

TeMA

Journal of
Land Use, Mobility and Environment

The Times They Are a-Changin' and cities have to face challenges which may not be further postponed. The three issues of the 13th volume will collect articles concerning the challenges that cities are going to face in the immediate future, providing readings and interpretations of these phenomena and, mostly, methods, tools, technics and innovative practices (climate proof cities, zero consumption cities, car free cities) oriented to gain and keep a new equilibrium between cities and new external agents.

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THE CITY CHALLENGES AND EXTERNAL AGENTS.
METHODS, TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES

THE CITY CHALLENGES AND EXTERNAL AGENTS. METHODS, TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES

3 (2020)

Published by

Laboratory of Land Use Mobility and Environment
DICEA - Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering
University of Naples "Federico II"

TeMA is realized by CAB - Center for Libraries at "Federico II" University of Naples using Open Journal System

Editor-in-chief: Rocco Papa
print ISSN 1970-9889 | on line ISSN 1970-9870
Licence: Cancelleria del Tribunale di Napoli, n° 6 of 29/01/2008

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The cover image is a photo of the 1966 flood of the Arno in Florence (Italy).

TeMA. Journal of Land Use, Mobility and Environment offers researches, applications and contributions with a unified approach to planning and mobility and publishes original inter-disciplinary papers on the interaction of transport, land use and environment. Domains include: engineering, planning, modeling, behavior, economics, geography, regional science, sociology, architecture and design, network science and complex systems.

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EDITORIAL PREFACE: TEMA JOURNAL OF LAND USE MOBILITY AND ENVIRONMENT 3(2020)

THE CITY CHALLENGES AND EXTERNAL AGENTS. METHODS, TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES

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The Times They Are a-Changin' and cities have to face challenges which cannot be further postponed. In particular, six of these challenges may modify and/or adapt the physical shape, the distribution of facilities and organisation as complex systems of cities: climate change effects, population ageing, reduction of fossil-fuel energy consumptions, immigration flows from disadvantaged regions, technological innovation, and optimisation of land use. The three issues of the 13th volume will collect articles concerning the challenges that cities are going to face in the immediate future, providing readings and interpretations of these phenomena and, mostly, methods, tools, technics and innovative practices (defiantly defined as Climate proof cities, Zero consumption cities, Car Free cities, ...) oriented to gain and keep a new equilibrium between cities and new external agents.

For this Issue, the section "Focus" contains five contributes. The first article of the section is titled "Logistic models explaining the determinants of biking for commute and non- commute trips in Lahore, Pakistan" by Houshmand E. Masoumi (TU Berlin, Germany), Muhammad Asim, Izza Anwer, S. Atif Bilal Aslam (University of Lahore, Pakistan). This study takes Lahore, Pakistan, as a case-study city to explore the factors defining commute and non-commute bike trips as well as commuting by bike. These issues were analysed by collecting data from 379 subjects accommodating in three socio-economic statuses (lower, medium, and higher) in Lahore in spring 2018.

The second article, titled "A GIS-based automated procedure to assess disused areas" by Mauro Francini, Nicole Margiotta, Annunziata Palermo, Maria Francesca Viapiana (University of Calabria, Italy) deals with the issue of the regeneration of disused sites. It provides an overview of the main definitions in the scientific literature, and it proposes a parametric definition of functionally disused areas. Subsequently, the paper introduces a GIS-based operational tool able to map disused areas through an advanced screening of the local territory.

The next article, titled "Land surface temperature and land cover dynamics" by Federica Leone, Sabrina Lai, Corrado Zoppi (University of Cagliari, Italy). This study aims at analysing analogies and differences between the spatial relations regarding land surface temperature (LST) and land covers in May and August 2019. The Sardinian region is taken as a case study because its climate homogeneity and its self-containment allow for pretty straightforward identification of the regional boundaries.

The fourth article, titled "Fostering the climate-energy transition with an integrated approach" by Anna Codemo, Sara Favargiotti, Rossano Albatici (University of Trento, Italy). This study provides an overview of the interrelations and to present the gaps in current processes, with the aim of fostering a more integrated approach at the local level and of implementing more efficient low carbon and adaptive solutions.

The last article of this section, titled "Project role for climate change in the urban regeneration" by Veronica Strippoli (University of Tor Vergata, Italy) deepens the topic of the urban regeneration as an opportunity to operate on the city's "wounds" through an accurate plan. Starting from the effects of climate change on the city and on the inhabitants, the paper analyses the urban regeneration as a "multidisciplinary container" that can efficaciously face the needs of the territory. Case studies are the Reinventing Cities projects (C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group) for Milan and Rome.

Four papers address the section "LUME" (Land Use, Mobility and Environment). The first, titled "Covid-19 pandemic from the elderly perspective in urban areas. An evaluation of urban green areas in ten European capitals", by Gerardo Carpentieri, Carmen Guida, Ottavia Fevola, Sabrina Sgambati (University of Naples Federico II, Italy). This paper is a part of the Covid-19 research conducted to study the topic of spread for the pandemic in the European countries during the first phase of emergency and the importance to safe access and uniform distribution of urban services. The study focuses on urban green areas as a means of achieving a better quality of life, especially for the vulnerable groups of the population as the elderly.

The second article, titled "Transit oriented development: theory and implementation challenges in Ghana" by Kwabena Koforobour Agyemang, Regina Obilie Amoako-Sakyi, Kwabena Barima Antwi, Collins Adjei Mensah, Albert Machi Abane (University of Cape Coast, Ghana). The paper identifies possible benefits of TOD in Accra, Ghana, to include a reduction in motorisation and congestion, promotion of walkability and other forms of non-motorised transport. The paper highlights its consequent opportunities, as public transit ridership and improvement in the liveability of neighbourhoods.

The third article of this section, titled "Spatial policy in cities during the Covid-19 pandemic in Poland", by Przemysław Śleszyński, Maciej Nowak, Małgorzata Blaszkę (West Pomeranian University of Technology, Poland). The 'geographic' aim of the study is to find the regularity of the increase in the number of infections in larger cities and their surroundings. The goal related to the science of public policy is to determine the implemented and potential effects related to spatial policy in Polish cities.

The last article of this section, titled "The contribution of a tramway to pedestrian vitality", by John Zacharias (Peking University, China). This research investigates the contribution of a tramway to local pedestrian movement, using the Hong Kong Tramways (HKT) as a case. The contributing factors of local physical planning and land use are also examined for their contribution to pedestrian flow.

The new Review Notes section propose four insights on the themes of TeMA Journal.

The first research "After recovery: new urban emergencies" is by Carmen Guida. The contribution discusses, reviewing scientific works, the impacts of Covid-19 pandemic on our lives and urban systems. Infections due to Sars-Cov-2 had and still have serious social, economic and health consequences, that each country around the world is currently experiencing. Moreover, myriad other challenges – especially climate change – are on the horizon and cities have to pivot to resilience, focus on their most vulnerable citizens and adopt a zero-tolerance for inequality.

The second research "Strategies and guidelines for urban sustainability: The explosion of soft mobility from Covid-19" is by Federica Gaglione. The contribution highlights how the rise of infections from Coronavirus has led users towards "soft" and at the same time, sustainable forms of mobility for cities. It also highlights how the fear of getting infected, the limitations imposed only for proven work needs and for the achievement of essential services has indirectly induced a cultural reversal of users of how to move around the city. In detail, the review examines the regulatory documents on electric scooters and precisely where they can circulate and how they can be used in Italian territorial contexts.

The third research "Toward greener and pandemic-proof cities? Italian cities policy responses to Covid-19 pandemic" is by Gennaro Angiello. The section provides an overview of the policies and initiatives undertaken by four EU cities in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Based on this overview, a cross-city analysis is employed to derive a taxonomy of urban policy measures. The article concludes with a discussion on the effectiveness of such measures in providing answers to epidemic threats in urban areas while, at the same time, improving the sustainability and resilience of urban communities.

The last research "Entrepreneurship in the city: sustainability and green entrepreneurs" is by Stefano Franco. The work aims at shedding lights on late advancements about sustainability in the city. In doing so, the article discusses the role that green and sustainable entrepreneurs have on making the city more sustainable, also providing some practical cases.