



6TH WORLD PLANNING SCHOOLS CONGRESS
FINLAND : HELSINKI / ESPOO / TAMPERE

TRACK 13: TECHNOLOGIES

Co-Chairs:

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Description:

This track explores how emerging digital technologies are reshaping planning research, education, and practice, including its epistemological, methodological, and practical foundations. The integration of artificial intelligence, and large-scale spatial data enables both researchers and planners to model complex urban phenomena and simulate change scenarios—from accessibility and mobility patterns to land use change and environmental exposure—in new and often more dynamic ways to support planning, design, and decision-making. Alongside methodological development and innovation, these advances also call for critical reflection on their integration with planning theory and practice.

We invite contributions that push the boundaries in the use of advanced digital technologies in planning and urban research. These may include studies that apply cutting-edge spatial methods, examine the epistemologies and implications of AI-driven tools, or propose novel approaches for integrating heterogeneous geospatial data into urban systems. We are particularly interested in work that demonstrates how digital methods can enhance the interpretability of complex socio-spatial and environmental systems, support integration across disciplinary and sectoral domains, and challenge or rethink conventional planning approaches through digital innovation and new analytical capabilities.

This track welcomes methodological contributions as well as applied and theoretical work that critically engages with the role of digital technologies in shaping the future of urban research and planning.

Keywords:

AI in planning, machine learning, spatial modelling, urban analytics, big data, thick data, real-time data, urban digital twins, virtual urban environments, computational urbanism, spatial thinking, digital methods, geospatial technologies, geodesign, gamification in planning.