



### A word from the conference editor

Good morning and welcome to the first International Conference on Green Urbanism.

This Conference is organised by IEREK and Roma Tre University in partnership with Palermo, Salento, Enna, Molise and Second of Napoli, Universities and under the patronage of INU, SIU, SGI, and the National Academy of Scientific Research and Technology of Egypt.

At all of these Institutions and Scientific Societies, I want to extend my deepest gratitude and sincere thanks!

The Conference on Green Urbanism that today is starting, pursues the aim to animate a scientific debate, also stressing a needed critical approach, on the influence of the ecological paradigms in the urban, architectural and technological design as well as on the "green oriented" development strategies and policies.

Despite some divergent opinions, in fact, all of us are aware that the action of domestication of the earth (and of the soils) by humans, started with the birth of the sedentary societies, has nowadays reached levels that, too often, have become very difficult to sustain.

The world is in the midst of a growing disturbance.

The continuous increase of the population requires more and more spaces, resources and energies, especially in the urbanized areas and, as consequence, the advancing of the land consumption and of the consequential environmental degradation produces or helps many environmental challenges. Such as the global climate change, the excessive fossil fuel dependency, the advancing of desertification of lands or the growing demand for energies.

All of these have become the major challenges for the 21st century and some of the greatest problems facing humanity.

In this context, a multiscale designing becomes one of the fundamental principles on how to shape the spaces for humans. And also, to avoid further and severe mistakes in designing in order to reach a more sustainable and green world.

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The conference provides, in this, a transdisciplinary context for a general debate about the urban and rural regeneration of the human spaces, in which to discuss how urbanism is affected by the paradigms of ecology.

Another purpose of this conference is to deal with a cross approach those issues of how we can best cohesively integrate all the aspects of "closing of systems". I mean the energy system, the mobility system, the waste and the water systems.

Exploring both passive and active strategies to improve environmental performance of our cities through the different point of views that will be illustrated by the great number of scholars whom are attending the conference.

Summarizing, significance of this conference lies in the pressing needs for the integration of sustainability principles in the urban designing process in the general need for a sustainable cities development. Which will be of particular relevance to the rapid urban growth of developing cities.

These tracks is what we are going to talk about today, thanks to the addresses given to us by the first round of keynotes lectures that will follow the institutional greetings and on 14th afternoon, during the Closing Session.

Moreover, the Conference wants also to explore, through the telling of study cases and application ones, how are declined as the elementary principles of sustainability in the design processes, at the various needed scales of interventions and in the more recent experiences.

Thanks to a large number of speakers whom will present their papers in the Parallel Sessions during the three days of works.

In particular, I would like to underline the Special Session on 13th afternoon, titled: Tales of Cities. Moscow & Rome, during which the two Mayor's Advisors for Environment and Territory (Diana Hamadianova from Moscow and Paolo Berdini from Rome) they will tell us about the policies and plans on-going in the two Capital Cities. Not to lost!



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