

Call for Papers

TRIALOG Journal

Issue Theme

The Housing – Health –Nexus

and its linkages with aspects of livelihood

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Abstract deadline: July 15, 2021

The physical environment in which people live their daily lives significantly affects their health. Therefore, the environment-health nexus emphasizes that improvements in people's health require a holistic, multi-sectoral approach for improving the overall housing conditions of the poor. Thus, environmental health refers to those aspects of human health, including well-being, that are determined by physical, biological, social, and psychosocial factors in people's daily living environment – with health not just being the mere absence of disease or infirmity, according to the WHO's definition (WHO 1946).

The links between poor environmental health and other dimensions of poverty are complex and multiple, reinforcing each other in various ways (Sunikka-Blank et al. 2019). Poor people typically face greater exposure to environmental health risks in their surroundings because they live in "unhealthy" locations bereft of basic infrastructure services. They are more vulnerable than other residents because they are less able to adjust their behaviour and moderate their exposure due to insufficient education and information, daily drudgery and hardship. They are also disproportionately affected by environmental burdens and lack of access to environmental benefits such as green spaces.

Better infrastructure and energy services for poor households are key measures in mitigating environmental risks to health. So are interventions to improve housing, healthcare systems and education policies. Overall, strives for distributive and procedural environmental justice need to strongly focus on issues of health and housing.

At the same time, people's housing conditions have a significant impact on their livelihoods: location gravely influences which jobs are accessible to them and spaces at their disposal determine which businesses they can operate (Pugh 2001). On the other hand, some businesses, especially when home-based, can also represent health risks, such as smoke inhalation, exposure to potentially harmful substances etc. People's economic situation again influences their ability to cater to health issues proactively – e.g. by means of healthy diet and lifestyle – or reactively in terms of being able to afford medicines and health care.

The Housing – Health Nexus and its linkage to aspects of livelihood is an intrinsically interwoven and complex one, which has seldom been looked at in its entirety (Mukhija 2001). Therefore, this issue of TRIALOG strives to shed light on it, approaching it through the lenses of housing & infrastructure provision, Health, Liveability & Quality of life and Livelihood. It looks at how these domains influence each other and explores ways in which poor urban residents (especially but not exclusively in India and Ethiopia) navigate constraints in either of them. It is especially interested to see how policies, mainly in the spheres of housing, have affected residents' health and livelihoods and which lessons can be or have been drawn from these experiences.

We look forward to contributions that consider new approaches to the housing – health nexus in governance and multi-level planning at different scales. Simultaneously, we ask to look into the applications of participatory approaches. We encourage authors to reflect on research, policy and capacity development in terms of an enhanced understanding of this nexus' interlinkages with aspects of livelihood: how this can lead to more holistic and integrated housing programs as well as approaches promoting environmental justice?

- Housing: the role of housing and housing conditions during the pandemic and under lockdown, impacts of housing typologies and standards, housing policies and resettlement, locational inequalities in choices of sites for low-income housing, environmental justice aspects;
- Health: links between housing and health, e.g. ventilation, daylighting, access to sanitation and hygiene, green and open spaces, effects of urban heat islands (UHI) and heatwaves, health risks associated with impacts of climate change such as floods, droughts, extreme weather events in urban areas etc.;
- Livelihood: significance of location for access to jobs and income-generating activities, subsistence strategies during the pandemic, significance of available spaces for livelihood activities in the housing environment

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 July 15, 2021. For further inquiries please write to tania.berger@donau-uni.ac.at.

Important dates

Abstract submission deadline: July 15, 2021

Decision on abstract proposal: August 10, 2021

Manuscript submission deadline (4,000 – 5,000 words): October 30, 2021

Reviewers' Feedback: December 15, 2021

Revised paper's submission deadline: January 31, 2022 (second revision if necessary)

Expected date of publication: March 31, 2022

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References

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Sunikka-Blank, M, Bardhan, R & Haque, AN 2019, 'Gender, domestic energy and design of inclusive low-income habitats: A case of slum rehabilitation housing in Mumbai, India', *Energy Research & Social Science*, vol. 49, pp. 53–67.

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