Constructing an Urban Future: The sustainability and resilience of cities – infrastructures, communities, buildings and housing.

• Paper / Proposal Title:
Future Urban Landscapes: The Role of Open Spaces in Future Cities

• Format(s):
Written paper

• Author(s) Name:
Mamdouh M.A. Sobaihi

• University or Company Affiliation:
King Abdulaziz University

• Abstract (300 words):
According to the United Nations the human race has become an urban species, where more people live in cities than any other form of habitation or environment. While urban living has many advantages, the concerns being highlighted in terms of sustainability and human wellbeing are increasingly questioning future urban growth in term of form, systems and component parts. Landscapes and open spaces are an integral part of the urban fabric due to what they offer in terms of the articulation of spaces, uses and voids within the city as well as their essential role in providing humans with the increasingly more difficult need to come in contact with nature/natural elements. This paper through literature review and examination will try to address existing concerns challenging landscape design and open spaces in the greater urban paradigm. It also will consider future trends and issues of urban and city development being discussed and how the landscape and urban open space provision of the future can assist the greater urban area meet sustainable development and urbanism objectives. By so doing, the paper
will aim to put forth a new understanding of urban open spaces and their role in the sustainable city.

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

Dr. Mamdouh M.A. Sobaihi is an assistant professor in King Abdulaziz University in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He is at present The Chairman of The Department of Landscape Architecture. He has been a faculty member for over twenty years. In these twenty years he has been involved with many Government and private consultations on projects, programs and plans. He is also a practitioner in the field of Landscape Architecture and Planning in the Kingdom and has many projects to his name. His areas of research are varied and extend from academic curricula and paradigm formulation to sustainability and city planning and urban design. Dr. Sobaihi is also the President of The Saudi Landscape Architecture Society.