

International Conference
Berlin, June 5th - 7th 2014

COMMUNITY BASED URBAN VIOLENCE PREVENTION: STRATEGIES & EXPERIENCES

Organized by **GLOBUS** –The Global Urban Studies Institute
International Academy at the Freie Universität Berlin

Call for Papers

Contemporary urbanization worldwide has been increasingly accompanied by the occurrence of urban violence. The coalescence of this violence, and the fear it precipitates, exacerbates the unequal spatial, societal, political, or economic structures, intrinsic to many societies. Moreover, such occurrences reiterate forced displacement, exclusion of disadvantaged groups, the denial of basic human rights, and the loss of social identity. Therefore, such insecurity undermines the very foundations of the economic and social development that are offered by concurrent urbanization, and has a strong inhibitory affect on sustainable urban development.

To address the phenomenon of urban violence, many theories and strategies have emerged to confront the multiple expressions of urban violence in specific localities. Apart from policing and physical amendments, various types of social interventions –including the upgrading of infrastructure, community watches, or the provision of health and educational services to affected populations– have been argued to achieve greater prevention success. Accordingly, many experts agree that a comprehensive and integrated approach affords the greatest capacity to attain sustainable results and consequently suggest greater deployment of community and societal strategies.

In conjunction with the conclusion of a 5-year research project on community violence prevention in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Global Urban Studies Institute (GLOBUS) at the Freie Universität Berlin is currently accepting papers for presentation at the ***Community Based Urban Violence Prevention (U-CARE) International Conference***, scheduled for June 5th – 7th 2014, in Berlin, Germany. The conference will highlight the findings of U-CARE scholars, pertaining to communal/collective strategies of violence prevention in Sub-Saharan Africa, and discuss similar and contrasting experiences from diverse international contexts. Accounts of community based violence prevention are specifically invited to be discussed during the conference. The particular situation of the German capital, Berlin, and its communal based prevention programming will likewise be presented to bridge the gap between theory and practice. Field visits to various initiatives across the city are scheduled for June 7th.

The U-CARE conference is an international forum for researchers, practitioners, and policy makers to disseminate progressive, flexible, resilient, and community-friendly solutions to urban violence. The workshop welcomes academia, government, industry, and participating individuals to contribute published or unpublished papers pertaining to theoretical and practical aspects of community-based violence prevention worldwide. The conference will provide participants with fresh ideas, inspiring challenges, and novel approaches in the context of community security in public spaces. Moreover, practical exchange and networking will be encouraged through the event.

Conference Topics

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Communal/collective strategies for violence prevention;
- Community policing;
- Encouraging and sustaining community participation;
- Neighborhood based prevention and peace building strategies;
- Community management of spatial amendment to the built environment;
- And the role of soft technologies in community based violence prevention;

Submission Instructions

Effective immediately, authors are invited to submit a one page abstract in English of a proposed paper to the workshop organizers. Authors are encouraged to follow the topics described in this brief. Upon review, selected abstracts will have the chance to be developed into a full paper, which will then be included in a book publication after the conclusion of the conference. All abstracts and subsequent paper submissions must follow standard academic guidelines and abide by the following suggestions:

- The complete title of the presentation and paper must be included;
- The full name, affiliation, address, phone/fax/e-mail of one author for all correspondence should likewise be incorporated;
- The purpose of the work must be provided;
- Mention of the innovative plus-value of the work or experience is appreciated;
- Finally, results and derived conclusions should likewise be integrated.

Please submit your paper via: u-care-globus@ina-fu.org. For questions concerning the submission of abstracts, please contact Kosta Math  y, Nicholas Kasang, or Silvia Matuk at: u-care-globus@ina-fu.org or +49 176 7093 1831. INFO: www.urbanviolence.org

Other considerations

- Proposals and presentations should be in English;
- Participation in the conference is free of charge. Therefore, the Global Urban Studies Institute and the International Academy (INA) at the Freie Universit  t Berlin do not pay per diem or honoraria.
- Selected papers of high relevance and academic standard will be offered the opportunity to be published in a forthcoming book on community based urban violence prevention. Upon request, authors of shortlisted abstracts will be eligible for reimbursement of travel expenses with the submission of their full paper.
- Presentations with sales or marketing purposes will not be accepted for presentation within the conference program. However, institutions/individuals with such interest could contact the GLOBUS Institute to participate as a sponsor (a booth could be incorporated into the event);

Deadlines

Please submit prospective abstracts no later than the 11th of May, 2014. Submitters will receive a notification of acceptance by May 16th, 2014, at the latest. Full papers will be due at the conference in June 2014.

Presentations will be scheduled for 30 minutes plus 20 minutes for discussion on June 5th and 6th 2014. Excursions will take place on June 7th. Please mark your calendar and attend all three conference days!

The event is co-organized by Global Urban Studies Institute (www.globus.eu.com) and the Berlin State Office for Development Cooperation (www.berlin.de/sen/wirtschaft/euro-inter/lez) with support from the Volkswagen Foundation (www.volkswagenstiftung.de)