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Living and Sustainability: An Environmental Critique of Design and Building Practices, Locally and Globally

Abstract / Initial Proposal Form:

1. Paper / Proposal Title:

Critical Cities. Learning from Delhi extreme urban contexts, paths for a sustainable urban planning.

2. Format:

Written paper / verbal presentation / screening / other – please specify

3. Author(s) Name:

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This communication presents results of a research exchange at the Centre for the Study of Science Policy, Jawarlal Nehru University (New Delhi) under the European Marie Currie project "Crossing Borders. Knowledge, Innovation and Technology transfer across borders". The project integrates ISCTE-IUL (Portugal), Jawarlal Nehru University (India), Bradford University (England), Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia).

5. Abstract (300 words):

New Delhi is the second largest megacity in the world with a population of 25 million inhabitants. Rural to urban migration, expansion of slums, inequality, speed of urbanization, lack of infrastructures, pollution, environmental degradation, water scarcity, mobility problems, climate risks and health problems are some of the extreme contexts that characterize this metropolitan territory in the present. According to Delhi Master Plan 2021, only 24 % of population lives in legal areas. The city seems to have developed anarchically enunciating an unrecoverable distance between planning practice and reality. Planning efforts seem to have been instrumentalized under distinct historical moments, namely colonization, state control over land and nowadays capitalism and globalization. This paved the way to unplanned urbanism, with its extreme consequences, vulnerabilities and risks. It is intended to establish this nexus by revisiting the key planning moments in Delhi along with its different socioeconomic, cultural and political frameworks across time. Sequentially will be drawn conclusions on how concepts such as 'sustainability', 'resilience' or 'smart cities' are being framed, perceived and applied under the context of Delhi urban planning instruments, polices and research. Its intended to highlight the importance of this reflection on urban system extremes in global cities of developing countries as a lesson and a warning alert to depict less extreme but also unsustainable processes that are taking place in urban spaces of developed countries. As an example, a rural inhabitant expulse from its land by a real state investment in Delhi is not so different as an inhabitant expulse from the center of Lisbon by the increasing rents motivated by tourism and urban regeneration. Finally, we conclude by the need of rethinking concepts that inform planning practices and research in urban planning field, looking closer to the consequences and the underlying logic of our current socioeconomic development model.

6. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Sebastião Santos (Portugal)

Landscape Architect, Degree and Master (ISA-UTL, 2011). Between 2006-2007 collaborates with the commission responsible for the first Lisbon Triennial of Architecture 'Urban Voids'. In 2008 participates in the UIA World Congress of Architecture in Turino

seeking along with various professionals, a solution to the Basse di Stura landfill and the sustainable development of the city. Between 2008-2011 collaborates with the landscape architecture studio Topiaris and landscape architecture Studio Global in the design of private and public spaces as well as in spatial planning plans. In 2012 co-founds ONG 'Chão de Gente' that aims to develop participated, low-cost and sustainable solutions for urban and rural places. In this context implements 'Projecto Rio-Development and valorization of Tavira territory' under the European platform 'Places-Cities for scientific culture' along with Municipality of Tavira and Centro de Ciência Viva de Tavira. Between 2012 and 2015 has collaborated in several research projects on the field of urban planning; "FILARQPAIS - Philosophy and Landscape Architecture" (Philosophy center of Universidade de Letras de Lisboa) 'PERIURBAN- Periurban areas facing sustainability challenges. Scenario development for Lisbon Metropolitan Area" (DINAMIA'CET), "Place of discourse in architecture" (DINAMIA'CET) and in the European research project "Crossing Borders. Knowledge, Innovation and Technology transfer across borders"(DINAMIA'CET). Since 2014 teaches 'Landscape Project' module in the discipline of Ethics and Aesthetics of landscape (Master of Landscape Architecture, Instituto Superior de Agronomia). Since 2015 is PhD fellow on the doctoral program 'Architecture of contemporary metropolitan territories' (ISCTE-IUL) pursuing the development of the thesis 'Planning for resilience in moments of uncertainty. Landscape Metropolitan Areas under extreme scenarios". Research interests in the field of urban planning related to sustainability, ethics, scenario development and transdisciplinary processes of knowledge production.

Maria de Fátima Ferreiro (Portugal)

Degree in Sociology (1991), Master (1997) and PhD (2005) in Economy of the Territory on Property and Agriculture Law. Lecturer in Political Economy Department of ISCTE-IUL. Researcher at DINAMIA'CET-Centre for the study of socioeconomic change and the territory. Current research areas: economy, innovation and territory, sustainability, food security, history of economic thought. Ongoing research projects: IRSES (International project on transfer of knowledge and technology across borders); SPLASH (with Porto University and the University of Aveiro on Transitions to Sustainability); RurAction (Marie-Curie on social entrepreneurship and social innovation in low density areas). Teaching Areas: History of Economic Thought, Introduction to Economics, Planning and Social Solidarity Economy. Current positions: Director of the Department of Political Economy (ISCTE-IUL), Deputy Director of the School of Social and Human Sciences (ISCTE-IUL), Vice-President of the Pedagogical Council (ISCTE-IUL)

Cristina Sousa (Portugal)

Cristina Sousa is a Research Fellow at DINÂMIA-CET/IUL and Invited Assistant Professor at ISCTE/IUL. She has a Master's degree in Economics and Management of Science and Technology and a PhD in Economics, both from ISEG/UTL. Her research interests include

innovation, creation and circulation of knowledge and entrepreneurship. Currently, her research is focused on networks, on entrepreneurship in knowledge-intensive sectors and on the transition to a sustainable energy system. The results of her research were object of publication in academic journal and books and were presented in several national and international conferences and workshops