Peer Workshop: Learning Exchange in Sydney, 6 November 2018

The second peer review workshop hosted by UNSW as part of the DEPP lab innovation lab. A learning exchange was organised to take advantage of the fact many DEPP lab members would be in Sydney to attend the Urban Resilience Asia Pacific conference the next day. Sadly, some of the DEPP lab members could not get visas to visit Australia so we hosted fewer members than anticipated. The workshop was attended by 14 individuals composed of representatives from UNSW, DEPP lab (including DCHT, SEEDS and START network), industry partners, students and ex-students.

Objectives:

- To learn from DEPP lab members in order to introduce technical experts to the concept behind the DEPP lab and its innovations.
- To take one innovation and drill down into specifics for social enterprise business planning. The workshop was facilitated by a representative from the Centre for Social Impact at UNSW, who has extensive experience in this area.

Activities:

- Presentation on the progress of the innovators and innovations was given by Anshu Sharma
- Presentation on the overarching snapshot of DEPP lab progress to date was given by Ronjit Halder.
- The workshop session began with a contextual analysis of the situation in Korail.
- The second half of the workshop involved interactive group work across three different areas for business planning for the green wall innovation. These included: i) analysis of the existing ecosystem addressing the tangible product and the service as a product
• ii) analysis of the network the innovation could operate beyond
Regional - local Bamboo

- Bamboo
  - Local
    - Regional
  - Soil & Fertiliser
    - Soil
    - Seeds
    - Pesticides
    - Fertilisers
  - Climate change

- Market
  - Vegetables
    - Herbs
    - Vertical Nurseries
  - Manufacture
    - Plastic
    - Metal
    - Assembly
    - Counselling
    - Installs
    - Repair
    - Stone

- Floral & Aesthetics

- Community
  - Schools (Health & Education)
  - Architects/BUILDERS
  - Distributors
  -技巧/University/Training

- Landscape: horticulture

- Design (using Bamboo)

- Engagement:
  - Marketing
  - Finance

- Local govt.
  - Local UPOs
  - Community leaders
• iii) analysis of the income streams

Observations:

*Workshop format observations*

• The group work generated rich discussion between DEPP lab members and other workshop attendees.

**Learning and Lessons**
for future peer review workshops

- Apply this workshop approach to other innovations in Dhaka. This workshop just addressed social business planning activities in relation to one innovation (the green wall). Support in this area is required by other innovators and innovations.

4. Support for DEPP lab member to attend the learning exchange in Sydney and the Urban Resilience Asia Pacific Conference hosted at UNSW.

5. Asian Studies Association of Australia Conference in July 2018

Co-organised by the Sydney Southeast Asia Centre, the China Studies Centre and the School of Languages and Cultures, the 2018 biennial conference of the Asian Studies Association of Australia brought together almost 1,000 academics with a shared interest in Asia.

The conference theme, Area Studies and Beyond, built upon traditional interdisciplinary fields of research within Asian Studies and moved beyond them, to celebrate the full breadth and depth of scholarly interest in Asia. More information can be found here: https://sydney.edu.au/sydney-southeast-asia-centre/events/Asian-Studies-Association-of-Australia-Conference-2018.html

Laura Bruce, Research Associate for the Judith Nelson Chair in Architecture delivered a presentation entitled ‘Can Resilience be Achieved? Poor urban communities in South Asia are particularly vulnerable to naturally triggered disasters such as earthquakes and flooding. Better community-based resilience is needed. This paper presents on progress to date and asks, ‘can resilience be achieved?’ Please find the book of abstracts here: https://sydney.edu.au/content/dam/corporate/documents/sydney-southeast-asia-centre/asaa-2018/ASAA2018_Book of Abstracts.pdf


Within the context of an increasing focus on implementing SDG 11 and the NUA, and shifting from ‘global to local’ and ‘theory to practice’, this Symposium sought to explore the varied notions, expression of ‘bottom up’ and ‘self-made’ urbanism primarily within the Asia-Pacific region.

The Asia-Pacific Informal Urbanism symposium as hosted by the Urbanism discipline of the Sydney School of Architecture, Design and Planning (ADP), the University of Sydney, was held in the Wilkinson Building, ADP, on Tuesday 25 September, 2018. The Symposium heard presentations from 21 researchers and practitioners spanning the planning, development, and humanitarian sectors in the Asia-Pacific region on topics related to lessons from ‘on the ground’ case studies and ‘bottom up’ contextual approaches including their intersection with the SDGs and NUA. Case studies ranged from Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Nepal, Bangladesh and Sydney. Two strong additional studies were included from other ‘Global South’ countries, namely, South Africa and Chile, to complement the diverse mix of case studies reflecting contemporary urbanism at work, thus challenging the current planning and design policy-practice nexus. There were five sessions held throughout the day, with each session moderated by academics from the Urbanism discipline including a former discipline alumnus.
Laura Bruce, Research Associate for the Judith Nelson Chair in Architecture delivered a case study on community-driven urban resilience in Korail, one of the largest slums in Dhaka, Bangladesh. The presentation disentangled the range of donors and development partners who are focused on delivering multi-sectoral ‘formal and informal’ project interventions via strengthening ‘bottom up’ urban resilience. The presentation highlighted the need for a ‘stepwise’ approach to project development, including utilising basic tools such as observation and ‘look, listen and ask’ concurrent with emergent activities as viewed important through the lens of local communities.