

## **Cities, Communities and Homes: Is the Urban Future Livable?**

- **Paper / Proposal Title:**

The Unbuilt and the Identity : influence of public space in post disaster recovery.

- **Format:**

Written paper (3,000 words) and Verbal presentation

- **Author(s) Name:**

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- **University or Company Affiliation:**

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- **Abstract (300 words):**

Urban growth mechanisms are generally slow processes, shaping the built environment and allowing communities to develop a sense of identity and belonging, in line with the slow modifications of the city organism. In disaster prone cities, catastrophes may interfere with growth dynamics with the latter being interrupted or permanently influenced by sudden events. Under these conditions, in the immediate post disaster recovery period, a key role is played by unbuilt areas, providing both a safe refuge for people and temporary relocation of primary functions.

In the early emergency phase, as well as during the recovery stages, open areas might work as a damper, allowing urgent needs to be initially managed, and later reabsorbed by the built component. Nevertheless, when the cityscape experiences a modification due to relocation or expansion (L'Aquila 2009, New Orleans 2011) the unbuilt also becomes the primary element to restore a common identity.

The aim of this paper is to analyse the role of public open spaces on the transformation dynamics experienced after significant catastrophes in order to individuate the

relationship between urban void and post-catastrophe recovery, with a particular focus on the social reverberation of experienced physical changes.

**Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

Monia Del Pinto is a Lecturer in Architecture at Antalya International University. Graduated in Building Engineering and Architecture, she has worked in the post-earthquake rebuilding activities in L'Aquila after 2009. Her research interest focus on territorial retrofitting and urban planning, specifically the influence of unbuilt space and urban morphology on the post disaster recovery. She is focusing on the safety of the unbuilt public space, to be intended as a parameter for the preliminary evaluation of resilience in the disaster prone cities.