

Track 11 - Climate Change and Planning

Track Chairs:

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The various challenges posed by climate change are rapidly emerging as the central concern of spatial management, if not public policy, across the world. Renewed political commitment to radically reducing greenhouse gas emissions has combined with recognition of the consequences of climate change to prompt a range of concerted action at international, national and sub-national levels. By introducing new modes of calculation, the imperative of climate change is opening up new ways of thinking about the governance and regulation of space and place in different local and national contexts

Research is urgently required on the range of actions that are being undertaken (and equally, the actions that are not being undertaken) on all aspects of climate management, from future-proofing design solutions to methodologies for assessing low-carbon planning. Papers are invited that address the policy and politics of climate change in its multiple dimensions, encompassing issues of both adaptation and mitigation. Key concerns include:

- Experience of planning for climate change – how is climate change impacting on design, development and planning in different national and local contexts? What places are leading the way and why, and what can we learn from them? Is climate change leading to experimentation with different approaches to spatial planning and place-making?
- The impact of climate change in terms of power relations and social and environmental justice - how is the issue of climate change changing calculations around development priorities at national, regional or local scales? Is the discourse of climate change changing power relations around planning decisions? Who gains and who loses from the new politics of climate change?
- Methodologies and instruments for effective planning for climate change - What might climate-proof or low-carbon planning look like (e.g. compact cities, eco-towns, making space for water, urban design solutions etc)? How should low- or zero-carbon development be defined for the purposes of impact assessment?
- Future possibilities and ideas for change - how can the formulation and implementation of local/regional policies be improved? What changes are required to enable low-carbon or carbon neutral planning (e.g. changes in institutions, new assessment methods, the use of market incentives or other instruments to influence individual consumption, mobility and location decisions)? What might climate change mean for planning education?