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

• **Paper / Proposal Title:**
Planning for urban living heritage of Kathmandu valley: Community perspective

• **Format(s):**
Pre-recorded Film / Skype

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• **Abstract (300 words):**

Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal, is a living heritage site known for its rich history. This history can be traced in the city cores as seen in the arrangement of buildings, monuments, streets and public open spaces. The city is not only about tangible heritage but also embodies rich customs, rituals, processions and festivals. People in Kathmandu valley along with the constant hum of the everyday and prosaic web of practices convey a sense of identity and belonging to the place.

The growing influx of migrants and booming population of Kathmandu led to increasing demand for new buildings and spaces that affect its historic sites and its heritage. Taking note of significant loss of heritage over number of years, in 2003 Kathmandu valley was added to the world heritage danger list by UNESCO. The damages caused by Gorkha earthquake in 2015 worsened conservation of heritage in Kathmandu.
This paper explores perception community on the planning of the site and urban design principles. It also examines the views and perspectives of the community about heritage conservation in the aftermath of a disaster and redevelopment of areas destroyed by a natural disaster. This is done to improve the role of community in the conservation of heritage in Kathmandu and improve the planning of urban living heritage of Kathmandu.

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

I am Chandani KC currently doing my PhD in Urban Planning from the University of South Australia. My research is based on the planning of urban living heritage in the historic cities of developing countries with Kathmandu Valley as a case study. The research focuses on urban living heritage, culture and disaster. I did my Masters in City and Regional Planning from United States of America and my Bachelor in Architecture from India. I have gained work experiences through my work in government agencies both in USA and Nepal.