In 2016 the Stichting (Foundation) ISOCARP Institute, Centre for Urban Excellence, was founded under Dutch Law to expand and support the activities of ISOCARP, the International Society of City and Regional Planners. After intensive preparations, the ISOCARP Institute started its activities and projects in March 2018.

This Annual Report covers the second active year of the ISOCARP Institute from July 2019 to June 2020, and includes an outlook into the second half of 2020, as some projects started early 2020.

The ISOCARP Institute exclusively operates as the project office of the ISOCARP Society and focuses on knowledge dissemination (Research), workshops (Practice) and capacity building (Academy).

In 2019-2020, the ISOCARP Institute conducted successful and profitable Urban Planning Advisory Teams (UPAT) activities in Qingdao and Nanjing participated in several worldwide networking events, in cooperation with UNICEF successfully promoted the process of child-friendly urbanisation and started a capacity-building program for Indonesia/Asia-Pacific.

Furthermore, the EU Horizon 2020-funded project Positive City Exchange was further developed and the new VARCITIES research project proposal was successful and will start in September 2020.

This report covers the overall objective and setup of ISOCARP Institute, as well as the key outcomes and activities, and the strategic outlook towards the following years – focusing on setting up important structures, expanding our network and building a solid project pipeline.
The ISOCARP Institute is initiated as a world class knowledge bank and think tank for planning excellence which empowers individuals, organisations and institutions to achieve better human settlements. We aim to bring together global planning experts and institutions to facilitate broader research communication and dissemination, as well as conducting professional educational programmes. Consequently, our mission is to enrich the knowledge base and developing the capacity of individuals, organisations and institutions partaking in shaping and developing human settlements. We strive to bridge the gap between planning theory and practice while contributing to knowledge generation and dissemination, fostering sustainability and effective functioning of human settlements.

The Institute’s prime objectives are strengthening cross-border collaboration globally, upholding professional excellence in planning, advancing sustainable planning, increasing awareness of major development trends and promoting best practices, all while serving as a “Urban Think Tank” facilitating the generation and dissemination of knowledge for better cities.

The ISOCARP Institute started in January 2016, with the publication of its Statutes and registration as a Dutch Foundation to the Netherlands chamber of Commerce Register, after internal discussions and thought process within ISOCARP starting 2007 during our World Congress in Antwerp. The central idea was at that time – and is still valid today – how can we, as global society of urban professionals, capitalise and further develop the knowledge of our members, share their knowledge and improve the urban planning profession by all means – by involving the members and benefiting to the Society. In 2018, the Institute activities were officially launched with the setup of the Institute location and staff members.

To accomplish our mission, ISOCARP Institute has been structured in three main pillars: Institute Academy, Institute Research and Institute Practice, representing the three domains of activities at the Institute. As academic branch of the ISOCARP Institute, the Institute Academy is intended to capitalise and disseminate the urban knowledge of ISOCARP and upgrade the capacities of urban stakeholders by initiating and managing different programmes related to training and capacity-building, education and professional experience. Those programmes are proposed to uplift qualification of urban stakeholders or other persons involved in urban actions.

ISOCARP Institute Research intends to distil and further capitalise the urban knowledge of ISOCARP members and urban professionals by initiating, developing and managing research activities related to urban development. Institute Research is exploring and identifying research topics and programmes, developing research ideas and exploring urban development trends.

And finally, the ISOCARP Institute Practice is focussing on the practical implementation of urban solutions, supported by activities of technical assistance, urban labs and urban charrettes, delivering tangible solutions to local municipalities and governments, as well as other entities.

This Annual Report describes the activities achieved 2019-2020 within the three pillars of the Institute, and their achieved results.

We are looking forward to more and successful activities in the next years!

September 2020
Didier Vancutsem
Director on behalf of the Board
Established in 2016 as a foundation, the ISOCARP Institute – Centre for Urban Excellence – is the practice-centred research spin-off of the International Society of City and Regional Planners. The focus lies on project-based work as well as the facilitation of activities which benefit from and contribute to the extensive membership base of ISOCARP, including the development of global capacity development, training and educational programmes with and for members. The Institute is managed by the Board of Directors, introduced below.

The Board ensures the strategic alignment and collaboration with ISOCARP, its members and activities. The project office of the Institute, co-located with the ISOCARP head office, ensures the ongoing close collaboration and knowledge exchange. The current board consists of Martin Dubbeling, President of ISOCARP; Daniele Vettorato, Director for Academic Development at ISOCARP; and Didier Vancutsem, former Secretary General of ISOCARP.

**MARTIN DUBBELING**

Martin Dubbeling (The Netherlands) is an urban planner and urban designer specialised in sustainable urban design. In 2013 he founded Connecting Cities, office for research, consultancy, design and communication in sustainable urban and regional planning. Martin is an active and senior practitioner in spatial planning, urban planning, landscape architecture and the environment in the Netherlands and internationally. Furthermore, he is one of the authors of the award winning and best-selling books ‘Sustainable Urban Design, Perspectives and Examples’ (2005) and ‘Sustainable Urban Design, The Next Step’ (2010). As Vice President and Programme Manager of the Urban Planning Advisory Teams (UPATs) of ISOCARP (2010-2018), he organised several UPAT workshops all over the world.

**DANIELE VETTORATO**

Daniele Vettorato (Italy) leads a research team in urban and regional energy systems in the institute for Renewable Energy at EURAC Research, based in Bolzano, Italy. He holds a PhD from the University of Trento, focused on sustainable energy in cities and regions. Daniele has co-authored over 50 publications cited over 150 times and has been invited as lecturer and speaker in more than 50 events, trainings and universities courses. He worked in Brazil, Chile, Cambodia, Kenya, Mozambique, UAE, Russia, China. Daniele coordinates a research team of 20 professionals at EURAC Research, has been project manager in several EU co-funded project and is technical and scientific coordinator of two Smart City and Communities Lighthouse projects in Europe (total budget over 50M€).

**DIDIER VANCUTSEM**

Didier Vancutsem (Germany/Belgium) is an international consultant in Urban and Regional Planning, Landscape Planning, Infrastructure and Environmental Management with 25 years research and planning experience, based in Munich and has degrees in City and Regional Planning, Landscape Architecture and Regional management. He is professor at the Brussels University Faculty of Architecture. He has gained professional experience worldwide, e.g. as expert for the EU, in the elaboration of national strategies for urban development, in regional strategies and abroad (Africa, Russia, Asia), and on the local level. He is involved in different European and international research projects. As past Secretary General of ISOCARP, he is now responsible for project management at the ISOCARP Institute.
Global urbanisation rates and an intensifying climate crisis put the cities of our planet on the forefront in tackling today’s and tomorrow’s challenges. Over five decades of bringing international professionals together within ISOCARP, contributed significantly to increased knowledge generation and exchange. However, this is not enough and more targeted and proactive initiatives are needed. Therefore, the Institute streamlines ongoing activities, facilitates the knowledge and experience of members, and expands activities further – targeting the achievement of UN’s Sustainable Development Goals, the implementation and localisation of the New Urban Agenda, as well as building urgently needed capacity.

**ISOCARP INSTITUTE**

**WHAT GOALS ARE WE WORKING TOWARDS TO?**

Our mission is enriching the knowledge base and developing the capacity of individuals, organisations and institutions partaking in shaping and developing human settlements. We strive to bridge the gap between planning theory and practice while contributing to knowledge generation and dissemination, fostering sustainability and effective functioning of human settlements.

**ISOCARP INSTITUTE’S MISSION**

The Institute is initiated as a world class knowledge bank and think tank for planning excellence which empowers individuals, organisations and institutions to achieve better human settlements. We aim to bring together global planning experts and institutions to facilitate broader research communication and dissemination, as well as conducting professional educational programmes.

**ISOCARP INSTITUTE’S VISION**

The Institute’s prime objectives are strengthening cross-border collaboration globally, upholding professional excellence in planning, advancing sustainable planning, increasing awareness of major development trends and promoting best practices, all while serving as a “Urban Think Tank” facilitating the generation and dissemination of knowledge for better cities.
The work of ISOCARP Institute is structured in three core pillars under which all existing and planned activities fall. Within the Research pillar, EU and global research project are situated which aim at advancing the academic knowledge in the urban field. Within the Practice pillar, technical assistance and consultancy is provided for primarily local authorities and the private sector. In the third pillar, Academy, the educational programme Young Planning Professionals is continued, as well as capacity building.

PILLAR 01 RESEARCH
We contribute actively to the urban research community through our work on global research projects, publications, academic exchange, and strong network of academic professionals. The core activities include dissemination and exploitation, the facilitation of knowledge generation and exchange, as well as linking theory with practice.

PILLAR 02 PRACTICE
We support public and private institutions through a variety of programmes, including the Urban Planning Advisory Teams (UPATs), technical assistance and review, building upon over 55 years of knowledge generation with the International Society of City and Regional Planners. New formats, such as City Labs, complement the programme.

PILLAR 03 ACADEMY
Through our newest branch – the ISOCARP Institute Academy – we facilitate our vast network and train young professionals and public representatives through our Young Planning Professionals Programme, seminars, and online education. Different programmes of global and locally-adapted training initiatives complement the ongoing projects and will constitute one of the key fields of action in the future.
ISOCARP Institute actively contributes to the urban research community through our work on EU Research Projects, publications, academic exchange, and strong network of academic professionals. The work inside the Institute carries on the contribution to EU and global research projects initiated by the International Society of City and Regional Planners since 2016. In November 2018, one large research project, Positive City Exchange, started and constitutes the first project solely operated within the Institute. ISOCARP Institute has been granted EU funding from another H2020 funded project, VARCITITES. The new project will start on September 1, 2020 and will last for a period of 5 years until February 2025.

**EU HORIZON 2020 INNOVATION PROJECT**

**POSITIVE CITY EXCHANGE – +CITYXCHANGE**

Trondheim, Limerick, Alba Iulia, Pisek, Sestao, Smolyan and Voru and their industry and research partners joined forces to co-create the future we want to live in. As aspiring Lighthouse and Follower Cities, respectively, they have detailed out their ambitions in the +CityxChange project, which describes a structured approach on how to develop and deploy Positive Energy Blocks and Districts and scale these as part of the Clean Energy Transition. The approach combines: Prototyping the Future through Integrated Planning and Design; Enabling the Future through Creation of a Common Energy Market; Co-creating the future we want to live in; PEB Positive Energy Block/Metcities.
Energy Market; and Accelerating the Future through CommunityxChange with all stakeholders of the city. New forms of integrated spatial, social, political, economic, regulatory, legal, and technological innovations will deliver citizen observatories, innovation playgrounds, regulatory sandboxes, and Bold City Visions to engage civil society, local authorities, industry, and RTOs to scale up from Positive Energy Blocks (PEBs) to Positive Energy Districts (PEDs) to Positive Energy Cities, supported by a distributed and modular energy system architecture that goes beyond Near-Zero-Energy-Building (nZEB). On top of this, the consortium will create a new energy market design coupled to consumer-driven innovation, developed in close working cooperation with national regulators, Distributed System Operators (DSOs)/Community System (CSOs), property developers, and local energy communities. Flexibility is at the core of the distributed energy system by creating new micro-grid operations, prosumer-driven CSOs, and new markets for peak shaving/Renewable Energy Sources (RES) trading to reduce grid investment needs and curtailment. The aim is to realise Europe-wide deployment of Positive Energy Districts by 2050 and prepare the way for fully Positive Energy Cities.

ISOCARP INSTITUTE’S ROLE
As leader of work package (WP) 10 “Dissemination and Communication” ISOCARP Institute manages communication and dissemination to reach a large audience; establish networks of stakeholders; create a platform and scale up the project to EU level and beyond; create a learning community of lighthouse cities and followers; involve citizens and local municipalities in fresh and innovative ways. In various tasks, ISOCARP supports with international references and standards. As task leader for task 6.2, ISOCARP supports the Follower Cities in developing and delivering the Bold City Vision and guidelines.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED (’19-’20)
The project is currently in month 23 of 60. Within WP 10 the majority of ISOCARP Institute’s work was setting the basics for the communication plan and all social media platforms in the beginning of the project and reporting on the work in a variety of deliverables in year one. The website and social media platforms are maintained and updated on a regular basis. The dissemination and communication of activities by our side continues until the end of the project. We have been responsible to produce a variety of visual contents (infographics, leaflets, rollout banner, business cards, etc.) which is being used to represent +CityxChange in all networking activities.

Another task lead by ISOCARP Institute is the creation of Bold City Visions (BCVs) with Follower Cities. Until the end of year three a significant contribution is required for the production of Bold City Visions for each of the five follower cities. Several steps have been taken so far in order to coordinate the efforts of the Follower Cities in their process to produce the BCVs. At the beginning of the first year of the task implementation, we have held workshops with each Follower City in order to jointly discuss and define the BCV framework and what it would mean in their local context. Moreover, based on the U4SSC (Key Performance Indicators for Sustainable and Smart Communities), we have developed a data collection framework to help cities in their self-assessment analysis. An integral part of +CityxChange project is the co-creation with citizens. Therefore, citizen engagement events are part of every step of the BCV development. Due to the current COVID-19 crisis, some processes have been slowed down, but will hopefully soon gain pace again.

EU HORIZON 2020 INNOVATION PROJECT VISIONARY NATURE BASED ACTIONS FOR HEALTH, WELLBEING AND RESILIENCE IN CITIES | VARCITIES

In an increasingly urbanising world, governments and international corporations strive to increase productivity of cities, recognised as economy growth hubs, as well as ensuring better quality of life and living conditions to citizens. Although significant effort is performed by international organisations, researchers, etc. to transform the challenges of cities into opportunities, the visions of our urban future are trending towards bleak. The increase in urban population is already intensifying the pressure on urban services and facilities, as well as on nature and ecosystems. Significantly affecting the liveability of contemporary cities. Air pollution and heat island effect are just two of the most evident impacts of the climate crisis we have started to live. These impacts will make and more negatively affect social and health facilities, whose responsiveness and efficiency is more than ever crucial in time of pandemic crisis like in 2020.

The vision of VARCITIES is to implement real, visionary ideas and add value by establishing sustainable models for increasing health and wellbeing of citizens (children, young people, middle age, elderly) that are exposed to diverse climatic conditions and challenges around Europe. The ambitious foundation of VARCITIES lies in the close interrelation of sustainability, public health and digital innovation in order to make cities more liveable and welcoming; shared public spaces are pointed out as the privileged areas where to explore this integration, and ultimately to foster the evolution towards fully “human-centred cities”.

The specific objectives of the project are:
- To monitor and assess the sustainability and impact of interventions through advancing and developing new KPI indicators for health and well-being.
- To improve the sustainable transition to smart and future cities by creating a framework of locally adapted GBF (Governance, Business, Financing) models.
- To include, in the co-design process, various stakeholders and inspire sustainable and resilient future smart cities.
- To achieve knowledge exchange, maximisation of EU investments, advancement beyond the state of art through clustering with other European initiatives and platforms.
- To transfer, upscale and sustain best practices from VARCITIES through the development of a Healthy Cities Helix.

The configuration of the project sees the development of eight applied exemplar pilots (eight European municipalities from different geographic and climate zones). The pilots will implement integrated initiatives which support both municipal actions and local SMEs in meeting credible opportunities to grow and generate revenues. The eight pilot cities are: Bergen (Norway), Castelfranco Veneto (Italy), Chania (Greece), Dundalk (Ireland), Gzira (Malta), Leuven (Belgium), Novo Mesto (Slovenia) and Skellefteå (Sweden).

VARCITIES is an ambitious project that acknowledges the complexity and the challenges of future cities and sets the ambitious target to advance innovation across different urban scales by fully exploiting nature-based solutions from a digital, social and cultural perspective. VARCITIES envisions future public spaces as people-centred areas that support creativity, inclusivity, health and happiness for the citizens.
ISOCARP Institute supports public and private institutions through a variety of programmes, including the Urban Planning Advisory Teams (UPATs), technical assistance and review, building upon the over 55 years of knowledge generation inside ISOCARP.

The two primary types of UPATs are Design Charrettes and City Labs.

Design Charrettes are collaborative design workshops during which members of ISOCARP rapidly work together with their planning and design colleagues from the Charrette host city, municipality or organisation. Design Charrette participants jointly analyse the Charrette’s location and topic, and sketch designs to explore and share a broad diversity of possible ideas and solutions.

City Lab are design-based, collaborative projects in which selected ISOCARP members work jointly in an interdisciplinary team with a host city, municipality or organisation. The team typically consists of planners, architects, landscape architects and engineers, but also of citizens, city officials and other stakeholders, depending on topic and context. The aim is creating a design and implementation plan or conduct research-by-design on a specific topic, in a participatory approach of co-creating.

Why a Design Charrette?
- Opportunity for knowledge transfer, capacity building and knowledge exchange between different urban professionals.
- The results of the Charrette can be used for urban analysis, competencies building, awareness-raising, spatial needs forming or evaluation of existing plans.
- Open, international and collaborative character.
- Forward-thinking and innovative answers to the Charrette’s topic.

Why a City Lab?
- Captures vision, values and ideas of the wider urban community of practice.
- Facilitates in-depth knowledge of professional planners, designers, and diverse local stakeholders.
- Uses different competencies to create sustainable conceptual designs, plans and policies.
- Based on inclusive, cross-disciplinary methodologies such as evidence-based design, data and project analysis, public consultation, etc.
- Produces high-valued, collaborative, design-based reports to be used for policy development, public outreach, design guidelines, and plan implementation.

PLANNING PROJECT / POLICY PHASE
- Policy development, advocacy, project evaluation, design concept or strategy framing.

TYPE OF INVOLVEMENT / INTERACTION
- Moderated collaborative design workshop.

LENGTH OF THE PROCESS
- 3-5 days / 1 session.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
- 10-50 (including local participants from the host city).

PARTICIPANT SELECTION
- Members of ISOCARP and local planning experts.
In the second half of 2019, the Qingdao West Coast New Area planning authorities have invited ISOCARP Institute to provide it with a contemporary, international urban planning and design knowledge perspective on the next stage development and implementation of the (governmental) policies for the new era in development of the maritime cities. This knowledge perspective was presented in the format of an UPAT Design Week – a 5-day intensive collaborative creative process between Chinese and international planning experts and designers, which included field visits, presentations, dialogues and a design charrette.

The QiaoTouPu area in Qingdao has been chosen as the location for the UPAT Design Week. The aim of the Design Week was to define this location and the wider Qingdao’s West Coast Area as a model for the knowledge/production/trade-oriented city of the future. The main idea behind the produced QiaoTouPu planning and design model is to form a circular metabolic system, based on the sustainable use of resources, coastal landscape protection and management, application of the state-of-the-art urban digitalisation solutions, efficient infrastructural/mobility solutions and creating a diversity of mixed, safe and quality urban environments for its citizens.

NEW INNOVATION AND BUSINESS DISTRICT

In Qingdao, the UPAT team was faced with a challenging task to create a new Innovation and Business District (IBD) at QiaoTouBao Free Trade Zone location. The IBD should be home to the 300,000 people in future, in the area of some 11 sqkm.

Now disconnected and segmented by large infrastructure, the team of international experts envisioned QiaoTouBao as a model for the knowledge-oriented city of the future, relying on the digitised urban solutions and sustainable use of resources. The UPAT team had a fruitful dialogue with the Chinese counterparts and delivered numerous presentations to local governments and institutes.
The city is a complex and integrated organism. How can we design and make the city more suitable for humans to live in; how can we improve the city environment, service and function by observing the human behavior, and make the city a better habitat? These questions are essential in urban design. The International digital urban design week invites urban designers and experts from different countries to discover possible solutions during the design projects. Inspired by big data, digital technologies and new design methods, participants attempt to provide a new way for future urban design and invent future cities. The focus of the week was to use city data in the regeneration of an existing neighbourhood in the north-west of the city. The challenge was to use the data to not only understand the dynamics of the neighbourhood but to demonstrate how it influenced design decisions as well as considered the ongoing impact and integration of technology and data on the future evolution of the area.

The workshop was held as a cooperation between ISOCARP and Southeast University (SEU) in Nanjing, China.

The intense five-day programme involved site visits, tutorials, lectures and a final presentation to a panel of judges made up of senior Professors from SEU, experts in digital technologies from the University of Sheffield and Sebastien Goethals – Director for Technical Assistance of ISOCARP. Students were given a baseline set of city data which included information on existing land uses, buildings, points of interest, mobile phone and Mobike movement data but were also encouraged to source and explore other publicly available data. All groups provided a unique spin on the workshop theme and successfully demonstrated the potential of ‘big data’ within the design process for urban design.
SUPPORT TO UNICEF ON CHILD-RESPONSIVE PLANNING

OVERVIEW OF THE TRAINING

This activity consisted of a review of training materials as well as online presentations on ISOCARP activities on road safety and mobility issues in the three selected countries of the Philippines, South Africa and Paraguay.

Acknowledging all urban challenges, do you also wonder why and how an urban planner should focus on children? Supported by UNICEF’s recent publication ‘Shaping urbanization for children, a handbook on child-responsive urban planning’, this short training session presented concepts, evidence, technical strategies and tools to bring children to the foreground of urban planning. By focusing on children, we discussed in a workshop format the central role that urban planning should play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), from a global perspective to a local context, by creating thriving and equitable cities where children live in healthy, safe, inclusive, green and prosperous communities.

The outcomes of the training session were:

• To provide the participant urban planners with the knowledge and the technical tools on the why, what and how to put children central in their daily practice;
• To clarify that child-responsive urban planning builds upon the strengths of sustainable urban development, supports the broader New Urban Agenda and intersects with existing discourses and practices for healthy, safe, cohesive, climate resilient and prosperous cities;
• To support participants to feel inspired and comforted after the workshop to lead on this topic in their professional environment, by training further their staff, by proposing innovative approaches to their clients and partners, by elaborating guidance and policies on a city or national level.

In dialogue with ISOCARP and the Indonesian Association for City and Regional Planners (IAP), this training can also mark the start of a certified professional training program for child-responsive urban planners.

The training session had the following elements:

A Seminar on basic concepts and tools on child-responsive urban planning. This seminar provided concepts, evidence and technical strategies to bring children to the foreground of urban planning. By focusing on children, this module provided guidance on the central role that people-centred planning should play in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), from a global perspective to a local context, by creating thriving and equitable cities where children live in healthy, safe, inclusive, green and prosperous communities.

A Workshop with breakout sessions. Supported with a checklist on Children’s Rights and Urban Planning Principles, all participants developed a set of strategic actions and viable short and long term policy recommendations for all urban planning stakeholders towards the creation of child-responsive urban settings.
On the 9th of June, ISOCARP together with other collaborating partners from South Africa (eThekwini Municipality, SACN – South African Cities Network, SALGA – South African Local Governments Association, SAPI – South African Planning Institute and MILA), held the webinar ‘Planning Disrupted’. The main aim of the webinar was to defy critical thematic areas pertinent to urban planning during COVID-19 crisis across cities and regions. Practitioners, planning organisations, individuals and academia were invited to join and discuss on what kind of policy, planning and design actions should be undertaken in our cities, in South Africa and city of Durban in particular.

Over 250 participants joined the ‘Planning Disrupted’ webinar from all over the world, with most participants being from South Africa, followed up by India and Indonesia.

After the welcoming words from SACN, the webinar continued with a presentation of the ISOCARP UPAT workshop for the inner-city renewal of Durban. The results of this collaborative UPAT workshop between urban planning professionals of Ethekwini Municipality and ISOCARP experts are bundled in the PLAN Magazine publication. After the welcoming words and the kick-off presentation the webinar moved on to the five Breakout Sessions, which offered an interactive, broad and moderated discussion on the following topics:

1. PLANNING PRACTICE IN THE TIME OF FLUX – MODERATED BY SALGA AND SACN
2. DARK SIDE OF PLANNING DISRUPTION – MODERATED BY SAPI
3. RESET OPPORTUNITY FOR DENSITY AND LAND-USE PLANNING – MODERATED BY ETHEKWINI MUNICIPALITY
4. PUBLIC SPACES AS LIFE LINE FOR CITIES – MODERATED BY ISOCARP
5. RELEVANT AND SUPPORTIVE NATIONAL PLANNING – MODERATED BY ISOCARP AND SAPI
Early January 2019, STRELKA KB commissioned the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP) to review the "Integral Guidelines for Urban Territories – A set of principles for the integrated development of urban areas – Стандарт комплексного развития территорий". This review was conducted by senior members of ISOCARP through the research and project office of ISOCARP, the ISOCARP Institute, Centre for Urban Excellence.

ISOCARP is very honoured to be invited to review the Integral Guidelines for Urban Territories. During the review process, the team of reviewers was impressed with the quality of the guidelines, the precise description of the challenges encountered in Russian cities and regions, and the identification of the measures to be implemented to achieve more sustainable, liveable and integrated Russian cities. It reflects many of the principles of international urbanism and placemaking.

The "Integral Guidelines for Urban Territories – A set of principles for the integrated development of urban areas" is a guidance document published by STRELKA KB, Moscow in December 2018, aiming to define the main approaches to design the development of residential and mixed-use areas for Russia, in correspondence with the needs and demands of residents, while taking into account the peculiar characteristics of development in Russian cities and the best international practices in the formation and transformation of the urban environment.

The scope of the Guidelines covers territories intended for residential and mixed-use development, which has been named by STRELKA KB as "the Standard". This Standard does not apply to any other areas: business centres, university campuses, stadiums, technology parks, museum quarters, manufacturing areas, hospitals, etc.

Our team of experts has reviewed the guidelines very thoroughly, has discussed the described topics and has developed some short term and longer-term recommendations.

On behalf of ISOCARP, the team of experts has reported to me that they are convinced that the "Integral Guidelines for Urban Territories" is an excellent document, that reflects the current challenges and proposes tools and solutions to improve Russian cities and the quality of life of their inhabitants.

We recommend all cities in the Russian Federation to take notice of the publication and apply the recommendations as described in these guidelines.

We wish STRELKA KB and all cities in the Russian Federation tenacity in the policy implementation of the Guidelines.
One of ISOCARP Institute’s core functions is to design and deliver capacity building and continued education programmes to individuals, organisations and institutions; conduct research and promote knowledge transfer; as well as offer advice and short-term consultancy services to government, non-government and international bodies worldwide. The programmes facilitate the vast knowledge and experience of ISOCARP, building upon over five decades and more than 850 individual and institutional members from about 85 countries working towards knowledge for better cities. The developed trainings are facilitated by representatives of the Board, senior members as well as staff.

One of these activities is the Young Planning Professionals Programme (YPP-P) which was initiated in 1991. The key activity is the facilitation of workshops which merge international and interdisciplinary co-creation and continued education for Young Planning Professionals (< 35 years). Since the establishment of the programme, 48 workshops across the globe were organised with around 1,000 participants from every continent.

The overarching goal is the creation of an ongoing global training programme towards the implementation of the SDGs in urban areas. This training programme is a global capacity-building initiative targeting urban leaderships and urban professionals.

It includes training for all levels of urban professionals that are directly involved in shaping the social, economic and environmental policies, strategies and implementation schedules of municipal and regional authorities.

This training programme shall be considered as an overall capacity building initiative, which includes not only an extensive capacity-building programme but also a governing structure, composed of a quality and monitoring committee (Advisory Committee) which guarantees the successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on a local and national level as well as deliver a substantial contribution to the global objectives towards 2030 Agenda and the New Urban Agenda (NUA).

The training programme is designed as a significant medium to long-term capacity-building approach which comprises of a series of activities, created to enhance on-the-job performance. Each training programme is tailored to the client(s). To ensure reaching the desired outcomes more efficiently and effectively, the performance is regularly assessed to the extent that it is derived from two actions:

(i) training needs assessment; and
(ii) a negotiated agreement between the training provider and the client(s) on the changes required for trainees to effectively apply updated or newly acquired skills, know-how and tools.

The main focus of the Training Programme is on the role of planning in the Local Implementation of the SDGs and the NUA. The entry points for the Training Programme are the four “domains of change” of UN-Habitat’s Strategic Plan. The training and capacity building component of the Programme is conceived to create and further enhance leadership development for local elected officials and for their senior managers to become change agents. The first stand-alone training following the new formula took place prior to the 55th ISOCARP World Planning Congress in Jakarta/Bogor, Indonesia in September 2019, supplemented by several more activities over the course of the last year.
ISOCARP is proud to announce its first Young Planning Professionals’ workshop (YPP) that was conducted with children in Ningbo, China, between 26 and 30 August 2019. The YPP Program is a crucial component of ISOCARP's dedication to promote and enhance the planning profession and commitment to facilitate knowledge for better cities with the young generations. The programme has been leading for over two decades to provide young planning professionals an opportunity to work in a multi-cultural setting, share their experiences on real-life planning problems, and exchange ideas and learn from each other as well as from senior colleagues. The Ningbo YPP workshop was organised in collaboration with the United National International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the China Urban Planning Society (UPSC), and undertaken by Ningbo Bureau of Nature Resources and Planning (NBNRP), the Ningbo Urban Planning & Design Institute (NBPI) and the ISOCARP Institute, Centre for Urban Excellence.

The theme of the Ningbo YPP workshop is ‘Child-friendly Urban Planning’. Since 2018, ISOCARP has cooperated with UNICEF to promote the process of child-friendly urbanisation, aiming at drawing attention to the needs of children in urban planning and enabling children worldwide to have a healthy, safe, inclusive and green life in vibrant, fair and friendly cities. These efforts also help to complete the agenda proposed by the United Nations Development Programme: ‘Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development’. As starting point and planning reference, the workshop considers UNICEF's publication ‘Shaping Urbanization for Children: Handbook on child-friendly urban planning’.

WHY MINDONG?

The case study area, Mingdong Community, was built in 1996, and is precisely located in the north of Mingan Road, west of Zhongxing road, south of Tongtu road and east of Zhaohui Road. There are 56 residential buildings, 170 households and 550 residents in this community. Zhaohui Experimental Primary School is located in the northeast corner of the community, which is the largest primary school for children of migrant workers in the city as well as a cultural centre and civic school in the community. Minglou Park, covering an area of 6830 square metres, is the cultural square of the community. The total site covers 17.59 hectare and the structural area has 120,000 square metres. The area and its surrounding include also other services, such as Zhaohui Experimental Primary School, Tianlun time shopping mall, Tianlun Art park, Jialefu Supermarket, Shuguang middle school, a sport centre and other facilities, bringing huge convenience to the community.

The main reason why Mingdong has been selected as case study area of the workshop lies on the strong presence of children of low- and middle-income families, as well as of migrant workers inside the community. Despite the presence of facilities for children in the neighbourhood, there is an urgency to care for their needs and improve the quality of their daily practices inside the community. In addition, two other elements make the case study area more challenging and relevant: on one side, the community itself has already developed a transformation plan, which will be taken into account in the design phase of the workshop; on the other side, Mingdong presents features that make it a typical and representative neighbourhood of Ningbo, increasing the interest about which kind of child-friendly planning solutions could be adopted inside the city.
HOME FOR CHILDREN – HOME FOR ACTION

The results are diverse explorations on the idea of the “Children’s Home”. From a vision of “Creating Places People Love, A Place for All” where children’s home becomes Mingdong Community to the “Ribbons of Mingdong”, the creative solutions remind us that play is not limited to a playground. Play is everywhere! From an offer to “An Urban Home” – Inviting us to their living rooms full of love, lots of fun, plenty of participation. To the “(A)mazed” – which takes us to A Time Travel From Mazed to Amazed.
The Podomoro University in Jakarta with a local support of CITIESLAB and the Indonesian Association of Urban and Regional Planners (IAP) hosted the first training programme organised by the ISOCARP Institute Academy. This newly-formed branch of the Institute is dedicated to offering international capacity building trainings and planning education for the management of cities relying on expertise of ISOCARP members.

The faculty composed of Jens Aerts, Ali A. Alraouf, Bernardus Djonoputro, Pedro B. Ortiz and Dhiru A. Thadani during the two-day programme tackled the topic of Global Professional Planning focusing on global best-practices to address current issues such as: urban growth, the management of metropolitan megalopolises, the contested role of human dimension in urban development, and local responses to global challenges. The workshop aimed at providing knowledge, instruments and tools to address the mentioned global urban problems, as well as offering the participants access to knowledge resources and shared practices to develop expertise and, thus, become specialists in particular areas of urban planning.

The training sessions were interactive and the response from local professionals was more than encouraging. As a consequence, the Institute is motivated to organise capacity building programmes at future Congresses, as well as quarterly sessions at the international level in the future.

DAY 1

The first session was delivered by Pedro B. Ortiz, Senior Consultant & Senior Fellow at NYU Marron Institute of Urban Management, who provided an overview of urban regional and metropolitan planning. He focused on the emergence and importance of the conglomeration of cities at the metropolitan dimension in the last decades that has led to a necessary shift in the planning paradigm to address the metropolitan scale. Furthermore, he presented the main features and components which structure the metropolis of the 21st century, highlighting the main challenges in terms of governance, expansion and finance, as well as reflecting on the principles and actions of an effective metropolitan management.

Moving to the Indonesian context, Bernardus Djonoputro, the President of Indonesian Association of Urban and Regional Planners, presented the Indonesia Most Livable City Index (MLCI), as result of a research to measure the state of liveability in Indonesian cities. Despite the strong diversity characterising the country, the study revealed how in general the largest Indonesian cities are still perceived as less liveable. The research was also the opportunity to present and discuss some challenges in the management of Indonesian cities, such as investing and financing gaps, the empowerment of local governments and the introduction of private public partnership. The concluding lecture of the day was given by Dhiru A. Thadani, AIA, APA, FCNU, ISOCARP, on the topic of sustainable New Urbanism. The focus was on the centrality of the human dimension and public realm in cities. He illustrated examples of techniques and principles of New Urbanism, a human-scale urban design approach, where walkable blocks and streets, mixed land uses, proximity and accessible public spaces represent an alternative and sustainable model to the ‘placelessness’ of contemporary suburbia.
DAY 2

The next day, Professor Ali A. Alraouf, Head of Research and Development at the Department of Urban Planning at Hamad Bin Kalifa University, Qatar delivered a lecture on urban waterfronts, presenting innovative case studies and suggesting different planning and urban design approaches. Specifically, he remarked the importance of shifting from the perception of waterfronts as edgy and pure visual landscape towards vibrant, resilient and inclusive urban spaces, where the dialogue between the city and the water is solidly reaffirmed.

The last presentation was delivered by Jens Aerts, the UNICEF Urban Planning Specialist, who also led an interactive workshop on child-responsive urban planning. The workshop aimed at providing knowledge and tools to put children in the centre of planning practice, highlighting how children-friendly cities are also healthier, safer and more sustainable. Nevertheless, it was also highlighted how planning for children still remains difficult to mainstream into the planning practice, and how further capacity building is required in order to design participatory processes with children.

The concluding session was organised as an interactive question and answer activity, where participants and instructors jointly discussed concerns and possible solutions to global planning challenges in light of impending climate change. Judging from the positive response, the ISOCARP Institute assesses that the first training in Jakarta was a success and we will certainly continue with this practice in future.
CRIC CLIMATE RESILIENT AND INCLUSIVE CITIES

OVERVIEW OF THE ONLINE TRAINING ON URBAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In July 2020, ISOCARP Institute facilitated an 2-day online training on Sustainable Urban Development and Planning. The training feeds into the EU co-funded Climate Resilient and Inclusive Cities (CRIC, www.resilien-cities.com) project which works towards sustainable cooperation between Europe and Indonesia, as well as other South East Asian countries. The training programme is split into two elements: 1) On the 22-23 July 2020 an online training was facilitated; 2) In January 2020 (depending on travel restrictions) an on-site training is conducted in Indonesia. Both trainings feature the same content, however, adapted to the format and expanded by more interactive sessions for the latter. ISOCARP Institute facilitates both trainings with the support and input of experts from ISOCARP, as well as input of contributors to the 55th ISOCARP World Planning Congress 2019 in Jakarta/Bogor and its accompanying publication and declaration.

The training is organised in four themes, namely the three dimensions of sustainability and governance: 1) Economic, 2) Environmental, and 3) Social sustainability, as well as the crosscutting theme of 4) Governance. Additional to the live training, supporting materials are provided which consist of case studies and best practices, further readings, and references to other interactive media. For the contextualisation in current practice, global planning concepts and approaches are covered. These include the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular SDG 11, the New Urban Agenda (NUA), Sustainable Urban Development (SUD), Transit-Oriented Development (TOD), human-centred design, metropolitan/territorial planning, as well as socially inclusive planning. The training will cover planning across scales, planning across disciplines/sectors, planning for the poor/for informality, and discuss how to link different planning bodies. The four thematic main sessions of the training are introduced together with the structure and approach in the first session, as well as summarised in the last. Each main session consists of a theoretical input lecture and case studies and examples, complemented with viable approaches and tools, such as visioning, action planning, monitoring and assessment approaches, and digital tools. The four main modules discussed the topics below:

- **MODULE 1 | ENHANCED SHARED PROSPERITY OF CITIES AND REGIONS**
- **MODULE 2 | PLANNING FOR CLIMATE ACTION AND IMPROVED URBAN ENVIRONMENT**
- **MODULE 3 | PLANNING FOR SPATIAL EQUALITY AND POVERTY REDUCTION**
- **MODULE 4 | URBAN GOVERNANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**
Knowledge Base

ISOCARP INSTITUTE’S KNOWLEDGE BASE

OVERVIEW OF THE COMPOSING ELEMENTS

The Knowledge Base platform aims at compiling, sharing, discussing, and elevating the knowledge of the global community of urban and territorial planning professionals. The Institute has created the Knowledge Base to allow for global dissemination of the accumulated knowledge of ISOCARP’s members (e.g. Presentations, interviews, lectures, papers, articles), as well as to disseminate the results and solutions that are being developed within our projects. The outcomes – which cover topics of ISOCARP World Planning Congress papers, projects, case studies, or ISOCARP Review articles – will be made available as videos on our Knowledge Base and other communication channels. Furthermore, they will feed into activities of the ISOCARP Institute Academy, e.g. by acting as expert inputs for city leader trainings and capacity building.
Cities are the place of economic production, knowledge and innovation – together with connectivity, creativity and services. As cities are dense, they also offer high potentials for energy savings and low carbon economies. However, cities today are confronted with several challenges: unemployment, segregation, climate change issues. Our ISOCARP Institute Seminar focused on the implementation of good practices, by listening from leading companies from the private sector, and solutions developed by leading international organisations, partners or members of the ISOCARP Institute. The Institute Seminar presented several initiatives and urban solutions from partners and members of the ISOCARP Institute: It focused on training and capacity building and the initiatives of ISOCARP Institute together with UN-Habitat; further, it developed the topic of Smart Cities at the European level and demonstrated the results of European projects. Furthermore, our partners from ENGIE Tractebel explained their best experiences in achieving urban solutions, and finally, our partners from STRELKA KB presented their achievements in Russia and abroad on urban guidelines and urban competitions. The Institute Seminar covered the topics of capacity building, research and practice, which correspond to the three pillars of activities of the ISOCARP Institute: Academy, Research and Practice.
SMART CITY EXPO BARCELONA | 19-21 NOVEMBER 2019

ISOCARP INSTITUTE AS PARTNERS IN THE +CITYXCHANGE H2020 PROJECT

The Smart City Expo World Congress empowers cities and collectively urban innovation across the globe. Through promoting social innovation, establishing partnerships and identifying business opportunities, the event is dedicated to creating a better future for cities and their citizens worldwide. Representatives from ISOCARP Institute participated in the event as project partners in the +CityxChange consortium. All Horizon 2020 European Smart City Lighthouse Projects had their joint stand in the exhibition hall and facilitated a range of events in order to present project outcomes and enable interactive exchange.

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10TH SESSION OF THE WORLD URBAN FORUM IN ABU DHABI | 8-13 FEBRUARY 2020

ISOCARP INSTITUTE PRESENTING ITS PROJECT ACTIVITIES

ISOCARP and ISOCARP Institute actively participated at WUF10 by co-hosting two networking events and through a booth shared with the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), presenting the Society and its projects, while its Board and staff members spoke on behalf of the Society in a number of dialogues, roundtable and side events.

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**Agora Sessions**
- “From dream to reality: Impact of lighthouse projects on cities”
- “The Journey: from Nearly Zero Energy Neighbourhood to Positive Energy Districts”
- “Europe 2030: What’s next for Smart Cities and Communities?”

**Workshops at the stand**
- SCIS: Live SCIS Self Reporting Tool Helpdesk
- Smart Public Lighting and IP Services
- A Mission to Deliver the Cities of the Future
- EIP SCC - The Marketplace: Action Clusters
- Nordic Lighthouse Cities - Smart, Bold and Collaborative
- Replicating Smart Solutions in GrowsSmarter
- Financing - Let's Make it Happen
- Visualising the Smart City
- Open Urban Data Platforms
- Spanish Smart Cities
- Build-up “Open” Eco Systems in Smart City Projects
- Night of EU Smart Cities and Communities
- Scale-up Your SC Solutions through the EU City Facility
- Impacts Beyond the Projects
- A Pitch from the Lyon Makers Sessions
- SCC1 Projects Stakeholders’ Map by MAKING-CITY

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**NETWORKING EVENT: Beyond the Metropolis - inspiring and innovative initiatives to strengthen territorial management of worldwide metropolises and large city-regions (9 February, 2020)**

**SIDE EVENT: Planners for Climate Action, Nature based and Decarbonising Solutions in Heritage Context (9 February 2020)**

**BOOTH EVENT: Mobility for Carbon Friendly Cities (9 February 2020)**

**DIALOGUE: Urban Planning and Heritage Preservation (11 February 2020)**

**ROUNDTABLE PROFESSIONALS: Habitat Professionals Forum (12 February 2020)**

**NETWORKING EVENT: Global Planning Aid – A new partnership approach to “Sustainable Cities and Communities”: Empowering poor and marginalised people to make better places (12 February 2020)**
THE TEAM

CURRENT STAFF

THE TEAM WORKING FOR ISOCARP INSTITUTE

FEDERICO AILI
Project Manager
Federico joined the ISOCARP Secretariat in September 2018 and worked on the EU project thinkNATURE, the YPP Programme, as well as research and publications. He joined ISOCARP Institute as project manager in January 2020 and will be responsible for the upcoming project VARCITIES.

SINDI HAXHIJA
Research and Design
Sindi became part of ISOCARP Institute in March 2019. She is currently mainly contributing to the EU Horizon 2020 project +CityxChange, and further works on other projects and proposals.

TJARK GALL
Project Manager
Tjark holds a MSc Urban Management & Development Studies (IHS, NL) and MSc Architecture (GER) and is project manager for +CityxChange. He worked on projects in China, Curaçao, Brazil, Germany, South Africa, Malawi, Uganda, and Norway; focusing on urban development, climate change effects & use/visualisation of urban data.

PAST STAFF

DAVID STRUIK
Office Manager (until December 2019)
ISOCARP INSTITUTE
THE WAY FORWARD

ISOCARP Institute is planning to further increase its activities in the next future, following the three main pillars of activities – Institute Academy, Institute Practice and Institute Research. Several activities started early 2020 and will be described in the next Annual Report.

In the Institute Academy pillar, our activities are focusing on conceptualisation of knowledge, operationalisation of capacity-building and training programmes in close cooperation with local and global partners, as well as professional impact as monitoring of training activities. Here, the Institute started early this year the implementation of Online training Programme, to be followed later by on-site trainings. Furthermore, we intend to develop Rapid training needs assessments, Training and Action Planning for senior managers, Leadership development (peer-to-peer learning), Organisational management assessment (OMA), and Training of trainers (TOT), besides conventional online seminars and workshops. Current activities and proposals are focusing on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, sustainable urban development strategies, stakeholder involvement and participation - in cooperation with local and global partners.

In the Institute Practice pillar, our next activities are a further diversification of the existing tools and instruments of practice. We are currently looking for developing Thematic Hackathons as short-term online activities combined with high-level curators involved, but also at participatory urban laboratories, webinars, or placemaking processes beyond planning advisory. Local authorities are expecting today local implementation and citizen involvement, integrated into coherent urban transformation programmes.