



United Nations

— HABITAT III —  
URBAN LIBRARY REPORT

<b>Submitted by Lead Organization</b>	
<b>Name of lead organization</b>	City Space Architecture
<b>City and country where organization is based</b>	Bologna, Italy
<b>Title of Urban Library event</b>	The Journal of Public Space
<b>Date of Urban Library event</b>	10/19/2016
<b>Name of partner organizations with information on city, and country where organization is based</b>	1) Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia 2) UN Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya
<b>Number of participants</b>	100
<b>Percentage of women participants at the event</b>	60%
<b>Background information on Urban Library event (themes, issues, context).</b>	The event presented a research network developing around a new, open access, academic journal, The Journal of Public Space - <a href="https://journalpublicspace.org">https://journalpublicspace.org</a> - and how interdisciplinary research could support a better understanding of our cities, their spaces and societies. The aim of the session was to discuss how to foster international collaboration and knowledge transfer from academia into industry and society; how to facilitate better practice in the design and management of public spaces through access to knowledge and international exempla.
<b>Concise summary of the event proceedings, including key points discussed.</b>	During the event we discussed about the current knowledge on cities, public space and urbanity produced by academics and how an open access journal could become a useful forum for discussion and sharing of ideas and best practices but also of failures, inconvenient dialogues and untold stories, from various fields and all countries, especially from those that usually do not have voice. We also discussed about the importance of cross disciplinary studies on public space, related to different fields.



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<p><b>Concise summary of the publication launched or promoted at the event.</b></p>	<p>During the event we launched the first issue of The Journal of Public Space, a joint project promoted by City Space Architecture and Queensland University of Technology in partnership with UN Habitat. The discourse about public spaces is generally dominated by exempla coming mainly from Europe and North America, where in the 1960s and 1970s main theories about use and navigation of the built environment have been developed. If on one side cases from these cultural areas are more accessible, on the other side interesting and relevant experiences are today developed all over the world, starting with the innovative and highly socially relevant intervention in South American cities. New types of public spaces are also emerging in the Asia-Pacific region, due to the digital revolution, or in Africa, in consideration of the massive urbanization this continent is undergoing. Whilst there are several dedicated publications to cities, urban morphologies, urban dynamics and urban design, a forum where to discuss and share research, experiences and projects about public space so far was not provided in a structured and clear way. The Journal of Public Space aims to be the first international, open access journal, integrally dedicated to the discussion of public space in all its different forms and incantations. The objective is to provide a platform where academics and practitioners can share ideas and debate publics, breaking traditional disciplinary boundaries. The journal is willing to engage also artists, to provide a different point of view.</p>
<p><b>Name, title, and organization of the 1st speaker</b></p>	<p>Dr. Luisa Bravo, City Space Architecture Italy</p>
<p><b>Name, title, and organization of the 2nd speaker</b></p>	<p>Dr. Mirko Guaralda, Queensland University of Technology</p>
<p><b>Name, title, and organization of the 3rd speaker</b></p>	<p>Arch. Laura Petrella, UN Habitat, Kenya</p>
<p><b>Name, title, and organization of the 4th speaker</b></p>	<p>Ass. Prof. Hendrik Tieben, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, hktieben@cuhk.edu.hk, Hong Kong</p>