URBAN FUTURES CITIES & TOWNS IN TRANSITION

VANCOUVER to VLADIVOSTOK
HABITAT III and the metropolitan context
of the UNECE

Professor Brian Mark Evans
The Glasgow School of Art
HABITAT II – ISTANBUL 1976 – Worthy and Wordy
HABITAT III – Focus on the CITY – ‘A NEW URBAN AGENDA’
Joan Clos: a paradigm shift from issue to action
THE ‘REGIONAL REPORTS’ ON CITIES.
The Territories of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
North American Sub-region

EU/EFTA or Western and Central European Sub-region

Sub-region of Eastern Europe, Russia, Caucasus and Central Asia

Countries of South East Europe - United States - Canada

- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Belarus
- Georgia
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Moldova
- Russian
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Ukraine
- Uzbekistan

Austria - Belgium - Bulgaria - Croatia - Republic of Cyprus - Czech Republic, - Denmark - Hungary - Ireland - Italy - Latvia - Lithuania - Luxembourg - Malta - Netherlands - Poland - Portugal - Romania - Slovak - Slovenia - Spain - Sweden - the UK

354.4 million (2013)

287 million (2014)

520 million (?)

The Sub-Regions of the UNECE with statistics on population

North America

EU/EFTA

Eastern Europe Russia Caucasus & Central Asia

South East Europe

The Territories of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
THE BOREAL FOREST OR ‘TAIGA’
extends across the UNECE Region
greater in extent than the Amazon rain forest
THE ARCTIC OCEAN LIES ENTIRELY WITHIN THE UNECE REGION

All the signatories of the Arctic Treaties are within UNECE
**UNECE Region**

- 56 Member States – 4 sub-regions
  - **North America**
  - **Western & Central Europe** (EU & EFTA & 3 MS),
  - **Eastern Europe** (Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine), **Russia & The Caucasus** (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia) and **Central Asia** (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tadzhikistan Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan)
  - **South East Europe & Turkey & Israel**

- Home to 1.3 billion people (17% of global population)
- Approx. 45% of global GDP and 66% of world’s fresh water
- ‘The Global North’
- 263 cities of 500,000 or more
Habitat III Secretariat Draft Structure:

1. Executive Summary
2. **Urban Trends**: Urbanization and Development
   - 1996 to 2016 Spatial Development
3. Urbanization and **Economy**
4. Urbanization and **Social Equity**
5. Urbanization and **Environment**
   - Addressing: Climate Change (Adaptation); Urban Ecosystem & Resource Management; Urban Resilience & Disaster Risk Management; Spatial Development
6. Urbanization and Governance **Institutional Development**
7. Conclusion and Recommendations with *scenarios for*
   - Urban planning
   - Urban economy/prosperity
   - Urban legislation/institutions
Towards a city-focused, people-centred and integrated approach to the New Urban Agenda

– the metropolitan context of the UNECE
Figure 1.3 City population share by city size per part of the world, 2015

City population size:
- 50 000 - 250 000
- 250 000 - 500 000
- 500 000 - 1 000 000
- 1 000 000 - 5 000 000
- >5 000 000

Source: JRC 2015, GHSL Pop Grid V1
Figure 1.3 City population share by city size per part of the world, 2015

City population size:
- 50 000 - 250 000
- 250 000 - 500 000
- 500 000 - 1 000 000
- 1 000 000 - 5 000 000
- >5 000 000

Source: JRC 2015, GHSL Pop Grid V1
Figure 1.4 Population density by city size class per part of the world, 2015

City Population size:
- 50,000 - 250,000
- 250,000 - 500,000
- 500,000 - 1,000,000
- 1,000,000 - 5,000,000
- >5,000,000

Source: JRC 2015, GHSL Pop Grid V1

POPULATION DENSITY

city size class by global region 2015
Figure 1.4 Population density by city size class per part of the world, 2015

- North America
- Europe
- Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova
- Latin America & Caribbean
- Oceania
- Asia
- Africa
- World

City Population size:
- 50 000 - 250 000
- 250 000 - 500 000
- 500 000 - 1 000 000
- 1 000 000 - 5 000 000
- >5 000 000

Source: JRC 2015, GHSL Pop Grid V1
Atlanta and Barcelona have similar populations but very different carbon productivity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Urban area</th>
<th>Transport carbon emissions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Atlanta</strong></td>
<td>2.5 million</td>
<td>4,280 km²</td>
<td>7.5 tonnes CO₂/person (public + private transport)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Barcelona</strong></td>
<td>2.8 million</td>
<td>162 km²</td>
<td>0.7 tonnes CO₂/person (public + private transport)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
8 world cities with a combined population of 100 million fit into the size of Atlanta.
LIFE EXPECTANCY IN THE UNECE REGION
AGEING & LOW FERTILITY IN THE UNECE REGION
Trends & Patterns of Urbanisation & Demography

- Rural population static, very large proportion of urban dwellers – 70% and more
- Trend to urban concentration and agglomeration in clusters – ‘super-cities’
- Countervailing trend with some cities shrinking
- Tendency to sprawl in both types of city
- Rapidly ageing population (West, Central & Eastern Europe and Russia) but Central Asia growing young population
- Migration is a key issue – successive waves to large cities with increase in diversity, stagnation in cities elsewhere
average GDP Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) per person in UNECE sub regions states

GDP PPP in UNECE member states for year 2013 (Source: World Bank)
The Sub-Regions of the UNECE with statistics on population

North America

EU/EFTA

Eastern Europe, Russia, Caucasus & Central Asia

South East Europe

355

520

290

100

The Territories of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
The Economy of Cities

• Economic transition in the last 20 years – centrally planned to market economies
• Manufacturing decline since Habitat II
• Rise of the Knowledge Economy built on a digital revolution is bringing about massive opportunity for urban change with new forms of space and use and it is accelerating urban concentration
• Digital innovation offers new tools for urban planning & management and interaction with citizens & actors
• Challenge of using ‘big data’ without compromising community security
THE GENEVA UN CHARTER ON SUSTAINABLE HOUSING

Ensure access to decent, adequate, affordable and healthy housing for all.

- Affordability
- Accessibility
- Inequality
- Speed
Living in Cities

• The global financial crisis has led to more inequality
• Urban concentration has increased demand in growing cities
• Trend to privatization & greater involvement of private sector with social housing decreasing
• Limitation national authorities in housing markets – process too fast
• Contradictory trends of closed communities & shopping malls AND reaffirmation of the importance of public space
• Many factors that support equity in the city also support health and well-being of citizens (housing, transport, energy, greenspace, reduction of emissions)
Environment & Risk

• UNECE region has some 2/3 of the world’s fresh water
• UNECE region is among largest emitters of greenhouse gases per capita (concentration in urban areas)
• Air pollution, flooding and heatwaves are the most prevalent environmental issues in UNECE – cities are most vulnerable
• Environmental concern as part of quality of life is growing but ambition outstrips delivery
• Environmental threats are also health threats
THE CYCLE OF URBAN CONCENTRATION: ‘SUPER-CITIES’

1. Increasing Urbanisation & Concentration
2. Interconnected City Clusters
3. Agglomeration Knowledge Economies
4. Urban Shrinking in Cities outside the Clusters

The cycle continues with urban concentration leading to agglomeration, which in turn creates interconnected city clusters, and ultimately results in urban shrinkage in cities outside these clusters.
THE DEMOGRAPHIC CYCLE

- Ageing urban population
  - Low fertility

  Creates further challenges to isolated cities

- Migration to Successful Cluster Cities

  Reinforces economic performance of clusters
THE SHRINKING CITY – a negative urban cycle

- Outward Migration
- Oversized Infrastructure
- Declining Tax Base
- Surplus Land & Buildings
THE SPRAWLING CITY – a negative urban cycle

- Edge City & Suburban Development
- Metropolitan Coalescence
- Erosion of Functions in Urban Core
- Ineffective Public Transport
THE INDUSTRIAL CITY – an outdated paradigm?

Access to Materials & Markets

Zoning of Land for Efficiency and Health

Freight Transport Networks

Significant In-migration
THE KNOWLEDGE CITY – a positive urban cycle

1. No spatial needs beyond Proximity
2. Universities, Airports, Cultural Quarters
3. The importance of Place - Image & Attractiveness
4. Demand for Mixed-use and the Experience Economy

GLASGOW URBAN LAB
THE GLASGOW SCHOOL OF ART
THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

Access to Materials & Markets
Zoning of Land for Efficiency and Health
Significant In-migration
Freight Transport Networks

THE KNOWLEDGE CITY

No Spatial needs beyond Proximity
Universities, Airports, Cultural Quarters
The importance of Place - Image & Attractiveness
Demand for Mixed-use and the Experience Economy

Access to Materials & Markets
Zoning of Land for Efficiency and Health
Significant In-migration
Freight Transport Networks

The importance of Place - Image & Attractiveness
Demand for Mixed-use and the Experience Economy
Universities, Airports, Cultural Quarters
No Spatial needs beyond Proximity
THE COMPACT CITY – a positive urban cycle

- Effective Labour Market
- Dense Development
- Efficient Public Services
- Integrated Public Transport
THE RESILIENT CITY – a positive urban cycle
THE RESILIENT CITY – a positive urban cycle

- Leadership & Strategy
- Infrastructure & Environment
- Health & Wellbeing
- Economy & Society
Leadership & Strategy

- Enhance natural & man-made assets
- Assure continuity of critical services
- Provide mobility & communications

Infrastructure & Environment

- Promote cohesive & engaged communities
- Ensure stability, security & justice
- Foster economic prosperity

Economy & Society

- Meet basic needs
- Support livelihood & employment
- Ensure public services

Health & Wellbeing

- Promote leadership & effective management
- Empower stakeholders
- Foster long term & integrated planning

THE RESILIENT CITY – a positive urban cycle
INTEGRATION

• the final hurdle of modernism?
GOVERNANCE

- Complexity
- Capacity
Governance

• Since Habitat II increased importance of local authorities – growth of city networks
• Urban governance is de-centralised but wide variation in models
• National governments formulate policy & regulation – urban management is generally local
• Can urban governance limit urban sprawl in de-regulated markets
• The private sector plays a key role in urban transformation
• The digital revolution has brought opportunities and challenges
• The challenge in achieving an integrated approach is one of Complexity and Capacity – a massive issue.
UNECE Regional Report - Summary

1. 17% of population • 45% of GDP • 66% of fresh water
2. All of the Arctic • boreal forest is bigger than the rain forest
3. 80% in cities – 70% in agglomerative ‘super-cities’ – what to do with the remaining 10% (and 20% rural)
4. Knowledge economy & digital revolution is accelerating urban concentration – economic and housing inequality is growing ... exacerbated by ageing and migration
5. Cities on coasts, major rivers and lakes – sea-level rise & flooding
6. Environmental threats are health & economic threats
7. Awareness of environmental concern & quality of life and inequity is growing ... ambition outstrips ability to deliver
8. Compact & Resilient cities based on integrated governance of place for people is the key message – wide variation in capacity to deliver
England is one ‘Super-city’
New Middle-land

The Northern Horseshoe

So-Wat

England is one ‘Super-city’
England is one ‘Super-city’
TOWARDS A NEW PARADIGM in LANDSCAPE and ENVIRONMENT

Landscape and physical environment of cities and regions today and tomorrow.

Five years of research: background of climate change, migration, health awareness and ever increasing urban intensification: reflect on the role and the benefits of landscapes and ecosystems in our city regions.

Understanding and reasoning the landscape Towards a new paradigm in landscape and environment.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEARNING from THOUGHT</th>
<th>LEARNING from PLACE</th>
<th>LEARNING from ACTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Paradigm</td>
<td>Emscher Landscape Park</td>
<td>Power of transformation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Porritt</td>
<td>Schwarze-Rodrian</td>
<td>Verhagen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Infrastructure</td>
<td>South Pennines Watershed</td>
<td>New York High Line</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armour</td>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>Switkin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellness not Illness</td>
<td>Philadelphia</td>
<td>London Olympic Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burns</td>
<td>Neukrug</td>
<td>Mattinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Nature of Networks</td>
<td>Scotland’s Canals</td>
<td>Cheonggyecheon River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes</td>
<td>Miller</td>
<td>Kim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecological Sequestration</td>
<td>Dublin</td>
<td>Ecological Waterscapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter Head</td>
<td>Leahy</td>
<td>Grau</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TOWARDS A NEW PARADIGM in LANDSCAPE and ENVIRONMENT

01: URBAN GROWTH & SPRAWL
02: CLIMATE CHANGE
03: HEALTH – WELLNESS
04: WATER
05: ECONOMY & TECHNOLOGY
06: BEST PRACTICE
07: A NEW NORMAL
08: NEW AESTHETIC
09: INTO THE MAINSTREAEM
10: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
TOWARDS A NEW PARADIGM for the NEW URBAN AGENDA

City-focused, people-centred and integrated