Green Energy and Technology

Adriano Bisello · Daniele Vettorato
Pierre Laconte · Simona Costa *Editors*

Smart and Sustainable Planning for Cities and Regions

Results of SSPCR 2017

eurac research

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A. Bisello, D. Vettorato, P. Laconte, S. Costa (Eds.)

Smart and Sustainable Planning for Cities and Regions

This book comprises a selection of the top contributions presented at the second international conference "Smart and Sustainable Planning for Cities and Regions 2017", held in March 2017 in Bolzano, Italy.
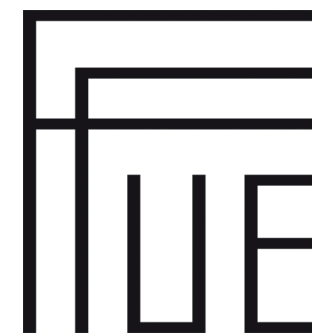
Featuring 46 papers by policy-makers, academics and consultants, it discusses current groundbreaking research in smart and sustainable planning, including quality of life.

Key topics in this volume are among others ICTs, public spaces and society; strategies and actions for good governance; urban-rural innovation; rethinking mobility.

The introductory keynote address was delivered by Pierre Laconte:

"Smart and sustainable cities: what is smart? what is sustainable?".

www.ffue.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/EURAC-conference-abstract-Laconte.pdf

Foundation for the Urban Environment (FFUE)

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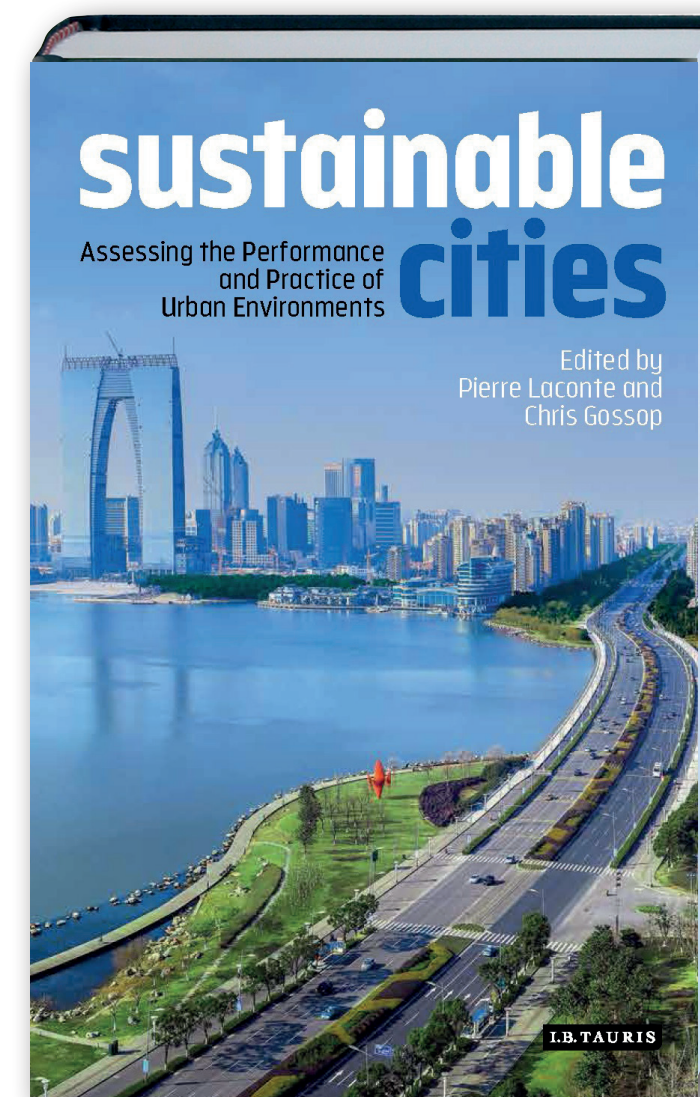https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFGHFbygACfaIGK7ZbTBGhg

The **Foundation for the Urban Environment Pierre Laconte** focuses on the interface and synergy between:

1. Land use and planning, including cultural heritage conservation and improvement.
2. Transport and mobility.
3. Environment, at global and local level (climate/energy/resources).

Latest publications

sustainable cities

Assessing the Performance and Practice of Urban Environments

Edited by
Pierre Laconte and
Chris Gossop

I.B.TAURIS

www.ibtauris.com

I.B.TAURIS
PUBLISHERS

Pierre LACONTE (ed.) & Chris GOSSOP (co-ed.), *Sustainable cities.*
Assessing the Performance and Practice of Urban Environments,
I.B. Tauris, London-New York, 2016.

Main content

- **Part I** examines the built environment at three levels of observation – individual buildings, urban neighbourhoods and entire cities and towns. While charting the genuine improvements made, it also reveals the scale and complexity of the task ahead.

- **Part II** offers a critical assessment of the techniques used to assess global and local sustainability, including the measurement of greenhouse gas emissions, ecological footprint analysis, and the assessment of urban biodiversity. It proposes an alternative approach to CO_2, making the case for this greenhouse gas to be seen as a resource, rather than as a liability.

- **Part III** refers to a number of examples of urban best practice: Urban transport (Peter Hall's last paper), Waterfronts as a resource, Amsterdam's ring canals (World Heritage), London's King's Cross development, Hamburg's energy efficiency district, Lee Kuan Yew World City Prizes - Bilbao, New York and Suzhou, Singapore being their model, and the new university town of Louvain near Brussels.

Some conclusions

- Climate policies are strongly related to national geopolitics (e.g. in China, Russia, USA, Canada, Australia), while addressing common planetary issues. Policies affecting energy use are mostly determined at sub-national or local level, closer to citizens.

- There is broad agreement about greenhouse gases (GHG) measurement at planetary level, but not at the level of individual urban areas (e.g. the impact of GHG imports and exports). Connections can be made between energy use and the volume of emissions rather than direct GHG calculation.

- Sustainability is linked to circularity, i.e. the saving and reuse of scarce resources, including energy. Greenhouse gases can be recycled towards value-added secondary materials.

- Good practice in urban sustainability is linked to a space and time framework and to the assess-ment tools utilised. Examples show the need for best practice to be regularly revisited.

- Management of urban environments requires synergy between local measures affecting the different components of urban quality of life: air, water, soil quality, energy use, etc.

"a masterpiece gathering the wisdoms of well-known experts
from different fields concerning sustainable cities"

Chen Yulin, Jiang Yang - Review on "Sustainable Cities: Assessing the Performance and Practice of Urban Environments" in *China City Planning Review* vol. 26, No. 2, 2017, pp. 75-78.

Price £ 90.00

Pierre LACONTE (ed.)
Energy, mobility and the quality of life: from global to local

This book, planned for 2020, will further explore the future of energy production and consumption at both the GLOBAL and the LOCAL level. The link between CO_2/GHG emissions and climate change is agreed by a majority of climatologists. One could describe this is as the domain of "climatology".

But all observers agree that fossil fuel consumption - the main source of emissions - is increasing instead of decreasing because production of such fuels is politically supported and heavily subsi-dised at country level.

Linking CO_2/GHG emissions, which are "planetary", to energy policies, which are "local", is admittedly difficult, because there is no agreed way to quantify the emissions at the "local" level. This raises a governance issue. The quality of the environment and the policies to achieve it are determined at the "local" level. They are linked to energy provision. One could describe these as elements of "human ecology".

The project for 2020 aims to cast some light on ways to reduce fossil energy consumption, in order to reduce both "global" GHG emissions which affect the climate and "local" pollution which affects the quality of life.

Reducing the total energy consumption necesarily requires an appropriate rules of public governance at all levels and of private corporate responsibility in saving resources.

For a case study the book focuses on the central Belgian conurbation, which is characterised by a dispersed system of governance.

Autonomous Vehicles. Keolis, Lyon, 2017.