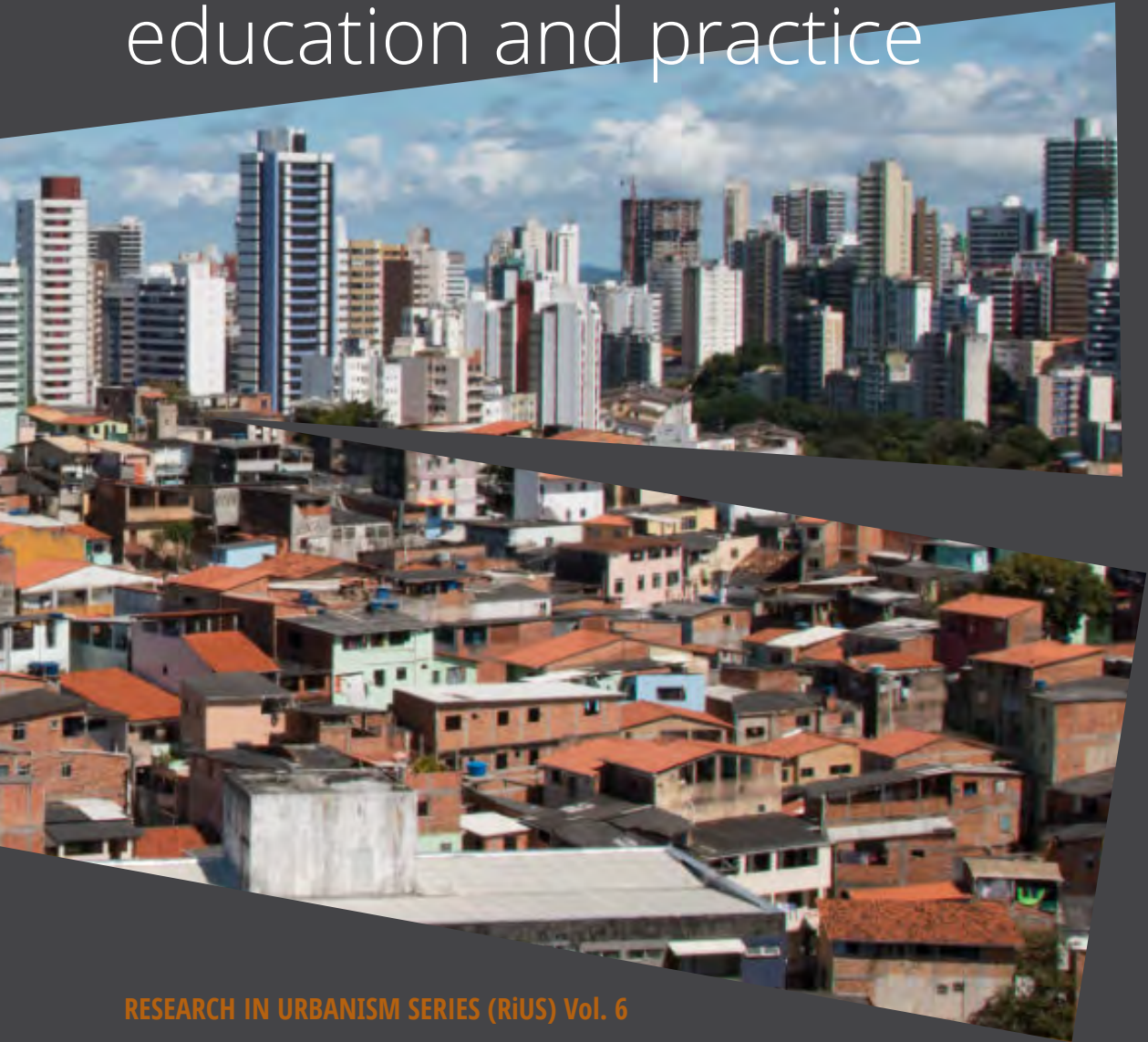


Inclusive Urbanism

Advances in research,
education and practice



RESEARCH IN URBANISM SERIES (RiUS) Vol. 6

Wolfgang Wende, Steffen Nijhuis, Angela Mensing-de Jong & Melanie Humann (Eds.)

Inclusive Urbanism

Advances in research, education and practice

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Edited by

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Steffen Nijhuis

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Aims & scope

RiUS is a peer-reviewed and indexed academic publication series that deals with dynamics, planning and design in contemporary urban areas. It provides an outlet for investigation, analysis, and exploration in the overlapping fields of urban design, urban planning, regional planning, metropolitan design, spatial planning, urban renewal, urban management, landscape architecture, environmental design, sustainability, urban technology, urban mobility housing and cultural heritage.

RiUS is aimed at designers, researchers, planners, consultants, decision-makers and politicians. It pays special attention to design, research, techniques, methodology and theory. RiUS laboratory facilitates a dialogue between the community and society at large through high-quality publications focusing on transformation and sustainability.

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Social inequality - Favela and buildings © Gustavo Mello – stock.adobe.com.jpeg

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The book has been initiated by the Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development Dresden (IOER) and is implemented and compiled by editors from IOER, the TU Delft and the TU Dresden. The activities on this publication have been supported (also financially) by all three institutions. Additionally, this joint book project is part of TU Dresden's Institutional Strategy, funded by the EXCELLENCE INITIATIVE of the German Federal and State Governments. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all three institutions for their generous support of this publication.

We would kindly like to thank all authors for providing fruitful and inspiring contributions illustrating already so many urban activities on 'inclusivity' around the world. The editors would like to express special thank you to all the reviewers taking part in this project, and offering us extensive and confident support in all steps of the review process.

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Editors:

Wolfgang Wende

Steffen Nijhuis

Angela Mensing-de Jong

Melanie Humann

Currently the world is facing major challenges related to ongoing urbanization. More than half of the global population already lives in cities, and rapid urban growth – whether planned or spontaneous – seems set to continue. The associated large-scale transformation of urban and rural landscapes is turning the spotlight on environmental issues and questions of sustainability. The UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the New Urban Agenda/Habitat III provide a framework for a fast urban development by encouraging the integration of social and ecological aspects into urbanism. One important task for urbanism is to “make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”. But what does this mean for research, education and practice in spatial design and planning? Which emerging research topics can be identified? Do we need alternative formats for teaching and for knowledge transfer? This book focuses on inclusive urbanism as one factor of sustainable urban development.

Inclusivity in this respect means confronting urban segregation in its three-dimensional nexus of economic exclusion, social exclusion and an unjust access to urban and environmental qualities and resources, which conspire to maintain the disadvantages suffered by low-power, minor and/or marginalized communities. Clearly, inclusivity is strongly linked to urban justice as well as participatory approaches.

Even before the introduction of Sustainable Development Goal No. 11, there existed a long history of research and literature already addressing the need to foster social urban justice. For example, in the early 1970s, Harvey (1973) attempted in his book “Social Justice and the City” to lay out a paradigm and baseline for the responsibility of urban geography to create inclusive urban structures. Harvey's focus was on the income inequality between richer and poorer urban neighbourhoods, and the implications for the spatial form of the city. He determined that income level is one of the main driving forces not just for inequality but also for the urban segregation of different communal groups.

In the article “The Just City”, Susan Fainstein argued that democracy, diversity and equity are the three governing principles of urban justice (Fainstein 2013). She believes that local policies can make urban life better or worse for people, in particular more integrative/inclusive or more divisive/exclusive. Expanding on this view, clearly there are many decisions made at the local level, for example involving housing, transport, and recreation that differentially affect people’s quality of life in respect to inclusion.

Pearsall and Anguelovski (2016) analyzed environmental gentrification, which is the exclusion, marginalization and displacement of long-term residents due to sustainability planning or green developments and amenities, such as smart growth and public park renovations. Such gentrification is leading to community homogenization as well as to the exclusion of sections of the local population who do not fit with the remaining, newly streamlined homogenous group. Hence, inclusion vs. exclusion is also a prominent aspect of landscape planning and the design of open or green spaces (see Werthmann and Bridger 2016; Tan et al. 2018). Pearsall and Anguelovski’s evaluation of relevant literature indicates several similarities with inclusivity tactics, including collective neighbourhood action, community organizing and direct tactics. They deduce a need for more research on how activists can better assert the social and political dimensions of sustainability and their right to the city, as well as how green and sustainable cities can achieve justice, equity and inclusion. Our book *Inclusive Urbanism* not only presents the latest research but also several practical examples of such tactics to enable activists to better assert their claims within social and political urban decision-making processes.

Research and literature on urban justice culminated in the formulation and adoption of the previously mentioned United Nations SDG 11. At the same time, the focus of research and literature has shifted towards the issue of ‘inclusiveness’, in particular its meaning and implication (see e.g. Thompson-Fawcett 2008, Espino 2015 or Schreiber and Carius 2016). This has created a new and powerful movement sweeping through urban and landscape policies, promoting the aims of inclusive urbanism. This is precisely the topic of our book.

Inclusive Urbanism compiles selected contributions presented at an international conference on ‘Urban Studies’ held at TU Dresden on 15 and 16 November 2018. The conference was jointly organized by the TU Dresden, the TU Delft, the Leibniz Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development Dresden, the Czech Technical University Prague and the Wrocław University of Science and Technology. The contributions gathered here offer important observations about the development of social-ecological inclusive theories and

practices in the fields of landscape architecture, urban design and planning from the perspective of research, education and practical applications. We aim to offer a wide range of theoretical insights into the meaning of inclusive spatial design and planning while showcasing new developments at the cutting-edge of research, education and practice. The reader will receive new impulses for urbanism practice through the discussion of professional case studies.

Noteworthy elements of the book are as follows:

- the potential of the term 'spontaneous' as applied to informal settlements and structures, whereby spontaneous urbanism is more positively connoted;
- an investigation of urban commons to reveal new forms of participation, integration and co-production of public and green space;
- the introduction of examples from around the world for resilient, inclusive and sustainable urban/landscape development;
- a discussion of new teaching and visualization methods that make use of maps, graphics and various perception techniques.

We hope that our book provides a valuable contribution to the challenging question of how to shape and design inclusive urban structures.

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