The United Nations General Assembly has designated the 31st of October as “World Cities Day”. Under over-arching theme of Better City, Better Life, this year the focus will be on “Valuing Our Communities and Cities”.

Aim of the day is to focus international community’s attention on urbanization as a central issue for development and to promote cooperation among countries in addressing urban challenges towards building sustainable development.

To commemorate the United Nations “World Cities Day”, on 29 October 2020 COMSATS Centre for Climate and Sustainability (CCCS) is jointly hosting a webinar in cooperation with its partner institution the Tanzania Industrial Research and Development Organization (TIRDO).

The webinar will focus on key issues of urbanization facing countries in the Global South. The webinar will bring together experts from the Global South to identify challenges of building sustainable urbanization and propose solutions in areas of health, access to clean drinking water, poor drainage system, air pollution, solid waste management, carbon emissions and environmental degradation.

Meeting Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84873035827?pwd=dU1RV0JFVzV5RVFoNjQ0UFBNOUlTT09
Meeting ID: 848 7303 5827 Passcode: 032261

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Consultant that ranges from town planning, preliminary planning, and infrastructural development works for the renowned Engr./planner of Pakistan involved in various sorts of planning projects.

**Prof. Akhtar Ali Shah**, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Peshawar. Prof. Syed Akhtar Ali Shah is a renowned Engr./planner of Pakistan involved in various sorts of urban planning and infrastructural development works for the past thirty years. He did his graduation in Civil Engineering (1986-90) from UET, Peshawar; Post graduation in Environmental Planning from Institute of Planning Studies, University of Nottingham, UK (1993-95) and PhD from Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST), South Korea (2003-06). His PhD work was focused on transport planning issues in the developing countries. He has been working on a number of projects as a consultant that ranges from town planning, preliminary socioeconomic appraisal for different infrastructure development projects to planning human settlements.

**Dr. Omer Kamal Alebeid**, Cleaner Production Institute, Industrial Research and Consultancy Center, Khartoum, Sudan. Dr. Omer Kamal Alebeid is currently serving as Assistant Professor in IRCC, Khartoum, Sudan. He earned his Ph.D on topic Functionalization of natural fibers with metal oxide nanoparticles in 2015 from Donghua University, Shanghai, China and Postdoctoral fellowship form Key Laboratory of Advanced Materials, Zhejiang Sci-Tech University, College of Materials, Hangzhou, China. Dr. Alebeid's research interests are Cleaner Production and Resource Efficiency, Eco-Friendly Dyeing and Finishing of Textiles Nanoparticles, preparation and applications. Currently he is working on Industrial Waste Exchange (IWEX) and Waste Water and Energy Reduction Technology.

**Ms. Kunda Sikazwe** is an Environmental Expert currently working as a Research and Development officer in the Environmental Technology and Occupational Safety Division at Tanzania Industrial Research and Development Organization (TIRDO). Prior to joining TIRDO, Ms. Sikazwe served Environmental Protection and Management Services Ltd (EPMS) as the Carbon and Climate Change Mitigation Assistant Programme Officer. Ms. Sikazwe holds a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from University of Geosciences, China (2008) and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Sciences and Management from Sokoinke University of Agriculture, Tanzania (2004). Her main research interest is on reducing greenhouse gases emission through utilization of solid waste for energy production. Others include industrial wastewater treatment, industrial waste utilization, Climate change and energy, Air pollution monitoring and Environmental Impact Assessment studies.

**Prof. Julius B. Leju**, Uganda. Dr. Julius B. Leju is an Associate Professor of Botany at Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST). He is currently the Dean, Faculty of Science. He holds a PhD from Trinity College, University of Dublin, Ireland. He has a Master of Science (MSc) Degree in Botany and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education, PGDE obtained from Makerere University. Dr. Leju has worked in Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) for the last 20 years and has served in the Faculty and the University in different capacities. He has served the Faculty of Science as Acting Dean, Associate Dean, and Head of Biology Department. He was a Visiting Research Fellow and Honorary Research Associate in the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. Dr. Leju has served in various International and Regional Organizations. He is currently an Editorial Board Member of the East African Journal for Science Technology and Innovation (EAJSTI) and also a member of Past Global Environmental Changes (PAGES).

**Prof. Demao Li**, BioSystem Engineer at Tianjin Institute of Industrial Biotechnology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China. Prof. Demao Li is the Professor of Biosystem Engineering at Tianjin Institute of Industrial Biotechnology. Dr. Li received his Ph.D degree from Institute of Oceanology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. He was a visiting scholar at the Department of Biological Systems Engineering, Washington State University in 2015-2016. His current research includes single cell protein and oil for artificial meat, fermentation engineering and food waste treatment. He is the author and co-author of 100 peer-reviewed original research papers and more than 15 issued patents.

**Prof. Ebrahim Moghimi**, Professor, Geomorphology, Physical Geography Department, Geography College, University of Tehran, Iran. Prof. Ebrahim Moghimi earned his Ph.D degree in 1998 on the topic “Geomorphology and Resources Management , case study : Golpayegan region, Iran”. Ebrahim Moghimi has professional degree of geomorphology and has been faculty member in university of Tehran since 2001. He was manager of physical Geography Department from 2013 until October 2015.He was the dean of Geography College, university of Tehran from November 2015 until September 2018. Also he was manager of planning and development in geographical sciences in Ministry of Sciences, Research and Technology, Government of Iran from 2015 until 2019. He has been Editor-in-Chief in Journal of Environmental Hazards Management (JEHM.ut.ac.ir) since 2014. He has published more than 120 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an editorial board member of repute. He has published over 10 books in case of Geomorphology, Urban Geomorphology, Climatic Changes and Hazards. He has been supervisor of more than 20 PHD students since 2005.

**Dr. Bauyrzhan Yedilbayev**, Associate Professor at Al-Farabi Kazakh National University. Dr. Bauyrzhan Yedilbayev earned his Ph.D in 2008 on the topic “Patterns of pollutants transfer from transport vehicles in the air basin in residential areas of cities”. He has published number of scientific research papers in various international journals and conferences, including article, published in the international conference in Harvard University (USA) and monograph.

**Prof. Akhtar Ali Shah**, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Peshawar. Prof. Syed Akhtar Ali Shah is a renowned Engr./planner of Pakistan involved in various sorts of urban planning and infrastructural development works for the past thirty years. He did his graduation in Civil Engineering (1986-90) from UET, Peshawar; Post graduation in Environmental Planning from Institute of Planning Studies, University of Nottingham, UK (1993-95) and PhD from Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST), South Korea (2003-06). His PhD work was focused on transport planning issues in the developing countries. He is currently an Editorial Board Member of the East African Journal for Science Technology and Innovation (EAJSTI) and also a member of Past Global Environmental Changes (PAGES).