



New research on Urban Sustainability Practices Includes Mexican research

Following is information on a collection of conference papers just published by WIT Press that we believe will interest readers of [User1]. The papers include work by researchers at Universidad Autonoma de Aguascalientes, ITESM, CTS Mexico, Universidad Autonoma de Baja California, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Universidad de las Americas, and Universidad Autonoma Metropolitana. If you would like more information on the book, please let me know.

The Sustainable City VII -- 2-volume set: Urban Regeneration and Sustainability

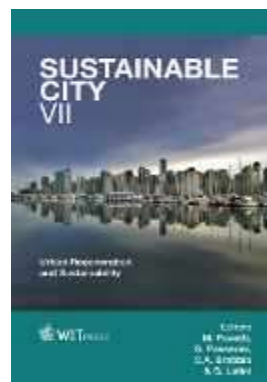
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This two-volume set of books contains a reviewed selection of papers presented at the International Conference on Urban Regeneration and Sustainability (The Sustainable City), the seventh in a series of biennial meetings on the topic organized by the Wessex Institute of Technology. The conference was held in Ancona, Italy, in May 2012. The papers cover the challenges encountered in maintaining or improving

the quality of life in the modern city.

All stakeholders need to appreciate the importance of cities and their role in the ecology of the entire planet. More than fifty percent of the Earth’s population now lives in cities, a percentage that continues to increase because cities represent the most efficient habitat. In the first stages of their development, most cities, to avoid decline and to keep developing, consumed – and often wasted – two vital resources: space and energy. Everyone is now aware that the next development step has to aim at healing cities rather than letting them grow indefinitely.

Today, although most of the original issues regarding the improvement of quality of life in major cities have been addressed, new challenges have arisen and several more are looming. For example, the urban heat island effect has been exacerbated by Global Warming while municipal solid waste disposal had to be rethought almost from scratch. In the near past, city improvements came from a range of step-by-step “classical” upgrades and every progress usually meant an increase in energy consumption.

The bigger and more complex a tool, device, or even a living entity is the more difficult it becomes to manage, to repair or to heal. In this regard, big cities are probably the most complex mechanisms to manage. However, despite their complexity, cities still represent a fertile ground for architects, engineers, and other key professionals to conceive and apply new ideas based on available technology and human requirements. Green facades, passive buildings, and distributed production of energy and fuels are examples of key ideas within reach. Each conference on Urban Regeneration and Sustainability aims at sharing such ideas and related case studies. The diversity of topics and concepts covered in the papers contained in this book are all indicators of the wide scope and complexity of the Sustainable City.

The Sustainable City VII--2-volume set: Urban Regeneration and Sustainability is Volume 155 in the WIT Transactions on Ecology and the Environment. Abstracts and Open Access papers (free) and full text (\$30 per paper) of individual papers in the book are available through the electronic edition of the Transactions at <http://library.witpress.com>.

Audience:

Planners, environmentalists, engineers, architects, ecologists, economists policy makers and other government officials, researchers and academics involved in the field of urban planning and sustainability.

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