

Forced Displacement and
Urban Management
Conference
2021

Call for Abstract Poster Presentation

September 7-9, 2021
Virtual Conference, Indonesia

Deadline June 25, 2021
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RUREF

SUAKA



RDI UREF is a part of
the Children, Social Welfare
and Health Cluster
within the RDI



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for Development scheme



Background and Rationale

The issue of global displacement and migration management is emerging in urban studies. Based on the UNHCR Global Report (2019), 86.5 million of people are becoming a concern to UNHCR worldwide, including 4.1 million asylum seekers and 20.4 million refugees. Of this number, around 4 million (20%) are being hosted in Asia and the Pacific Region. In addition, the Asia and Pacific region is home to 1.9 million IDPs and 1.4 million stateless people (UNHCR). But although cities are shaped by migration, most are not well-equipped to welcome an increased influx of migrants resulted from forced migration.

While the global agenda recognizes the need of supporting local authorities in responding to the displacement issue, examples on best practices or relevant mechanisms are limited, especially in the context of transit countries particularly in Southeast Asia region. Unlike an increasing number of cities in Europe and North America who are integrating migration policies into their urban planning and development initiatives, many cities in Southeast Asia are ill-prepared, with outdated infrastructure, limited financial capability and institutional capacity, and limited experience in working in humanitarian settings alongside humanitarian actors. Various planning and responses for supporting both displaced people and host communities are necessary, especially because city or municipal administration are significant to administer protection, assistance, and solutions to handle the refugee, as the first and front liner authorized administration.

Yet, integrating migration concerns into development planning solutions at local, national and global levels offers sustainable responses to situations of large scale and protracted displacement, promoting benefits for the displaced as well as their host societies. Urban environments offer the possibility of greater opportunities for economic integration and self-reliance for migrants and refugees, and potentially offer a local integration alternative to return. The New Urban Agenda recognizes the role that cities play in migration and refugee management, and the UN General Assembly followed through by adopting the Global Compact for Migration and the Global Compact of Refugees in 2018.

This Forced Displacement and Urban Management Conference 2021 aims to contribute to the body of knowledge on the topic in the Global South context, specifically in Asia and the Pacific region. The conference serves the following objectives:

1. To connect and facilitate knowledge and experience sharing on the intersection of forced migration and urban management.
2. To collect stories and case studies from different cities and countries within the context of urban displaced populations management.

Our Invitation

The Organizer of Forced Displacement and Urban Management Conference 2021 cordially invites you to join our conference which will be conducted online from 7 to 9 September 2021. The Conference is organized by Resilience Development Initiative Urban Refugee Research Group (RDI UREF) and Indonesian Civil Society Association for Refugee Rights Protection (SUAKA).

This conference invites the general public, students, researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to exchange knowledge and experience on international forced migration in urban context and to filter issues of concern for future collaborative research works, especially in the context of Global South, the Asia and Pacific Region.

The conference emphasizes on more on the dynamic, engaging, and interactive session, instead of being a fully academic conference. The Organizer combines both pre-recorded and live QnA discussion sessions that will be managed through Conference Website and Zoom platform.

Forced Displacement and Urban Management Conference consists of three main sessions which are plenary, three thematic sessions, and two special sessions. The Conference focuses on the theme of Right of the City, Space and Place, and Beyond Resettlement. Besides, the Conference also provides the general public the special sessions on youth and refugees.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Forced Displacement and Urban Management Conference 2021.

Theme and Topic

a. Theme: Right to the City

Right to the city is not bound by the nation-state or legality of people but it concerns all who reside in the city, including refugees and asylum seekers as forcibly displaced people. The roles of cities to uphold these rights are encouraged in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the New Urban Agenda. The agenda and implementation of the right are indeed increasing in the refugees' destination countries, however, this right to the city has not yet been seen as indispensable for cities of the transit countries. This session invites participants to re-discuss the right of the city for forcibly displaced people by providing the challenges and opportunity, best practices, innovative solutions, and lessons learned of Right to the City in transit countries.

This session is expected to include topics on i) the rights to access basic services, healthcare, education, shelter, and employment; ii) gender, child protection, and displacement; iii) governance; iv) urban development agenda, urban governance, and management; and v) transboundary collaboration and cooperation.

b. Theme: Space and place in the everyday life of the refugees and host communities

Forcibly displaced people undergo being physically in existence at one place while having a sense of belonging somewhere else. The way spaces and places are postulated is important to refugees and asylum seekers concerns, not only in a spatial, geographical sense, but also in regard to how these spaces and places could be meaningful for any social integration and even identity.

This session is expected to include topics on i) architecture, environment, urban design, and its intersection with forced displacement; ii) geography and spatiality of the forcibly displaced; iii) placemaking, social initiative, integration, and empowerment; iv) identities and place-belonging; and v) technology, big data, and social media as the new space and place.

c. Theme: Moving forward: beyond resettlement

In this current Global Refugee Crisis, the traditional Durable Solution could not cope with the challenges that the crisis put forth. With resettlement effort can only facilitate around 1% of the 20 million refugees in need of protection in the new country, we must find other alternative ways on refugee handling. Comprehensive Solution that offered and initiated by the UNHCR, hindered by the slow process of acceptance and the reluctance of the host community, and even the refugees themselves. This session will talk about how alternative pathways and innovative solutions should tackle the challenge of the trend of sustained displacement.

This session is expected to include topics on i) the trend of sustained displacement and how it affects the life of refugee and host community; ii) thinking out loud on the possible solution; iii) the role of inclusive society as a foundation that provides both, protection and solution for refugees.

Awards

- Best presentation and best poster nomination;
- Contribution in book writing publication

Submission Guideline

Within this conference, the Organizer encourages the participants to submit abstract and further present their poster presentations on the relevant thematic sessions.

All presented abstract and posters will be published under ISBN Book Publication.

The abstract submitted in this conference shall align with the thematic session topics and must be original and novel. The Organizer encourages rigorous and Innovative abstract to be submitted. Abstract that consists of best-practices research and/or project implementation are also welcomed.

Abstract Submission Guideline:

- Structured long abstract with 1.000 words limit (excluding keywords and reference).
- Abstract should clearly state background, research question, framework and methodology, main findings, keywords, conclusion, and reference.
- Abstract should be submitted in Microsoft Word only (.doc or .docx format)
- Submitted by the latest June 25, 2021 in <https://conference.rdiuref.org/submission/submit-abstract/>
- Should you have any inquiries, please email to admin@rdiuref.org

Presenters with Accepted Abstract Are Obligated:

- to submit a one-page poster PDF by July 23, 2021;
- to pre-record a presentation in Zoom platform with the Organizer between July 26 – August 6, 2021; and
- to participate in live QnA discussion session on September 7-9, 2021 with participants in their relevant session of Forced Displacement and Urban Conference 2021.

Important Date

Call for Abstract
Submission Deadline
Announcement
Poster Presentation Submission Deadline
Presenter Registration Fee Payment Deadline

May 10, 2021
June 25, 2021
July 5, 2021
July 23, 2021
August 6, 2021

Registration Fee

- General Presenters : 300.000 IDR (local) or USD 30 (international)
- Students Presenters : 200.000 IDR (local) or USD 20 (international)
- Participants (Full Access) : 150.000 IDR (local) or USD 15 (international)
- Participants (Limited Access) : Free

About the Organizers

Resilience Development Initiative Urban Refugees Research Group (RDI UREF) was established in 2018 under the knowledge hub of Children, Social Welfare, and Health (CSWH) research cluster of RDI. RDI UREF aims to increase awareness, knowledge-base, and public discourse of urban refugees, forced migration, and urban development research topics. The core of the research is to find out how cities in transit countries, who directly experience the influx of migration, welcome and deal with refugees despite the limited regulation and framework in the country.

SUAKA is an association for the protection of refugee rights. We are a network of voluntary civil society, consisting of individuals and organizations that aim to work for the protection and advancement of the human rights of refugees and asylum seekers in Indonesia. Growing from awareness of the situation of vulnerable asylum seekers and refugees in Indonesia, several civil society organizations and caring individuals gathered in October 2012 and committed to assisting refugees and asylum seekers. SUAKA, since May 2018 has become a legal entity in the form of an Association based on the Decree of the Ministry of Law and Human Rights.

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Website

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www.conference.rdiuref.org