

# Community and Creativity

How can we best achieve creative city renewal? That is being tried out in many places in the world. In this session we will look at the urban planning and design aspects of how ‘Community and Creativity’ serves as an engine for creativity in 21st century cities around the world. In Asia, we will look at what is happening in the exceptionally fast growing cities of China. In Europe, we will look at the success of Barcelona in reviving its old city center. In North-America we will look at the management of urban resource utilization and revival. Last, we will present and discuss methods for the revitalization of the city of Osaka to see how we can creatively re-invent Osaka over the next 20 years.

## How can urban planning deal with high-speed growth

**Zong-bo Tan** (Professor, Tsinghua University School of Architecture, China)



After graduating from the Tsinghua University Department of Architecture he continued studying at the Osaka City University Graduate School of Engineering, where he obtained his doctoral degree. He started his career as research fellow for the United Nations Center for Regional Development, followed by a position at Mori Building Group Forest Overseas Co. Ltd. He was first appointed associate professor at the Tsinghua University School of Architecture in 1996 and professor in 2005. During his stay at Harvard University as a visiting scholar, he carried out comparative research of urban planning management, focusing especially on land use planning. Currently, he also has his own design and consultancy office to implement his work and study.

The large scale city developments in China bring not only growth and progress, but also problems. For example, how can you protect a city’s environment and scenery in ambitious development projects? And how to reorganize the urban spatial structure in regions where the economic structure is changing? How is this being done in reality? Current Chinese city planning will be introduced.

## Osaka’s imagination and creativity: starting from a reed stick



**Shinya Hashizume** (Special Professor, Osaka Prefecture University Research Organization for the 21st Century, Director, Osaka Prefecture University Research Institute for Tourism Industry and Special Appointment Professor, Osaka City University Urban Research Plaza)

Dr. Hashizume studied architecture and engineering at Kyoto University, and obtained his doctoral degree from Osaka University. After teaching at Kyoto Seika University and Osaka City University, he became professor at Osaka Prefecture University. Currently, he also acts as a special counsel of Osaka, promoting comprehensive research focusing on urban development and architecture, event space, and commercial facilities. He has written a large number of books, and he received the Best award for Energy-Forum in 2005 and he was awarded “Honorable prize of Osaka Vitality Grand Prix 2009”.

What constituted the vitality of Osaka city? Looking at the past we can see Osaka’s future.

## Creating liberal space in Barcelona



**Daisuke Abe** (Associate Professor, Ryukoku University)

Dr. Abe was born in Hawaii, but studied in Waseda University and the University of Tokyo where he received his Ph.D. in engineering. He also holds his second Ph.D. from The Polytechnic University of Catalonia (Spain). After working at National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies and The University of Tokyo Center for Sustainable Urban Regeneration, he currently works as associate professor at Ryukoku University. His research focuses on urban development and design, and he received several awards for his work.

Barcelona is at the forefront of urban renewal. One of the issues it is now facing is how to manage and increase the touristic attractiveness of the city center and at the same time include the communities of weaker groups in society who live there. Does the promotion of creativity in cities contribute to socially sustainable regional spatial development? He will explain the challenges that urban renewal forerunner Barcelona is facing to repair the faults and cracks that arose after the redevelopment.

## Architectural design with the help of the community -The future of design review and creativity in North-America-



**Hirofumi Hori** (Special Appointment Lecturer, Osaka City University, Urban Research Plaza)

Dr. Hori was born in Osaka and completed his doctoral coursework in Urban Engineering at University of Tokyo. After working as a visiting scholar at the University of Toronto (as research fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science) he joined Osaka City University in 2011. His research interests include urban planning, public law and design policy in North-America.

With many redevelopment projects and high-rise housing towers appearing in the center of Osaka, more and more people worry about the deterioration of the living environment and changes in the neighborhood atmosphere because historical buildings are destructed. Although also in Japan in recent years the word ‘Community’ has become important, the relation between the ‘Community’ and the urban redevelopment projects carried out by the government is not always good. We will introduce the citizen participatory architectural design review system that has been in use for many years in Seattle, USA and Vancouver, Canada, and by asking questions such as ‘What is a community?’, ‘What role can the community play in urban planning and design?’ and reversely, ‘How close do urban planning and the community actually need to be?’, we would like to debate what kind of developments and design guidelines Osaka should aim for and what designer creativity actually means.

## Osaka’s dreams and Osaka’s challenges



**Koichi Kana** (Associate Professor, Osaka City University)

Dr. Kana obtained his doctoral degree from the Tokyo Institute of Technology. After his graduation he joined the current Mitsubishi UFJ Research and Consulting. He is now an associate professor at the Osaka City University Graduate School of Engineering, specializing in urban planning history, environmental studies and urban renewal design and is a special advisor to Osaka City and Osaka Prefecture. He is currently involved in the urban renewal of the Kyoto and Osaka region and has published several books on the subject.

A historic city, a people’s city, a daring city. These characteristics are put to use for the revitalization of Osaka. He’ll discuss what kind of deregulation and social programs are needed for a people’s led urban renewal.