Health and Health Care Innovation

Building Healthy, Equitable Communities: The Role of Inclusive Urban Development and Investment

Session Brochure
Session 595

Date
October 11 to 16, 2018

Location
Schloss Leopoldskron, Salzburg, Austria

Program Director
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SESSION PARTNER AND SPONSOR

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

SESSION INFO

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Please visit:
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SERIES INFO

Please visit:
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GENERAL INFO

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OVERVIEW

Current land use, competing interests, car dependency, and associated inequalities and more are narrowing the opportunities of living healthy lives throughout the life course. At the same time the 21st century is proving to be a time of acknowledging disparities and the need for innovation and resilient communities.

Voices are rising for fair and just communities and the right for everyone to have a healthy environment. These voices can be heard in those that subscribe to the social determinants of health and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Both camps are working to secure lasting gains for health and wellbeing of people and thriving communities that offer opportunities to all.

The idea that place contributes to health is not new. The field of urban planning emerged from the recognition that many factors contribute to the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities. From the 19th century onwards it was understood that investments in water and sewage infrastructure would reduce death and illness from infectious disease. In the last generation, innovative public health programs have engaged with non-health specific policies and agencies to design new processes for evaluating social determinants of health. A close cousin to sustainability is resilience which also has shared definitions in planning, health and increasingly in community development.

In all of this there has been a driving assumption across people and organizations that are investing in, and organizing for, fair and just development that building capacity among residents and local leaders across sectors (government, community development, private investment, health) can help result in equitable policies and systems-focused approaches and investments that yield multiple co-benefits, lower risks and improve wellbeing. In short, increased and informed civic participation will lead to more equitable infrastructure designed, and built, in and for the public interest. There is also an assumption that this development can enhance public life, decrease social isolation and marginalization, and create opportunities for health and wellbeing for all.

With large construction cranes filling the air space of nearly every major city across the globe, there has probably never been a better time to explore how to build healthy, equitable cities and share stories and practices. What are the key drivers for health promoting equitable development; data, culture, policies, enlightened leaders, organized civic actors? How can this understanding best be applied and scaled up in differing contexts?

Infrastructure, community development and equity are broad terms that can have diverse applications and meanings. The use of these terms for this Salzburg Global Seminar session are defined here: SalzburgGlobal.org/go/595
SESSION FORMAT

This five-day highly-interactive program, held at Schloss Leopoldskron, home of Salzburg Global Seminar, will prioritize opportunities for cross-border sharing and learning.

Participants will focus on building new insights and aggregating perspectives and experiences from relevant sectors, areas of expertise and regions. Working groups, each with a thematic and/or country focus, will prepare practical recommendations for action by different target audiences.

RELATED SESSIONS

The session will build on Salzburg Global’s distinguished track record of cutting-edge interdisciplinary programs. These include:

Health and Health Care
Innovation

The Child in the City:
Health, Parks and Play

Nature, Health and a New Urban Generation

People, Peace and Planet in 2030:
Shaping Inclusive and Sustainable Growth

A Climate for Change:
New Thinking on Governance for Sustainability
PARTICIPANT PROFILE

Salzburg Global Seminar’s *Health and Health Care Innovation* sessions seek to bring together cross-sector and cross-generational change-makers to tackle complex challenges.

This program will bring together 60 innovators and stakeholders from around the world who have engaged citizens and communities in shaping their environments to support health and wellbeing. The group will span perspectives from citizen groups and civil society organizations; urban and rural design, planning and development; housing and transport; business and retail; public health and nutrition; sport, leisure and nature conservation; local government and participatory processes; central government; behavioral science and economics; education and culture; and the media.
KEY QUESTIONS

Over the course of the five-day session, participants will address the following questions:

• How can we leverage trends and opportunities in urban (and rural) revitalization with investments in infrastructure to focus on health, equity and the public good?
• Are there key policy strategies or practices that support healthier and more equitable housing, transportation, utilities and park/open space systems?
• How can we foster a shared sense of community in the built environment? Can that lead to infrastructure in the public interest? What role does culture play?
• Can and how can citizen science and data be used to direct resources and promote equitable development?

“This place is just amazing. It brings together great minds, great thinkers, great people with amazing experiences and amazing stories to share – from all over the globe – to a place that’s probably more like paradise than anything else on earth.”

SARA RIGGARE
Three-time Fellow; Patients’ Rights Advocate, Sweden
OUTCOMES AND IMPACT

This session will seek to:

- Seed new and innovative approaches through international and cross-border exchange and the transmission of best practice
- Develop ongoing networking and collaborations among participants and the institutions they represent
- Co-create action plans designed and agreed by participants for them to take forward as appropriate at local and regional levels, and to leverage the global scope of the project to influence public opinion and democratic debate and policy making
- Issue a Salzburg Statement identifying best practice and framing opportunities for inclusive healthy place-making to take place
- Publish an agenda-setting report through a media partnership with the *British Medical Journal*.

SESSION REPORTS

Reports from our Health and Health Care Innovation sessions are all available to read, download and share:

› [SalzburgGlobal.org/go/reports](http://SalzburgGlobal.org/go/reports)

To receive notification when we publish new reports from the series, please contact:

› press@salzburgglobal.org
ABOUT SALZBURG GLOBAL SEMINAR

Salzburg Global Seminar is an independent non-profit organization founded in 1947 to challenge current and future leaders to shape a better world. Our multi-year programs aim to bridge divides, expand collaboration and transform systems.

Salzburg Global convenes outstanding talent across generations, cultures and sectors to inspire new thinking and action, and to connect local innovators with global resources. We foster lasting networks and partnerships for creative, just and sustainable change.

Over 36,000 Fellows from more than 170 countries have come together through our work, with many rising to senior leadership positions. Our historic home at Schloß Leopoldskron in Salzburg, Austria – now also an award-winning hotel – allows us to welcome all participants in conditions of trust and openness.

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