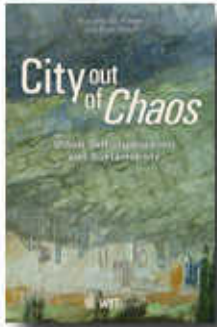


## New Publication

# City Out of Chaos: Urban Self-Organization and Sustainability

## Preface



The rhythms of technology and nature are out of phase. This fact underlies the global environmental crisis. Man-made perturbations, even small local ones, can trigger large-scale effects. To reinstate an alliance between humans and nature, as described by Prigogine, the father of evolutionary physics, it is necessary to learn to observe the general behaviour and evolution of real systems, including human systems in their context.

The theories of chaos and complexity can help us to understand these systems: all natural and man-made processes on our planet have a common matrix and are interconnected. Evolutionary physics is the study of the emergence of novelty from the complex fabric of relationships of which we are part. It explains the formation of living structures and their evolution in a dynamic world. Dissipative structures, steady state systems, self-organization, fluctuations and

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feedback are some of the concepts considered by the authors in their treatment of complex systems such as climate, society, economies and cities. The authors include tools for visualizing evolutionary patterns and an environmental accounting method to examine urban spatial patterns relative to resource use.

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