

# Urban Forum

## Practice meets Academia

### CALL FOR PROJECTS

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 (built or drawn work, speculative or actual, contemporary or historical).

SLU Landscape Days, September 2020

Online poster exhibition and webinar, 16-17 September 2020

With the constantly growing public and political concern for environmental issues comes the risk of landscape being (conf)used as a greenwashing solution. A tardy and superficial solicitation of scholars and practitioners dealing with landscape can easily serve misleading environmental claims rather than bringing substantial environmental improvements. In this context, it is our duty to mitigate greenwashing, by developing strategies and holistic design methods leading to the caring and the creation of landscapes performing genuine environmental functions. The **research platforms Urban Arena, at Lund University, and SLU Urban Futures, at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences**, qualify as academic agents with concern for professional practice and the built environment – as such we want to join forces during the SLU Landscape Days, in September 2020. In line with European research programmes like JPI Urban Europe we see SDG 11 on sustainable cities and communities as a portal to all other SDGs, and the **urban realm** as a place where cluster problems are more manifest than elsewhere and where **sustainability efforts can multiply** exponentially and almost overnight. Convinced that particularly valuable action-oriented knowledge arises from the exchange of practice and academia, we arrange a particular format of encounter: the **Urban Forum | Practice meets Academia**. Practitioners of architecture, urbanism, landscape architecture, urban studies and the construction industry are invited to display their building projects (realised or not) and research endeavours (practice-based or -oriented) in an exhibition. Sessions (in English or Swedish | 16-17 September 2020 | online) dedicated to each project 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 during 10 minutes, followed by a moderated discussion of 15 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 21 August 2020 to [urbanforum.info@gmail.com](mailto:urbanforum.info@gmail.com).

The submissions will be reviewed by the committee by 26 August 2020. Selected project authors will be invited to prepare posters for the exhibition during the Landscape Days. Submission and participation is free of charge.

## IMPORTANT DATES

21 August 2020	Deadline for submission of abstracts / project descriptions
26 August 2020	Notification of acceptance
16 September 2020	Open exhibition Urban Forum   Practice meets Academia
16-17 September 2020	Sessions within the Urban Forum   Practice meets Academia - online

## LOCATION

Online exhibition and sessions

Physical exhibition at SLU Ultuna and Alnarp campuses (to be confirmed)

## 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

Urban Arena, Lund University

## HOST

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Landscape Days

## 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.



