

INSIGHT:

Integrated strategies for inclusive growth, resource-efficiency and urban resilience

UK-China Urban Regeneration and Sustainable Communities Leadership Workshop

27-29 June 2018 | Xi'an Jiaotong University, China

UK Coordinator: Professor Steffen Lehmann, University of Portsmouth
China Coordinator: Associate Professor Jinfeng DU, Xi'an Jiaotong University

We are inviting Early Career Researchers from the UK and China to apply to attend this workshop. All travel and accommodation expenses will be covered. Application deadline for applications is Thursday, 29th March 2018.

Disciplines: Architecture, Urban Planning, Public Policy, Urban Design, Environmental Science, Geography, Sociology, Engineering

Dates: 27 to 29 June 2018

Venue: Nanyang Academic Exchange Centre, XJTU Campus, Xi'an

Under the Researcher Links scheme, offered within the Newton Fund, the British Council and the National Natural Science Foundation of China are holding a workshop on the above theme at Xi'an Jiaotong University in Xi'an, China on 27 to 29 June 2018.

The workshop is being coordinated and led by experts from the University of Portsmouth and Xi'an Jiaotong University, with contributions from researchers from other leading institutes. Workshop participants include Early Career Researchers from universities in the UK and in China.

Participation:

There is an Open Call for participants with a fair assessment process to select participants, based on their experience (maximum up to 10 years post-PhD experience), relevance of their research to the workshop, motivation and ability to disseminate the workshop's outcomes.

The British Council Researcher Links' programme provides opportunities for early career researchers (ECRs) from the UK and internationally to interact, learn from each other and explore opportunities for building long-lasting research collaborations. During the workshop, early career researchers have the opportunity to present their research in the form of a short oral presentation and discuss it with established researchers and other ECRs. There is a focus on building up links for future collaborations.

Application deadline: Applications close on Thursday 29 March 2018.



Particular workshop focus:

The urbanisation of China has lifted over 500 million people out of poverty in less than 30 years and led to the rise of China's middle class.

Urban population growth and climate change impact has now shifted the focus on new approaches of regeneration. By 2022, China aims to relocate over 10 million people from unhealthy slum areas, and Shaanxi Province alone will relocate 1.2 million people. The Shaanxi Land & Resources Bureau commissioned XJTU to evaluate the socio-economic impact of this.

Sustainable urbanisation is now a priority in both countries and therefore, the workshop is very timely. Local government have indicated an interest that specific topics are to be addressed, including: Poverty alleviation through urbanisation; localising resilience strategies for brownfield sites; the circular economy; the One Belt-One Road strategy (Xi'an is the starting point of the new Silk Road); and the ageing population (by 2025, 34 percent of all Chinese will be older than 60). The interdisciplinary focus of the workshop will explore these issues in great depth.

Relevance and aims of the workshop:

In the last 25 years, China has experienced a phase of rapid urbanisation and has now entered a new era of urban development focused on urban regeneration. In 2017, at the 19th CPC National Congress, China's major urban focus has changed from 'less developed' to 'uneven development' and 'urban regeneration' (as shown, eg. by the 'Sponge City' concept developed by MOHURD in 2015). One key theme is China's move towards 'ecological transition', as China is now facing the contradiction

between inadequate development and the people's ever-growing needs for a better quality of life. 'Uneven development' indicates that the urban development of different regions in China was not always balanced. China has recently declared to shift from an industrial to an environment-aware civilisation by 2035 and prepares the next 5-Year Plan accordingly to reflect these new strategies and its newly gained leadership role in matters of climate change. Urban liveability has hereby become an important strategic indicator of the competitiveness of cities.

Neighbourhood regeneration and inclusive growth has become the main direction for the Chinese government. Sustainable urbanisation is a research priority in China and in the UK, and this workshop will discuss and uncover the required research knowledge and expertise to support the transformative process required by Chinese cities.

The main aim of the INSIGHT workshop is to promote the international exchange of knowledge and experiences around novel theories, strategies and methods on urban regeneration, applying integrated strategies for inclusive growth, resource-efficiency and urban resilience.

The applicants are experts in the field of inclusive urban regeneration and resource-efficiency.

To apply

Please visit www.city-futures.org.uk under 'Cluster Workshops - China'

Please send any enquiries to steffen.lehmann@port.ac.uk