Architecture in the Commonwealth

Australia - Royal Australian Institute of Architects
Bahamas - Institute of Bahamian Architects
Bangladesh - Institute of Architects Bangladesh
Barbados - Barbados Institute of Architects
Belize - Association of Professional Architects Belize
Bermuda - Institute of Bermuda Architects
Botswana - Architects Association of Botswana
Canada - The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada
Cyprus - Cyprus Civil Engineers & Architects Association
Fiji - Fiji Association of Architects
Ghana - Ghana Institute of Architects
Guyana - Guyana Institute of Architects
Hong Kong - Hong Kong Institute of Architects
India - Indian Institute of Architects
Jamaica - Jamaica Institute of Architects
Kenya - Architectural Association of Kenya
Malawi - Malawi Institute of Architects
Malta - Kamra Tal-Pirili
Namibia - Namibia Institute of Architects
New Zealand - New Zealand Institute of Architects
Nigeria - Nigerian Institute of Architects
Pakistan - Institute of Architects Pakistan
Papua New Guinea - Papua New Guinea Institute of Architects.
Sierra Leone - Sierra Leone Institute of Architects
Singapore - Singapore Institute of Architects
South Africa - South African Institute of Architects
Sri Lanka - Sri Lanka Institute of Architects
St Kitts and Nevis - St Kitts and Nevis Institute of Architects
St Lucia - St Lucia Association of Architects
St Vincent and The Grenadines - St. Vincent & The Grenadines Institute of Architects
Tanzania - Architectural Association of Tanzania
Trinidad & Tobago - Trinidad And Tobago Institute of Architects
Uganda - Uganda Society of Architects
United Kingdom - Royal Institute of British Architects

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Greetings from the Commonwealth Association of Architects!

Welcome to the World Architecture Day, which was declared by the UIA in 1985 to be celebrated on the first Monday of October each year in parallel with UN World Habitat Day.

The theme this year is Housing For All: "Towards better Urban Future", World Architecture Day seeks to draw the attention of professionals as well as the public to problems concerning our cities and habitat.

On this auspicious occasion, World Architecture Day, we would like to share with you all the activities the Commonwealth Association of Architects has been involved in supporting the theme of the World Architecture Day by playing a vital role in involving all stake holders and organising series of lectures for a call to Sustainable Urbanization which is very pertinent to theme of World Architecture Day.

2020 marks the start of a ‘Decade of Action’ to achieve the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, with nearly 50% of the projected increase in the World’s urban population by the year 2050, predicted to be taking place in Commonwealth countries, the CAA is working to help address the key challenges of climate change and rapid urbanisation.

The following are among a range of activities with which the CAA is involved:

1. The World Urban Forum (WUF): Organised every two years by UN Habitat, provides a unique event for networking and sharing experiences about sustainable urbanization. This year, working with the government of Rwanda, the Commonwealth Secretariat and others, the CAA helped shape Commonwealth focused events that took place at the 10th WUF held at Abu Dhabi early this year and made a commitment to action which formed part of the concluding declaration.

2. The CAA is a member of the Habitat Professionals Forum, established in 1999 under the auspices of UN Habitat as an inter-disciplinary partnership of human settlement professionals. The aim of which is to provide a voice for the CAA within the UN system.

3. The CAA was an active contributor to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting which took place in London in 2018. It is also currently working hard with a range of partners to advocate for the inclusion of Sustainable Urbanisation as a cross-cutting theme on the agenda of CHOGM hosted by the government of Rwanda which was to be held in Kigali the capital of Rwanda in June 2020 but due to COVID-19 crises has now been postponed to June next year.

4. The CAA is an active contributor to a number of important international initiatives, including:
   i) Global Alliance for Urban Crises of which the CAA is a founding member launched in 2016 at Istanbul Turkey. The Global Alliance for Urban Crises is a multi-disciplinary, collaborative community of practice, working to prevent and prepare for a more effective response to humanitarian crises in urban settings.
   ii) The CAA has recently become a member of the Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction. Hosted by UN Environment, the Global ABC exists to connect governments and the private sector to drive the transformation to a zero emissions, efficient and resilient construction sector.

The CAA is working with The Prince’s Foundation and the Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP) on the development of a Rapid Urbanisation Toolkit for use by those in secondary cities with limited access to built environment expertise.

Most recently, The Commonwealth Association of Architects launched its pilot programme of lectures for Built Environment Professionals.

While targeted at qualified built environment professionals, this series of lectures was of interest to policymakers, city leaders and students alike.

The programme attracted participants from all 5 Commonwealth Regions: including Asia, Africa, Europe, the Caribbean & the Americas, and the Pacific, plus over 200 participants from non-Commonwealth countries ranging from Afghanistan to Iraq, Nepal and the Philippines. Pakistan generated the largest number of participants, followed by the UK and Hong Kong. Participants came from local government, academia and the private sector, and from a variety of disciplines including architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, town planning and urban design.

We hope that with all these activities we can reflect on the state of our towns and cities, and on the basic right of all to adequate shelter. It was also intended to remind the world that we all have the power and the responsibility to shape the future of our cities and towns. Same as the theme of the World Architecture Day.

Wish you all good luck, keep safe and well.

Thank you.

Kalim A. Siddiqui
President CAA
Following the recommendations of public authorities and the WHO general guidelines towards the COVID-19 pandemic, the International Union of Architects, UIA, the Institute of Architects of Brazil, IAB and the Executive Committee UIA2020RIO have decided to postpone the 27th World Congress of Architects to July 2021. The announcement echoes several other events related to architecture that had to be postponed, including the Venice Biennale and the Salonedel Mobile. According to the organizers, registration fees will be automatically applied to the new Congress dates. In addition, the lectures and projects accepted for this year’s Congress will still apply to the new program in 2021. The UIA2020RIO will take place between the 18th and 22nd July 2021.
COVID-19 is a global challenge that demands researchers, policy makers, and governments address multiple dimensions which go far beyond the implications of this pandemic for health and wellbeing. Just as the UN Sustainable Development Goals call for focus on the connections between development policy sectors, the pandemic has exposed the complex global interdependencies that underpin economies and highlighted fault lines in societal structures that perpetuate ethnic, economic, social, and gender inequalities.

Here, the pandemic’s emerging potential consequences for achieving sustainable development with respect to the six global challenge areas we collectively address at the UK Research and Innovation’s Global Challenges Research Fund:

1. Food systems;
2. Education;
3. Cities and sustainable infrastructure;
4. Security,
5. Protracted conflict, refugee crises, and forced displacement;
6. Environmental resilience; and global health.

Power, equality, nationalism: how the pandemic will reshape the world

COVID-19 has intensified the rivalry between the US and China— but it has also strengthened international cooperation. Will nations be more united or divided, more or less free?
Smart Building Technologies for Planetary Sustainability and Human Health.

With the advent of the global pandemic it has become important for us to ensure that our Living, working and leisure developments are conducive for good health, on top of environmental sustainability. While a passive design of a building plays a big role enabling naturally ventilated environments, building technologies can come into play to manage building efficiency of occupant health. The task looks at the technologies that improve building sustainability and occupant health. Including building management systems, building integrated photovoltaic’s, indoor air quality monitoring, as well as drones for façade inspection amongst other new involvements.

COVID – 19 GLOBAL PANDEMIC AND ARCHITECTURE

Sustainability for building professionals in the age of global pandemic.

The current global pandemic has brought to light the hyper-consumerist nature of our life styles, and how the planet can recuperate in the absence of human activity.

While raising questions on how our efforts in pushing economic growth has impacted both human health and planetary health, it has also brought to fore the need for wellness, hygiene and natural ventilation in the buildings we occupy.

The talk proposes seven guidelines for building professionals on how the built environment can continue to function equitably with environmental health, in an after the age of this pandemic. Sinagpore.
COVID-19 and the impact of real estate market in Sri Lanka

A Webinar was organized by the Department of Estate Management & Valuation of the Faculty of Management Studies and Commerce, University of Sri Jayawardanapura, Sri Lanka. The Webinar was conducted with the participation of different professionals including architects involved in the real estate market of Sri Lanka.
CAA’s CONTRIBUTION TO COVID 19 GLOBAL PANDEMIC SITUATION

“Design guideline for COVID-19 Isolation Center” is a publication by The Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB). It is a publication that details with a set of guidelines proposed to be followed during design and construction of a COVID-19 Isolation Center.

Several member Organizations have contributed during the COVID – 19 pandemic in terms of design guidelines.

COVID-19 Rapid response is a set of proposed guidelines on planning and design of COVID-19 quarantine and treatment centers and long term infrastructure interventions for the Kenyan Context. It is a publication by The Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK). The publication includes planning considerations for setting up of quarantine facilities, innovative design solutions at building scale, Innovative solutions at Urban scale, Innovative solutions at Regional/ Country Level and Policy & long term post COVID-19 solutions.
Commonwealth Association of Architects
Continuing Professional Development (CPD), Lecture Series for Professionals

The Commonwealth Association of Architects launched its pilot programme of lectures for built environment professionals, the aim of which is to facilitate knowledge exchange between member organisations and member firms, to help promote mutual understanding and greater awareness of issues related to climate change and rapid urbanisation together with the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The CPD Lecture series began in July 2020 and went on till August 2020

**Introduction to the Sustainable Development Goals**, Mina Hasman, SOM

**Planning for Rapid Urbanisation**, Ben Bolgar, The Prince’s Foundation

**Planned City Extensions**, Alfredo Carballo, Allies and Morrison

**Resilient Infrastructure**, Ian Carradice, Arup

**Climate Responsive Design**, Geoff Rich, Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios

**Heritage-led Regeneration**, Geoff Rich, Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios

**Sustainable Outcomes Guide**, Gary Clark, HOK
Launch of the Online Programme &
Launch of the Survey of the Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth

As part of preparations for the 2020 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting that was due to be held in Kigali, Rwanda this month, the Association of Commonwealth Universities, the Commonwealth Association of Architects, the Commonwealth Association of Planners, and the Commonwealth Local Government Forum, with support from The Prince’s Foundation, the Rwandan Ministry of Infrastructure, the Rwandan Ministry of Local Government, the Commonwealth Engineers Council and others, have been working together to promote sustainable urbanisation in the Commonwealth.

With nearly 50% of the projected increase in the world’s urban population to 2050 forecast to be in the Commonwealth, there has never been a more important time for members of the Commonwealth to come together to tackle the challenges of climate change and rapid urbanisation; challenges which have now been compounded by the effects of the Corona virus pandemic.

A Programme of online sessions was created, all of which focus on engaging with the theme of sustainable urbanisation in the Commonwealth. The programme was officially launched in this webinar by HRH the Prince of Wales.
Launch of the Online Programme & Launch of the Survey of the Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth

The launch event was immediately followed by the first in the series of webinars; this presented the key findings of the Survey of the Built Environment Professions in the Commonwealth. This was presented by Mr Peter Oborn, Senior Vice President at the Commonwealth Association of Architects, followed by a panel discussion which included:

- Dr David Howard,
  University of Oxford, United Kingdom
- Mr VK Madavan,
  Chief Executive, WaterAid, India
- Prof Barbara Norman,
  University of Canberra, Australia
- Ms Astrid Haas,
  International Growth Centre, Uganda

7 lectures for built environment professionals were organized in parallel with the main programme:

- Thursday 02 July: Introduction to the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals
- Thursday 09 July: Planning for Rapid Urbanisation
- Thursday 16 July: Planned City Extensions
- Thursday 23 July: Resilient Infrastructure
- Thursday 30 July: Climate Responsive Design
- Thursday 06 August: Heritage-Led Regeneration
- Thursday 13 August: Sustainable Outcomes Guide
Commonwealth Association of Architect Council meeting was held to discuss Commonwealth Sustainable Cities Programme:

The following issues were discussed:

1. Update on the Survey of the Professions
2. Update on CHOGM and the Call to Action
3. Update on the Programme of Commonwealth events
4. Update on the CPD Pilot
5. Update on the GIS Database
6. Engagement from CAA Council

The meeting was attended by the following participants:

Ar Kalim A. Siddiqui (Pakistan) - President
Ar Vincent Cassar (Malta) - Honorary Secretary/Treasurer (Immediate Past President)
Ar Peter Oborn (UK) - Senior Vice President
Ar Akin Looby - Vice President Americas
Ar Jalal Ahmed (Bangladesh) - Vice President Asia
Ar Chandana Edirisuriya (Sri Lanka) - Chair of Communication Committee
Ar Jayantha Perera (Sri Lanka) - Chair of Practice Committee
Ar Maira Khan (Pakistan) - Executive Director

The final program will be shared with all Member Organizations after the finalization of schedule.
Commonwealth Association of Architects Welcomes Architects Association of Maldives as new member of the CAA family

Following is the letter of President AAM to President CAA:

"Ar. Kalim A. Siddiqui
President
Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA)

Dear Mr. Siddiqui,

Thank you for your letter and news about our membership to the Commonwealth Association of Architects. It is indeed our great pleasure and privilege to be a member of the CAA family of architects and look forward to a fruitful and healthy relationship together.

Please be assured that it will be our pleasure to contribute and participate in activities within our means and limits. We wait for news from Mr. Peter Oborn and are curious to know how we can participate in the programs of Planning for Climate Change and Rapid Urbanization. As you will know, we are a country that is seriously being affected by both. We will also keep in touch with Ms. Maira Khan and will try to meet her through an online meeting platform.

Our association is very new and have a long way to go to keep up with the associations of other member countries. We look forward to your advice and support to strengthen our association as well as the advancement of architecture in Maldives. Our association is managed by an elected executive committee and, for your information, their present members are as follows:

President – Mohamed Mauroof Jameel
Vice President – Hussain Ziyath
General Secretary – Mohamed Razzan
Treasurer – Maryiam Noona
Secretary – Khalid Abdul Majeed

Yours sincerely,
Mohamed Mauroof Jameel
President
Architects Association Maldives"
The Dezeen Virtual Design Festival is the world’s first online Design Festival. The festival is a response to the coronavirus pandemic. The virtual design festival provides a platform where the architecture and design world can celebrate the culture and commerce of the industry and explore ways of adapting to help each other under the unique circumstances.

The Schools and Students aspect of the Festival affords schools, courses and students to showcase an end of year exhibition virtually. The Caribbean School of Architecture has published an exhibition of the Master of Architecture course and Student projects available for viewing by the link below:

https://www.dezeen.com/2020/06/12/caribbean-school-of-architecture-vdf-school-shows/

Caribbean school of Architecture students re imagine Montego bay to serve public and environmental health