

RISUD Public Lecture

Can Cities learn from each other?

An analysis of the Hong Kong - Malmö Sustainability Collaboration

Waltraut Ritter, Founder of Knowledge Dialogues

Date: 12 Oct 2015 (Mon)	Time: 6:00p.m. to 7:00p.m.	Venue: Rm ZS1215, 12/F, South Tower, Block Z, PolyU
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Abstract

In 2011, Hong Kong and Malmö entered an agreement on collaboration on sustainability issues through the Sustainability Charter. What are sustainable urban planning and practices in Hong Kong and Malmö, and how can the two cities share experiences in resilient city planning?

Malmö and Hong Kong differ considerably regarding climate, population and socio-political systems. However, the cities share experiences from being harbour cities, from struggling with space and from a lack of affordable housing. The cities differ also with regard to the rationale for pursuing sustainable urban planning. Malmö went through a financial crisis forcing the city to reinvent itself. The strategy aimed to create a knowledge city and a possibility for green innovations in the urban planning led to new developments using smart and resilient city concepts.

Sustainable urban planning in Hong Kong is primarily motivated by mitigating heavy roadside pollution and negative impacts of high population density. "Energizing Kowloon East" has been chosen as prototype for smart city development with new increased pedestrian mobility and green buildings.

The existing and emerging exchange on sustainable urban practices are in the following fields:

Urban Gardening (Food Resilience), Green Buildings (Old and New Building), Mobility (Enabling non-motorized mobility), Innovation Spaces (e.g. Living Labs, Innocarnival)

While the formal agreement on sustainability between cities provides a basis for the exchange, concrete public-private-people partnership models are still being discussed. The theoretical approach draws upon urban sociology/urban studies to analyze public participation and exchanges between community, government, and business.

About the Speaker

Waltraut Ritter is founder of Knowledge Dialogues, specializing in applied research on innovation and knowledge economy in the Asia Pacific Region and works for government agencies, public and private research institutes and international organisations. In recent years, she has conducted a number of projects related to spatial aspects of knowledge cities and regions as well urban resilience, and active participant in the international ICLEI network (Local Governments for Sustainability).

She is visiting faculty in the international Ph.D. programme in knowledge and innovation management at the Bangkok University, as well as guest lecturer well as the M.Sc. in Innovation Management Programme at the Singapore Management University. She is a member of APSTN (Asia Pacific Science, Technology and Society Network), and a founding member of the New Club of Paris. She has a M.A. in Information Science from the Free University of Berlin, Germany, and an M.B.A. in International Business from Anglia University, Cambridge.

She has been involved in prototyping urban innovations in Malmö through the Forum for Social Innovation Sweden.

All Interested Are Welcome

Please register online at http://www.polyu.edu.hk/risud/events/20151012_lecture/

For enquiries, please contact Miss Emily Choi at Tel: 3400-8495 | Email: emily.choi@polyu.edu.hk

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