



EMBASSY OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS, LONDON



THE ITALIAN EMBASSY, LONDON



THE ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY, LONDON

CITY PERFORMANCE WORKSHOP 6-7 OCTOBER 2011 71 NEWMAN STREET, LONDON

This workshop is about examining a shared city experience, about looking at how our cities perform and how we need them to perform. There is a city-response to most of the key challenges we face: wealth creation, congestion and climate change. We look to cities to be places of delight and creativity and, in large part, to define us culturally.

What sets this conference apart is that it seeks to bring together four distinct national experiences, mixing professionals from different countries and disciplines in a series of groups and asking them to develop their own group thinking in response to a series of short presentations on issues that affect how cities perform.

Building on an earlier international conference held by the Italian Embassy in London (“A vision of sustainability”), the objective is to see what this sort of thinking takes us, considering such things as delight, compactness, openness, connectivity, sustainability, behaviour, creativity, fairness, health and well-being, the top-down and bottom-up balance, retrofit, public transport and energy sharing. What can we learn from each other. Is there the basis for some policy suggestions?

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Day One:

- 1000 Registration and refreshments

- 1020 Welcome: Steve Brown and Jochen Rabe from Buro Happold and Prof Salvator Roberto Amendolia, Scientific Attaché, Italian Embassy
H.E. Alain Giorgio Maria Economides, Ambassador of Italy
H.E. Ms Anne Hedensted Steffensen, Ambassador of Denmark
H.E. Pieter Willem Waldeck, Ambassador of The Netherlands

- 1110 Coffee

- 1130 Keynote address: *Bladerunner, Naeste stop Paradis, Amsterdamned, La Dolce Vita or Slumdog Millionaire? How our cities/communities perform and how we need them to perform.* Richard Simmonds

- 1200 Day 1 Introductory Presentations:
Sustainable building, Arch. David Hirsch, Mario Cucinella Architects S.r.l. Italy
City Sustainability Indicators Professor Edoardo Croci, Italy
Cities, interactions and control, Evert Meijers, Delft University, The Netherlands

- 1300 Lunch

- 1400 Round Table 1: *Governance/Engagement*, Marilyn Taylor, Marilyn Taylor Associates Ltd

An idea that seems to be capturing the moment is that of decentralising parts of the political firmament for increased community engagement. Much depends on the systems of governance

we develop to manage the new structures we create, and the degree of power that is localised. At the same time, because of the cash, carbon and competitive challenges we face, we probably need a level of long-term planning we have seldom achieved. What contribution can community-led planning make?

(Seeds for thought: political involvement; community involvement; planners and academics talk in a way no one can understand; policy people who need academic output are risk adverse; town structures reflect political forms; how much the territory influences politics vs. how much the territory is governed by an enlightened politics. Examples from countries)

1420 Discussion

1500 Coffee break

1520 *Future living*: short film /presentation by Arch. David Fisher, Dynamic Architecture Group - London

1530 Round Table 2: *Delocalisation/localization/strategic infrastructure*, Prof Alessandro Balducci, Alessandro, Politecnico Milano

A common response to scarcity is to centralise critical resources. How this is to be balanced with other pressures to decentralize, and the sort of infrastructure this might require, is what this session is about.

(Seeds for thought: Can towns be designed or do they evolve?; retaining revenues raised in area; relevance of Municipal Service Companies (waste, water treatment plants, transport...): how do they impact city/community management?; cycle paths, car sharing; marine transport)

1550 Discussion

1630 Round Table 3: *Behaviour/performance* Helle Søholt, Gehl Architects, Aps,

The carbon challenge is one of reducing our footprint by around 80% in the next 40 years. The way to do this seems to be by halving demand, doubling efficiency and halving the carbon content. The changes needed to affect behaviour in this way is part of what this session is about; the other part is how we also need to be competitive and to grow our economies, and whether the two parts of this conundrum can be reconciled.

(Seeds for thought: Social renewal; about social [re-]engagement after a time of excess; re-engineering cities as creative places; local infrastructures (stadiums, museums...) have social impact (cohesion of community members); parks & gardens.)

1650 Discussion

1730 Wrap-up (led by Round Table conveners)

1800 End of Day

1930 Conference dinner

The Cavendish Hotel London, 81 Jermyn Street, London, SW1Y 6JF

Localism and governance, Richard McCarthy, Director General, Department of Communities and Local Government, UK

Day Two:

0900 Introduction and comments from Day 1: *Cities and power laws*, Prof Salvator Roberto Amendolia
Day 2: Introductory presentations
Spaces in between, Markus Appenzeller, KCAP Architects & Planners, Netherlands
System design and governance, Anders Hasselager, Denmark
Re-operationlising the city - Platforms to Apps, Indy Johar, 00 [zero'o zer'o], UK

1020 Round Table 4: *Resilience*, Prof Riki Therivel, Levett-Therival Sustainability Consultants

This session considers how we can deal with future shocks like flooding, power outages, economic turbulence or events like Deepwater Horizon or Fukushima. The Resilience Alliance has devised principles for a resilient world – but do we agree with these? how can we apply them at the social and business as well as the individual level?

(Seeds for thought: Are future shocks like Rumsfeld's "known unknowns"? How can we prepare for something unknown? Does society and business prepare for shocks in a different way than individuals do? What are the costs of making society, businesses and individuals more resilient?)

1040 Discussion

1120 Coffee

1150 Round Table 5, *Demographics, health and well-being*, Dr Ben Wheeler, European Centre for Environment and Human Health, Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry

What are the challenges Europe faces with rapidly increasing global population abroad and falling birth rates at home? What are the health and well being challenges and why, because they give an output measure for the success of the system, are these more critical than we generally realise?

(**Seeds for thought:** Rising population; obesity; levels of sickness and depression; disability; different impairments.)

1210 Discussion

1250 Final wrap-up and farewell

1330 Lunch

The workshop is organized by:

The Italian Embassy in London The Royal Danish Embassy in London The Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in London, Buro Happold, Edward Cullinan Architects, Lighthouse s.r.l. Milano, Lorna Walker Consulting and the Politecnico di Milano, Italy

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