

Current Efforts to Solve Global Challenges

Sustainability

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♦ What is it?

♦ A series of four events, bringing together people from across the globe to produce holistic, actionable approaches to building sustainable cities.

♦ What is the goal?

♦ To reflect on the valuable findings of otherwise disparate research and synthesize it into specific solutions.

♦ Why is it important?

- Research into the driving forces behind urban inequalities and injustices have met with success, generating new, valuable knowledge, but are often separate from one another.
- Proper city planning is key to the sustainability of cities, helping to anticipate needs, mange risks, provide a framework for the layout of infrastructure and future growth, and more.
- The complexity of urban environments and the issues that face them demand solutions that are dynamic, transdisciplinary, and co-creative.

♦ The project so far:

- ♦ Urban planning: pitfalls, conflicting interests, unintended consequences.
- ♦ The challenges of upscaling transformative innovations.
- ♦ Identifying and describing the drivers of injustice and their manifestations.

DRIVERS OF INJUSTICE IN THE CONTEXT OF URBAN SUSTAINABILITY



MATERIAL & LIVELIHOOD INEQUALITIES



3 RACIALIZED OR ETHNICALLY EXCLUSIONARY URBANIZATION



UNEVERY & EXCLUDING URBAN INTENSIFICATION





6 UNFIT INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES



PARTICIPATION " URBAN PLANNING



LACK OF EFFECTIVE KNOWLEDGE BROKERAGE MO STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



9 UNQUESTIONED NEOLIBERAL GROWTH AND AUSTERITY URBANISM



WEAK (ENED) CIVIL











♦ What is the potential impact?

- Changes in political structure and policy: who is involved in the conversation of urban planning, alterations in priorities to address sustainability needs.
- Changes in the social landscape: reduction of exclusionary development and displacement of people.
- ♦ Changes in the ecological footprint of cities: a trend towards greener development.

Smog Free Project

♦ What is it?

♦ A team developing various technologies to provide cleaner air in urban environments.

♦ What is the goal?

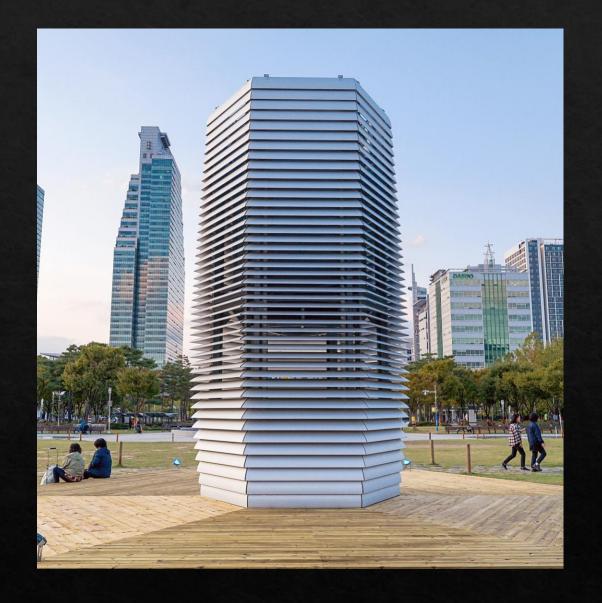
- ♦ To reduce air pollution in public spaces for free, if possible.
- ♦ Inspire the continuing development of a sustainable future.

♦ Why is it important?

- ♦ Air pollution causes and exacerbates a variety of medical conditions that can be lethal such as respiratory infections and stroke.
- ♦ Data from the WHO suggests that 9 out of every 10 people globally are breathing air with high levels of pollutants.

♦ The project so far:

- ♦ Began as a kick-starter in 2015, reached over twice its set donation goal.
- Construction of the first tower was completed in late 2015, several more have been built since.



♦ What is the potential impact?

- Environmental positives: since the drivers of air pollution are often closely related to sources of greenhouse gas emissions, efforts to reduce air pollution will be beneficial towards climate change mitigation.
- Cultural Reinvigoration: outdoor public spaces that have been rendered unusable can once again
 be utilized for their intended purposes of social gathering and connection with nature.
- Health improvements: reduced exposure to air pollutants will protect people from contracting a
 variety of illnesses and the worsening of others.

References

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