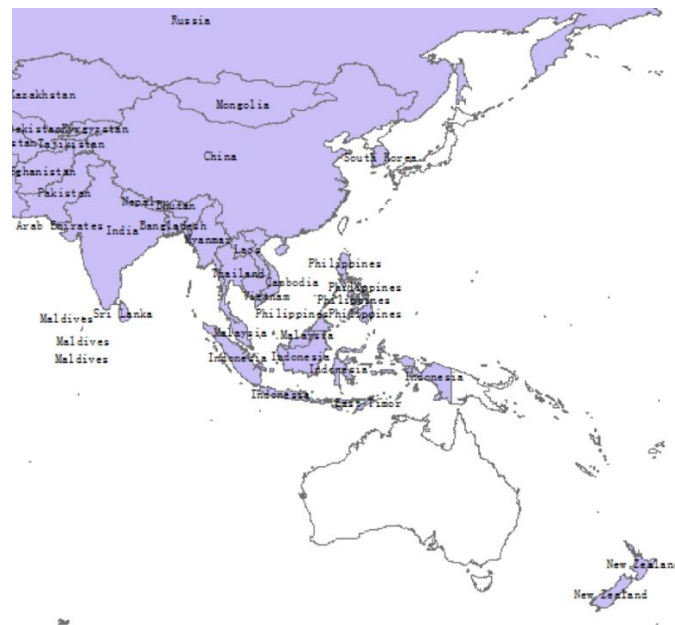


# BELT & ROAD SYMPOSIUM ON URBAN HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

**2018, Oct 16-18 Xiamen**



## **Co-organised by:**

1. Institute of Urban Environment (IUE), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)
2. Chinese Academy of Science and Technology (CAST)
3. Global science programme on Systems Science for Urban Health and Wellbeing (ICSU-UHWB)
4. ICSU Regional Office Asia Pacific (ROAP)
5. International Society for Urban Health (ISUH)

# **SYMPOSIUM**

# **URBAN HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION**

Improving health and well-being for cities, requires addressing the demographic shift related to an ageing population, the epidemiologic shift from infectious to non-communicable diseases, and climate change, which is both changing disease patterns and quality of life. Urban health trends in the Asia-Pacific region in particular include increasing obesity and cardiovascular diseases. Further, the speed of urbanisation, housing conditions, urban sprawl and urban environmental pollution compromise the quality of urban life.

Many different urban initiatives such as smart, resilient, liveable and healthy cities have promoted the central role of cities on the global path towards sustainability. These initiatives have had remarkable but mainly local and sectoral impacts. An attempt is required to create commonly agreed upon health policy principles in all urban sectors, all contribute to the sustainable development goals.

## **URBAN HEALTH AND WELLBEING: CHANCE FOR A SYNTHESIS**

Much is to learn from this fragmented landscape of initiatives, measurements and strategies which all relate to determinants of urban health, such as: food security, water and energy, education, transport, built infrastructure and housing, social networks, urban planning and the healthcare sector.

Therefore, a focus on urban health and wellbeing provides the opportunity to achieve a synthesis. Health is not only the “pulse of the New Urban Agenda”, it can also reflect the condition of the urban brain—the coordination mechanisms of an integrated urban systems governance.

## **BELT & ROAD: LINKING THE DOTS TOGETHER**

The Chinese belt and road (B&R) initiative is primarily an attempt to promote trade among B&R countries. Healthy economies, however need healthy people and healthy environments, which is at the core China’s vision to build a Health Silk Road in cooperation with the WHO. While urban health can combine the various health related

urban initiatives, B&R can bring people together to synthesize the knowledge on how to achieve and measure urban health across the region.

The mandate of the global programme on Systems Science for Urban Health and wellbeing (UHWB) is to promote the generation of knowledge and communicate to policy and society on how to improve urban health by taking a systems approach. Together, B&R and the global programme on Systems Science for Urban Health and wellbeing (UHWB) are ideal partners for co-organizing a **Synthesis Symposium on Urban Health and Wellbeing in Asia-Pacific**.

## **GOALS**

The goal of the **Symposium on Urban Health and Wellbeing in Asia-Pacific** is to bring together urban health experts from the region to discuss progresses in different countries, and to advance health in cities of B&R countries.

Integrated systems governance across urban sectors is an important strategy to improve health and wellbeing in cities. The symposium will provide an opportunity to present evidence and case studies on the co-benefits which can be generated by putting health to the core of all urban sectors.

## **TIME AND VENUE**

October 16.-18., 2018  
Venue: Xiamen, China

## **FORMAT**

The symposium will be a mix of presenting academic papers in urban health in B&R countries and panel discussions with policy makers on how to promote healthy cities in B&R countries in the Asia-Pacific region.  
Selected participants will be asked to submit a manuscript.

## **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (PROPOSED)**

1. **Chair: Bojie Fu**
2. Yong-Guan Zhu (IUE, CAS)
3. Franz Gatzweiler (UHWB)
4. Shen Yu (IUE,CAS)...
5. Weiqiang Chen (IUE,CAS)
6. Tao Lin (IUE,CAS)
7. Xihu Li (IUE,CAS)
8. Heqing Shen (IUE,CAS)
9. Changping Yu (IUE,CAS)

## **PARTICIPANTS**

1-2 speakers from each B&R country of the Asia-Pacific region.  
Selected participants who hand in a manuscript can apply for travel and accommodation support.

A call for contributions will be issued by

- ICSU and subsequent national Science Academies and Unions
- UHWB programme webpage and regional network
- IUE webpage and regional network
- CAST webpage and networks

## **CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

We call for contributions on all topics of urban health in the Asia-Pacific region.

Please submit your proposed contribution as abstract (300 words) by **April 30**.

Selected abstracts will be invited to submit full manuscripts by **July 31**.

Travel and accommodation costs can be covered for first authors of selected contributions.

Contributions will be considered for being published in a special book series or journal issue.

## **CONTACT**

Please send your abstract by **April 30** to:

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mrchen@iue.ac.cn