

U
R
B
A
N

Challenges of Urbanization in Arab Gulf Countries



O
M
A
N

23 - 25 March 2014
International Conference
at the German University
of Technology in Oman

SUNDAY MARCH 23RD INTRODUCTION

18:30 – 19:00 Arrival of participants

19:00 – 19:40 Welcome & Introduction

Guest of Honor Minister of Housing Saif bin Mohammed Al-Shabibi

Welcome by the Prof. Dr. Michael Modigell, Rector GUtech

Welcome by Dr. Fahad Salim Al Hosni, TRC

Opening speech: Dr. Sonja Nebel (GUtech) Principal Investigator TRC

research project : 3 Years of Interdisciplinary Research on Sustainable

Urbanization in Oman

19:40 - 20:00 Exhibition Opening

Introduction to the exhibition by Anne Eaton: Two faces of urbanization in Oman - urban expansion and rural-to-urban transformation. The exhibition will show the current urbanization patterns of Oman as documented and analyzed in two field studies.

20:00 - 20:30 Reception, light refreshments

MONDAY MARCH 24TH URBANIZATION & SUSTAINABILITY

08:30 – 09:30 Registration

Session 1: Understanding Urbanization & Sustainability in Oman

Moderation: Dr. Sonja Nebel

09:30 – 09:50 Dr. Hamad Al Gharibi From pre-oil to post-oil urbanization in Muscat

10:00 – 10:20 Sara Abdelaal: Urbanization and rural-to urban transformation – a new rural-urban interface in Oman

10:30 – 10:50 coffee/tea break

Session 2: Guiding Sustainable Urbanization in Oman

Moderation Aurel von Richthofen

11: 00 – 11:30 Dr. Awni Shabaan: Urbanization patterns and urban design responding to local climate

11:30 – 11:50 Dr. Alaa Mandour: An adapted Urban Structure Framework Plan (The Case of Muscat City)

12:00 -12:20 Maryam Zargar Yaghoubi Planning regulations reconsidered for compacts cities in Oman

12:30 -14:00 lunch break – catering provided for registered participants

Session 3: International Best Practice Examples

Moderation: Dr. Marike Bontenbal

14:00 – 14:20 Yassine Moustanjidi: Urban agriculture and sustainable urban planning in Casablanca, Morocco

14:30 – 14:50 Arnd Baetzner: Challenges and opportunities for integrated urban transit systems in GCC countries: Holistic design fostering liveable cities

15:00 – 15:20 Dr. Lucia Reisch: Sustainability “Made in Germany”: Initiatives, challenges and lessons learned from the German Sustainability Strategy

15:30- 15:50 Panel discussion / Moderation: Dr. Sonja Nebel

16:00-16:30 coffee/tea break

TUESDAY MARCH 25TH STRATEGIC APPROACHES TO URBAN SUSTAINABILITY

08:30 – 09:30 Registration

Session 4: National and Regional Management and Planning in Oman

Moderation: Dr. Awni Shabaan

9:30 -9:50 Jeremy Dawkins: Preparing the Oman National Spatial Strategy

10:00 - 10:20 Dr. Stephan Kollarits: Challenges to GIS implementation on the Oman National Spatial Strategy: Barriers to information sharing and a stepwise solution to overcome it

10:20 – 10:50 coffee/tea break

Session 5: Framing Local Sustainability in Oman

Moderation: Yassine Moustanjidi

11:00 – 11:20 Dr. Marike Bontenbal: Quality of life in Muscat’s neighborhoods: A study on place identity and neighborhood satisfaction

11:30 – 11:50 Dr. Sonja Nebel: Land-use management for sustainable urban development in Oman

12:00 – 12:20 Aurel von Richthofen: Modeling sustainable neighborhoods in Oman

Session 6: Concluding Remarks

12:30 – 13:00 conference closing panel discussion

Moderation: Dr. Sonja Nebel, Aurel von Richthofen

Conference and Exhibition conclude a joint 3 year research project conducted by GUtech and SQU founded by The Research Council Oman. All events will be hosted in the research hall at GUtech in Halban. For information about GUtech and directions visit www.gutech.edu.om Information regarding the conference can be found at www.urbanoman.org Please register online.