

Additional information will be posted to this listserv as available (apologies for any cross-postings you may encounter).

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS: JUNE 1, 2006

In January 2007, Kasetsart University will host UPE 7.

This conference brings together researchers, policy makers, professionals and academics from different countries to discuss latest developments on economic, social and environmental issues of cities, as well as the methodologies that are being used to assess them. For 2007, the conference will focus on the growing debate concerning what it means to be "world class" when it comes to cities, people and their environments.

WHAT IS A WORLD CLASS CITY?

The term 'world class' has grown as a phenomenon and so has its usage across domains. For cities, proponents have attempted to stake claims regarding the quality of life, environmental improvement, creativity, freedom and cultural assets, all in the name of being "world class". How is "world class" transforming the way we understand urban planning and environment? The phenomenon of the "world class city" has both global and local implications, as it increasingly influences policy-making, planning strategies, and relationships with society's value systems, social hierarchies and status. Interested participants are invited to submit papers that address the following issues:

- How successfully does the "world class" phenomenon relate to the

complexities of our urban environment?

- What are the impacts of these aspirations for planning and the environment?
- What are the consequences for urban regions?
- Does a world-class city mean that other cities in the country are deprived of resources?
- Do those cities achieving world-class status improve the quality of life for all their citizens, and are the changes sustainable?

UPE 7 in Bangkok will mark several 'firsts'. For the first time, the conference will be located in Asia. As a major Asian metropolis, Bangkok reflects the region's developments in terms of its pattern of growth, environmental concerns and cultural heritage. In addition, with the selected theme - "World Class Cities?" - the conference aims to reach beyond its current audience and to invite new participants to join - particularly those that may not be traditionally associated with the planning disciplines, but are increasingly impacting and changing the way cities are being designed, built, inhabited and managed.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Interested participants are invited to submit an abstract, not to exceed 500 words. All abstracts and papers must be written and presented in English. A curriculum vita of the author(s) is also required. All authors must submit an electronic copy of their abstract and short CV via e-mail. Abstract and CVs must be placed within the body of the e-mail, and also as attachments.

Please email this material no later than June 1, 2006.

Email: upebangkok@ku.ac.th <<mailto:upebangkok@ku.ac.th>>

PRE-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

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| June 1, 2006 | Deadline for receipt of abstracts and CVs |
| July 1, 2006 | Email notification of accepted abstracts for conference presentation |
| September 30, 2006 | Deadline for pre-registration and paper submission |
| October 31, 2006 | Notification for accepted papers for presentations |
| January 3-5, 2007 | Conference presentations |

INQUIRIES

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