

# TeMA

Journal of  
Land Use, Mobility and Environment

There are a number of different future-city visions being developed around the world at the moment: one of them is Smart Cities: ICT and big data availability may contribute to better understand and plan the city, improving efficiency, equity and quality of life. But these visions of utopia need an urgent reality check: this is one of the future challenges that Smart Cities have to face.

Tema is the Journal of Land use, Mobility and Environment and offers papers with a unified approach to planning and mobility. TeMA Journal has also received the Sparc Europe Seal of Open Access Journals released by Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC Europe) and the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).



METHODS, TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF URBAN SYSTEMS TO ADAPT TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE CHANGES

## METHODS, TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF URBAN SYSTEMS TO ADAPT TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE CHANGES

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## EDITORIAL PREFACE: TEMA JOURNAL OF LAND USE MOBILITY AND ENVIRONMENT 1 (2017)

### METHODS, TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF URBAN SYSTEMS TO ADAPT TO NATURAL AND MAN-MADE CHANGES

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The 10th volume of TeMA Journal, given the relevance of the topics, dedicates the three issues of 2017 to promote the scientific debate on the definition and the implementation of methods, tools and best practices aimed at improving, in the forthcoming decades, the capacity of the urban areas to cope a range of climate, technological and socio-economic challenges that will require the development of integrated and adaptive strategies. The articles published in this first issue address some themes, such as the resilience capacity of urban system, the smart cities, the urban transportation planning, the urban water infrastructure, the socio-cultural facilities, the urban green spaces and the governance of metropolitan areas.

The section "Focus" collects two articles. The first one, "Conurbations and resilience. When growth makes us fragile" by Valerio Cutini (University of Pisa), is focused on the conurbations, extensive urban areas resulting from the expansion and coalescence of several neighbouring cities. The work of research is based on two theses. The first is that in the development of a conurbation, traffic has actually a role of maker and breaker of cities and the second is that the merging of the nuclei and their embedding into a conurbation reduces the resilience of the whole settlement. The author selects a specific configurational technique named axial analysis to study the effect of conurbations, that was applied to the case study of Florence and to the Versilian conurbation.

The second article, titled "The Water Sensitive Future of Lahijan", by Masoumeh Mirsafaa (Polytechnic University of Milan), tackles a crucial topic on the uncontrolled expansion of the cities and the human activities, causing a growing frequency and intensity of extreme events, producing significant impacts and being one of the most serious challenges faced by society in coping with a changing climate. The author presents an interesting analysis of the stormwater management development for Lahijan city in the history and a final reflection on the future strategies to reduce the impact of climate change.

The section "Land Use, Mobility and Environment" collects four articles. The first one, titled "The Effectiveness of Urban Green Spaces and Socio-Cultural Facilities" by Mehmet Faruk Altunkasa (Çukurova University) addresses an important issue in urban planning that is related with the distribution of public facilities such as urban parks, libraries, museum and concert halls. It presents a useful and transferable methodology for assessing intra-urban variation in the provision of these services and applies the proposed methodology in the city of Adana, the 5th largest Turkish city. The results of this application provide useful

insights for local authorities and policy makers interested in achieving a more equitable and effective distribution of public services.

The second article, titled "Planning Assignments of the Italian Metropolitan Cities. Early Trends", by Giuseppe Mazzeo (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche), proposes to analyse the first activities taken by the Italian Metropolitan Cities in the sector of territorial government, three years after the adoption of Act 56 of 2014. Focal point of the analysis is the jurisdiction in the formation of two plans (the Strategic Plan and the Metropolitan Territorial Plan) and the following relationships among them, in the logical assumption that between them a necessary and strict consistency there should be. Other interesting element are the connections of the new institution with the previous institutional subject (the Province), especially with regard to the experience of the Provincial Territorial Plans (PTCP) and their use as metropolitan planning tool.

The third article, titled "Smart city planning and development shortcomings", Margarita Angelidou (Aristotle University of Thessaloniki) by the analysis of about eleven cases of smart cities tries to underline the shortcomings that occurred during the realization of their smart projects. The analysis shows that the economic aspects as well as the bureaucratic problems are among the top challenges that hinder the advancement of smart city strategies. Some mitigation propositions are suggested in order to support the smart city project upon a clear and simple business and governance model.

The fourth article, titled "Active Transport to School and Children's Body Weight: A Systematic", by Houshmand E. Masoumi (Technische Universität Berlin), proposes a systematic review by screening of 310 English scientific papers published between 2005 and 2015, about the themes of Active Transport to School, Body Mass Index and Childhood Obesity. The study focuses the final analysis on the 13 selected papers to verify the correlation between the three study themes. The study has been conducted as a part of the project "Multisport Against Physical Sedentary"-M.A.P.S. funded by the ERASMUS+ program of the European Commission.

The section "Review Pages" defines the general framework of the issue's theme, with an updated focus on websites, publications, laws, urban practices and news and events on the subject of energy reduction consumption in the transport sector. In particular, the Web section by Maria Rosa Tremiterra describes three web resources of: (i) Transitioning towards Urban Resilience and Sustainability project; (ii) Flood Resilient City project and (iii) The Institute for Social and Environmental Transition-International. The Books section by Gerardo Carpentieri briefly reviews three relevant books related to the Issues' theme: (i) Metropolitan Governance: A Framework for Capacity Assessment; (ii) Financing urban adaptation to climate change and (iii) The lightweight city. Smart city and operative planning. The Law section by Laura Russo keeps readers up to date with comparison of three different national laws on the governance of metropolitan areas (Italian, French and German). The Urban Practices section by Gennaro Angiello presents two examples of sharing mobility plan in the US: (i) Los Angeles Metro Bike Sharing Plan and (iii) Philadelphia Bike Sharing Plan. The News and Event section by Andrea Tulisi, proposes a selection of conferences on the topic of green infrastructure and its multiple-use role in the increasingly pressing challenges that cities have to face.