

Summit Program

Day 1 - 31st March 2021



08:40 - 09:40

WELCOME COFFEE & NETWORKING



09:40 - 10:00

MC OPENS



10:00 - 10:10

Welcome Address

Maram Arafat, Irrigation System Engineer - Agriculture & Irrigation Dept., Dubai Municipality



10:10 - 10:30

Future-Forward Cascadia: Creating People-Focused Spaces for a Tech-City

- Highlighting how our Seattle Metro Region is planning and designing our public spaces during a time of rapid tech-centered growth and climate change-related influences unique to the Cascadia region of North America
- Showcasing how a signature public space project, the Grand Connection, can support positive public health benefits for a major tech city as a people-focused, interactive, connected experience through the heart of Bellevue

Michael Austin, Senior Urban Planner, City of Bellevue, Washington



10:30 - 10:50

Design Challenges to landscape and green roofs solutions in the Middle East

- Comprehensive water management for roof gardens in arid climates
- Mitigation of saline water presence in landscaping & hardscaping applications
- Sloped Roof Gardens challenges



Khalid Meccai, Manager - Sales, Marketing & Technical Support, Alyaf Geo

🕒 10:50 - 11:10

Case Studies of Socio-environmental Development Through Landscape Architecture & Micro-Farming



- Applying home micro-farming methods as social development tools
- Socio-environmental impact of green walls and roof gardens and achieving social development through landscape architecture
- The strategies in water conservation in public landscape design



Sherif Hosny, Founder & CEO, Schaduf

🕒 11:10 - 11:40

NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK & VISIT TO NETWORKING LOUNGE

🕒 11:40 - 12:20

Panel Discussion: Building Sustainable Cities – Government Authorities Supporting the 'Green Dream'



- Retrofitting existing public parks & recreational spaces – what are the strategies employed by government organizations?
- Use of native plants in landscaping projects – the importance of driving awareness and use-case examples by local municipalities
- Improvements to the public realm help contribute to community building – what are the challenges faced by local municipalities when it comes to the development & maintenance of green urban spaces?



Ayub Hassan Algaferi, Head of Parks Section, Al Ain Municipality

Haism El Masir, Lead - Urban Planning Project Engineer, Abu Dhabi Housing Authority

Husain Al Saeedi, Director Of Technical Services Operations Dept, Abu Dhabi City Municipality

Khaled Nawar, Regional Director, MEAC

🕒 12:20 - 12:40

Understanding Composite



- An introduction to composite
- Eva-Last® product technologies and developments
- Sustainability & Eva-Last®'s pledge to the environment



Nathan Chapman, Co-Founder, Eva-Last

🕒 12:40 - 13:00

Role of Heritage and Open Spaces in a Covid World - Re-capturing the Importance of Outdoor Living



- Open spaces as safe environments for interaction - how can open spaces promote safe socializing
- Heritage sites as beacons of an analog world - Importance of the past and the brick and mortar world versus the digital innovation
- Position of the UAE as innovators in public realm design - Maintain drive to showcase innovation in public realm design in the harshest of environments

Carlos Vieira, Senior Manager - Master Planning, Modon Properties

🕒 13:00 - 13:20

Landscaping in Emerging Urban Districts



- Landscaping as an urban design tool
- Shifting from cities driven by vehicles to creating human – centric cities
- What lies ahead? The opportunities & challenges in Autonomous vehicles; AI & reshaping the public realm

Fady Nassim, Executive Head of Urban Planning, Jeddah Economic Company - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

🕒 13:20 - 14:00

Panel Discussion: Panel Discussion: Stewards of Our Land – The Evolving Role of a Landscape Designer



- The integral role played by landscape designers in urban planning of our cities post covid – how many dominant features of our urban landscape can we attribute to their work?
- Is there a need for landscape designers to be multi-disciplinary to design cities that are more sustainable or resilient?
- The need for landscape architects to monitor the maintenance of their projects post completion – is it a necessity? Best practices to enforce it!
- What challenges do landscape designers face whilst designing biophilic cities in the Middle East region?
- What is the impact of COVID19 on designing public open spaces?

Ala Hason, Office Director - Principal, HKS Architects

DJ Armin, Chairman, ZAS Group

Ewa Juszczak, Project Director, U+A

Neil Serridge, Associate Director, Benoy

🕒 14:00 - 14:10

Address by Lunch Sponsor



Emir Ergec, Technical and Business Development Manager, Gulf Perlite

🕒 14:10 - 14:20
MC CLOSING

🕒 14:20 - 15:20
NETWORKING LUNCH

Day 2 - 1st April 2021

🕒 08:30 - 09:00
NETWORKING & MORNING REFRESHMENTS

🕒 09:00 - 09:10

MC OPENS

🕒 09:10 - 10:10

We are Not Exterior Decorators - Landscape Architecture's Virtuous Cycles

- In the past landscape architecture was reduced to beautification or 'greening' but the climate crisis impels us to be ecological in all our design decisions
- Weaving new natures that treat waste as a resource into our cityscapes to realize opportunities for an sustainable, functional and beautiful landscapes
- Beauty has a function beyond simple enjoyment and humans have biological needs for experiences with nature which we must also concern ourselves with
- Through an exploration of recent projects that combine cyclical ecological utility and beauty the presentation will outline a role for landscape architecture that achieves artful landscapes that serve ecological ends

Martha Schwartz, Senior Partner, Martha Schwartz Partners
Steven Velegrinis, Head of Master Planning, AECOM



🕒 10:10 - 10:30

Role of Landscapes and Public Realm in Creating Sustainable Cities

- Overview of regional challenges
- Design Response: Thinking beyond water conservation in design and behaviour, and focus on regenerative approaches.
- Impact beyond design: Benefits of nature based solutions in enabling stakeholder engagement and creating additional jobs

Rayya Jawhar, Sustainability Lead - Middle East, Buro Happold



🕒 10:30 - 11:20

Panel Discussion: Innovative Landscape Design in the Development and Maintenance of Recreational & Sport Facilities

- Recognizing the positive economic & health impact of sporting facilities in the Middle East – what are some of the key considerations that landscape designers are mindful of when tasked with developing a sports or recreation facility?
- Maintaining turf at sports facilities – Can technology aid the maintenance process and is there a more sustainable growth environment available?
- Improving citizen accessibility to sporting & recreational facilities – what role can a landscape designer play in putting together a more sustainable and cost-effective project? Will the use of smarter technology play an important role with OPEX of the project?

Clinton Southorn, Cluster Director of Agronomy, Abu Dhabi Golf Club - Saadiyat Beach Golf Club - Yas Links Abu Dhabi
Matthew Perry, Director of Agronomy, Dubai Golf
Stuart Horwood, Golf Course Superintendent, Jumeirah Golf Estates
Toby Lumsden, Head Curator - ICC Academy & Dubai International Stadium, Dubai Sports City



🕒 11:20 - 11:50

NETWORKING COFFEE BREAK & VISIT TO NETWORKING LOUNGE

🕒 11:50 - 12:10

Reinventing Green Livable Cities in Middle East - A Dream in the Making

- Blue green infrastructure in cities – the future of urban dynamics and creating happy, healthy cities
- Urban and design planning – what are the strategies that work for this arid region?
- What are the challenges in implementing green urbanism and creating an aesthetic public realm?

Mohamed Ragheb, Chief Development Officer, Azizi Developments



🕒 12:10 - 12:30

Next Generation of Sustainable Cities - The Metropolis of the Future

- The role of urban and landscape design in connecting culture - rise in social engagement and sustainable lifestyle
- The future of sustainable communities – understanding design practices that have shaped urban development with livability as priority
- Project case study: The Sustainable City in Dubai

Baharash Bagherian, Head of Urban Planning, Diamond Developers



🕒 12:30 - 12:50

Green Roofs & Walls – Improving our Living Environment

- Vertical Green and Green Covered Structures – The many types and why the definition is important
- The various benefits of Vertical Green and Green Covered Structures
- What to consider for design and application and why it doesn't work for everyone

Boris Fabinski, Senior Landscape Architect, AE7



🕒 12:50 - 13:40

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Farah Yassine, Sustainable Resource Management Lead - Environment & Sustainability, WSP

George Arvanitis, Director of Masterplanning & Urbanism, RMJM

Manosh De, Regional Technical Lead - Cities + Places, Jacobs

Marlon Van Maastricht, Global Head of Landscape Architecture - Urban Planning & Design Departments, UAE, Khatib Al Alami

Nivine Issa, Director of Environment, AESG



🕒 13:40 - 13:50

PRIZE DRAW & MC CLOSSES

🕒 13:50 - 14:50

NETWORKING LUNCH

An Event by:



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