Special Session Proposal

Sustainable Cities and Inclusive Communities

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Abstract

Rapid Urbanisation all over the world is throwing various challenge for policy makers, planners and local governments. With more than half of the world population living in towns and cities, it has become a common place statement to say that we live in an urban world. Not only are cities growing, but they are producing more and more of the world's wealth. As a consequence, urban inequality is becoming more widespread, with measures of inequality growing most rapidly in cities with lower income levels. There is disparity in access to basic amenities in cities. Majority of people living in cities suffer from inadequate housing and transport, poor sanitation and waste management, and air quality failing WHO guidelines. Pollution and congestion, shifts from fresh to processed foods, and a dearth of space for walking, cycling and exercise also combine to make cities epicenters of the NCD epidemic and drivers of climate change. In order to achieve inclusive communities to make cities sustainable the focus should be on access to safe and adequate housing as in most urban areas a vast majority live in slums where households lack durable housing, sufficient living space, secure tenure, or easy access to safe water or adequate sanitation facilities. The focus should be on building resilient and safe cities particularly for women, children elderly and people with special needs. This special session will focus on

1.   Innovative methods as case studies from different cities to make them inclusive safe and resilient

2.   Inclusive access to city common resources

3.   Inclusive planning for sustainable cities

4.   Social Inclusion for sustainable cities