

DESIS NETWORK

Design for
Social Innovation
and Sustainability



In a small, densely populated, highly connected Planet, people's intelligence, sensitivity and creativity are the most abundant resources. These social resources, if and when catalysed, become powerful drivers for sustainable changes. And design can (and must) help the process.

DESIS Newsletter 0 • A CATALYZING AGENT • March 2010 • DESIS INTERNATIONAL NETWORK • www.desis-network.org

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DESIS, network of schools of design and other institutions, companies and non-profit organizations interested in promoting and supporting design for social innovation and sustainability. You all are welcome to join us!

EDITORIAL

By Ezio Manzini

1. This is the first DESIS Newsletter. As everything in this network, it is the result of few people's personal efforts (in this case, of Andrea Mendoza's energy and enthusiasm. And I thank her a lot for that!). As everything in the DESIS Network, it is a small and light initiative. But again, as everything in this network, it is open, connected and, therefore, potentially, strong and meaningful. Presenting local cases, initiatives and projects, it will contribute to make them more visible, and hopefully, to connect them with other ones and, therefore, to make them stronger.

2. Some 30 years ago E. F. Schumacher wrote his very famous book Small is beautiful. At that time, because the degree of connectivity was (relatively) low, the small was really small and the local really local (that is, isolated). Therefore, Schumacher's option in terms of the small and local scale could be proposed only as a cultural and ethical choice. Today, it is no longer like that: with a higher degree of connectivity, when the small can be a node of the networks and the local can be open to the global flow of people and information, the small is no longer small and a local is no longer local, at least in traditional terms. In fact, with the networks, it becomes possible to operate on a local and small scale in a very effective way. Moreover, these networking and flexible systems indicate the one and only possibility to operate in the complex and fast changing environment generated by the double transition towards a knowledge and sustainability based society.

3. This Newsletter goes in this direction. It will bring to the whole community's attention different (small and local, but also open and connected) initiatives where social innovation and sustainability converge. And where, in different ways, design played a meaningful role.

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Students visiting the “Sabores e Saberes” fair.
(Credit: UFRJ Imagens)



The “Sabores e Saberes” fair. Various cooperatives and farmers in the State of Rio de Janeiro had exposed its products. (Credit: UFRJ Imagens – Marcos Fernandes)

DESIS DOTS (in the net)

Short presentation of projects

DESIS Brazil

Designing a food system for Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) to promote better, cleaner and fairer collective dining

By *Carla Cipolla*

The Federal University of Rio de Janeiro/Brazil (UFRJ) started the twenty-first century decided to be prepared to “a future marked by transdisciplinarity and the universalization of higher education” (UFRJ, 2008). In this context, among many other actions, takes shape in UFRJ a new project for its food system, particularly focused on the “official university canteens”, considered as a key issue in university communitarian life. Such a view is reinforced by the strong social policy implemented by the government of President Luis Inacio da Silva, on which the discussion on access to food has become central.

Considering such demand, the doctorate student Nadia Carvalho, director of the University’s Food System and her advisor Carla Cipolla, Associated Professor at PEP/COPPE and coordinator of DESIS-Brazil have started up a doctorate research project, targeted to define a public management policy and design strategy for the food system in the university. It is composed by the following actions:

a) establishment of a model of horizontal and participatory management policy through the definition of a Food Management Council for the university (composed by faculty members, students representatives, administrative and technical staff), seeking to democratize political decisions.

b) Strategic design project where the various aspects of food system products, services and communication are designed to promote initiatives for social innovation for sustainability in the sector of food production and education, particularly considering a “slow” perspective (www.slowfood.com), i.e, a design process founded upon the concept of eco-gastronomy – a recognition of the strong connections between plate and planet, aiming to get good, clean and fair food. Consumers are considered as co-producers because by being informed about how food is produced and actively supporting those who produce it, university canteens and its “clients” become a part of and a partner in the production process.

Among the first actions of the project was the event “Sabores e Saberes”: a partnership between the staff of the restaurant, the Institute of Nutrition and University Innovation Agency. The event promoted lectures, workshops and cultural events on the theme of fair and quality food. Various cooperatives and farmers in the State of Rio de Janeiro exhibited their products. This event, strongly involve undergraduates, and is a milestone for establishing partnerships with potential suppliers to the system of university restaurants. The event started up the establishment of a regular organic fair at the university.

The project is looking forward connections with other initiatives in a promotion of a better, cleaner and fairer collective dining. In this direction, Nadia and Carla are going to take part in the “Terra Madre Brazil” event. The Terra Madre international network is made up of all those who wish to act to preserve, encourage, and support sustainable food production methods.

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DESIS EUROPE

OPM Cities _ Malmö Design Exercise

By *François Jégou*

The aim of OPM Cities is to drive long-term systemic change in partner cities and develop a new model of mobility that combines radically reduced car dependency and increased quality of life with reductions in CO2 emissions from personal mobility that are compatible with a European trajectory of 95% carbon reductions.



The initiative is led by WWF and involves so far 5 European cities (Barcelona, Freiburg, Lille, Malmö and Sofia). As part of the initiative a scenario tool is currently being developed that will be able to create scenarios for CO2 reductions from applying different policies for urban mobility. The tool will also show the systemic links with other mobility related factors like urban pollution, travel time and costs of policies. It will provide local policy makers with scenarios and policy recommendations.

To create the innovations required to transform the current unsustainable model of mobility, the initiative will not only work with local policy makers but will engage a variety of actors from different sectors that can support the process of systemic change.

In addition, designers are supporting the process by using participatory design to engage the people on the ground in creating innovation and develop creative scenarios for sustainable mobility. A pilot of this creative part of OPM Cities is currently being organized in Malmö. WWF, Strategic Design Scenarios, K3 Design department of the University of Malmö are leading this project with the collaboration of the City of Malmö. The experimentation is focused on a design exercise and consists in a process started in December 2009 and aiming to deliver final results in spring 2010.

The partners involved agreed first a framework to start with: Malmö is already one of the leading European cities in sustainable mobility and has one of the best bicycle infrastructures and very ambitious targets for both increasing the use of public transport and radically reducing the use of cars. These are aims of the Environmental Programme of the city for 2020. Such radical changes in mobility behaviour require a broad set of well-designed policies, the development of new infrastructures and creation of innovative services to support mobility users to shift towards new and more sustainable ways of living. In particular, a better understanding of people's daily practices is needed where public authorities generally stick to macro statistical approaches: the devil is in the detail!

DESIS INDIA

Social Innovation and Design from the Indian Outback Innovative system for Mutual Help

By Sahil Bagga & Sarthak Sengupta

The harsh terrain of rural Rajasthan has been the mother of many social innovations; motivated by the scarcity of resources and the sheer survival instinct it arouses in its native communities. We would like to share a case of social innovation that we observed in the village community, specific to the Pali district of the Indian state of Rajasthan.

In the state of Rajasthan, innovative system for mutual help has emerged over the years amongst the various village communities. The farmer community works according to seasonal cycles. Each time they start with a fresh cycle, they need to prepare their lands by getting rid of wild grass that grow during the gestation period. The farmer community then turns to the Raika Rebari community, who are traditionally shepherders and work as temporary labourers on other's farms. They come to a mutual agreement, where the farmer community allows the Rebari community to let their live stock graze on their fields or allow them to cut and collect the wild vegetation to be use as fodder. This simple yet innovative system has ensured a productive relationship between the two village communities for many generations.

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Elope: The Kitchen Project, Final Presentation

By Rao Qingfang



January 17-18th, 2010 | “Elope: The Kitchen Project” the rural kitchen joint workshop had the final presentation at Tongji Innovation Center. The presentation was held from 8pm to the midnight, all in a favorable atmosphere.

The rural kitchen joint workshop was an international communicative initiative on design, co-organized by Bern University Applied Science and Technology, Switzerland, and Tongji University, involving 40 students and 10 tutors. The workshop originally started in September, 2009, followed by three periodical presentations and a final presentation by means of videoconferencing.

In the final presentation, the six teams showed their collaborative achievements after 6-month endeavour from diverse aspects, such as kitchen renovation on architecture and environment, kitchen life-style and service system, cookware design, pollution and energy problems, etc. The students discussed on how to technically solve the problems of gas, fuel, etc. in the rural kitchen, and provided renovation scenario in service system, in order to seek for possibilities of rural kitchen to satisfy the requirements of the daily life as well as provide.



“high five escalator” public intervention done by one of our sources of inspiration: improveeverywhere based in NY: <http://improveeverywhere.com/2009/02/09/high-five-escalator/>

The other source of inspiration is Milan based group www.esterni.org and their Design Public Festival

COLOMBIA

Urban Dynamization

By Andrea Mendoza

How to engage public spaces so that urban dwellings become more liveable places in the midst –and despite- contemporary threatens? How to prompt a sense of re-appropriation in citizen and thus, design more secure urban spaces? How do designers, working in hand with architects, biologists, anthropologists, scientists, filmmakers or artists (among many others) can shape better livelihoods and thus prompt more healthy and vibrant cities?

In the framework of DESIS International activities, the different Desis-local have found common interests and fields to start a series of cross-fertilization and collaboration; for instance, Desis-Africa and Desis Brazil are interested in Community Based Tourism whereas Desis-ME (Middle East) and Desis-Colombia move towards Urban Dynamization UD.

Talking specifically about the Colombian cluster, there was to ask: what does urban dynamization mean? Which is its relation with design?

For us, it means to stimulate the city, to make from square markets, theatres, cafes, alleys, and daily commuted streets, places where people can easily, freely and self-confidently move at anytime, any given day. That might sound banal for other contexts, but is quite relevant for the Colombian one. Our aim is to, first of all, give people back a sense of reliance so that the risky aspect, which is embedded in the national collective imaginary, starts fading away. But for this, even if the role of policy makers, infrastructure and police is undeniable, it is important that citizens start getting awoken in order to shift the mainstream view that assumes any idea aiming at improving the city like an “utopia”.

In the framework of design for sustainability, we consider dynamization as a crucial outcome of design explorations/interventions because it is there where, for us -and so far-, where design has a potential role to play and become a catalyser.

There is to say that these changes are already being experienced by the academic-partners, and professors involved (including, among others: La Tadeo University, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Pontificia Universidad Bolivariana, Universidad de Caldas and Los Andes University. All of them belonging to the National Network of Design Schools RAD).

The main issue here is that those who are engaging our process are keen to connect their single agendas to common and interdisciplinary/inter-institutional meeting points so that the network can grow as a whole. This Common agenda is slowly raising thanks to different initiatives, which go from classes, to exhibitions, conferences and especially the production of didactic tools as well as innovative design approaches to nurture the design knowledge society from a not so formal and/or standardized viewpoint.



Poster from a documentary session held at Los Andes University on Feb. the 26th 2010, in the framework of the Urban Dynamization cluster and thanks to Presencias del Diseño, organized by Catalina Quijano.

In short what we are trying to do in the framework of this cluster, is changing the “chip” in citizen’s mind settings by means of the interstice: art-social sciences-design, and make them reflect upon their daily behaviours, to change the logics in which cities are assumed, experienced and “lived”.

In the next issues we hope being able to bring information regarding the “Urban Dynamization” cluster in Berlin and Tel Aviv.

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGES

News regarding information exchanges and horizontal connections among DESIS members

AFRICA

Community-based Tourism: inspiration from DESIS-Brazil

By Mugendi M’Rithaa



DESIS-Africa has recently embarked a community-based tourism project to promote dialogue between participating communities and other actors operating within a Design for Sustainability (DfS) paradigm. This initiative was born following a formal visit to Cape Town by Prof. Roberto Bartholo of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, in February 2010. Prof. Bartholo shared a number of inspiring cases under the auspices of the DESIS-Brazil network. The visit was co-hosted by Stuart Warden and Mugendi M’Rithaa, both of the Faculty of Informatics and Design, Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT). Stuart and Mugendi had previously visited the Brazilian cities of Curitiba, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro in November 2009 at the invitation of DESIS-Brazil members, Professors Aguinaldo dos Santos, Carla Cipolla, and Bartholo.

During his visit Prof. Bartholo engaged with a number of activities, including seminars/presentations to undergraduate and postgraduate design students, courtesy calls to CPUT officials and professional designers in industry, as well as attending the 11th edition of the world-renowned, Cape Town-based **Design Indaba conference**.

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CHINA

Coordinator of DESIS-china Prof. Lou Yongqi meets with Sam Adams, Mayor of Portland, US

By Rao Qingfang



Feb 24, 2010, Coordinator of Desis-china Prof. Lou Yongqi met with Mayor Sam Adams of Portland. They explored the potential for collaboration through academic collaboration. Prof. LOU introduced his practice and research on design for sustainability. Mayor Adams said that Portland is on a promising path toward becoming a hub for environmental design and innovation.

Quality, high efficiency design is a fundamental component of creating a sustainable future for Portland. They both believe that city can work more aggressively toward its sustainability goals with a high level of access to important innovations.

BUILDING UP KNOWLEDGE

New air in Design

Reports on recently published works from students

ITALY-CHINA

Fresh Ph.D. Thesis: “Collaborate Services in Ubiquitous Network: Exploring design for social innovation and sustainability in network society”.

By Miaosen Gong



On 26th of Feb, Miaozen Gong, a PhD candidate of Ezio Manzini in Dis-Indaco, Politecnico di Milano did his Thesis defense. His thesis: “Collaborate Services in Ubiquitous Network: Exploring design for social innovation and sustainability in network society”, aims at investigating the emerging social innovation enabled by cutting-edge technologies and their design implications of them.

In particular, it focuses on “Mobilized Collaborative Services”, as a convergence between radical innovations in everyday life and cyber spaces.

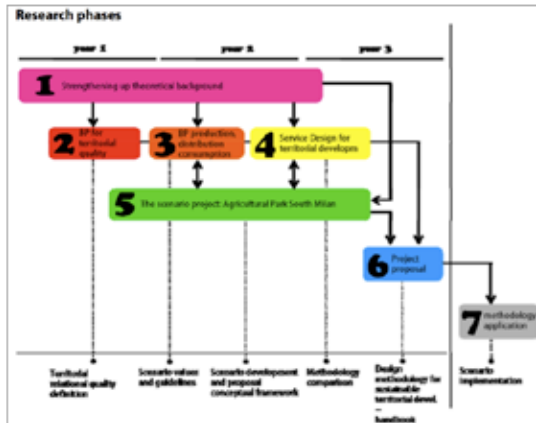
By phenomenological research and designing action research, it inquires the system and interaction of them and explores how design intervenes them.

ITALY

Feeding the city.

Peri-urban sustainable agriculture as a driver for territorial development through a Service Design approach.

Giulia Simeone Ph.D. Thesis



The focus of this research was on the so-called peri-urban area. Periurban agriculture, as we refer in this thesis, is the one which deals with agricultural activities (farms, agritourism, leisure, education...) very close to the city, which work both with intensive production methods, and organic ones; which grow products (vegetables, breeding, milk and eggs) both for commercial purposes, and to deliver services to urban population. Service Design perspective allows to tackle this topic for the kind and the quality of the relations that occur between city and surrounding countryside.

Findings:

The main outcomes of this research can be seen in two levels, the first one, theoretical, is the adjustment of a Service Design methodology for the community based and sustainable territorial development. The output of this theoretical outcome is the “Design Handbook for Sustainable Territorial Development”. The second level, application-oriented, is the activation of a applied research project “Feeding Milan. Energy for change” promoted by INDACO dept. of Politecnico di Milano, Slow Food Italy, University of Gastronomic Sciences, and granted by Fondazione Cariplo, Comune di Milano and Provincia di Milano. It will allow the application, and the proof check, of the foresaid methodology and it will fit with Milan Expo 2015 topic: agri-food, helping Service Design to play a defined and acknowledged role in terms of scientific research and applied project.



COLOMBIA

PAD AWARDS

Recognition to new approaches in Design knowledge

By Andrea Mendoza

How to reward innovative efforts and built up knowledge from not mainstream courses and research projects that challenge the logics of both: city and the academia?



On February the 11th, in the framework of the Design Academy Awards (Premio Academico de Diseño PAD) granted by the Javeriana University in Bogotá, the winner in the category Design and Social Responsibility was the “DRAT Venice Museum” an initiative developed in a Bogotá neighborhood called: Venecia (and in the framework of their “Bienal de Venecia”, by a group of teachers and students from the Javeriana University -Design Department- who did activate the local dynamics by building up an ephemeral museum that people could help assembling and thus re-appropriate after the event. It became a space to articulate pedagogic strategies aiming at exploring the links between art and the neighborhood’s daily life.

In another category of the PAD Awards: Graduating Projects and Thesis, Andrés Ortiz a recently graduated Designer from Los Andes University, obtained the second place with his thesis: “Espacios Vivos”, a dissertation on Urban Agriculture.

According to Professor Gonzalo Gómez, coordinator of the Awards, the event was a space for faculties and other design schools in Colombia to interact around topics such as: local values, environmental performance and cultural identity.

DESIS ALBUM – work in progress

A “behind the scenes” space to periodically introduce Desis members and partners



Adital Ela

Adital Ela

Adital is a product designer specializing in the field of design for sustainability. She runs an active sustainable design studio based in Israel promoting various projects with companies, non-profit organizations, and social groups. Adital is Lecturer at HIT Holon Institute of Technology.

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Mugendi M'Rithaa

Mugendi M'Rithaa

Industrial Design Educator/Researcher at Cape Peninsula University of Technology

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Aguinaldo do Santos

Aguinaldo do Santos

Civil Engineer, MSc, PhD. Federal University of Paraná. Promoter of LENS Southamerica and the ISSD International Symposium of Sustainable Design in Brazil.

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DESIS VOICES

A space for members/guest to “have a say”

On Curitiba

By Liliâne Chaves



“I am Liliâne Iten Chaves, professor of the Design Department of the Federal University of Paraná (UFPR). Here, at UFPR, some colleagues and myself, participate in the Sustainable Design Research Unit, coordinated by Professor Aguinaldo dos Santos. This is the framework to develop the activities of the DESIS Network in Curitiba. Curitiba is a cold city in southern Brazil and the majority of its inhabitants have European origin.

As our first activity, as part of the DESIS network, we promoted an Extension Course titled: System Design for Social Innovation. Eight students attended the course, four of them from the UFPR and four outside the UFPR. They are: Mariana Amaral Tomaz, Patrícia Mitie Kojima, Rosana Vasques, Tássia de Matos Bianchini, Éder Almeida Loureiro, Mariana França Ordacowski, Nieli Braz de Proença e Rebeca Laísa Alves Storrer.

The participants lead real example cases of social innovation in Curitiba. The cases raised were discussed and selected to deepen through interviews. At the end, three cases were selected for refinement: a case of gardening in public spaces, a bicycle event, and a case of a shared laundry room in a private familiar building. These



cases are initiatives less common in our Brazilian context than those ought be in other contexts. For us, they were considered as creative and innovative ways to improve citizenship.

In Brazil, the academic year began in March. Thus we are organizing the continuation of work through two regular courses offered to undergraduate and graduate students. Moreover, we want to create a study group on the subject to continue the discussions initiated among the disciplines”.

ALLIANCES

A portray of agreements and cross-fertilization among Desis Dots and non academic partners

COLOMBIA

DESIS Colombia & Bogotá Civic Award - Corona Foundation

By Marta Lucia de la Cruz

“Collective actions start with quotidian-life challenges. Challenges that test citizen’s creativity and their capacity to overcome daily defies; it is there, where they put into action all the resources that have around heading it towards communitarian well-being. For already 11 years, the **Civic Award for a Better City in Bogotá** (<http://e.eltiempo.com/media/produccion/Civico2009/index.html>) *, has identified over 1200 experiences of communitarian organizations and has given visibility and granted around 35, of them given their know-how and quality.

Notwithstanding, social dynamics impose more challenges: one of which is to connect with platforms (at a local, national and international level) in order to learn and exchange good practices. And this is precisely the starting point of our alliance: DESIS International & Civic Award for a Better City in Bogotá, given that we are certain that it will widen the horizons of the communities and will open up new opportunities”.

As read, the Colombian **is very pleased to announce** the recently created alliance between DESIS International and the Civic Award for a Better City in Bogotá lead by the Fundación Corona http://www.fundacioncorona.org.co/Default_en.htm, a private non-profit organization that supports and funds initiatives oriented towards strengthening the institutional capacity of the country in four strategic social sectors: education, health, entrepreneurial development and local and community development.

As mentioned, since already 11 years they reward exemplary communitarian local/ social initiatives of neighbors that get together in order to improve life conditions and quality in their neighborhoods, localities and/or Bogotá city (the initiative has also spread to cities like Cali and Cartagena, above and beyond their alliances in South America).

Besides mapping, documenting and communicating the cases via mass media (thanks to their Media partners at a national level), they have started to escort the local communities, by means of a follow up methodology developed by them.

Thanks to our Alliance Desis-Premio Civico, we will collaborate in terms of visibility starting by assessing the design of the call for participations for the 2010 edition of the awards, but the idea goes beyond hence we will start collaborating in the follow up of social innovation cases by means of both (Desis and Premio Cívico) methodologies finding innovative ways to spread and motivate the cropping up of such initiatives in Bogotá.

Last year (and very tuned to the Desis Colombia thematic cluster: Urban Dynamization) the winner was the “International Alternative and Communitarian Film & Video Festival” called: Ojo Al Sancocho” (untranslatable slang!) a proof that cities are in need of creative interventions to improve life, indeed, quoting his director, thanks to the Festival “people can “jump” in Maslow’s pyramid from the very bottom of the base (basic needs) to the very top of it, and that is what we want, to just get out of conventional problems and give people the possibility to get flabbergasted and moved by means of art...”



PRIMER PUESTO/ Sueños Films Colombia

Iniciativa: PRIMER PUESTO/ Sueños Films Colombia. Comunicación Alternativa y Localidad: Ciudad Bolívar

No. de habitantes en localidad: 583.937 * CENSO DANE 2007

LOGROS Y DIAGNOSTICO

Objetivo:
Promover la educación y la comunicación alternativa y comunitaria y fomento de actividades artísticas y culturales de formación, creación, difusión, circulación y apropiación. Promoviendo una vida digna y comunitaria solidaria en equilibrio con el medio ambiente.



This case, Ojo al Sancocho has been taken by students from Los Andes University to assess it under the Desis Tool Kit.

This case and others in which students from different universities participating in academic design exercises as part of our alliance with the National Network of Design Schools (RAD) at an itinerant exhibition.

*The Head Table of the award is formed by: the Fundación Corona Programme, the Editorial house of national newspaper: El Tiempo, the PLAN foundation, the Coalition for Community Development, the Time Bank Bogotá and Bayer Colombia.

EVENTS

Activities to socialize

February	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28
March	1 2 3 4 5 6 < Shanghai Chongming International Research Workshop 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
April	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 < Human Cities Festival 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
May	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 < Human Cities Festival 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
June	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
July	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
August	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
September	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 < Cumulus Shanghai Conference 2010: Young Creators for Better City and Better Life 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
October	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 > Sustainability in Design: NOW!
November	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
December	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31



CHINA

Shanghai Chongming International Research Workshop

From February to March 2010, Studio TEKTAO had a joint workshop with Rotterdam Academy of Architecture (RAVB) and International Institute of Urban Management from the Netherlands.

With the goal of seeking a new path of urban development, the teams worked on design projects for the transformation and future development of Shuxin-XianQiao and studied the effects of contemporary Chinese urbanism in both Shanghai City and the Chong-ming countryside. By studying both cases, the exchanges between the periurban rural area and city can be manifested for an alternative development. The study focused on three themes: Urban den-sification, Leisure & tourism and Agriculture.

www.newtowninstitute.org

BELGIUM

HUMAN CITIES FESTIVAL

Brussels will host the first Human Cities urban festival in early May. This biannual event will be a showcase for raising awareness of public spaces in Brussels through various meetings and events. A symposium and scientific workshops will welcome numerous Belgian and international experts, professionals and students in urban planning, architecture, design and sociology, as well as key figures from public service. They will share their experiences, work and thoughts on urban planning, and its general uses, focusing particularly public spaces. Throughout the festival the «Places to Be» exhibition will creatively promote the work and reports selected from the international call for entries launched under the framework of this European project. To emphasise the pleasure of this alternative appropriation of the city, an urban Sunday brunch will take place on 9 May 2010 in the vicinity of BOZAR. Other unique forms of entertainment will be organised throughout the festivities

HUMAN CITIES / celebrating public space

until 16 May. This festival is the result of a European partnership «Human Cities: sustainable urban design» supported by the European Commission's «Culture 2007-2013» program.

<http://festival.humancities.eu/en/introduction>

CHINA

Cumulus Shanghai Conference 2010: Young Creators for Better City and Better Life.

CUMULUS Shanghai Conference 2010 will be held by College of Design & Innovation of Tongji University from Sep. 7th to Sep.10th during World EXPO 2010. The theme for CUMULUS Shanghai Conference 2010 is Young Creators for Better City and Better Life. The conference aims to explore how the young generation of designers can improve our environment and life in creative ways. The emerging missions and visions of future design education, research and practice, together with its economic, political and social impacts of the era, will also be discussed during the conference.

www.cumulusassociation.org

INDIA

SUSTAINABILITY IN DESIGN: NOW!

Challenges and Opportunities for Design Research, Education and Practice in the XXI Century



Sustainability in Design: NOW!

Challenges and Opportunities for Design Research, Education and Practice in the XXI Century

Bangalore, India, 29th of September – 1st of October 2010

Deadline for abstract submission 31st of March 2010

Get more info and register on-line at www.lensconference.polimi.it

The Sustainability in Design: Now! conference is a platform for sharing the latest knowledge and experiences in product, service and system design, to promote sustainable systems thinking in design education, research and practice communities. The conference approach is to look at various stakeholders in this arena - designers, design educators and design researchers - as a unique learning community.

The objective is the creation of a new ethos, within such a community, enabling all possible synergies and fruitful processes of knowledge and know-how osmosis and cross-fertilisation.

This conference is promoted and organized as the conclusive event of the LeNS - Learning Network on Sustainability - project, funded by EU under the Asia Link Programme, that aims at the development and diffusion of design for sustainability in design institutions.

There is no conference fee and proceedings will be published (with ISBN).

For more information on the conference please visit www.lensconference.polimi.it or contact lens.conference@polimi.it

For information on the LeNS project please visit www.lens.polimi.it or contact lens@polimi.it ●

