

WORKSHOP ON URBAN SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

One Day Workshop

30th November 2007

Royal Statistical Society, 12 Errol Street, London, EC1Y 8LX

SUE-MoT PROJECT

The overall vision of the SUE-MoT (Sustainable Urban Environment – Metrics, Models and Toolkits) project is to develop a comprehensive and transparent framework that encourages key decision-makers to systematically assess the sustainability of urban developments taking account of scale, life cycle, location, context and all stakeholder values. The programme is being executed by a consortium comprising Dundee, Glasgow Caledonian, Loughborough and St Andrews Universities and over 20 partner organisations.

THE WORKSHOP

Engagement with practitioners is critical to the success of SUE-MoT. We want to ensure both that our work is applicable to the challenges faced by those in the field and that relevant research findings are shared with those who could benefit. Accordingly, this workshop will be a valuable opportunity for those practitioners involved in shaping the built environment to learn about the project findings to date and also to inform the direction of future research. Delegates will also have an opportunity to interact and learn from the experiences of other practitioners. The workshop will explore 3 key aspects of the project: 1) developing an Integrated Sustainability Assessment Toolkit, 2) the assessment of environmental equity and 3) a common unit of measurement of sustainability.

The workshop is free to attend. Places are limited and offered on a first come first served basis. To register, please contact Mohamed El-Haram, Research Fellow, Dundee University, Phone: +44 (0)1382 385699, Email: m.elharam@dundee.ac.uk.

First Session – Developing an Integrated Sustainability Assessment Toolkit

The aim of this session is to present the initial findings in the development of the Integrated Sustainability Assessment Toolkit and its supporting knowledge management system. The session will provide a forum for practitioners to explore the extent to which the system reflects the decision-making process, brainstorm and debate its role during sustainability assessment, and contribute to the direction of its future development.

Second Session - Environmental Equity Assessment

The aim of this session is to introduce the main concepts behind environmental equity and to gain practitioner views on a proposed framework for its assessment.

Third Session – Common Unit of Measuring Sustainability

The aim of this session is to illuminate the different aspects of sustainability that monetary tools, biophysical models and composite sustainability indicators can capture, and to present the early results of a limited case study.

THE PROGRAMME



10:00-10:30	Registration and Tea/Coffee
FIRST SESSION	
10:30-10:40	Welcome – Professor Malcolm Horner, Dundee University
10:40-12:15	Presentation and discussion on Developing an Integrated Sustainability Assessment Toolkit– Dr. Mohamed El-Haram, Dundee University and Dr. Craig Thomson, Glasgow Caledonian University
12:15-13:15	Lunch and Tea/Coffee
SECOND SESSION	
13:15-14:00	Presentation and discussion on Environmental Equity and its Assessment – Dr. Jonathan Walton, Glasgow Caledonian University
THIRD SESSION	
14:00-15:00	Presentation and discussion on Common Units of Measuring Sustainability– Dr. Yan Xing and Alexandros Gasparatos, Dundee University
15:00-15:30	Plenary discussion and summary - Prof. Malcolm Horner, Dundee University
15:30	Close
15:45-16:45	SUE-MOT Task Group Meeting

WHAT WILL YOU GET FROM THE WORKSHOP?

- You will have the opportunity to remain engaged with the current research project and benefit from its findings and deliverables.
- You will learn about the central concepts underlying the emerging UK environmental equity agenda and about some of the issues surrounding environmental equity assessment for urban development projects.
- You will gain an insight into the different methodological procedures that can be employed and the challenges arising when attempting to capture the progress towards sustainability with a single metric.

KEY PARTICIPANTS

Urban planners, architects, developers, community based organisations, environmental organisations, construction project managers, engagement facilitators, other built environment professionals, researchers, academics, urban policy makers, anyone else with an interest in integrated sustainability assessment, environmental equity assessment or stakeholder engagement in the context of urban planning and sustainability.