

November 28th 2014l 2pm - 4pm

Gran Sasso Science Institute Main Conference Hall Viale F. Crispi 7, L'Aquila, IT

## **GSSI CITIES WEBINAR**

Streaming at: http://streaming.gssi.infn.it

## **OURS CITIES**

## Operationalizing User-driven Resilience for Sustainability transition in CITIES

Kua Harn Wei (National University of Singapore), Khondokar M. Nahiduzzaman (King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals, Saudi Arabia), Gladman Thondhlana (Rhodes University, South Africa), Juan Pablo Rodríguez (Universidad de Los Andes, Colombia), Tineke M. Egyedi (TU DELFT University, The Netherlands) and Tom Henfry (Schumacher Institute, UK)

Chair: Lorenzo Chelleri (GSSI CITIES)

This webinar is intended to serve as the launching event of the International Network OURS CITIES. Involving six partner institutions spred over 4 continents, this network aims at discussing and shedding light on emerging concerns about urban resilience frameworks and indicators, highlighting the sometimes unaccounted key role of bottom-up initiatives in building more resilient and sustainable cities. The very recent assumption of resilience not to be normatively considered as a positive concept placed emphasis on the academic discussion around whether resilience should be informed by sustainability principles and practices. By suggesting the approach of Users - Driven Resilience, OURS CITIES launches an academic international debate on how urban resilience should be handled and reframed in order to i) consider whether the design of city resilience strategies are in line within sustainability objectives ii) determine how bottom-up initiatives contribute in building resilience toward sustainability and iii) measure and assess such social values and capacities within urban resilience frameworks.

During this GSSI CITIES WEBINAR, the concept of Operationalizing User-Driven Resilience for Sustainability will be presented by the partners, and case-studies from Singapore, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Colombia will introduce some preliminary methods and insights on how behavioral change, involvement of change agents and decentralized green infrastructures management can contribute to shaping the framework for OURS CITIES. Two virtual lectures will then introduce further explorations and potential researches under the OURS CITIES umbrella, underlining the emergence of Transition Research and the Inverse Infrastructures concept.

The Webinar program is available on the GSSI CITIES webside - seminar and event session (www.gssi.infn.it)

OURS CITIES Network is the result of a BIARI Brown University (US) funded project which fostered cross-continent collaborations on emerging, internationally relevant and socially grounded global challenges. For more info: http://watson.brown.edu/biari/