

SOUTH AFRICA – SWEDEN UNIVERSITY FORUM

Planning meeting, Pretoria – October 2-3 2017

Position paper for the first research seminar in Pretoria, XXX 2018

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| *Topic/Challenge Headline*  **Urbanisation and cities in the 21st Century** |
| *Description of challenge (The challenge should be relevant for both countries, approachable from an interdisciplinary perspective, relevant to industry, NGOs and/or surrounding society, linked to one or several of the 17 SDGs)*  **Key challenges**  1. **Rural urban** imbalances linkages - inflow from rural to cities (more in one direction)  2.  **In general - Structure/Infrastructure/Design not suitable for present day cities or change in cities**  History of regions   * Current cities are based on problems or plans of the past. * And they have evolved e.g. Johannesburg´s wealth is built on mines, and is the engine of all parts of the economy and is the hub for many things however the history means that we now have a diversity of problems such as water qualty   **3. Supply does not adequately meeting the demand** – services, infrastructure, transports, housing  **4. Safety -** issues around safety are more pronounced in cities  **6. Economically sustainable** **future cities** – e.g. when cities and economies are linked to certain industries when no longer existing then city dies  **4. Politics** – Influence of local government on the function of future cities/ urban planning |
| *Key research questions* |
| *Research areas/keywords*  **‘Living sustainably’**  waste management, recycling, efficient systems, clean water, health  **Sustainable Accessibility and Mobility (Transportation)** –  Logistics, planning, Public transport in S-SA a problem, efficient systems, infrastructure,  high speed railways, safety of transport, urban design on different scales,  sustainable town planning and transport, renewable energy**,** urban farming, safety in cities  Urban/rural interface - trends, revival of towns and regions working |
| *Researchers in Academic Advisory Committee (AAC) (including Chair) (2 SE+ 2 SA)*  *(chair) name/university*  U Pretoria)Prof Innocent Pikirayi,  U Free State Wanda Verster or alternate  DUT Urban Research Centre/  University of Withwatersrand  Maria Hellstroem Reimer (Malmoe University)  Dieter Muller (Umea University)  Lund University??  *Dates for next meeting AAC:* |

**DAY 2**

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| *Description of possible surrounding activities across South Africa (for instance, innovation & industry seminar, outreach activities, guest lectures, capacity development of young researchers, academic workshops etc.)*  Linked to the theme: **Urbanisation and cities in the 21st Century**   * South African universities or clusters of universities can put forward proposals for consideration to host– **study tours/research and innovation site visits/.** These can involvecommunities, industry partners and other stakeholders * **Guest lectures** by Swedish/SA experts related to theme/various universities before and after, can be at more than one venue/ university. * **Public keynotes** open to all young students (honours, undergraduate, communities) * **Webinars /livestream** to reach wider audiences (undergraduates, postgraduates, public, policy makers) * Capacity building workshops focusing on areas linked to theme - methodologies to the e.g case studies * **Local/regional site visits** to (e.g. waste management, transport systems * **Matchmaking**  sessions for networking/research collaborations especially for emerging researchers * **Curriculum development –** jointand dual degrees,co-development/sharing of ideas/experience   ***Note*:**  The suite of offerings or array of activities must keep in mind all participants e.g. students, experts |
| *Please describe any ideas for how the interactive platform can be utilized in the surrounding activities:*  *Webinars/livestreaming*  *Discussion forum – can link to external platforms e.g. closed Facebook sites.*  *Upload documents for sharing*  Link to External - Youtube channel – for access and publicity  *Information on existing and historical SA Sweden collaborations*  *Pre-and post-seminar meeting/matchmaking/communications* |