

Call for Papers

TRIALOG Journal

Issue Theme: Decentralized Water Management in Rapidly Growing Cities

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Abstract deadline: 30th April 2021

The number of people living in cities is projected to increase by 50% from 4 to 6 billion between 2016 and 2045. Much of this growth is occurring in low-income and lower middle-income countries. In these ***rapidly growing cities*** of the global south population and pressure on water availability are increasing while a ***changing climate*** and ***inadequate infrastructure*** are posing a significant challenge to their resilience. Observations and global climate models show robust increases in extreme daily precipitation over the past decades, while climate projections show continued intensification of this phenomenon. The increase of rainfall intensity and frequency will raise the risk of flash flooding. However, this will not necessarily lead to less droughts as climate change also leads to extended dry seasons and increased evapotranspiration causing insufficient water availability to sustain economic activities. Available infrastructure will not be able to cope with the challenges of fast urbanization and climate change. This interlinked challenge of increased water demand, pollution of water sources, water scarcity and increasing climate extremes is a fundamental challenge to sustainable urban development, which draws attention to a need of a shift in thinking in water management and urban development that can contribute to ***healthy and resilient communities***.

Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) can alleviate the risk of urban flash flooding and drought while taking advantage of new opportunities to conserve water and improve quality of public and private urban spaces. WSUD is an integrated design and planning approach for sustainable urban development that incorporates water management, urban design, landscape, and environmental protection while improving aesthetic and recreational aspects. WSUD incorporates all water aspects, including water supply, wastewater, stormwater, groundwater, and flowing water. It represents a fundamental shift in urban planning and design that considers the urban water cycle.

The framework of ***Citywide Inclusive Sanitation (CWIS)*** declares that adaptive, expandable, decentralized and cost-effective approaches, mixing onsite and sewerage solutions, can be resilient to external economic, demographic and environmental shocks. ***Decentralized sanitation systems*** have been recognized as sustainable and pro-poor solutions to complement conventional centralized systems. Furthermore, decentralizing sanitation can intensify local involvement, which allows developing sanitation solutions that reflect local conditions and meet the needs of customers. On-site sanitation systems currently serve more than 2.7 billion

people globally and this number is expected to be as high as 4.9 billion by 2030. Thus, improved ***Faecal Sludge Management (FSM)*** is required as a first step to serve the largest part of urban population in the global south, and thus to reduce pollution of fresh water resources and public health risks. In addition, ***reusing treated wastewater and faecal sludge*** can reduce the stress on limited water sources and can have additional benefits related to nutrients present in it.

Within this Trialog edition, we will discuss tested innovative solutions that aim to enable the scaling of the approaches described above. Abstracts can include the following aspects:

- Decentralised technologies; nature based or highly mechanized and niches for reuse in the urban context - comparison, discourse and practice.
- City-wide strategies; CWIS, centralized or decentralized - discourse and practice.
- Approaches and projects on neighbourhood scale – lessons learnt from piloting, replication and scaling, data from M&E, comparison between approaches or projects, evaluation and synthesis of case studies - discourse and practice.
- Inclusiveness; services for all, independent of location and income or “harvesting the low hanging fruits”, e.g. services in informal settlements or high income formal areas.
- Planning tools; integration of infrastructure in urban planning - innovative tools and lessons learnt from implemented them.
- Governance, stakeholder engagement, public private partnerships, operation and maintenance, management and monitoring of multiple decentralized vs. single centralized systems.
- Financing through tariffs, taxes and transfers; (cross-) subsidies, levies on water bills, property taxes, service fees and private investment.

Contact:

Interested authors are invited to submit an abstract of up to 300 words describing the topic, approach and relevance of their article on one or more of the indicated thematic areas in English. Please include full contact details and a brief biography of each contributing author (up to 100 words per author) and submit as a single document to:

editor@trialog-journal.de by April 30, 2021. Authors will be notified of the selection by May 15, 2021. Full papers to be submitted on July 31, 2021. For further inquiries please write to tim.fettback@hcu-hamburg.de

Important dates:

- Deadline for submission of abstract – 30th April 2021
- Notification of selection to submit a full Manuscript – 15th May 2021
- Manuscript submission deadline (4000-5000 words) – 31st July 2021
- Reviewers Feedback – 31st August 2021
- Second submission based on reviews’ comments – 30th Sept 2021
- Expected date of publication – 30th Oct 2021