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University of Ferrara | Department of Architecture

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IMPORTANT DATES

July 30th (2011) Opening of the abstract submission
October 30th (2011) Deadline for abstract submission
November 30th (2011) Author notification
January 31st (2012) Deadline of full paper submission
April 20th-21st (2012) Conference

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Authors are invited to submit abstracts of papers on the topics of the conference. Abstracts of maximum 500 words (PDF or DOC file) can be submitted directly to the following e-mail:
costtu0701@unife.it

Abstract format, template and submission information can be downloaded from the web-site www.costtu0701.unife.it

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SUBURBAN BUILDING STOCK

COST ACTION TU 0701
FINAL CONFERENCE

Ferrara | Italy
20th - 21st April 2012

CALL FOR PAPERS

 **cost**
EUROPEAN COOPERATION
IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

 **università di ferrara**

 **DA**
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI FERRARA
dipartimento di architettura

SCOPE

COST is a framework for European Co-operation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research, allowing the coordination of nationally funded research at European level. COST aims at ensuring that Europe can hold a strong position in the field of scientific and technical research.

The aims of COST Action TU 0701 are to promote a scientific understanding for the renovation and revitalization of suburban housing settlements, increasing their value, improving the safety and quality of life.

OBJECTIVE OF THE ACTION

Suburban building estates make up more than 50% of all European Building Stock.

Suburban areas are primarily residential and are home to a large part of the population. Beyond differences in the ways in which governments have handled the development and transformation of the cities and the surrounding area, the common characteristic of all suburban areas – and in particular those suburbs of medium to large cities – is lower quality of life; and in many cases, widespread social unrest.

Most of the buildings – generally multi-family housing blocks consisting of small apartments – were completed after 1950 using low-cost technologies and are often characterized by very poor quality, which contributes to the social decay of suburbs. Upgrading and refurbishing these estates allows for large resources to be reused and their value increased, and people's quality of life to be improved.

COST Action TU0701 deals with the improvement of built environment and the renovation of existing building stock. The goal has been to investigate, compare, define and disseminate common knowledge concerning methods, procedures and technologies for the renovation and revitalization of suburban housing settlements, increasing their value, and improving safety and the quality of life of inhabitants.

WORKING LANGUAGE

The official language for both oral and printed contributions is English.

Note kindly that no simultaneous translation will be provided.

CONFERENCE THEMES

1. STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF SUBURBAN AREAS

Aspects and data to define a profile of suburban building stock in European countries:

- dimensions of real estates, age and condition of buildings, architectural aspects;
- quality of life in suburban areas: density, profile of inhabitants, availability or lack of social services and utilities, etc.;
- functional characteristics of buildings in suburban housing estates: types, layouts, accessibility, etc.

European trends, policies and strategies for the renovation and revitalization of suburban housing settlements:

- methods for planning and managing urban-scale building redesign;
- solutions to improve functional and technical performances, structural and safety aspects, architectural design, sustainability and energy efficiency
- best practices in the field of building redesign and sustainable building methods for the refurbishment of systems and components for multi-family dwellings.

2. QUALITY STANDARDS AND INDICATORS

Criteria and models to define common standards and indicators for assessing the level of acceptable quality of suburban settlements and estimating the actual value of suburban housing estates.

Analysis of standards and indicators relate to three main aspects of quality:

1. technical quality;
2. energy efficiency;
3. architectural and functional quality.

3. QUALITY ASSESSMENT MODELS AND PROTOCOLS

Criteria and models for assessing the quality and value of suburban housing estates.

Approaches and strategies adopted by different European governments and municipalities towards improving the overall quality of the built environment in the suburban building stock will be highlighted, namely private and public social housing. Instruments and tools used and suitability of the models taking into consideration their compatibility with the European legislation.

PROCEEDINGS

Papers will be peer-reviewed. Accepted papers will be published in proceedings. Paper format, template and submission information can be obtained from the web-site:

www.costtu0701.unife.it

Best papers will be selected for oral presentation.

CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT

Correspondence concerning the conference should be addressed to:

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REGISTRATION FEES

COST members: € 80,00

Non-COST members: € 200,00

Student: € 100,00

Registration includes:

- conference proceedings
- dinner, lunches and refreshments as scheduled in the conference programme
- internet access

If you wish to benefit from the student registration fee, you must send a copy of a valid student card.

Important notice:

- Each accepted paper should be accompanied by one registration.

LOCATION

University of Ferrara
Faculty of Architecture
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44121 | Ferrara
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CONFERENCE WEB-SITE

www.tu0701.unife.it