


# Southern Urbanism Co-Net: Negotiating Rural Urban Futures

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**  
April 1<sup>st</sup> - May 30<sup>th</sup>




UNIVERSITY  
OF LAGOS

LAGOS, NIGERIA 2026

## SOUTHERN URBANISM CO-NET

NEGOTIATING RURAL-URBAN FUTURES

August 16-26, 2026



**CONFERENCE THEME**

The Southern Urbanism Co-Net (SU Co-Net) fosters collaborative knowledge production on urbanism across the Global South. Building on the collaborative ethos of the 2024 Shanghai Conference (Tongji University), it emphasizes relational perspectives that capture the everyday realities, diverse actors, and complex processes shaping cities. Southern Urbanism as an evolving epistemological framework guiding interdisciplinary research, teaching, and practice. This conference brings together architects, researchers, scholars, built-environment practitioners, students, government agencies, climate-heritage organizations, and global stakeholders to examine these intersecting forces and co-create pathways toward equitable urban futures.


The 2026 Lagos Conference highlights the challenges and opportunities of postcolonial urbanism in Southern cities and beyond, including legacies of spatial inequality, rapid rural-urban migration, environmental pressures, informal expansion, and governance constraints. It explores how urban processes, spatial forms, and policy frameworks can guide urbanization toward resilience, equity, and livability. The conference aims to reshape urban scholarship and practice by nurturing cross-continental knowledge exchange, strengthening research networks, and promoting partnerships that redefine sustainable and culturally attuned urban futures.

<p><b>HOST</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculty of Architecture</li> <li>• Faculty of Environmental Sciences</li> <li>• Department of Architecture</li> <li>• Department of Landscape Architecture &amp; Urban Design</li> <li>• Department of Interior Architecture &amp; Design</li> <li>• Department of Urban &amp; Regional Planning</li> <li>• Department of Building</li> <li>• Architecture &amp; Urbanism Research Hub, University of Lagos, Akoka</li> </ul> <p><b>ACCOMODATION</b> University of Lagos Guest Houses.</p>	<p><b>TRACK I</b> Rural As New Urban</p> <p><b>TRACK III:</b> Infrastructuring and Governing Rural-Urban Futures</p> <p><b>TRACK V:</b> Open track</p>	<p><b>TRACK II:</b> Rethinking Urbanism and Climate Heritage in Rural-Urban Trajectories</p> <p><b>TRACK IV:</b> New Axes of Southern Knowledge: Theories, Methods, and Epistemologies</p>	<p><b>ABSTRACT/ PANEL SUBMISSION</b></p> <p>We invite submissions for individual abstracts and proposed panels that engage in multi-scalar, multidisciplinary dialogues on how decolonial approaches, climate-responsive design, indigenous knowledge systems, and socially grounded design-planning can collectively transform city-making processes.</p>
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**CONFERENCE ORGANISING TEAM**  
College of Architecture and Urban Planning, Tongji University, China  
Tokyo Metropolitan Public University Corporation, Japan  
Ardhi University, Tanzania  
Mumbai, India  
AMP Lab, EnsaPLV, Paris, France.  
Faculty of Architecture, Abdullah Gul University, Turkey  
University of Lagos, Nigeria

**TIMELINES**  
**April 1st- May 30<sup>th</sup>** ..... Call for Abstracts  
**June 10<sup>th</sup>** ..... Notification of Acceptance of Abstracts  
**Aug 17-22nd** ..... Student Workshop & Exhibition  
**Aug 24-25<sup>th</sup>** ..... Main Conference Activities  
**Aug 26<sup>th</sup>** ..... Field Trips

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**Sunday, 16 August 2026 - Wednesday, 26 August 2026**

**Lagos, Nigeria**

## **Urban As New Rural**

## **Rethinking Urbanism and Climate Heritage in Urban Rural Trajectories**

## **Infrastructuring and Governing Rural-Urban Futures**

## **New Axes of Southern Knowledge: Theories Methods and Epistemologies**

## **Open Track**