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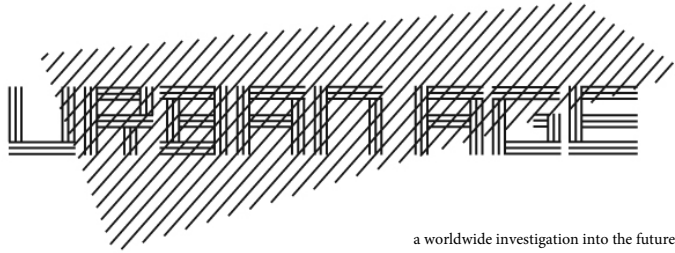
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a worldwide investigation into the future of cities

organised by the Cities Programme at the London School of Economics and Political Science and the Alfred Herrhausen Society, the International Forum of Deutsche Bank

The 21st Century is the Urban Age.

The late 20th Century was the age of economic globalisation. Now more than half the world's population live in an urban area and a recent UN Habitat report projected slum dwellers to increase to 1.4 billion by 2020. Urban Age engages the world's increasing urbanisation through events and research that shape the thinking and practice of urban leaders and sustainable urban development. Initiated by the Cities Programme at the London School of Economics and Political Science and Deutsche Bank's Alfred Herrhausen Society, Urban Age is structured around international and multidisciplinary outreach supporting the creation of a new urban agenda for global cities. Urban Age links the physical to the economic, environmental and social, providing urbanists with the tools to apply, tailor and refine innovation.

Urban Age activates and sustains an ongoing worldwide dialogue between policy makers, academic experts and urban practitioners about the future of cities. Since 2005, Urban Age visited New York City, Shanghai, London, Mexico City, Johannesburg and Berlin with activities involving heads of state, city mayors and internationally renowned specialists with practical and theoretical expertise in a powerful mix of different disciplines. This worldwide network of urban experts engage in an "on the ground" investigation of policies, developments and projects, creating a unique interdisciplinary knowledge base with up-to-date insights collected and shared through conferences, workshops, seminars and publications.

Urban Age believes urban leaders can learn from each other to find better local solutions to global challenges. This is accomplished by advocating high standards for the built environment as well as intelligent city governance and management structures. A focus on the context of regional and national perspectives will expand Urban Age's impact through research and events in India (2007), Brazil (2008) and the Eastern Mediterranean (2009); a worldwide summit in June 2010 will discuss the results of Urban Age's investigation and summarize a new urban agenda for global cities.

Through research, diagnosis and practical advice, Urban Age helps decision makers investigate, initiate and apply environmentally sensitive innovations at both the macro and the micro level. With policymakers struggling to balance a massive growth in public and private investment with more sustainable forms of urban development, no longer can we evaluate the success and resilience of cities on traditional economic criteria alone; in the new urban age, the physical and social have co-equal roles.

Cities and Climate Change

The dramatic increase in population growth and energy consumption in cities must be reconciled with the demands of climate change. Urban Age recognises that the only way to support a sustainable future is to implement innovative and bold ideas through ecological policies, technologies and projects.

Environmental considerations are a topic of increasing importance with cities themselves offering a significant reduction of the ecological footprint per capita. Home to greater than 50% of the world's population, cities serve as a proxy for the future distribution of both formal and informal settlements. As such, cities are progressive environments open to individual and collective behaviour change and are thus better equipped to implement and test new approaches to sustainable urban development. Local governments in particular are more closely aligned with the daily routines of its inhabitants than state or national governments, and are thus instrumental agents in the implementation of change.

Drawing from the resources of the *Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change*, Urban Age will examine the opportunities and challenges confronted by climate change in order to:

- Help formulate an inclusive and consistent *vision* for metropolitan regions that recognises the importance of climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Identify organisations at the neighbourhood, city, regional, state and national level with *ample authority and resource allocation* to effectively mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- Evaluate improvement strategies that facilitate *democratic participation* of policies and initiatives.
- *Measure the impact* of solutions in Urban Age focus cities, with emphasis on the steps that initiate improvements.
- Suggest strategic planning and enforcement tools for more adaptive vision frameworks that integrate planning systems and *reconcile local challenges* with the global climate change imperative.

Urban Age India

In India, Urban Age is examining how the largest democracy on earth negotiates considerable urbanisation and economic development. India's urban society is experiencing the effects of increasing affluence coupled with persistent social inequalities and a scarcity of resources ranging from personal living space to transport and drinking water. Climate change and other escalating pressures further compound urban developments in India, making its urban agenda a global issue. Evaluating policy and project specific effects, Urban Age helps to draw the links between events and developments in India's urbanised areas with trends worldwide, widening the lens from the local to the global.

Urban Age utilises a dynamic framework for analysing important comparative data between and within cities. The investigations in India will encompass Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata and Bangalore; findings will be synthesised with existing and enhanced information on cities in other countries to identify optimal delivery mechanisms for desired developments within given timeframes.

An initial thematic screening and subsequent closed-door Briefing Seminars and in-depth interviews helped determine how Urban Age could support best practices and urban policies in India. Over 100 experts in Mumbai and Delhi,

including the National Minister of Urban Development, the Advisor on Urban Affairs to the Prime Minister as well as high-level representatives from municipal governments, private, academic and NGO sectors all identified *Urban Governance, Planning and Design* as a widely-debated arena calling for comparative research on the metropolitan scale.

Urban Age Research

In collaboration with local partners, the National Institute for Urban Affairs, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and the University of Mumbai, the Urban Age team is conducting rigorous comparative research emphasising the critical links between abstract decision making processes and place making.

The Urban Age methodology is based on specific three-dimensional knowledge areas: housing and urban neighbourhoods; labour market and work places; transport and mobility; and public life and urban space. Urban Age will develop the interrelationships between these areas according to core themes adapted to local conditions:

- Economic development, energy consumption and urban form
- Migration, demographic change and urbanisation
- Risk, security and social cohesion
- Urban governance, planning and design

Research on India consists of two modules, both with a particular emphasis on Mumbai. The first module, *urban governance*, compares constitutional foundations of city governance, geographic boundaries of different jurisdictions, and responsibilities of agencies at the local, regional and national levels. The second module, *planning, city design and transport*, is identifying delivery mechanisms at the interface of land use, density and urban design with transport, mobility and accessibility.

Urban Age Impact

Urban Age will not only identify exemplary projects and policies transforming urban areas in India, but also the means and methods by which change can be effected. Due diligence about governance structure and resource allocation offers great potential for urban leaders to learn how to adopt change proactively with community support.

Urban Age offers practical advice and the tools to implement innovation at various city scales. Improving the channels of communication and the structure of decision making for the benefit of a larger urban constituency are chief concerns for any city. Public dialogue is key. Urban Age believes the future of cities requires establishing a clear agenda for sustainable urban development that is participatory and multidimensional. Urban Age achieves its goals through research and a series of conversations, events and publications that engage diverse constituents about the issues affecting their urban communities.

The *Urban Age Conference* is an annual event exploring the context of urbanisation trends in one particular country. The Conference in Mumbai will be presented with support from local partners, and will emphasise the interdependence of governments from the supra-national to the neighbourhood level through debates facilitated by international experts and elected officials of similar rank from around the world. These interdisciplinary groups will offer progressive thinking and policies that reflect a deep understanding of best practices in urban governance and sustainable urban development. The *Urban Age India Conference* will occur in Mumbai on 2 and 3 November 2007.

The Deutsche Bank Urban Age Award will be conferred on 1 November 2007 to a project in Mumbai that demonstrates innovation at the urban scale and improves the physical as well as the social well being of residents and urban communities. An independent jury will review submissions from an open call for entries, with project criteria developed according to a specific thematic matrix. Eligible projects must represent an initiative that has impact 'on the ground' and offer a new understanding of the phenomenon of urban growth across the Asian subcontinent. Shared responsibilities and the formation of new alliances among citizens, businesses and governments will offer a replicable model for urban development across India. The Jury is comprised of:

- Ricky Burdett, Director of Urban Age (Jury Chair)
- Shabana Azmi, Mumbai-based leading actress, social activist
- Anthony Williams, former Mayor of Washington, D.C.
- Enrique Norton, architect, TEN Arquitectos
- Suketu Mehta, author
- Rahul Mehrotra, architect and professor

At the conclusion of the conference, the *Urban Age Report* will be presented to the Prime Minister's Office, the National Minister of Urban Development, the Chief Ministers of the State of Delhi and Maharashtra, as well as the Mayors and Metropolitan Region Development Authorities of participating Indian cities. This report will document key findings and practical advice for advancing sustainable urban development in India. Other *Urban Age Publications* available to international audiences will provide policy makers, scholars, practitioners, advocates and the general public the opportunity to share in the development of Urban Age's cutting-edge research and implementation strategies.

The Urban Age India documentation will be added to the network of people, information and knowledge accumulated to date. Reframing the questions being asked about the future of cities, Urban Age will advance a progressive agenda for innovative urban policies and projects in support of liveable communities in cities worldwide.

URBAN AGE CONTACT

London School of Economics and Political Science
Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)20 7955 7706
Fax: +44 (0)20 7955 7697
email: urban.age@lse.ac.uk

Alfred Herrhausen Society, Deutsche Bank
Unter den Linden 13 / 15, 10117 Berlin, Germany
Tel.: +49-30-3407 4201
Fax: +49-30-3407 4209
email: ute.weiland@db.com

www.urban-age.net