

CAP NEWS

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The President of the Nigerian Institute of Planners, Waheed A. Kadiri, signs them up as new members of the African Planning Association, under the watchful eye of CAP President Christine Platt and CAP members from Ghana and Malawi

In this issue: REPORT FROM CAP'S MEETING IN JOHANNESBURG; THE CAP/RTPI INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF CAPACITY FOR PLANNING; NEWS FROM THE CAP WOMEN IN PLANNING NETWORK.

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PRESIDENT'S PIECE *Christine Platt*



The CAP Biennial Business meeting took place in Johannesburg in April, and was held to coincide with the third Planning Africa Conference. The meeting was very successful. Its outcomes are reported on elsewhere in this newsletter; I will not dwell on them. I want to make particular mention of two things however. First, we had representation from all regions of the Commonwealth, and a number of CAP member countries sent representatives. This is important, as these meetings are only held on a biennial basis, and enable the CAP leadership from around the world to come together to discuss matters of mutual concern.

It was very pleasing to see new connections being made between planners from the different countries of the Commonwealth, and between planners from different countries within the same region. The importance of this

became clear when it came time to elect the CAP Vice-Presidents. CAP now has a full set of regional Vice-Presidents, elected as a consequence of clear interaction between members within each region. Our congratulations go to James Armstrong (Trinidad), Clive Harridge (UK), Chi Odimuko (Nigeria), Bosire Ogero (Kenya) Catherine Kulemeka (Malawi), A. Karunathilake (Sri Lanka), Norliza Hashim (Malaysia) and Sue Holliday (Australia) on their election. We have a strong team, and I look forward to continued success for CAP over the next two years. Thanks to Richard Gill (Barbados) and Belinda Yuen (Singapore), who stood down after completing their terms of office as Vice-Presidents, for their contributions to the success which CAP has enjoyed over the past two years.

The second matter which I wish to highlight was the adoption by the meeting of the CAP Women in Planning Strategic Plan for 2008 - 2010. This was an important milestone, particularly as the issue of gender features prominently within the Commonwealth. This document is on the CAP website. CAP has already moved to start implementing this plan, and we have asked Professor Alison Todes of the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of the Witwatersrand for a proposal for a short research project on Good Practice in Gender Based Planning in the Commonwealth. It is intended that this will be completed in time for presentation at the Gender Roundtable at the World Urban Forum in Nanjing in November this year, which CAP has been asked to support.

The fact that this meeting was held to coincide with the Planning Africa conference was also fortuitous, as CAP was given the opportunity of convening a special session to unpack *Lessons, challenges and responses from Reinventing Planning post – Vancouver*.

CAP saw this conference as an important opportunity for the large number of planners present from throughout the Commonwealth to debate the critical issues for planning in the Commonwealth post – WUF III in Vancouver, to assess the extent to which planning has been or still needs to be “reinvented”, and to formulate a position as planners of the Commonwealth on current international trends in planning. Each CAP region was asked to make a short presentation highlighting three to five of the most critical challenges in their region or country, and three to five of the most successful developments in planning and the profession since WUF III in Vancouver, highlighting the lessons to be drawn and the critical issues which will inform the messages from the planners of the Commonwealth to the World Urban Forum.

Thereafter, the CAP speakers were joined by Professor Philip Harrison of the City of Johannesburg and representatives from the Société Française des Urbanistes, the American Planning Association and UN-Habitat, for a panel discussion to interrogate the issues presented in the first part of this double session and the proposed Reinventing Planning II paper. This was an exceptional experience, and it was a privilege to have been part of such an open, honest and positive debate about planning and the future of planning in the 21st Century. A number of clear messages came out of this session including a new sense of the importance of planning. The conference report contains important messages:

- Planning Associations across the continent have to keep planners current and **professionally astute**. We need to build the **identity** of planners and keep them central in shaping public interest outcomes.

- But Planning Africa 2008 went beyond Planners talking to each other about planning. **Key messages have emerged out of this conference for global, national and local leaders.**

- **Global decision makers** have to mobilise the resources to deal with the scale of shaping a future of settlements that are conduits for moving the poor out of poverty. Reconstruction and development at a global scale and a commitment to massive capacity building to grow African towns and cities is a responsibility that a new breed of global leadership must shoulder. (Planning Africa 2008: Report to closing plenary)

CAP can look forward to the next two years during which time two projects of particular significance will be taken forward. The State of the Commonwealth Cities project is a result of CAP's involvement in the Commonwealth People's Forum last November. The other is the Capacity Building project, which has come about as a consequence of the messages received from both planners at grassroots and government in the Commonwealth about the need to capacitate planners, civil society and decision makers in planning.

Our work is tied to three specific milestones. The World Urban Forum IV will be held in November in Nanjing: CAP hopes to be able to host a networking event and contribute to the Gender Roundtable. We anticipate reporting on our work to the Inter-Ministerial Commonwealth Consultative Group on Human Settlements in April next year, and to the CHOGM in November 2009. The time ahead looks very exciting.

REPORT FROM JOHANNESBURG

Re-inventing Planning across the Commonwealth

Things have changed, planners have become more confident, there is a sense of urgency – for now and for tomorrow. These were the responses when CAP Vice-Presidents reported on progress to the Planning Africa conference in Johannesburg in April. There are signs that CAP's calls at the 2006 World Urban Forum to "re-invent planning" took Commonwealth planners across a significant threshold.

CAP was given its own Special Session in the conference. The theme was Lessons, Challenges and Responses from Re-inventing Planning post-Vancouver. Those taking part had a whirlwind tour of what is happening in no less than 18 Commonwealth countries – plus Algeria, Morocco and Benin, plus the benefit of insights from distinguished speakers from France, the USA and UN-Habitat. It was probably the most wide-ranging review of the current state of planning since the World Urban Forum 2 years ago.

"Before Vancouver in 2006 we were isolated from each other. That has changed."

Although people came from very different countries, a number of themes shone through. There was a determination to make planning work, and a recognition that that meant doing things differently. Climate change is probably the major single force setting the new agenda. However, there was widespread recognition that more planners are needed with better skills: CAP's campaigning and action on capacity-building was widely appreciated.

The UK – new approaches and outreach

Clive Harridge, Vice-President Europe and RTPI President in 2006, spotlighted four main challenges in the UK. There has been an attempt to shift from "town and country planning" to "spatial planning", a more strategic approach that brings key stakeholders together around a vision for the future development of the area. However, Clive reported that there are frustrations with the pace at which the new system is being delivered, and the processes are seen as cumbersome.

Climate change was Clive's second big issue. Government wants housing to be carbon-neutral by 2016 and is looking to the planning system to play its part in this. Planning is also seen as having a role in the development of renewable energy and micro-generation, as well as reducing car dependency.

Through Planning Aid planners give their time free of charge and out of office hours to work with individuals and communities who need planning advice but are unable to afford consultants.

Delivery of sustainable places was the third challenge. The government has announced a programme of "eco-towns" in England. However, across all of these issues there is the shadow of the fourth, a skills shortage. There are not enough planners and other built environment professionals and their skills need to be updated to tackle today's issues.

One way to plug the gap is to recruit talented young people into planning. Clive reported how the RTPI decision to reduce the minimum length required for accredited post-graduate programmes from 2 years to 12 months of intensive

study had transformed the number and quality of people coming into the profession.

Last but by no means least, he spoke about the success of the RTPI's Planning Aid scheme. Under this programme planners give their time free of charge and out of office hours to work with individuals and communities who need planning advice but are unable to afford to hire consultants. More than 30,000 individuals and 1,200 groups were helped in the last 12 months.

"We need to grow the knowledge base and to share it", concluded Clive. "We have to be flexible so that we can meet new issues which arrive very quickly."

East Africa – problems but progress

Bosire Ogero is Vice-President for the East Africa region where the planning institutes in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania are members of CAP. Bosire's succinct review of the region highlighted deepening urban poverty and continued rapid growth of slums and informal settlements. Planners are restricted by the limited financial resources available for plan implementation and there are on-going problems of governance.

Despite these challenges Bosire was able to report on some solid progress. CAP's East Africa workshop in 2007 (see CAP News 18) had led to each of the three institutes taking part developing action plans to promote re-inventing planning. There is a new recognition of the strategic role of planning by the governments in the three countries. Uganda and Kenya have also taken steps to involve the private sector in plan-making, so that more plans can be produced more quickly.

There is a new recognition of the strategic role of planning by the governments in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda.

There are also reviews of planning legislation taking place, and a new Act in Tanzania. The Kenya Institute of Planners was significantly involved in the process of reviewing land policy, and there is a similar story in Uganda. Finally Bosire stressed the growing importance of partnerships between the professional planning bodies and other important stakeholders such as Practical Action and also the Kenya Private Development Association.

West Africa – overcoming isolation to build new skills

Dr. Chijioke Odimuko gave the report for the West Africa Region for which he is the Vice-President responsible. He also stressed the high rate of urbanisation and slum development, and emphasised the vital importance of capacity-building – quantitatively and qualitatively.

"Before Vancouver in 2006 we were isolated from each other. That has changed. There is now good networking between the planners of Nigeria and Ghana, and we are trying to bring Sierra Leone in too," he said.

Dr. Odimuko was particularly excited by the presence of planners from Cameroon and Benin in the workshop. This had resulted from CAP and the Société Française des Urbanistes working together (see CAP News 18). The plan is now to hold two joint events in 2009 that will link to a new UN-Habitat initiative on urban regeneration and slum upgrading.

As part of the efforts to build capacity and upgrade skills, there is a review of the syllabus of planning schools and the Nigerian Institute of Town Planners has

also established a dialogue with the planning students. “To meet the challenges we will need planners who can think in new ways”, Chi told the meeting.

Climate change, Shelter and Training – the Caribbean

Dr. James Armstrong, the newly-elected Vice-President for the Americas region gave his report. As the Canadian Institute of Planners were not represented in Johannesburg, James had to concentrate on the Caribbean, where the institutes in Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago are members of CAP, but the other countries have too few planners to form viable institutes.

All three delegates had agreed that climate change was the big issue. Not only are most of the settlements on the coast, but these small island states are very dependent on coastal tourism. They have very limited land capacity. Sea level change and hurricanes are major hazards with devastating impacts on economies and food production systems.

Shelter is another important issue. All three countries have a commitment to delivery of more and better housing, but too often there is a silo mentality. Housing is only seen in a sectoral way, rather than in an integrated, human settlements perspective.

A centre of excellence focused on the development of small island states could significantly boost practice in the region.

It is frustrating then that too often the politicians do not grasp the important role that a re-invigorated planning could play. There is also a need for better training and better use of the two planning schools – at University of the

West Indies in Port of Spain and at the University of Technology in Kingston. The planning institutes have met people at senior levels in the universities in the last year. A centre of excellence focused on the development of small island states could significantly boost practice in the region.

More positively, there is evidence of growing awareness of the need for better environmental management, especially in Barbados. In Trinidad and Tobago, though environmental legislation is in place, too often it is circumvented, and enforcement is inadequate.

Growth and globalization – South East Asia

Dr. Belinda Yuen deftly sketched the global context of Asia, home to more than 60% of the world’s people. What structures the challenges for planners across this diverse continent? Above all it is economic growth, how to sustain it, and globalization. Overall poverty is being pushed back across Asia, though levels vary dramatically within and between countries.

Singapore remains a planning success story.

Dr. Yuen said that her own country, Singapore is now facing demographic ageing, and needing to plan for an ageing society. However, Singapore remains a planning success story, with less than 1% of its people in squatter settlements. What marks out Singapore is its commitment to planning and to implementing plans.

Almost half of the world’s urban growth over the next three decades will be in Asia, which is also where the largest numbers in slums are. With mega city growth inevitable, there are major questions about land for food

production, and how to provide adequate shelter and essential utilities. Across too much of Asia the story is of tenure insecurity, congestion and pollution in the burgeoning urban areas.

Globalisation means new migrations and new densities. Paradoxically it also emphasises the importance of planning for heritage conservation and place identity. Globalisation is also changing the relation between development and the environment. Issues like climate change and air and water pollution mean that a local focus is no longer enough. There is increasing regional co-operation through ASEAN, and new interest in eco-towns and green buildings across the region.

A simplistic “growth only” focus is giving way to more sophisticated and integrated thinking. But this in turn highlights the need for new planning approaches – such as spatial planning, better approaches to public participation, and use of tools like Strategic Environmental Assessment. It also puts the spotlight on planning education.

Good liaison between planners in Singapore and in Malaysia is one of the features of this region. This has also helped to bring the planners from Brunei into CAP for the first time.

Co-operation works – South East Asia

Lamappulage Dickman from the Institute of Town Planners Sri Lanka spoke of its experiences. The Institute was constituted by an Act of Parliament some 25 years ago, and now has over 200 members and over 300 students. They are working to strengthen their secretariat, develop a code of conduct and build links with other institutions and professions locally.

Dickman highlighted two significant initiatives. The ITPSL has addressed the issue of gender by doing a small study of the role of women planners in Sri Lanka. This revealed that women currently constitute about 25% of the full members, and that the vast majority of them are working for the Urban Development Authority. This is a national body engaged in urban planning and implementation. Two women members had recently published a book, “Colombo High Living - A city in transition”.

Dickman also spoke warmly of the successes of the post-tsunami project with the Planning Institute of Australia which CAP had played a key role in fostering in 2005. This was a valuable means of exchanging knowledge and growing local capacity.

The Institute is actively promoting local scale plans and the need for planning to be done for areas outside the capital city. However, political changes remain a major obstacle to extracting the full benefits from a planning approach. Changes of government affect the implementation of plans. “Though we prepare plans, the politicians are the real planners!” he observed. Dickman finished by stressing the need to boost the skills of planners, to make maximum use of tools like Geographical Information Systems, and to ensure that there are funds for plan implementation.

Southern Africa – Water is critical

The newly-elected Vice-President for the region, Catherine Kulemeke (Malawi Institute of Physical Planners) reported from her own country, Namibia and South Africa.

Planning has been seen as an important tool in post-apartheid South Africa. Integrated Development Plans aspire to be strategic and comprehensive. South Africa has also regionalized administration and planning and is

developing Spatial Development Frameworks.

The issues in Malawi are rapid urbanization, the urbanization of poverty and security of tenure. There has been progress. Malawi has a slum upgrading programme and planners there now recognize the importance of informal trading to the livelihoods of the poor, and so areas are provided for informal markets. HIV/AIDS is another concern, but there have been some positive initiatives, notably by Blantyre City Council.

Catherine argued that planning professionals in Malawi can often be working in isolation and need to network better and share lessons including those from other countries. There is an Urban Forum which is intended to bring stakeholders together, and address such needs.

Barrie Watson from the Namibia Council of Town and Regional Planners was able to describe in graphic terms the challenges for planners in his dry country. Sometimes water has to be brought from 500kms away to serve the needs of the capital city. A key challenge for planning then is to conserve underground water supplies that might be lost if development were unregulated. However, security of water supply cannot be guaranteed only by local actions – international planning and agreements are necessary.

It is ironic then that, as climate becomes less predictable, the north of Namibia last year suffered flooding. This poses new questions for planners about what sorts of regulatory measures should be adopted to ensure protection from future floods? Overall the changes make the need for a national structure plan more urgent.

Australasia and the Pacific – Outreach and Solidarity

Dr. Jane Stanley, author of the book *Gnarly Planning* (see the Book Reviews section of this edition) gave the report for this part of the Commonwealth. With inclusiveness one of the key themes of the Re-inventing Planning agenda, Jane highlighted the challenges posed by the disadvantaged situation of indigenous peoples. In Australia, their life expectancy is 20 years below the average, while infant mortality is a staggering 500% greater.

Historically few planners have worked with aboriginal communities and their needs have been marginalized within the planning profession. The complexity of planning regulations is part of the problem, and can increase social marginalization of indigenous groups.

However there are some positive signs of change. The Planning Institute of Australia now has an Indigenous Planning working group, and is developing a volunteer programme of assistance, working also with architects and engineers on housing issues. Some twenty per cent of the land is now back in aborigine ownership.

“It’s time to re-invent planning education”

Dr. Stanley also stressed the significance of climate change across her region. The threat to the very existence of some island communities will swell the numbers of environmental refugees. The recent change of government in Australia had brought a new willingness to engage with the issue.

Like other contributors, Dr. Stanley saw the education of planners and the role of the planning schools as important for any change agenda. PIA has recently

produced a policy paper, but Jane called for a pooling of thinking globally and effective outreach to the planners in the Pacific islands. “There should be discussion in the Global Planning Educators Network and at the World Urban Forum”, she said. “It’s time to re-invent planning education.”

Finally, Jane referred to the PIA/ITPSL post-tsunami project that Dickman had mentioned. She described it as “a resounding success” that created a lot of lessons. The hope is that similar initiatives could be launched in the Pacific with the help of AusAID.

So what did it all mean?

An expert panel provided some commentary as part of an interactive discussion. Is planning being re-invented? What messages should CAP send to the UN-Habitat World Urban Forum in November? What are the obstacles that we need to overcome and how do we do that?

Paul Taylor from UN-Habitat detected a new sense of confidence emerging from the presentations, and heightened levels of co-operation. He also noted the extent to which speakers saw planning as a means to achieve development.

Mitchell Silver, Director of City Planning for the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, USA, pinpointed the sense of urgency and conviction that had infused the contributions and the recurring concerns with climate change from regions across the globe.

Nicolas Buchoud, from the Société Française des Urbanistes, who had been at the World Urban Forum in Vancouver, said he was impressed by how far things had moved on since then. He detected a strong emphasis on cross-professional linkages, as well as a sense of emergency and a willingness to act.

“If the developed world thinks it is isolated from poverty issues, it is wrong on every count... Climate change and failed cities trigger international migration that will become unstoppable”.

Professor Phil Harrison, Executive Director of Development Planning and Urban Management for the City of Johannesburg remarked that the new agenda “has really bedded down”. He said the attempts at re-inventing planning take the cities of the global South seriously. The task now is to give real content to the principles. What does “pro-poor planning” really mean? What is needed to develop the capacity for these approaches?

**“Re-inventing planning is a task but also a state of mind. We need to promote core planning values.”
Nicolas Buchoud**

In a rich, wide-ranging discussion several issues were discussed:

- The importance of understanding cultural diversity, something that had not traditionally been seen as a “planning matter”;
- The importance of political leadership;
- How to access relevant expertise in relation to climate change, sea level rise, flood risk etc.;
- The need for new planning tools in general, but tools that allow for quick responses and can be used by people with limited training;
- Local and regional economic development should be key parts of planning – good planning is vital to a thriving economy;
- We need to re-interpret rather than abandon physical planning, and link it to livelihoods;
- Get planning out of micro-land use management and into the spending

plans of infrastructure departments and companies;

- In weak states, the state needs to be strengthened along with civil society.

One of the special strengths of the Commonwealth is that it connects large and small countries, the rich world and the poor world. This span underpinned the strength of the discussion in the CAP Special Session.

**“I live in a city of 1.5 million people. Only 10% of it has been planned”.
Dr. Odimuko, Nigeria.**

But why do we need to talk across these divides? Can't the big rich countries look after themselves, thanks very much?

Paul Taylor demolished such thinking with a chilling piece of rhetoric. “If the developed world thinks it is isolated from poverty issues, it is wrong on every count. The dependence of its settlements on inefficient transport and the depletion of fossil fuels have led to a dash to biofuels that has led to losses of agricultural production and is creating food scarcity for the poor. Climate change and failed cities trigger international migration that will become unstoppable. The North must help the South to cope. Planners have to position themselves to make the best contribution they can. Planning in one country does not work any more.”

As the Special Session showed, solidarity in diversity is the only ethical and practical way forward, and CAP is a catalyst to make it happen.

Other Highlights from Johannesburg

The increasing vulnerability of cities to disasters was one of the themes of the keynote address to the Planning Africa conference by CAP President Christine Platt. She referred to work from UN-Habitat that connected this vulnerability

to the expansion of slums into marginal land prone to flooding, land slides and pollution.

Christine stressed how the Vancouver Declaration, the “Re-inventing Planning” paper and the book *Making Planning Work: A guide to approaches and skills* had underpinned CAP's efforts at the 2006 World Urban Forum. She paid tribute to the support of the Commonwealth Foundation whose programme grants had made it possible for CAP to take its message around the Commonwealth and to the Commonwealth Consultative Group on Human Settlements.

CAP provides its members with a global network of valuable connections.

She described how CAP provides its members with a global network of valuable connections. These include:

- Links with global partners like UN-Habitat, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Commonwealth Foundation;
- Multi-lateral links such as between small island states in the Caribbean and the Pacific; and
- Bi-lateral linkages such as the PIA/Sri Lanka post-tsunami project.

She also stressed how the far reaching nature of the Commonwealth connections had enabled CAP to play a leading role in giving the planning profession a global profile and voice.

“CAP has played a critical role in mobilizing the profession in the Commonwealth... and has significantly strengthened Commonwealth-wide networks amongst planners”, said Mrs. Platt.

She said that she was pleased that two Commonwealth projects had been short-listed as good practice examples for possible inclusion in the 2009 Global Report on Human Settlements. The President also highlighted the role that CAP had played in getting a high profile section on Human Settlements into the communiqué from the Commonwealth Peoples' Forum last November. She added that CAP has been working closely with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Commonwealth Foundation on the proposal for a State of the Commonwealth Cities report to go to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Trinidad late in 2009.

Capacity building is another key theme. Again the President told the audience of over 300 planners that CAP is actively developing proposals and discussing them with Commonwealth bodies in London.

The President finished with a call for sharing of knowledge and skills through the Commonwealth networks, and with other professionals, including some that may not be traditional partners of planners.

En Française...

A significant part of CAP's networking in the last year has been with the Société Française des Urbanistes, and through them reaching out to planning institutes in Francophone African countries. This brought French-speaking planners into the Planning Africa conference for the first time. Their experiences and perspectives enriched the discussions.

Dr. Said Almi from the Association des Aménageurs et Urbanistes Algériens explained the intellectual and practical aspects of the French planning movement. He stressed that while perceptions of French urbanism usually start with Haussmann in the nineteenth

century then jump to the Modern Movement, this leap omits a crucial stage. In 1908 a research section was established in the Musée Sociale, and the French School of Urbanism grew out of the union of empirical sociology and the Engineering Corps. Part of the legacy of these parents is the view that each city is unique and deserves to be planned as such.

Hippolyte Etende Nkodo, from the National Order of Cameroon Town Planners, spoke of how there had been some fundamental changes in thinking about planning in Cameroon in the last five years. For 40 years before that, the model had been "Plan, Build, Occupy". However the adoption of a national Urban Development Sectoral Strategy had exposed the limits of such thinking. "We now have a new strategic planning model, which is results-oriented. However, it is very demanding," he said. Planning has become a part of the process of governance.

Mr. Etende Nkodo summarized the weaknesses of the traditional planning approach. There was too little co-ordination, both within and between sectors; and poor co-operation amongst local authorities. This fragmented institutional framework was compounded by rampant corruption. Developments too often failed to be completed, while government investment in housing mainly benefited civil servants rather than the poor. Part of the price for the lack of a strategic dimension to planning was that there is no efficient national road network. Similarly only 40% of urban inhabitants have access to potable water.

"Fundamentally, planning did not encompass economic development. Towns were planned for housing. There was no environmental management. There is still no planning school in the country," he said.

The emphasis that donors today are putting on infrastructure, economic efficiency and institutional development is a key force for change. Meanwhile anti-poverty work is focused on a service level approach and stakeholder involvement. However, both the strategic planning and the decentralization agenda have been hard to translate into effective practice. Mr. Etende Nkodo concluded that institutional reform is now needed – together with leadership.

“Planning did not encompass economic development. Towns were planned for housing.”

The situation in Morocco is significantly different from that in Cameroon. Mohamed Fawzi Zniber told of how the rate of urbanization has declined over the past 15 years. The *Bidonville* population is now less than 8% of the urban population, having been 15% 20 years ago. Micro-credit systems assist those on irregular incomes to access housing.

Some 140,000 new formal houses are being built each year. Public land plays a key part in this process, but there is also strong involvement of the private sector. New urban programmes and projects are changing the face of Morocco’s towns, and there is pressure from inward international investment.

Nicolas Buchoud, from Paris, provided some characteristically thoughtful observations. He noted how the drivers of development had changed: Emirates investors are now more powerful than public investments, so whose African cities are they? The decline of classical land use planning reflected this shift, and exposed the lack of cross-disciplinary knowledge and skills amongst many planners.

Nicolas stressed the need to educate a new generation of African planners. He pointed to some key initiatives. EAMAU is a centre of excellence in Togo. ESIAU, a private institution in Mali, focusing on “earth architecture” has links with Toulouse, while URBACAM, essentially a cadastre centre involves co-operation between Cameroon and Nantes in France. An application has been made for European Union funds to 10 European cities with 10 African cities. “So we have lots of good initiatives”, said M. Buchoud, “we now need to convert them into networks.”

So is language a barrier to forming such networks? It need not be. There is a myriad of languages in Africa – of which those implanted by the colonialists are just a few.

CAP AND RTPI LAUNCH INTERNATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF CAPACITY FOR PLANNING.

A vital building block for CAP’s attempts to build capacity for new approaches to planning has been created. Thanks to funding from the USA-based Lincoln Foundation and the RTPI Trust a study has been launched that will collect information from across the globe about the relation between what planning systems are doing – and what they need to do. This co-operation is a tangible outcome of the formation of a Global Planners Network at the 2006 World Planners Congress in Vancouver.

Vincent Goodstadt, Chair of the RTPI’s International Committee, says that

taking stock of existing capacity for planning will allow us to assess what and where are the most urgent priorities for capacity-building.

The core of the work is a “Self-Diagnostic Tool”. It is basically a country-specific questionnaire, with different versions for those working in central and local government, in the private sector, universities, NGOs or for the professional institutes. The tool is available in Chinese, French and Spanish as well as English.

Cliff Hague, who represents CAP on the group steering the project, says that the aim is twofold. “The tool tries to help respondents to reflect on the priorities for planning in their own country or region, and be able to benchmark themselves against others like them. However, we also hope to build an overview from the messages from around the world about ways in which capacity-building could make a difference. Hopefully that can then become a platform for action.”

The researchers recognize that planning can mean different things in different cultures and that the professional edges of planning are blurred. Thus the invitation to complete the survey is open to anyone involved in the planning of settlements.

So far over 350 responses have been received. The list of Commonwealth countries from which questionnaires have been completed is: Australia, Barbados, Canada, Cyprus, India, Kenya, Malta, Mauritius, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, and the UK.

It is hoped to have a progress report out by early June and a final report in time

for the planned CAP Networking Event at the World Urban Forum.

How can I complete the questionnaire?

Go to www.tinyurl.com/2gbffk and follow the instructions.

Cliff Hague added “CAP urges all its member institutes to complete the questionnaire designed for professional institutes as soon as possible. We are also asking each member institute to put information about the Self-Diagnostic Tool on their web site, with a hot-link to the site so that people can find the survey forms easily.”

“We also encourage individuals who are readers of CAP News to take a little bit of time to fill in the survey and help us to get an in-depth picture of what they see as the priorities in their country or region. Such information is fundamentally important in building the case that planning should be a priority area for capacity-building efforts by governments and Commonwealth bodies.”

CAP CONFERENCE OF DELEGATES ELECTS NEW EXECUTIVE

Every two years CAP has a meeting called the Conference of Delegates. This is where the Executive is elected. Each member institute has one vote, regardless of how big or small that institute is.

This meeting in Johannesburg elected the following Executive:

President: Christine Platt

Vice-President (Americas) – Dr. James Armstrong (Trinidad and Tobago Society of Planners)

Vice-President (East Africa) – Bosire Ogero (Kenya Institute of Planners)

Vice-President (Europe) – Clive Harridge (Royal Town Planning Institute)

Vice President (South-East Asia) - Norliza Hashim (Malaysian Institute of Planners)

Vice-President (Southern Africa – Catherine Kulemeka (Malawi Institute of Physical Planners)

Vice-President (South-West Asia) – A. Karunathilake (Institute of Town Planners Sri Lanka)

Vice-President (Pacific) – Sue Holliday (Planning Institute of Australia)

Vice-President (West Africa) - Dr. Chijioke Odumuko (Nigerian Institute of Town Planners)

Secretary-General – Cliff Hague

Co-ordinator of the CAP Women in Planning network – Alicia Yon

The RTPI will continue to host the Secretariat in its offices in Edinburgh, and Annette O'Donnell will continue as CAP's Administrator.

The Secretary-General commented "We have a strong team with a nice mix of experience and new blood."

Strategic Plan for CAP Women in Planning network endorsed

The Conference of Delegates endorsed the Strategic Plan that was presented by Alicia Yon. It covers the period up to 2010. Key elements of the plan are:

- To strengthen the network by getting a contact point in each member institute;
- To collect information about the proportion of planners in Commonwealth countries who are women;
- To set up a web-based information page on the CAP web site;
- Begin to compile an inventory of practice guidance and other publications about how planning can contribute to greater gender equity in the development of human settlements.

The meeting also supported proposals by the network for the network to be a partner in a UN-Habitat gender roundtable at the World urban Forum in Nanjing.

If you want to join the network or want further information please contact Annette O'Donnell who will pass on your details (Annette.odonnell@rtpi.org.uk).

ARE YOU A FRIEND OF CAP?

One of the decisions at the Conference of Delegates was to set up a "Friends of CAP" scheme. This is open to anyone who wishes to show their support to CAP by making a donation. In return they will receive CAP News and notification of CAP events, and will have access to a "members only" area of the website once the site is updated. It costs a minimum of £20 a year.

If you want to become a Friend please email Annette.odonnell@rtpi.org.uk.

PIA AND RTPI CONSULT ON PLANNING EDUCATION

Two of the major accreditors of planning education in the Commonwealth have launched consultations about the future direction for their education policies. The Royal Town Planning Institute did a root and branch review that was published some 5 years ago. Their current consultation focuses on undergraduate courses. The review launched by the Planning Institute of Australia is more wide-ranging.

The PIA paper provides an overview of trends in planning and higher education in Australia, and discusses their implications. Thus the education system faces great pressures for rationalisation, and there is ever increasing competition for students and research funds. The paper also profiles planning education in Australia today and discusses the “creative tension” between the expectations of industry, the community and the academy.

Key questions asked in the consultation are:

- What are the key skills and capabilities required of planners?
- What knowledge and experience are relevant to effective professional planning practice?
- How best can planning education develop the necessary knowledge, skills, attitudes and experience?
- What is the role of accreditation?
- What responsibilities do various stakeholders have in planning education and what role should PIA play?

The full paper can be downloaded from the PIA website – www.planning.org.au or telephone +61 2 6262 5933.

In 2003 the RTPI took the dramatic step of deciding to accredit “intensive” 12-month full time / 2 year part-time Masters courses. Understandably much effort since then has gone into making this system work. In particular the RTPI has significantly changed the requirements for the period between graduation and entry to full membership. It has introduced an Assessment of Professional Competence and a new category of membership, “Licentiatees”.

In all this, policy on respect of undergraduate provision was rather sidelined. Though the minimum length of post-graduate courses for accreditation was substantially shortened, the minimum 4 years full-time requirement for undergraduate courses was left unchanged.

Now the RTPI have issued a consultation paper on “The future of undergraduate planning education”. There are two main issues on which views are sought. The first is the length of the courses, and the second is whether the accredited exit point from the courses should be a Master’s level award – or a post-graduate Diploma – or, in the case of Scotland where undergraduate degrees are traditionally a minimum of 4 years, an undergraduate Honours award.

The basic proposal is to stick with the status quo. However, with students paying fees in most of the UK, and with undergraduate planning courses under pressure from a whole array of 3 year Honours degree programmes, there could well be pressure from planning schools to go for change. The RTPI paper can be downloaded from www.rtpi.org.uk.

AUSTRALIAN PLANNING REPORT CARD - TELLING IT LIKE IT IS!

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Overview

Are we doing what is needed in the critical areas for creating effective, functional and sustainable cities, towns, neighbourhoods and regions? Every year Australian planning professionals are asked by the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) for their expert opinions on how we are performing in key areas critical to the health and wellbeing of our cities.

The first poll was conducted in 2006. The results, released on World Town Planning Day, 8 November, attracted considerable media, political and community interest. In 2007 over 740 planners responded to the survey 'telling it like it is' and more respondents are expected in 2008.

This article provides an overview of the Planning Report Card and more detailed information can be found at the PIA web site at [click here](#)

Why is the Planning Institute of Australia doing this Report Card?

Planners and PIA want to work with planning decision makers and industry to support best practice, highlight what is important, congratulate those responsible for a job well done, and ensure everyone knows where more work is needed.

PIA is concerned about planning in Australia and about the health and wellbeing of our cities, towns and neighbourhoods. It wants to raise the profile of planning and the importance of sound planning to our lives. PIA also wants to be part of identifying solutions and doing things better in partnership with all the other players that help create great communities and places.

Planners cannot achieve improvements alone. We work in a collaborative system with government decision makers, local councillors, developers and the community all having a role to play. How well the planning system operates relies on all those players pulling together to produce A+ performances.

There are some big issues facing Australian cities and towns. Australia is one of the most urbanized countries in the world. Over 85% of the people live within 50 kilometres of the coastline and most of these in the 7 major cities. These cities, towns and regions are where most Australians live, do business, get educated and participate in community life. They generate 85% of our nation's GDP.

Australia has some great challenges to face in the next 20- 50 years. We need to tackle them effectively to ensure that future generations are able to enjoy the same levels of prosperity as we do.

We all know that climate change is expected to impact on our cities and towns in a variety of ways – such as an increase in severe weather events, rising sea levels, inundation and drought conditions. Many regions of Australia are already feeling the effect of these impacts, through tough water restrictions or property damage from severe storms.

Our ageing population is also placing pressure on our health and transport systems and demands are increasing for alternative forms of housing to meet the need of our elderly population.

Public transport will become increasingly important if the likely trend for increased fuel prices continues. The affordable housing crisis is now causing social and economic stress on a large part of the community.

To ensure we are ready to meet the challenges facing our cities and towns we need to have effective planning and investment in infrastructure and a commitment to sustainable, liveable cities, regions and neighbourhoods.

We must have effective planning to integrate land use, transport, water, growth pressures and housing. Without effective planning systems we are losing opportunities to keep our cities competitive and vibrant.

Government Input

In 2007 following feedback from the 2006 survey we approached all State and Territory Planning Ministers and, given the Federal Election that was held in November 2007 all the political parties at the federal level, to detail policy plans and initiatives underway against the 12 Report Card criteria.

Responses received from Governments and political parties before the survey was released, were made available to planners to ensure they knew the strategies underway when rating performance. These responses, and those received after the survey, were made available on the PIA website.

Most Governments and political parties took the opportunity to respond and it is uplifting to see the positive initiatives being taken in so many states against the Report Card criteria

Twelve Criteria

This year we added climate change and urban design to last year's 10 critical planning criteria that we believe should be in place for effective planning. We derived these criteria from PIA's Sustainable Communities policy platform and the priorities identified by PIA's members – 4500 professionals from around Australia.

The survey asked planners to rate performance against these 12 criteria

1. Growth Management

How is your state/territory performing in developing and approving growth management plans for regions that integrate social, economic, environmental and transport issues?

2. Sustainability Indicators

How is your state/territory performing in developing sustainability indicators that can be used to measure the performance of plans?

3. Governance

How is your state/territory performing in having governance structures that support the development and implementation of effective growth management plans?

4. Infrastructure

How is your state/territory performing in having a timetable and funding commitment for major social and physical infrastructure in accordance with a growth management plan?

5. Transport

How is your state/territory performing in having a commitment to fund improvement and expansion of public transport integrated with a growth management plan?

6. Demographic Change

How is your state/territory performing in developing a sea change/tree change

strategy to address the impacts of population shifts?

7. Housing

How is your state/territory performing in developing a housing strategy that addresses affordability, housing choice and sustainable design?

8. Public Participation

How is your state/territory performing in having effective mechanisms for public participation in developing planning strategies?

9. Planning Workforce

How is your state/territory performing in having a well resourced and skilled professional workforce to provide expertise to the planning process?

10. Streamlined Assessment

How is your state/territory performing in having a streamlined planning assessment in place?

11. Urban Design

How is your state/territory performing in having clear policies that promote quality buildings and urban spaces?

12. Climate Change

How is your state/territory performing in having a strategy to mitigate and adapt to climate change?

Respondents were asked to rate the above criteria using the following scores:

- A** Performing well against this criterion (80–100%)
- B** Doing well against this criterion with some initiatives underway (70–79%)
- C** Evidence of some initiatives with improvement required to reach this criterion (60–69%)
- D** Inadequate progress in this criterion (50–59%)
- E** No progress (<49%)

PIA is also developing national position statements on all of the above 12 criteria, outlining what it believes are essential elements and action for effective performance of each criteria.

The 2007 Results

This survey tool is intended to illustrate how Australia, state by state, is performing in planning terms. This assessment is intended to be constructive, highlighting our successes as well as identifying where we can do better.

The frustrations of the planning community with the speed of progress, the impediments to change and the lack of investment in planning, shows through again this year in the comments provided by respondents.

The survey results are summarised in the table below. The results indicate that overall Australia has scored a C. This means there is evidence of some initiatives being taken in the 12 key areas nationally, but that improvement is needed to meet the levels of commitment, activity and funding needed to produce effective outcomes. Australia-wide we are performing reasonably well (with some caveats) in three of the twelve criteria:

- Growth Management
- Public Participation
- Streamlined Assessment

Australia is also doing moderately well in terms of Urban Design and Governance. We are doing less well, however, against the remaining seven criteria. Some states and territories are continuing to take positive steps to get it right. The strong performances which rated C+ on the national table include:

- Western Australia —Transport Planning and Public Participation

- South Australia — Streamlined Development Assessment
- Victoria — Public Participation
- Queensland and Australian Capital Territory — Growth Management
- Australian Capital Territory — Public Participation

In terms of the positives, no more than 60% of respondents rated their state A or B against any criterion and some states / territories received no A scores at all against any criteria. So, there is still a lot more to be done. (The Northern Territory had a low respondent rate and its results have therefore not been included.)

Conclusion

Many people influence the built environment — state and federal politicians, local government councillors, professionals, community, public servants, developers and many others. They impact on our cities, towns and regions through their decisions in terms of funding, regulation, development proposals and design.

This opinion poll gives the profession an opportunity to reflect on the current state of our planning systems and outcomes. Planners are qualified and well placed to tell us how well we are doing.

The Planning Institute of Australia believes that an annual, honest look at the way our planning systems are operating is an important way to remind us all of the importance of these issues.

BOOK REVIEWS

Jane Stanley *with additional contributions from the Bear* (2007) ***Gnarly Planning: Tools for Local and Global Action, Focus, ISBN 978-0-9804126-0-4***

First the title – ‘planning’ I can just about understand but ‘gnarly’ I can’t. However, I am informed by urbandictionary that ‘gnarly’ is ‘when you’ve gone beyond radical, beyond extreme, it’s ... danger, and/or perfection, and/or skill or all of that combined’.

On that basis, this book itself is ‘gnarly’. As the Secretary General of CAP (who taught me when I was a student) will avow, I have never read a planning book cover to cover and yet I read this one in one sitting. It is impossible to categorise. In what other planning book would you find a reflection on decision making theory illustrated with photos of model dinosaurs? In what other planning book would you find a chapter dealing with all sorts of policy making tools prefaced by a recipe for the Ghanaian dish of Akasa?

In some ways it reminds me of the old *Whole Earth Catalogues* published in the late 1960s and early 1970s which were designed to give everyone access to ‘tools’ In other ways it is like books such as *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance* where real life incidents lead to valuable reflections.

What it does not remind me of is a traditional planning book and yet there is more information here on theory, on techniques and, above all, on the essence of planning, than in a shelf load of those conventional planning books whose authors we are taught to revere. In this respect it more resembles the new breed to learning by example books

on planning epitomised by *Making Planning Work* (<http://www.communityplanning.net/makingplanningwork/>) with its abundance of case studies.

The wealth of knowledge, understanding and reflection that is embodied in 'Gnarly Planning' comes from a woman whose planning career follows no norms. Dr Jane Stanley learnt planning at Sheffield in the UK, moved to Ghana to learn, teach and work, then moved – in an interesting cultural transfer – to work in community development in the tenements of Govanhill in Glasgow. She then moved to Australia to work with communities and government.

Her experiences appear to have given her an exasperated love for planning. At the beginning of one paragraph she states that, 'a large part of the blame [for the global plight of those moving to urban areas] must be put on the shoulders of planners'. But that same paragraph ends, 'it is planners more than any other group of professionals who have the expertise to address these issues'. Jane acknowledges that it was the 2006 World Urban Forum in Vancouver which gave her the stimulus to write this book and, in particular, the focus on re-inventing planning – a movement in which CAP played such a pivotal role. This is the sort of planning that Jane Stanley amongst others had been doing since her graduation and Gnarly Planning could be seen as one of the 'manuals' of the new approach.

If I have a criticism it is that some aspects of planning are explored in over-exhaustive detail. Do we, for example, need descriptions not only of mission statements and of vision statements but of outcome statements, aims, goals and statements of intent, principles, key result areas, objectives, strategies, action statements, targets, performance indicators, regulations,

performance requirements, acceptable solutions, heads of consideration,... and many others. But just when you are tiring of the lists, along comes a story about the four-hour column of black ants that marched past her tiny house in Ahinsan, Ghana leading, of course, to reflections on leadership and purpose.

If the plethora of italic bold sub-heads and bullet points tempt you to skip over sections – don't. Little gems of insight can be found in the most unprepossessing of titles. Consider, for example, the reflection in the section of advocacy planning that all planners are advocacy planners for someone – it's just that in many cases it might be for big business or the political status quo - or the almost throw away line that 'effective regional planning is the first step towards increasing regional autonomy'. The book is scattered with such thought provoking gems.

If nearly every page contains such insights, then the book as a whole leads to a much wider set of thoughts. Not least amongst these is the reflection that, if a book such as this is so free with its sharing of planners' techniques and how to make them work, then can't all the groups and individuals themselves become planners. In an important sense, this is the point of the book – that the old style professional – client relationship is totally unsuitable for most of the situations that planners need to deal with – whatever part of the world we are in. The effect of this book is to extend the Confucian proverb to 'tell me and I will forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I will understand – and can carry on the work myself'.

The second wider thought is that this book forms an eloquent plea and justification for cultural sustainability to be regarded as the fourth pillar of sustainable development alongside

economic, social and environmental sustainability. The book quotes extensively from the 1995 De Cuellar Report for the World Commission on Culture and Development but the real evidence of the importance of cultural sustainability lies in every example of practice that Jane Stanley uses.

In wholeheartedly recommending this book to all those who are, or who aspire to being, gnarly planners I have one final problem – I don't know where you can get hold of a copy. It is not online as far as I can find and it so deserves to be. Mind you, if you are really gnarly, you will find it.

Kelvin MacDonald is a policy consultant and Affiliated Lecturer at the Department of Land Economy, Cambridge.

Fear not, Kelvin, and other gnarly types. The book can be obtained from: www.gnarlyplanning.com
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PO Box 315
Sarina QLD 4737, Australia
email: jstanley49@bigpond.com
web: www.focus-planning@bigpond.com;

Harrison, P, Todes, A & Watson, V (2008) *Planning and Transformation. Learning from the Post-Apartheid Experience*, RTPI Library Series, Routledge, London and New York.

I was happy to review this book as I had the opportunity to work in South Africa during the transition period and have kept in touch with various South African colleagues since then, participating in the Planning Africa conferences of 2002 and 2004, although the bulk of my professional work continues to be in other parts of Africa. I use material from South Africa in my academic teaching

and hence I was also keen to see how useful this book would be in that context. The short answer is that I ordered it for the library even before I finished reading. The book provides a very useful overview of planning in South Africa not only in the transition and up to fairly recently, but within a historical context, and as such is a very useful textbook. It also should be of interest to planners in other African countries who need to understand the rather different context and approaches in South Africa, as planners in South Africa begin to be more active across the continent. In addition I think the book will be of interest to planners in other parts of the world, perhaps more specifically the Commonwealth due to the close links between South Africa and the UK which might have comparisons. In fact, the book places the South African experience within a wider theoretical and professional context and in so doing provides a very useful and detailed regional case study of how planning is changing at a global level.

That said, there are a few issues I would note. One is the early declaration of the uniqueness of the South African experience, a refrain often put forward by South Africans. Of course, all nation-states are unique in some way, however it is not in that light that the claim of uniqueness here is preoccupying. Rather many other countries have gone through and are going through quite extreme transformations – no more so than elsewhere in Africa – and the assumption that South Africa is qualitatively different in this respect only serves to continue the sense of separation of the country from its region – ironic for a country that has done away with a national development programme based on separation or 'apartness'/apartheid. As such the book hopefully can transcend such rather simplistic generalist claims through its

transmission of the more detailed content, permitting other planners to assess the relevance of the South African experience for their own contexts (and of South African planners' activity in their widening regional engagement). Not only is apartheid over, so is the South African transition and any special pleading rings hollow.

Another issue is tied to the very useful introductions to the book's various sections, which summarise key aspects of planning in a wider, global and analytical, context (it also has very helpful concluding chapter summaries). While these are inevitably concise and draw on some wider references, the main text seems to draw on a limited evidence base, largely represented by the authors and their immediate colleagues – i.e. a rather limited peer group within South Africa. There is no doubt that the three authors are eminently qualified to produce such a book, and as such have the right to present the evidence they have assembled, but there are probably other 'stories' to recount concerning planning in South Africa which are not included here. The book doubtless will serve to support the progressive planning position advocated by the authors, but it may not be as influential in South Africa as the authors might wish due to this less discursive approach. South African planners, as a relatively small professional body, have had a tradition of successive hegemonies which are inevitably rapidly contested, and – while attempting to present a more encompassing overview – the book does tend to promote what could be seen as yet another of these positions.

The above issues concern the way the book is presented in terms of its 'home' and 'regional' readership but should not detract from the already stated usefulness of the book in terms of its well-organised and succinctly presented

content. The book is divided into four main themes: 'Setting the Scene', with chapters on planning in the colonial and apartheid period, the transition and thereafter as an overview; 'Planning and Governance', which sets the main theme within international debates on the basic nature of planning and looks at local, then regional, provincial and national planning contexts; 'Discourses of Planning' which discusses planning in South Africa in relation to wider debates vis-à-vis spatial, social, economic and sustainability objectives; and 'Planning and Society' which reviews the South African experience in relation to the profession, education, democracy, diversity and informality – and also provides the conclusion.

The conclusion raises issues of the wider relevance of the South African experience of planning as charted in the rest of the book and -as noted there – is of potential interest to an even wider readership than the global South in that it begins to query the basis of planning as an activity, given the reading of the South African experience in the light of wider intellectual analysis. While I know that the authors themselves promote an endogenous approach to analysis and theoretical development, this part of the book does not delve in any depth into how this might come about, which is perhaps a lost opportunity given the balance achieved in the book between wider analytical approaches and South African realities. There is an urgent need to re-consider what is the role of spatial planning in both the post-modern and post-colonial contexts – all the more so in the light of rapid urbanisation which now is affecting Sub-Saharan Africa - and here the South African academia and profession can play an important intellectual role. To achieve this, however, perhaps needs less of a focus on seeing how South African planning measures up to international intellectual debate and more on how

space is dealt with in African polities, economies, societies and cultures. Such an approach would go beyond establishing a new hegemonic discourse within South Africa and would be of macro-regional and – in fact - global significance. This can be achieved through wider debate and the book can definitely contribute to this – so read it, reflect on it and discuss it!

*Professor Paul Jenkins
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Singapore Planning Awards

The Singapore Institute of Planning has launched its first Planning Awards programme. The competition aims to recognise urban planners and consultancy firms in Singapore for excellence in local and overseas work. CAP's President has been honoured by being invited to be part of the assessment panel. The plan is to hold the competition every 2 years.

There are four categories of award. These are for Outstanding Achievement in Planning 2008; Best Overseas Planning Project; Best Planning Project contributing to Singapore's future; and Best Urban Design Project. The submission closing date is 30 June 2008. For more information please see www.sip.org.sg/planningawards2008/.

Planning Malaysia Journal Volume 7, 2009 – Call for Papers

The Journal of the Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP) or Planning Malaysia Journal (ISSN 16756215) is a refereed and multidisciplinary journal related to theory, experiments, research, and development, applications of ICT, and

practices of planning and development worldwide. The objective of the Journal is to promote activities of town planning, governance, engineering and environmental design through dialogue and exchange of views concerning the built environment and sustainability.

MIP welcomes any news, feature articles, or peer reviewed articles for publication. All articles should be an original work by the author(s).

Interested authors are invited to submit their contribution. For more information contact:

Editor-in-Chief pmjournal@gmail.com

Conferences

Royal Town Planning Institute

Book now for the 2008 Planning Convention – ‘*Changing Places: Changing World*’. Queen Elizabeth II Centre, London 9 – 11 July 2008.

www.theplanningconvention.co.uk

Canadian Institute of Planners

CIP National Conference “*Planning by Design in Community: Making Great Places*” Winnipeg, Manitoba 13 – 16 July 2008

www.cip-icu.ca/2008winnipeg/english/

Malaysian Institute of Planners

MBPJ – MIP Livable Cities Workshop Petaling Jaya, Malaysia 21 – 22 July 2008

www.mip.org.my

Global Planners Network

GPN Congress Zhenjiang, China
31 October – 2 November 2008

www.globalplannersnetwork.org/

World Urban Forum

Fourth session of the World Urban Forum (WUF4) “*Harmonious*

*Urbanization: The Challenge of
Balanced Territorial Development"*
Nanjing, China 3 – 7 November 2008
www.unhabitat.org

Institute of Planners Pakistan
IPP International Conference Lahore,
Pakistan 17 – 19 November 2008
<http://www.ippakistan.org>

Planning Institute of Australia
2009 PIA National Congress 30 March –
2 April 2009 Darwin, Australia

**CAP News is edited by Cliff Hague
and Annette O'Donnell. We welcome
letters, articles or news items and
encourage member institutes to
supply items that they think will be of
interest to members elsewhere in the
Commonwealth.**

**Please send material to
Annette.odonnell@rtpi.org.uk.**

**We are also keen to recruit people to
undertake book reviews or provide
news of planning schools. If you
would like to help, please contact
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Commonwealth Association of Planners

www.commonwealth-planners.org

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To get more details and application forms contact Annette.odonnell@rtpi.org.uk.

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CAP is a Charity registered in Scotland. Again please contact Annette for more information.