

# Urban Forum

## Practice meets Academia

**goes digital!**

Because – in these strange times – most of us are working remotely from home or in empty offices and we miss spontaneous lunch breaks, corridor talks, late afternoon drinks or *fikas*, and conferences *apéritifs* as opportunities to discuss burning questions about our ongoing projects and researches.

### CALL FOR PROJECTS - THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DESIGN

An **invitation to reflective practitioners, practice-oriented researchers, and design critics** to present and discuss experiences, case studies and practices from a variety of backgrounds, in view of developing sustainable cities and communities. At this upcoming **Urban Forum**, which will take place in February 2021, we are interested in hearing about built or drawn work, practice-based or -oriented, speculative or actual, contemporary or historical, raising the question of the responsibility of design.

5 February 2021 - Online Urban Forum # 1

Convinced that valuable action-oriented knowledge arises from the exchange of practice and academia, two research platforms sharing a concern for professional practice and the built environment – **Urban Arena, at Lund University**, and **SLU Urban Futures, at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences** – have been joining forces since 2019 to arrange a particular format of encounter: the **Urban Forum | Practice meets Academia** (see previous events [here](#)).

UrbanArena/Lund and SLU Urban Futures believe that cluster problems manifest more in the **urban realm** and that this realm is also the place where **sustainability efforts can multiply** exponentially and almost overnight. This digital version of the Urban Forum offers a rare opportunity, to thrive on the exchanges between practitioners and thinkers sharing the same vision of the **responsibility of design** in the face of the spatial challenges of contemporary societies. In the times of multiple crisis that we are facing, design – as an **activity**, a **process** and a **result** – should contribute to build more sustainable, safe, healthy, democratic and socially inclusive living environments. But what defines conscious and high-quality design and how can it be achieved?

Practitioners and thinkers of architecture, urbanism, landscape architecture, urban studies and the construction industry are invited to discuss their designs (realised or not) and research endeavors (practice-based or -oriented) in an online Urban Forum. Sessions (in English – 5 February 2021 - online) dedicated to each project will allow the authors to **discuss burning questions, critical aspects, inspiring findings** they wish to bring to light and **get feedback on**, in a **collegial atmosphere**. Project authors present their work in a 7x7 format (7 slides – 7 minutes), followed by a moderated discussion of 14 minutes.

## SUBMISSION

Submissions are welcome from practitioners, researchers, and design critics. Please submit an abstract / a project description (max 500 words and imagery, see submission template) before 12 January 2021 to [urbanforum.info@gmail.com](mailto:urbanforum.info@gmail.com).

The submissions will be reviewed by the committee by 22 January 2021. Selected project authors will be invited to prepare a 7-slide pdf presentation, due on 29 January 2021, for their digital presentation.

Submission and participation is free of charge.

## IMPORTANT DATES

12 January 2021	Deadline for submission of abstracts / project descriptions
22 January 2021	Notification of acceptance
29 January 2021	Deadline for submission of slideshow
5 February 2021	Screen talks - Urban Forum   Practice meets Academia Online   14:00 - 18:00 CET

The online Urban Forum is planned as a recurring event and will be held regularly during 2021.

## FURTHER INFORMATION | SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT

Send an e-mail to [urbanforum.info@gmail.com](mailto:urbanforum.info@gmail.com)

## ORGANISERS

SLU Urban Futures, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Prof. Lisa Diedrich, Dr. Sonia Curnier, designCONTENT/Andrea Kahn)

Urban Arena, Lund University (Assoc. Prof. Per-Johan Dahl)

## SUPPORTED BY

Tankesmedjan Movium/ Think Tank Movium, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences

**Urban Forum | Practice meets Academia** is a collaborative initiative by Prof. Lisa Diedrich, SLU Urban Futures ([www.slu.se/urbanfutures](http://www.slu.se/urbanfutures)), and Assoc. Prof. Per-Johan Dahl, Urban Arena at Lund University ([www.urban.lu.se/](http://www.urban.lu.se/)), with the purpose of increasing the interaction between practice and academia. is a collaborative initiative by Prof. Lisa Diedrich, SLU Urban



((TITLE))

**TITLE OF PRACTICE PROJECT or RESEARCH PROJECT or DESIGN CRITIQUE**

((1 or more images in upper part of A4 sheet))



((image source))

Illustration: FIRST NAME, FAMILY NAME or OFFICE NAME

((Author/s, affiliation))

FIRST NAME, FAMILY NAME, OFFICE or UNIVERSITY or OTHER AFFILIATION

((Abstract, max 500 words))

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION or ABSTRACT OF RESEARCH PROJECT or ABSTRACT OF DESIGN CRITIQUE**

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