



ISOCARP

Knowledge for better Cities

President's Message

August 2016

Dear colleagues-

The world is changing rapidly in response to social, economic, environmental and cultural shifts. A 20th century—or any—equilibrium may no longer be possible or desirable. Cities must move towards knowledge-based economies, governance and planning. On behalf of the Society, the Executive Committee (EXCO) continues to develop and manage projects and programmes that convey our message of “Knowledge for Better Cities.” As in the last President’s Message, there are two key events this year: the International Planning Congress “Cities We Have vs. Cities We Need,” and HABITAT III “The New Urban Agenda.” The [International Planning Congress](#) will be held in Durban, South Africa, September 12th-16th. The [HABITAT III](#) conference will be held in Quito, Ecuador, October 17th- 20th. This summit is anticipated to have 20,000 attendees, and ISOCARP will be engaged in numerous [events](#).

Here are some current ISOCARP highlights and reminders:

- [2017 Congress, Portland, Oregon](#) - ISOCARP and the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association are collaborating on a joint event next October with a ‘smart cities’ theme.
- [Facebook](#) – ISOCARP has a new Facebook link: <https://www.facebook.com/ISOCARP1965/>
- [International Manual of Planning Practice](#) – The most recent edition is now available: <http://isocarp.org/product/international-manual-planning-practice-imp/>
- [International Planning Organisations and Events](#) – These databases are online at <http://isocarp.org/home/international-planning-organisations/> and <http://isocarp.org/international-planning-events/>
- [ISOCARP Committee Members and Representatives](#) – Would you like to serve on a committee focused on our EXCO portfolio? Each EXCO member is forming a committee to assist with their programming. Please contact the EXCO member or [Secretariat](#). The Society is also expanding its global presence by including more members as representatives. <http://isocarp.org/our-partners/organizational-relationships/>.
- [ISOCARP Documentation](#) - The Society is continuing to develop bylaws, a code of professional conduct, identity standards (with a global logo), a white paper on “smart cities” and many others.
- [ISOCARP Institute](#) – The ISOCARP Institute: Centre for Urban Excellence is underway and is already engaged in multinational projects. Please visit: <http://isocarp.org/institute/>
- [Journal](#) – The Executive and Scientific Committees are developing an *ISOCARP Journal* which we hope to launch after the Congress.
- [Logo Design Contest](#) – The logo contest has been postponed to allow for revisions. Please send your new or revised designs (*without text*) to isocarp_logo@isocarp.org.
- [Membership Geocoding](#) – We have geocoded our membership database to create a map showing the location of all members at http://isocarp.org/about-isocarp/world_map_isocarp_members/
- [Next City Seminars & Trips](#) - A series of seminars and city trips are being developed to introduce planners to emerging topics.
- [Partnerships](#) – We continue to develop new partnerships and revitalize our previous collaborative relationships. These include recent programs/projects with APA, GAP, HABITAT, ICLEI, IFHP, OECD, UNESCO and many others. For a list of our current partnerships, please visit our website at <http://isocarp.org/collaborations/>

The August e-newsletter will highlight our recent activities including the International Planning Congress in Durban; HABITAT III updates; Young Planning Professionals’ Workshops in China, Poland and Russia; Metropolitan Solutions event in Berlin; the Moscow Urban Forum Strategic/Technical Advisory Team research; Australian metropolitan planning programme; Central European planning organisation collaboration; NYLON, SUSREG, thinkNATURE, and other projects. On behalf of the ISOCARP Executive Committee, Scientific Committee and Staff, we look forward to working with you to make these successful,

Ric Stephens, President

