Transformative Urban Governance in the Developing World and the New Urban Agenda

Call for Papers

Xavier Centre for Urban Management and Governance, Xavier University Bhubaneswar in association with the UN Habitat India Chapter, will be hosting ARCS 3.0 - Third Annual Research Summit on Cities on 24-25 January 2019 at Bhubaneswar, India

The New Urban Agenda of UN Habitat and other such recent global discourses increasingly emphasise the importance of local governments in delivering sustainable development goals. Here in India, performance of the urban local governments has come to the limelight, with a plethora of governmental programs getting directed towards the cities. It had been more than twenty-five years, since the landmark 74th Constitution Amendment Act was passed. Yet, vast numbers of urban local governments – especially those in smaller cities and less developed regions, continue to function with substantial deficits in managerial, administrative and financial capacities.

ARCS 3.0 seeks to explore the current trends and future challenges confronting local governance in India and other developing countries in making their cities more intelligent, inclusive, resilient and resource efficient.

The conference provides an opportunity for academic researchers, practitioner, consultants and city administrators from different disciplinary backgrounds, to present, discuss and exchange recent research findings on the determinants, processes and outcomes of the changes occurred in the field of local governance in the last twenty-five years; and to explore and debate, from different theoretical perspectives and methodological approaches, the current and emerging trends about how to improve local governance capacities.

Papers might address, but are not limited to, the following themes:

**Theme 1. Twenty-five years of urban local governance: revisiting institutional changes, processes and outcomes since the 1990s**

- Learnings from the post-1990s urban governance reforms
- Decentralisation and transfer of responsibilities to the urban local bodies
• Relationship between the parastatal agencies and the elected municipal governments
• Institutional arrangements in urban governance and mission mode of funding
• Role of national and state finance commissions

Theme 2. Urban Governance and Economic Development

• Role of urban local governments in economic growth and employment generation
• Urban economic competitiveness
• Urban rural supply chain linkages
• Skill development programs
• Livelihood for the urban poor and governance regulations

Theme 3. Housing and Housing Finance

• Shelter needs and land rights
• Public Private Partnership in slum rehabilitation
• New modes of financing for urban housing

Theme 4: Urban Mobility

• Land value capture to fund urban transportation
• Improving Pedestrian mobility, safety and security
• Public cycle sharing schemes

Theme 5: Water and Waste Management

• Delivery mechanisms to improve performance and reduce system losses
• Role of local communities in water and waste management
• Services delivery in slum areas

Theme 6: Heritage Conservation and Tourism

• Cultural tourism and local economy
• Role of local governments in heritage conservation and tourism promotion.
• Community based tourism development
Participation in the Conference & Selection Criteria

- Participation in the conference requires the presentation of a paper
- Participants are expected to attend the entire conference
- Submissions will be double-blind peer-reviewed by the Scientific Committee
- for content and appropriateness to this conference
- The working language of the conference will be English

Registration & Payment

- To be announced soon

Abstracts

- Submit the abstract, of no more than 250 words to: arcs@xuconf.edu.in by the date mentioned below.

Publication

- It is expected that a selection of conference papers will be published
- The selected manuscripts will be double-blind peer-reviewed
- More information about publication will be given during the conference

Important Dates

- Submission deadline for abstracts: 31 October 2018
- Notification of abstract acceptance: 15 November 2018
- Registration and payment: 15 November – 15 December 2018
- PowerPoint Presentation (PowerPoint file): during the conference
- Full paper for publication: date to be announced during the conference

Conference Venue

Xavier Centre for Urban Management and Governance
Xavier University Bhubaneswar
Plot No - 12 (A) Nijigada, Kurki
P.O. Harirajpur - 752050, Dist. Puri
Odisha, INDIA

Further information

- All inquiries, expressions of interests, and abstracts should be sent, by e-mail, to: arcs@xuconf.edu.in