

The Chinese University of Hong Kong Department of Geography and Resource Management

will present a seminar

by

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Future cities? A morphogenetic code idea: Isobenefit Urbanism

Abstract:

In this seminar I will introduce aspects of urban allometry and the Isobenefit Urbanism as a potential solution to merge pro and cons of different urban size and a new link between urban and natural land. It is a recent urban planning approach mixing a macro top-down planning with a micro bottom-up spontaneous evolution in an attempt to moderate the human forces which typically induce agglomeration benefits and costs, maintaining the former while limiting the latter. A basic urban morphogenetic code of just 3 rules, could generate cities that are walkable, carless, low carbon, connected, compact, multifunctional settlements throughout nature, with unplanned forms and dynamically unlimitedly changeable/extendable, in which one can feel both urbanity and nature. By holding constant the number of inhabitants of a usual city/megacity, its Isobenefit city counterpart would enjoy the same (or greater) economies of scale benefits but without most of their costs.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Luca S. D'Acci, tenure track professorship at the Polytechnic of Turin, has a synergistic-multidisciplinary international path covering Anthropology (University of Oxford), Mathematics (University of Turin), Engineering, Architecture, and Economic Assessments (Polytechnic of Turin), and Urbanism (University of Campinas) with two degrees cum laude, a PhD and a Post-PhD. He was the Head of Urban Environment at the Erasmus University Rotterdam, and a visiting researcher at the University of Oxford, University of Cambridge and ETH Zurich. He worked in projects for the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Commission, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, and currently for a Grand Challenges Small Grant (Future Urban Growth Lab) from University College London. He is also a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Portsmouth, a member at the University of Birmingham and an Associate at the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies of Erasmus University Rotterdam. His works touch human societies and progress from different angles. Currently he is studying relationships among urbanicity level, urban allometry, urban forms and psycho-socio-economic-environmental costs/benefits, and about new possibilities for urban morphogenesis futures.

Language: English

Date: 9 April 2020 (Thursday)

Time: 4:30-6:00pm

ZOOM Meeting Link:

<https://cuhk.zoom.us/j/631231983>

(No password is required)

~All are Welcome~

For any inquiries, please contact Prof. Harry Lee (Tel. 3943 8478 or Email: harrylee@cuhk.edu.hk).