



Barbados  
Caribbean Urban Forum 2022

# CALL FOR PAPERS

## Beyond COVID: Recovery - Renewable - Resilience 15<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022





## About CUF 2022

The Caribbean Urban Forum is the major annual regional event on urban planning, development, and land management. It is the main opportunity for practitioners, policy makers and researchers to share experience and knowledge across the Caribbean. CUF provides a key route to improving policy making and implementation processes across the Region, strengthening collaborations between organisations and institutions as well as giving insights into the delivery of important projects.

The Barbados Town Planning Society is the Local Organising Committee and will be the lead host of the 11<sup>th</sup> Caribbean Urban Forum to be held from 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022. Co-hosts include the Caribbean Network for Urban and Land Management (CNULM – blueSpace Caribbean) based at the University of the West Indies St Augustine campus, the Prime Minister’s Office in Barbados (PMO), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). CUF is also supported by other national, regional, and international organisations.

We are planning CUF 2022 as a “hybrid” event –with in-person and virtual segments. This is a response to the COVID-19 situation, but it also allows us to reach out to a wider audience and range of participants than could be involved if we held a traditional conference in one location.

We want CUF 2022 to be an inclusive and diverse event. The format will be a mixture of plenary and workshop sessions. There will also be opportunities for recently qualified professionals and students to present posters at “brown bag” style sessions.

We are inviting practitioners, policy makers and researchers to make submissions. There is no restriction on the academic or professional background of authors so long as their topic complements the CUF 2022 theme.

Presentations can show-case projects, report research findings, examine policy issues, or recommend new ways of working.

The CNULM proposes to publish an on-line report on CUF 2022 which will include summaries of the presentations and key points arising from discussions. Formal or Academic papers will be published in these Conference Proceedings subject to a review of their quality and relevance.



## Conference Objectives

The CUF 2022 seeks to learn from the experience of confronting the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The conference will address, in general, the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic for spatial planning approaches in our intensely developed coastal urban environments. However, recovering from COVID-19 is not the only challenge facing us. Economic growth has been restricted in parts of the Caribbean Region for decades. Most importantly, climate change is the biggest environmental issue facing humanity and the Caribbean Region is acutely affected. It is right, therefore, that in looking at how we can recover from COVID-19 we should focus on renewable resources and resilience. Specifically, the conference will explore sustainable land management and spatial development strategies and policies. This focus is pivotal for our small island states with open economies and fragile ecosystem, on the front line of the climate crisis.

Through presentations, workshops, and discussions the Forum will:

1. Promote participatory and inclusive planning practices for sustainable and resilient urban growth;
2. Examine the Region's status as it relates to climate risks and opportunities for climate change adaptation and mitigation;
3. Advance an evolving green-blue economy strategy for small island states in pursuit of sustainable development outcomes;
4. Highlight the importance of state, municipal (where appropriate) and local governance in finding solutions to urban development challenges;
5. Discuss a multi-pronged approach to resilience that is inclusive of food sovereignty, ecosystem services management, community health and wellness, waste management, renewable energy and built environment design guidelines;
6. Review professional planning practice and education across the Caribbean;
7. Convene a general meeting of the Caribbean Planning Association (CPA).



## Thematic Areas

Our overarching theme is **Beyond Covid: Recovery – Renewable – Resilience.**

We have identified thematic areas linked to the overall CUF 2022 theme. Papers and presentations may relate to one or more of these areas but need not be limited to them.

### 1. **Community health and wellness**



The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted health issues which relate directly to our physical environment. People living in cramped conditions, and in poorly ventilated housing have been particularly at risk in the Caribbean. Working practices have also changed with remote working being an option for some people, resulting in possible long-term implications for workplace design, floorspace requirements, and additional impacts on travel to work patterns. As well as COVID-19, the Caribbean has major problems with chronic non-communicable diseases. How we build the recovery from the pandemic needs to address these issues. We expect some papers will share ideas and experience in relation to these areas and the ways in which buildings and places should be designed in the future. At the architectural scale this could mean ideas on how buildings should be ventilated and cooled, while at the urban design level it could include concepts like the 15-minute City and ways of making the urban environment more liveable. We would also invite papers that showcase projects to make places and spaces more accessible.

### 2. **Climate change adaptation and mitigation**



COP26 in Glasgow made some progress on the problem areas of deforestation, coal, and methane. The 1.5C limit on average temperature increase (essential for the Caribbean) was kept alive, but there is no guarantee on delivery. This means that adaptation to and mitigation from climate change are urgently needed. In the Caribbean, the effects of climate change are already part of our existence – erratic rainfall patterns causing droughts, more frequent and more intense hurricanes, flooding, damage to coral reefs, and threats to coastal areas and infrastructure. We invite papers to present ideas and experience of adaptations at the landscape level such as methods to slow surface run-off from storms and coastal protection measures. At the neighbourhood or development level, we invite papers to present techniques and schemes that make places more resilient and buildings more robust. We would also invite papers which examine new technologies to improve planning and management or the implementation environment for innovation.



### 3. **Waste management**



Solid waste management is a problem in the Caribbean, as in many other places. We have turned into a throw-away society with packaging waste being a major component of landfills. Papers are invited to promote novel approaches to minimizing waste and recycling. Similarly, foul and surface water drainage are significant issues in many territories, and can be linked to questions of water shortage and risk of contamination to water supplies. Waste to energy options may also be explored as we seek to reduce our dependence on fossil fuel.

### 4. **Agricultural/food security and sovereignty**



The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted problems of relying on long supply chains and a limited number of sources for goods and food, all of which are keenly felt within the Caribbean Region. This raises the issue of how far the Caribbean can move towards providing its own food, thus guaranteeing food sovereignty. Papers are invited to put forward new policies, technologies and agricultural practices that will seek to address the concerns related to food security and sovereignty. In examining these issues, consideration must be given to the issues of economic viability and compliance with international trade agreements. New ways of working may have land use and environmental implications, including matters related to land degradation and are also important areas for consideration.

### 5. **Sustainable tourism**



Realistically, economic recovery in the Caribbean must, to a large extent, be based on recovery of the tourism sector. The existing model, however, is dependent on high-volume, long-haul aviation and cruise ship visits. Papers may examine how this existing model can be made more environmentally sustainable and how innovative tourism businesses could develop new models of working. Community based tourism models, and niche tourism concepts are also areas for consideration on how to integrate these concepts into mainstream economic drivers.

### 6. **Managing marine resources and assets**



The marine assets of most Caribbean States are larger than their land assets, and while these are assets of great potential, they are also at risk from a range of environmental threats. Healthy oceans and coastal areas are vital to the region's economic future and there is a recognition that the health of our ocean space is based on a complex and dynamic relationship between land and water, and the urgency of managing the interface of marine areas, coastal areas, and watersheds. Integrated approaches rooted largely in Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Island Systems Management are at the centre of strategies that seek



to protect our marine and coastal habitats/assets and the essential services they offer our communities. Papers are invited to examine these issues, the value of the blue economy and its confluence with other sectors and recommend ways forward, with examples of established good practice and pilot projects.

## 7. ***Investing in renewable energy***



Transition to renewable energy is a vital step in the Caribbean for economic security as well as environmental sustainability. We are familiar with solar thermal, photovoltaic, on-shore wind, tidal and hydro-electric power. Other technologies that may be relevant include geothermal, offshore wind, and wave energy. Some of these have environmental implications that presenters may wish to examine. There are also questions around achieving a sustainable and reliable mix of energy sources that can support a viable grid. Papers are invited to examine these technologies and their implementation, especially within the context of small island developing states.

## 8. ***Managing our rivers, ghuts, ghauts, gullies and ponds***



The management of water courses and areas of still water is a problem in the Caribbean. Too many are polluted and degraded by dumping. They are an environmental asset which can assist in the management of water resources and the reduction of flooding. It has been noted that increasing climate and disaster risk, rapid and largely unplanned coastal development and intensive use of marine areas all contribute to a combination of pollution, ecosystem degradation, and threats to community health and well-being. Papers are invited to discuss how “ridge to reef” and “roof to reef” concepts can be applied to making improvements to these systems.

## 9. ***Leadership, governance, and management systems***



This thematic area relates to making the changes that help achieve progress in all the others. Embedded in systems of governance and management are a range of approaches used to promote greater participation and inclusive planning practices. The aim is to have more communities take ownership in the definition of their problems and charting a way towards more sustainable and resilient outcomes for themselves. We expect papers will cover new legislation, management structures, change management, and technological innovations.



## 10. **Professional Planning Practice, Education and Training in the Caribbean**



As the role of physical planning becomes more central to advancing integrated economic development and enhancing urban growth strategies, we will continue in this forum to address:

- a) how our training programmes equip our planners to engage communities in integrated approaches that seek to create climate-smart places for living;
- b) how our current engagement and planning frameworks give a voice to our communities;
- c) how our governance systems may increase transparency in the decision-making process for development planning outcomes.

These are a few of the many opportunities to be discussed as we shape a CARICOM-centred urban and regional planning system.



## Submission Criteria

Submissions are invited under the following criteria:

### ***Papers and Presentations***

For acceptance, an abstract must be submitted. The abstract should:

- (a) state the problem being addressed;
- (b) the research methodology (for all research-based papers);
- (c) the relevance of the paper to the theme and/or sub-theme;
- (d) the (expected) results;
- (e) the conclusion.

Abstracts must be original and not submitted to other conferences or publications.

Abstracts should be submitted in UK English using MS Word or equivalent and not exceed 300 words. At the bottom of the body of the abstract, no more than five key words must be stated. These key words must closely reflect the content of the paper.

### ***Posters***

Caribbean Urban Forum 2022 is providing an opportunity for professionals and students to showcase their research. For acceptance, an abstract must be submitted.

The abstract should:

- (a) state the problem being addressed;
- (b) the research methodology;
- (c) the relevance of the research to the theme and/or sub-theme.

Abstracts must be original and not submitted to other conferences or publications.

Abstracts should be submitted in UK English using MS Word and not exceed 300 words. Guidelines for poster submissions will be published together with the final screening of the feedback on acceptance of abstracts.





### ***Urban Planning Projects***

Presentations on urban planning projects are welcomed. Such presentations must however include a clear and concise project description and sample image of the urban planning project. The description should outline the following:

- (a) location,
- (b) client or commissioning agency
- (c) whether built or unbuilt
- (d) relevance to the conference themes (e) relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals, and
- (f) relevance to the particular country's national policy context.

Projects from architectural, urban design and urban planning students are welcomed and student projects should be clearly indicated. Combined text and images of submissions should be forwarded in single page pdf format.

### ***Panel Discussions and Workshops***

An invitation is also extended for the submission of proposed panel discussions relevant to the themes and topics of the conference.

Historically various regional organizations have had successful business meetings and training sessions within the Caribbean Urban Forum. We look forward to your engagement for booking and scheduling of these sessions, through our email address: [cuf22barbados@gmail.com](mailto:cuf22barbados@gmail.com).



**In summary, the Abstract requirements are:**

- a) Title of the proposed presentation
- b) Abstract of the proposed presentation (no more than 300 words)
- c) The thematic area(s) to which it relates
- d) Name(s) of author(s)/presenter(s) – maximum 3 presenters
- e) Position or title of author(s)/presenters)
- f) Employment or affiliated institution of author(s)
- g) Contact details (email address, telephone number and postal address)
- h) Key words

**Abstracts should be submitted to:**

**E-mail: [cuf22barbados@gmail.com](mailto:cuf22barbados@gmail.com)**

**Deadline: February 28<sup>th</sup> 2022**

***Key Dates to Remember***

The deadline for the submission of proposals/abstracts is **February 28<sup>th</sup> 2022**.

Feedback on abstracts will be provided by **March 15<sup>th</sup> 2022**.

Full papers and presentations should be presented as early as possible, but by **31<sup>st</sup> May 2022 at the latest**.



# HIT RESET CARIBBEAN

		
<p>Implemented by The University of the West Indies</p>	<p>Implemented by the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency</p>	<p>Implemented by Anton de Kom University of Suriname</p>
 <p>OACPS R&amp;I</p>		
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