

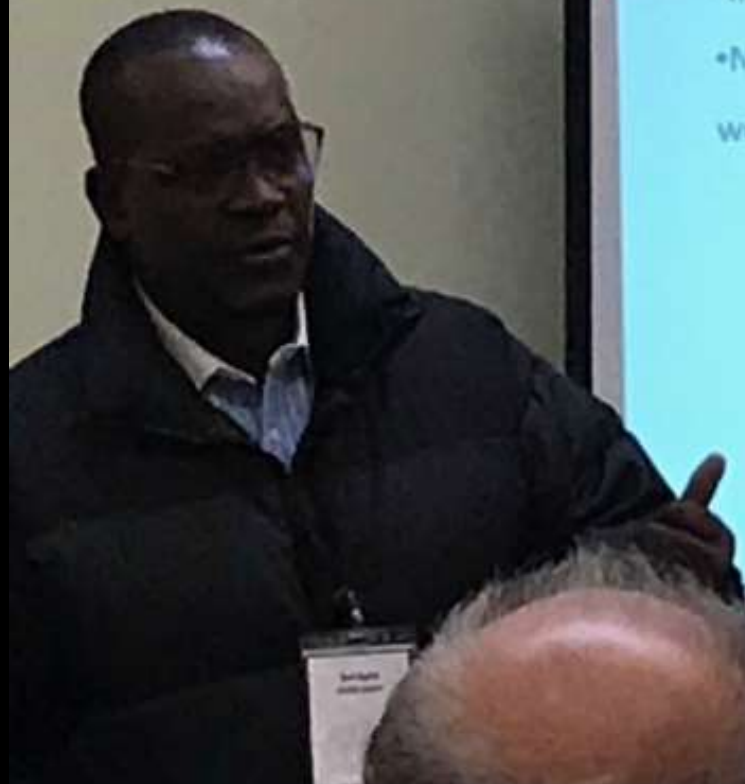


Realising Just Cities: Lessons, Impacts and Outcomes

Twitter highlights and official photographs from
Mistra Urban Futures 4th annual conference,
hosted by the Urban Institute, University of Sheffield.
Sheffield and Manchester, 13–18 October.
#JustCities2019

Mistra Urban Futures has worked to foster learning between different localities.

On Monday 14th October, as also on Thursday 17th October, comparative projects met to workshop findings together.



CHALLENGES

- Slow pace of establishment of SDG offices. However, designated SDG officers at departments identified
- Increased workload for designated SDG officers
- No strong monitoring, evaluation and verification framework (informed from city peer to peer learning)



David Simon @UrbanDavidSimon · Oct 14

City officials and academic/NGO researchers are sharing lessons from their co-production on how Cape Town, Gothenburg, Shimla, Malmö, Kisumu & Buenos Aires are engaging with and implementing the SDGs at #JustCities2019, this year's @MistraUrbanFut conference in Sheffield

Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut

Lessons learned from comparative projects about SDGs now at the Annual Conference, Sheffield. #SheffSocScience #JustCities2019 #realisingjustcities Ileana Versace & Sandra Valencia.






Charlie Spring @eatingwaste · Oct 15

We gathered members of @GtrMSustFood & @sheffoodsocial together with our transdisciplinary food group from South Africa, Kenya & Sweden to discuss strategies for overcoming 'absent mandate' for urban food action/policy that can bolster equity...blog post to come

[#justcities2019](#)

Groups also met to discuss **cultural heritage; migration; public finance; transport; and waste management.**



That afternoon it rained,
which was unfortunate for
the multitude who departed
on walks around Sheffield.

With a professional tour guide,
one group viewed the highlights of
New and Old Sheffield.

Photograph: [@jennyspatient](#)
Near Park Hill flats, Sheffield.



Photographs: [@alixx_p](#)

Kelham Island

Others took a tour of Kelham Island, birth place of social justice activist Mary Anne Rawson (1801–1887) and winner of the UK & Ireland Urbanism Awards “Great Neighbourhood” category (2019).

Resilience

Officers from Sheffield City Council involved a third group in a walking conversation about climate resilience, showing how the “Grey to Green” scheme has been transforming parts of the city centre.

[Ryan Bellinson](#) @rbellinson · Oct 14

Learning how @SheffCouncil has tried to bring elements of the Peak District into the city centre while also building a more climate resilient landscape

#JustCities2019 @UK_RJC @MistraUrbanFut



Heat


Sheffield Hallam researcher Dr Aimee Ambrose took intrepid explorers along the route of Sheffield's district heating system and into the incinerator—involving heights not recommended for the faint-hearted.



Dr Aimee Ambrose @AimeeAmbrose · Oct 14

Tonight we walked with energy and found our way to the Sheffield Energy Recovery Facility. Hopefully a good start to the [#justcities2019](#) conference. [#feelingtheheat](#) @jennyspatient @sdparkes @CRESR_SHU @PSP_Hallam





Food

For those seeking a gentler (and drier) outing, Dr Charlie Spring led a delegation to Heeley City Farm, a community-based enterprise south-east of the city centre. Visitors heard about experimentation with aquaponics—cultivating plants and aquatic life symbiotically—and what ‘The Food Works’ are doing to tackle waste in Sheffield.

Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut · Oct 14

Site-visit to @HeeleyCityFarm, Sheffield. Aquaponics greens and fish. Alotments and animals. Social work. #SheffSocScience #JustCities2019 #sheffood



On Tuesday, the doors of Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, opened to welcome anyone with an interest in Realising Just Cities.

What a venue to kick off the Realising Just Cities conference #JustCities2019

—@JonDavies_1

Beth Perry, Co-Director of the University of Sheffield's Urban Institute, and Director of Realising Just Cities UK welcomed delegates to discuss **Lessons, Impacts and Outcomes**.

REALISING JUST CITIES
LESSONS, IMPACTS AND OUTCOMES
18 OCTOBER 2019 - SHEFFIELD - UK

WSTBA URBAN FUTURES ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Mistra Urban Futures' director David Simon explained the history and overall impact of the international Realising Just Cities research centre.



Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut · Oct 15

The Realising Just Cities Open Conference, lectures and intro just started. Participants from different sectors and countries. #JustCities2019 @SheffSocScience @UK_RJC

- Maria Sigroth
Head of Department Regional Planning and Environment
- Sharon Davis
Founder of Mums Mart and GM Savers
- Peter Ahmad
Manager, City Growth Management, City of Cape Town
- Sam Okello
Member of Kisumu City Board and Chairman Kisumu Local Interaction Platform
- Barry Ness
Skåne Platform Director, Mistra Urban Futures



What difference did it make?

Mistra Urban Futures put the question to stakeholders from five cities.

Maria Sigroth, Head of Regional Planning and Environment, Gothenburg Region was first to respond.



David Simon @UrbanDavidSimon · Oct 15


Key stakeholders from our city platforms at #JustCities2019 are explaining the wider value and impact of Mistra Urban Futures' transdisciplinary co-production in these cities.

Sharon Davis:
All over the world women are living with the same issues, the same pressures, the same inequalities . . . We found we can support each other to change that. We need to challenge these systems that are holding us at disadvantage.



Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut · Oct 15

Sharon Davis, Mums Mart and GM Savers in Manchester gives a great talk about the social work in the city and how the research projects have contributed. #justcities2019 @UK_RJC



Peter Ahmad (Cape Town), Sam Okello (Kisumu) and Barry Ness (Skåne) also testified about the impact of Realising Just Cities.

Rike Sitas @rikesitas · Oct 15

"This is a fantastic programme!" Pete Ahmad reflecting on the value of the Knowledge Transfer Programme between @UrbanAfricaACC and @CityofCT #justcities2019 through @MistraUrbanFut



Ten workshops served to exchange learning and share outcomes from Realising Just Cities research. These included:

1: Realising just cities in the context of Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals



The idea of **ecological justice** has its roots in efforts to protect wilderness and conservation spaces in the rural hinterland. Now that half our population is settled in cities, being able to live in a healthy environment takes on new dimensions. Do we have access to affordable, wholesome food; is the air healthy to breathe; is our neighbourhood safe from the hazards of solid waste pollution or failed sanitation.

Implementing the New Urban Agenda and The Sustainable Development Goals: Comparative Urban Perspectives (CTLIP, KLIP, GOLIP, SMLIP, SKLIP, Buenos Aires, Shimla)

High Peak Food Hub @FoodfanStockpt · Oct 15
#justcities2019 has all sorts of content for you .@kindlingtrust
Bringing papers back

Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut · Oct 15

- We can use the SDGs as a common lens to understand issues and problems, Joakim Nordqvist says, from the [@malmstad](#) and Malmö University.

[#SheffSocScience](#) [#JustCities2019](#) [#UK_RJC](#) Participants from several countries.



2: Universities and urban development: knowledge in action

Prof Beth Perry @TheUrbanBeth · Oct 15

@may4dology opening a session on universities and urban development as part of #justcities2019 @MistraUrbanFut @UK_RJC hosted by @SheffSocScience and @Urban_Inst

What was valued?

PhD Researchers

- Increased robustness of research
- Emergence of tacit knowledge
- Validation
- Ability to experiment
- Access to high level decision making
- Developing a community of practice

City Officials

- Critical engagement with subject area
- Enrich decision making
- Time away from the office
- Writing skills
- Immersion in literature
- Engagement with peers

'Institutional butterflies'



Dr. Caitlin McMullin @caitlinmcmullin

Oct 15

Uni-city partnerships & boundary crossing: what's important is what happens when you 'go back to your home base' and how you change how your work, not about merging institutions #justcities2019 @MistraUrbanFut

3: Small but diverse: the role of urban and rural communities in place-based diversity and inclusiveness



Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut · Oct 15

In the session at #JustCities2019 Small and diverse: the role of urban and rural communities in place-based diversity and inclusiveness built on TiMS, is discussed by L Omondi, EM Jernsand, E Björner mistraurbanfutures.org/en/project/mig...

4: Building capacity for co-production: training the next generation of scholars and practitioners



A woman with dark curly hair, wearing a dark jacket over a purple top, is seated at a table covered with a dark green cloth. She is looking down at a laptop in front of her. The table also has a glass of water and some papers. In the background, a projector screen displays a presentation slide. The room has light-colored walls with decorative paneling and a framed picture on the wall.

5: Agenda 2030 and public finance: who pays for sustainable cities?

Rike Sitas @rikesitas - Oct 15

Liza Cirolia talking about Agenda 2030 and public finance for just cities. #justcities2019

@UrbanAfricaACC @MistraUrbanFut

6: Participatory cities and alternative models of urban development



Sophie King @sophiedking · Oct 15

Bert Russell on what does (shd?) meaningful participation actually look like in cities ... interesting reflections on G. Manchester and Gothenburg #JustCities2019

@MistraUrbanFut @alterurbanist @UK_RJC



Sophie King @sophiedking · Oct 15

@HMHCmcr @HMHCcg Vicky H sharing about the fantastic work going on at Miles Platting community grocer and recent counter mapping with some great photos by the talented Anna Hudson #JustCities2019 @UK_RJC





Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut · Oct 15

Meaningful collaborations? The session at [#JustCities2019](#) Monika Månsson at the City of Malmö mentioned 3 lessons learned: listen, respect different positions, curiosity and P-A Nilsson: trust, courage, partnership

7: What is meaningful collaboration?
Reflections from work on food
systems and urban regeneration


Workshop Leader: Warren Smit, Cape Town Platform
Director, Mistra Urban Futures / *Speakers:* Per-Arne
Nilsson, Senior Environmental Strategist, City of Malmö;
Joakim Nordqvist, Researcher / Climate Strategist, Malmö
University/City of Malmö; Monika Månsson, Project Manager,
Human Ecology, University of Gothenburg; Mirek Dymitrow,
Research Coordinator, Mistra Urban Futures, Chalmers
University of Gothenburg; Charlie Spring,
University of Sheffield;

A group of people are seated around a round table covered with a white tablecloth in a meeting room. The room has dark green walls and red chairs. A man in a dark suit and blue shirt is speaking and gesturing with his hands. Other participants are listening attentively, some with their hands clasped or resting on the table. The scene is captured from a slightly elevated angle, showing the back of a person in a colorful patterned shirt in the foreground.

8: Practices, processes and politics of city-academic partnerships

Rike Sitas @rikesitas · Oct 15

A frank conversation about the practices, processes and politics of city - academic partnerships in the @MistraUrbanFut network. #justcities2019 @UrbanAfricaACC

A group of people are seated around a table in a meeting room. In the background, a whiteboard is visible. The scene is slightly blurred, suggesting a candid moment during a workshop or meeting.

9: What do we need to do differently to co-produce knowledge and action with residents, activists and communities?

Prof Beth Perry @TheUrbanBeth Oct 15

#JustCities2019 final workshop on co-production with residents, communities and activists starting now @MistraUrbanFut @Urban_Inst @UK_RJC with Mums Mart, @sdinet and @gmhousingaction and @sophiedking

10: Co-production at pace: reacting to a climate emergency



Carla Washbourne @CarlaWashbourne · Oct 15
Really engaging and energetic session #JustCities2019 - exploring ways of co-producing
citizens assemblies #ClimateEmergency @UCLUrbanPolicy @MistraUrbanFut

Panel discussion

Closing the day, Åsa Moberg (MISTRA), Vanessa Toulmin (University of Sheffield), Mark Whitworth (Sheffield City Council) and Caroline Kihato (Mistra Urban Futures) responded to the question:

- How can we support local action to address global challenges and realise more just cities?

Rike Sitas @rikesitas · Oct 15

"We need to dare... To show up without being able to predict the outcomes... Daring to dream in the funding space too". @wanjikukihato on innovation in research.
#justcities2019 @UrbanAfricaACC @MistraUrbanFut

Greater Manchester

On **Wednesday 16th October**, Mistra Urban Futures delegates travelled across the Pennines.

In the morning, a selection of site visits offered the chance to learn about Realising Just Cities UK research in the Greater Manchester city-region.



Guns to Goods

Visit to Hulme Community Garden

To hear from partners in the project Self-organising Action for Food Equity, and sample some locally-grown apples.

Photographs: [@alixx_p](#)



PAVING THE WAY TO COMMUNITY sculpture project

GUNS TO GOODS worked on a community-based sculpture project with a hip hop dance troupe associated with the 'Mighty Against Violence' community. The troupe performed their dances on a bed of wet clay at their Christmas party 2015. The resulting relief sculpture 2 was re-cast into 18" square pavement pieces using metal recycled from hand guns obtained from the Greater Manchester police through amnesty. In this way, the project is a testament to the enthusiasm, joy and potential of the young people - turning something extremely negative into something positive.

The piece will be installed at different places of significance around Manchester and a Peace Map will illustrate the locations. The purpose of the work is to raise awareness of the dangers of gun ownership, the consequences of gun and gang related violence, and the actions that can be taken in the cause of peace.

A pavement piece is installed here at Hulme Community Garden Centre because we are next door to The Claremont Centre where the Troupe meet, and the sculpture was created there. The significance was donated to us just as we were starting to build our Pizza oven. A great example of both organisations commitment to collaboration and the reuse of materials.

regular
ude of
unds at
ngry staff. v

Pavement Piece cast in metal recycled from hand guns

MAY Hip Hop dance troupe performing on wet clay





Charlie Spring @eatingwaste · Oct 16

Discussing the real challenges and real efforts to re-value farmers and teach a new generation of sustainable food producers- over a table displaying the richness of our seasonal variety with @kindlingtrust #justcities2019 #WorldFoodDay





From homes to assets: Housing financialisation in Greater Manchester.

A walking tour led by Jon Silver and Rich Goulding, GM Housing Action—
drawing on the projects: Housing Futures and Whose Knowledge Matters?

Dr Vicky Simpson @TheUrbanVicky Oct 16

Just started our housing field trip with #JustCities2019 of Manchester City Centre and surrounding areas #poverty #newbuilds #homelessness #financialisation - led by @InvisibleMapper and @gmhousingaction @UK RJC @MistraUrbanFut

Energy Walk: Power in the City

Developed with and led by Carbon Co-op as part of the Jam and Justice project.

Opening new conversations about energy futures.

Photographs: [@CarbonCoop](#)





Carbon Coop @CarbonCoop · Oct 16

Another Power in the City walk, exploring the history, politics and future of municipal energy. This time with [@MistraUrbanFut](#) for their big [#JustCities2019](#) conference





Community-led organising:
lessons from the Global South.
Wythenshawe visit with Sophie King and Mums Mart Community Association.

Diana Mitlin @DianaMitlin · Oct 16

Sharon Davies talking about the lack of participation offered by the council in Manchester
in discussion with University of Sheffield and SDI

A visit to Manchester Settlement

Meeting Adrian Ball, Catherine Durose, Liz Richardson, and other members of Jam and Justice's Action Research Collective.

Emma Björner [@EBjorner](#) Oct 16

Study visit in Manchester on co-production in action. Inspiring to hear about Manchester Settlement and the Action Research Collective.

[#JustCities2019](#) [#TiMS](#)

Wednesday afternoon
International
Policy
Exchange

Organised with and hosted by
Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

Photos: Jason Lawton for Realising Just Cities.





In the afternoon, we reconvened in central Manchester for a policy exchange focused on the idea of municipal co-production.

Policy leads from Greater Manchester Combined Authority spoke about the city-region's approach to co-producing across five themes:

- Public services
- Cultural strategy
- Ageing
- Employment
- Digital strategy

GREATER MANCHESTER

INTERNATIONAL



Much of the discussion was captured graphically by live scribe Hannah Williams

Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut · Oct 16
 At the #JustCities2019 we got the chance to listen and discuss International Policy Exchange - How to Realise Just Cities: The Role and Value of Co-production in Urban Policy by @greatermcr Greater Manchester Combined Authority and @Urban_Inst captured by @ScribbleInLtd



International respondents reflected on connections between what they had heard and what is happening where they live:



Everyone shared their own experience, identifying strengths and weaknesses of co-production, examples, and tools, resources and techniques.





The live scribing was complete as Andy Burnham, Greater Manchester's first elected mayor, arrived to find out about Realising Just Cities.

The day concluded with a celebratory buffet, marking 4 years' of Realising Just Cities and a decade of MISTRA Urban Futures.



Thursday & Friday



REALISING JUST CITIES

The final stages of the conference included further comparative workshops hosted at the University of Sheffield, meetings of the MISTRA Urban Futures board and Local Interaction Platform Coordinators, and the 2019 Realising Just Cities keynote lecture:



Climate Change, Uncertainty and the City

Realising Just Cities 2019
Keynote Lecture


Professor Lyla Mehta
Institute for Sustainable
Development, Sussex
University

MISTRA
**URBAN
FUTURES**

The logo for MISTRA Urban Futures, featuring the word "MISTRA" in a smaller font above "URBAN FUTURES" in a larger, bold font. To the right of the text is a blue circular icon with a white grid pattern.

Realising
Just Cities

The logo for Realising Just Cities, featuring a blue abstract shape resembling a water droplet or a splash, with the text "Realising Just Cities" in white inside it.



The scale and impacts of climate change remain deeply uncertain, particularly at the local level, where climate-related uncertainties combine with unequal capitalist growth trajectories often exacerbating social and political inequities and the vulnerabilities of marginalised communities.

Mistra Urban Futures @MistraUrbanFut · Oct 17

Keynote Lecture #JustCities2019 Climate Change, uncertainty and the city - Challenges and opportunities for transdisciplinary co-production and transformation

Prof Lyla Mehta, Inst of Development Studies at @SussexUni UK; Visiting prof, Norwegian

Realising
Just Cities

Realising Just Cities: Lessons, Impacts and Outcomes

#JustCities2019

MISTRA
**URBAN
FUTURES**