

Call for Contributions

2nd Edition of the Publication Series “SURE Solutions”

Goals

The SURE publication series “SURE Solutions – Sustainable Development of Urban Regions” is a dedicated publication channel that responds to the specific needs of transdisciplinary and transformational research on sustainable urban regions. The series creates an understanding how the notion of sustainable development of urban regions is understood, reflected on, and applied in the local contexts of South-East Asia.

For all project partners within the SURE funding priority, “SURE Solutions” provides an opportunity to disseminate findings and results from their projects. Forming a showcase for the ongoing projects and activities, and bridging from research to practice, the series aims at strengthening the link to local stakeholders. Co-authorships with local implementation partners is therefore strongly encouraged, and regarded a central review criterion on the editorial board. The publication series is in English; however it includes brief summaries of the contributions in the local languages (Thai, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Khmer, Laotian, Burmese, Indonesian).

“SURE Solutions” will also function as a communication medium for project synthesis and synergies across the individual projects. Contributions that take a cross-cutting perspective and / or are co-authored by researchers from different projects are thus especially invited.

The series is published in an annual edition as a hybrid print and online medium.

Topic Scope – Transfer of Strategies and Solutions

The second issue [edition] of the series “SURE Solutions” is dedicated to advancing the field of sustainable urban development and the localization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the transfer of applied strategies and solutions. In alignment with our commitment to fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and knowledge exchange, we invite contributions that explore the innovative challenges and approaches in the pursuit of sustainable urban development and the achievement of SDGs at the local level.

“SURE Solutions” serves as a platform for researchers, practitioners, policymakers, and stakeholders to engage in a rigorous dialogue on the transfer of applied research in sustainable urban development. To showcase the projects to potential implementation partners, the contributions also may tell a compelling project story that anticipates the envisioned results and outcomes. From the incoming contributions, the editors will derive cross-cutting topics, and outline respective synergy and synthesis activities for the SURE priority. The issue will feature **five main topic sections** to which contributions are invited:

1. **Global Transfer Challenges:** This section delves into the challenges of transferring applied strategies and solutions for sustainable urban development across international borders, addressing diverse geopolitical, cultural, linguistic, and socioeconomic structures in pursuit of SDG localization.
2. **Local Stakeholders and “Transfer Heroes”:** Here, we encourage authors to emphasize the pivotal roles played by local stakeholders and “heroes” in determining the success or challenge of transfer initiatives,

illustrating the transformative impact of local champions in the localization of applied strategies and solutions.

3. **Adaptation to Local Contexts and Planning Cultures:** This section focuses on the nuances of adapting and translating applied strategies and solutions to fit local planning cultures and contexts.
4. **Lessons Learned and Established Practices:** The final section synthesizes the lessons learned from knowledge transfer efforts. Authors are encouraged to incorporate academic findings and practical experiences to distill established practices for effectively translating applied strategies to the local context.
5. **Lessons Learned and Established Practices:** the issue of *reflexive practices* - i.e.: *how* to identify if the practice was successful and if the transfer was effective?

Format

The publication series is complementary to regular scientific publications, locating itself between science journals and professional magazines. We envision “SURE Solutions” to become a curated digest or almanac of interesting and relevant project information and outcomes. To maximise dissemination, outreach and target-group orientation, we will make the publication available online open access and use the potentials from cross-connecting the various communication media implemented by the SURE priority. Our aim is to respond to the variety of geographical, cultural, linguistic contexts to the largest possible extent (e.g. by automated translations and summaries). We envision (at least) one contribution from every project in the SURE funding priority in each issue. Thus a total of 10 project contributions plus 1-2 editorial contributions will form the main part of the issue. Referring to the thematic anchors indicated above, the contributions may take the following formats:

- **Research paper:** Scientific paper with 2.000 - 3.000 words and max. 4 illustrations/figures presenting key questions and challenges, theoretical approaches and concepts, and validated research findings.
- **Solutions or activity report:** Article with 1.000 - 3.000 words and max. 5 photos/illustrations presenting a key solution, outcome, or result, with a focus on applications, activities and implementations on-the-ground.
- **News column:** Smaller contributions of 500 – 1000 words reporting and highlighting about remarkable activities, events, or other achievements in the SURE priority worthwhile to share.
- **Snap shot:** Smaller contribution of around 500 words and 1 photo introducing a (local) stakeholder who contributes to the respective project in an essential or outstanding way.

Further details:

- Please provide names and affiliation of all contributing authors
- References are not counted in the word count of the contribution
- Provide all illustrations & figures as separate files in editable formats (e.g. PDF)
- Provide high resolution photos (possible to be printed at max. of A3 format)
- Provide text segments / quotes that can be highlighted in the text
- Provide an abstract in English and the local language(s) of your project (applies only to research paper & reports)

“SURE Solutions” also wants to provide the opportunity to re-use and re-edit (“digest”) articles that were previously published in other media, if the primary publication channel allows this option. Thus specific topics of interest may be highlighted and selected contents be made more accessible.

Editorial Concept

The editorial team consists of members of the SURE facilitation and synthesis research project (HCU Hamburg and TH Lübeck). To ensure the quality of the series, it will be accompanied by an editorial board with experts from international networks and institutions. For the production of dedicated issues, additional experts from the individual measures funded by the SURE priority are invited to the editorial team as guest editors. The editors will run a systematic review process of the incoming contribution, to which members of the SURE funding priority will be invited as reviewers.

Publication Schedule

Approximately 9 months are estimated for the production of the second issue of the publication series. The targeted publication date for the first issue is summer 2024. Please send your manuscript not later than December 1, 2023 to the contact address given below.

1. Call for contributions 27.09.2023
2. **Deadline for contributions / manuscripts 01.12.2023**
3. Review Process and paper rework until 01.03.2023
4. Production of online and print edition until 05.2024
5. Publication June/July 2024.

Contact

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