



GREEN

The 2015 World Urbanization Prospects review published by the United Nations shows that today more than half of the world's population (54 percent) lives in cities, particularly in large metropolises. The current growth trends, not at all slowed down by crises swings, indicate that the population of "city dwellers" will increase by another 2 billion in the next 30 years. The intensification of migration flows has aggravated the urban concentration phenomenon, initially limited to Africa and Asia, also in European cities, which are not prepared today to face such uncontrolled growth. Strongly linked to social tensions, economic development demands, basic dwelling, mobility, work and health needs, the ecological question permeates every subject, while anthropogenic climate change is the effect but also the cause of the new post-globalization urbanization.

The second issue of UPLand intends to bring attention to the topic, considering the need of developing adequate policies in terms of proactive rather than emergency solutions to respond to the underestimated effects of the inevitable growth. On the one hand, there is the necessity of promoting innovations and best practices in the field of buildings' design and retrofitting, based on the progressive spreading of consolidated approaches in the European context; and on the other hand, a careful reflection on the city as a whole is needed, in terms of transformation and evolution of the urban landscape and the socio-economic dynamics of regeneration processes, while deepening research on efficiency solutions implementable at an urban and metropolitan scale. From the point of view of the urban planning, being beyond the limit where a merely containment approach could be effective, by avoiding or

mitigating the new impacts, it becomes necessary to adopt a new perspective that, working on new settlements and consolidated urban fabric, leads back to a lost balance, implementing functions, processes and transformations with a positive ecological outcome.

The landscape, as a complex, multi-dimensional, dynamic system, present in natural areas as well as urban ones, in exceptional territories as well as daily ones, profoundly capable of affecting the perception of well-being, plays an essential role in the processes of eco-efficient transformation through its didactic, evocative, cultural, identity-related, and intrinsically ecological qualities, but today, also through its opportunities for development and as a consensus catalyst.

Design and technological solutions are increasingly more oriented toward a multi-scale reading of the built environment, proposing integrated solutions at the neighborhood and building scale, aimed at the reduction of energy consumption and CO2 emissions, meeting at the same time key objectives such as climate adaptation and the improvement of the environmental quality of urban spaces.

In this perspective, the main topics of the call for submissions are:

- intervention programs and projects addressing the ecological question in the new expansions of large metropolises from an infrastructural point of view, but also looking at the settlement model;
- product and process innovations increasing the sustainability of the interventions, the urban and environmental quality of consolidated urban fabric, both historical and ordinary;
- tools, methods and processes for the

evaluation of the ecological, environmental and landscape efficiency of alternative transformation programs;

- best practices for the infrastructural system, aimed at a positive impact in terms of waste management and environmental resources consumption in urban settlements;
- best practices for the improvement in the quality of the buildings / open spaces system, from the point of view of energy and environmental efficiency, social inclusion and adaptive capacity to climate change from a multi-scale perspective;
- intervention models, process innovation, functions and technologies aimed at overcoming the conflictual dimension that accompanies urban expansions and regeneration operations;
- social and governance aspects capable of promoting virtuous behaviors and processes.

Authors are invited to send an abstract of 2,000 characters (spaces included), in Italian or English, that must mention the main contents of the paper, specifying the subject of the article and showing the link to the CALL topics.

Furthermore, the abstract should include the following:

for the “Essays and points of view” section:

- the relevance of the question to scientific debate;
- the literature on the argument;
- the point of view being proposed;
- the argumentation, in literature, in the transformations underway and already consolidated in support of one’s own point of view.

for the “Best practices report” section:

- the relevance of the project with respect to already measured effects;
- the originality of the report, keeping in mind the literature already existing on the argument;
- the replicability in other contexts and the surrounding conditions for its realization.

for the “Research and experimentation” section:

- the obtained results, intermediate and/or final, and their relevance to the topic discussed;
- the program and the context in which the research/experimentation has been conducted, the involved subjects and the financing sources;
- the originality, of the product and/or the process, and the target beneficiaries;
- the reference researches and literature;
- the limits of the research and the potential for future developments;
- the physical, social, economic and/or cultural implications and the replicability potential.

The abstract has to be introduced by specific keywords (3 to 5), reflecting the essential elements of the paper. It has to be sent to editors@upland.it as soon as possible. The authors of the accepted abstract are invited to submit the paper by January 20th 2017. The paper has to respect the limit of max 20.000 characters, spaces included, in the case of single author; max 25.000 characters in the case of multiple authors. The final version of the paper, integrated with the suggestions given by the referees in the double blind review process, must be submitted by February 20th 2017.

Texts, images (no more than 8) and notes have to follow the rules for authors that will be sent once the abstract has been accepted. For reference and citation please strictly follow APA style 6th ed.