

NOVEMBER 13 & 14, 2019.



UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



URBAN THINKERS CAMPUS

Accelerating the SDGs in Cities



**PERKINS
EASTMAN**

THE EARTH INSTITUTE
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

COLUMBIA
GSAPP



Center for Sustainable
Urban Development
EARTH INSTITUTE | COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

ARUP



URBAN THINKERS CAMPUS 2019

Wednesday, November 13th, 8:30am - 5:30pm

SIPA 15th Floor

420 West 118th Street, Room 1501

Thursday, November 14th, 10:30am - 4:00pm

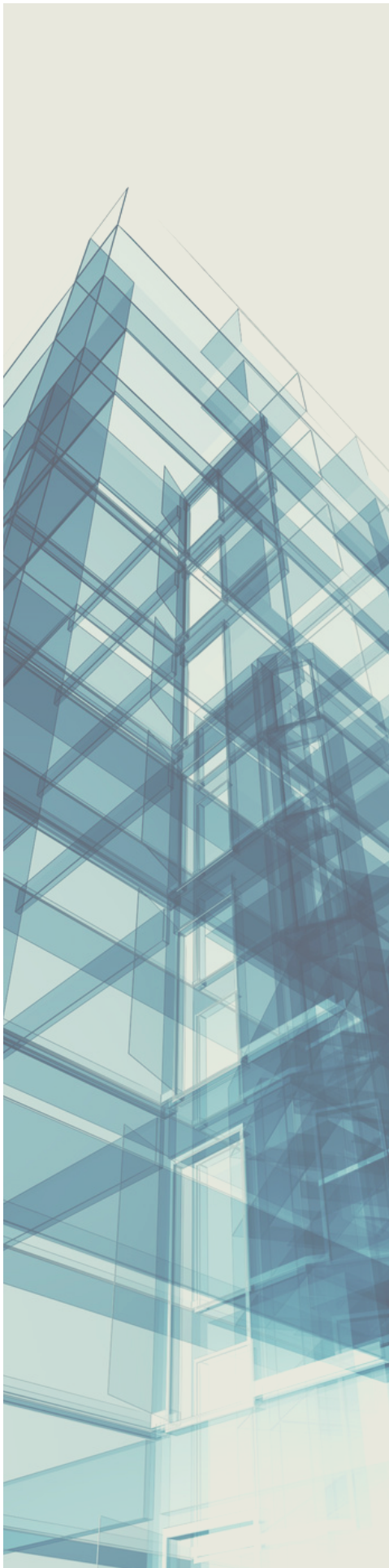
GSAPP, Wood Auditorium, 1st Floor

localprojectchallenge.org

Exhibition Level 2, Lift in Lobby



Thank you!



WELCOME

193 countries signed onto the SDGs in 2015. This Urban Thinkers Campus will address the urgency of meeting the UN Sustainable Development Goals in cities, and how academia, the professions and civil society can help promote action on the SDGs. Goal 11 shines a very bright light on cities but many of the 17 SDGs are relevant to cities. How can we accelerate the SDGs along with other sustainability agendas, including the Green New Deal?

Our aim over these two days is to generate IDEAS for ACTION together, and how we can bring the urgency of action to our own networks. Young people are rightfully demanding action on climate change. We know climate action can't wait. Over these two days academic, professional, and civil society participants will share experiences, knowledge and critical viewpoints.

Through talks, panels, and a breakout session led by young innovators, participants will critically engage with the SDGs. We will discuss the transformations needed to achieve the SDGs in cities, keeping in mind issues of intersectionality and environmental justice.

Speakers have been asked to offer two Ideas for Action. Scribes will record all Ideas for Action generated during the UTC, for sharing at the end of day Wrap-up sessions. Post UTC, they will be widely disseminated.

A parallel project, an online GALLERY, launches at this UTC. [Localprojectchallenge.org](https://localprojectchallenge.org) displays more than 100 projects from over 30 countries that engage with the SDGs, representing education, the professions and civil society.

Thank you for your participation in this UTC.

Anna Rubbo

On behalf of the Urban Thinkers Campus organizers.

THE ORGANIZERS



ANNA RUBBO

CSUD, The Earth Institute, Columbia University

Anna Rubbo LFAIA joined CSUD in 2012 from the University of Sydney where she taught Architecture. A member of the UN Millennium Project Task Force on Improving the Lives of Slum Dwellers (2002–04), she initiated the Global Studio, a think and do tank offered in four countries (2005–12). She led the People Building Better Cities exhibition shown in 10 countries and 18 cities, and in 2016 curated the first exhibition on architect Marion Mahony Griffin in Chicago. Currently working on Accelerating the SDGs, a three stage project that compliments this UTC. She received the Australian Architecture Educator's award in 2011.



GEETA MEHTA

President and Co-Founder, Asia Initiatives

Geeta Mehta is the President and Co-Founder of Asia Initiatives, along with Krishen Mehta. She is also an Adjunct Professor of Architecture and Urban Design at Columbia University. She serves on the Boards of WSI and the Center for Liveable Cities, and on the Advisory Boards of the New York Mayor's Waterfront Management and Friends of the University of Tokyo. She has been recognized as one of the 21 leaders of the 21st Century by Women's eNews.



LANCE JAY BROWN

Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization (CSU)

Lance Jay Brown, FAIA, DPACSA is an Architect, Urban Designer, Educator, and Author. He is currently the President of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization working closely with UN Habitat and the AIANY Chapter. He is an ACSA Distinguished Professor and Chair/Director Emeritus of the Spitzer School of Architecture, CCNY and was awarded the coveted AIA/ACSA Topaz Medallion for Excellence in Architectural Education. He consults, teaches, and lectures nationally and internationally. Writings include Beyond Zuccotti Park: Freedom of Assembly and the Occupation of Public Space, Urban Design for an Urban Century, The Legacy Project: Via Verde, and Waterproofing New York.



THEODORE LIEBMAN

Perkins Eastman and the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization

Theodore Liebman, FAIA, is a Principal at Perkins Eastman and a board member of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization. Mr. Liebman was Chief of Architecture at the New York State Urban Development Corporation and Chief of Architecture for Roosevelt Island in the 1970's. Over the past 50 years, Mr. Liebman's focus on issues of housing, lifestyle, and culture in the urban environment is part of a comprehensive view of long-term sustainability, challenging the limits of density in urban communities while advocating for the efficient use of precious land and resources. He received a B. Arch. from Pratt Institute, a M. Arch. from Harvard University, GSD and the Rome Prize Fellowship in Architecture. He is an adjunct professor @ NYU and has lectured extensively in the United States, Europe, Asia, Africa and South America.



DAY 1: NOV 13, 2019, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, SIPA, 15TH FLOOR

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM

CHECK-IN, TEA AND COFFEE

9:15 AM – 9:45 AM

WELCOME AND UTC OBJECTIVES

Anna Rubbo and Elliott Sclar, CSUD, Earth Institute
Local Project Gallery Launch
Message from UN SG Mr. Ban Ki-moon

9:45 AM – 10:30 AM

**TALK 1: FRAMING THE CHALLENGE OF THE
SDGS IN CITIES**

Alex Hiniker, Mayor's Office of International Affairs
Respondent: Jacqueline Klopp, CSUD

10:30 AM – 12:15 PM

**PANEL 1: ACCELERATING THE SDGS: URBAN
PROFESSIONS AND GOVERNANCE**

Moderator: Lance Jay Brown.

Tom Kennedy, Arup
Don Weinreich, Ennead Architects
Hayes Slade, Slade Architecture & President, AIA NY
Tom Wright, President and CEO, RPA

12:15 PM – 12:45 PM

SANDWICH LUNCH

12:45 PM – 2:00 PM

BREAKOUT: INNOVATING WITH PURPOSE

Candy Chang, James Reeves, James Francisco, William Chan, Florencia Librizzi, Amanda Abrom, Bruno Ragi, Alexandria Villaseñor, Christian Gaeth, Annesha Chowdhury, Spencer Harbo, Leonel Ponce, Kratma Saini Sood, Alexandria Villaseñor, Sreoshy Banerjea, Sonal Beri



2:00 PM – 3:50 PM

**PANEL 2: ACCELERATING SDGS THROUGH
EDUCATION AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

Moderator: Anna Rubbo, CSUD, Earth Institute

Harriet Harris, Dean of Architecture, Pratt University
Kaja Kuhl, Associate Professor, Urban Design, GSAPP
Sam Loni, Global Coordinator, SDSN Youth
Shawn Connell, GrowNYC Teaching Garden

3:50 PM – 5:00 PM

**PANEL 3: ACCELERATING THE SDGS: TECH,
BIG DATA, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND EQUITY**

Moderator: Geeta Mehta, Asia Initiatives and Adjunct
Professor, GSAPP

Jose Miguel Armijo, Perkins Eastman
Art Lerner-Lam, LDEO, Earth institute

5:00 PM – 5:30 PM

CLOSING REMARKS

Critical Review of Morning + Ideas for Action
Jacqueline Klopp, CSUD
Critical Review of Afternoon + Ideas for Action
Justin Garrett Moore, Public Design Commission NYC

5:30 PM

END OF PROGRAM



DAY 2: NOV 14, 2019, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, GSAPP, WOOD AUDITORIUM

10:30 AM – 11:20 AM

TALK 2: HOUSING NYC-AFFORDABILITY CHALLENGES AND THE SDGS

Mark Willis, Furman Centre, NYU

Respondent: Justin Garrett Moore, Public Design Comm.

11:20 AM – 12:50 PM

PANEL 4: THE SDGS AND AFFORDABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE HOUSING

Moderator: Theodore Liebman, Perkins Eastman

Lauren Zullo, Jonathon Rose Companies

Ramin Jahromi, Cox Architecture

Stephen Forneris, Perkins Eastman

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

BREAK

2:00 PM – 2:40 PM

PANEL 5: ARE SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORKS COMPETING FOR YOUR ATTENTION?

Moderator: Anna Rubbo, CSUD Earth Institute

Amy Leitch, Arup

Oliver Schaper, Gensler

Stephen Zacks, Journalist

2:40 PM – 3:20 PM

TALK 3: WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES TO REALIZING THE SDGS IN US CITIES?

Alainna Lynch, SDSN

Respondent: Elliot Sclar, CSUD, Earth Institute

3:20 PM – 4:00 PM

CRITICAL REVIEW AND IDEAS FOR ACTION

Roberta Gratz, Journalist and Urban Critic

TAKE AWAYS: Ideas for Action in education, the profession and civil society Anna Rubbo and Elliott Sclar, CSUD; Geeta Mehta, Asia Initiatives