

Design for All



Guest Editor: Ercan Tural

Ambassador Design for All Foundation
Expert Accessible solutions,
Olympic Torch Bearer
Turkey

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GUEST EDITOR



Ercan Tural, completed the Bachelor of Social Sciences in the University of Tubingen- Germany in 1996.

An accomplished Executive Manager, with expertise in leading the social change to close the gap between where people with disabilities are and where they should have been. Proven ability to innovate social responsibility projects with local and multinational companies in Turkey. Solid experience in creating strategies and processes that enhance the integrity of socially disadvantage population into the community. Strong management and leadership skills, with ability to motivate volunteers and promote volunteerism and develop smart solutions on disability.

Excellent communicator, with emphasis on building strong relationships with local and multinational non-governmental organizations. Deep understanding of how to lead organizational changes.

He is an expert on accessibility solutions.

World ambassador of Design for All Foundation.

Founder of: AYDER–Alternative Life Association, Dreams Academy, Alternative Camp, Social Inclusion Band, Dreams Kitchen, D-Film, Best Buddies Turkey and SortyApp.

Among his social accomplishments include being Olympic Torch Bearer in 2004 Athens & 2012 London.

Throughout his career he has received various awards such as:

..

Guest Editorial:

DREAMS HAVE NO BARRIER..!

This is the story of extraordinary people with “Dreams” who are seeking an “Alternative”. Their stories speak louder than numbers and repeated statistics. This is the story of the World’s Largest Minority, people with disabilities. It is an ongoing journey to break the walls , obstacles and societal barriers that perpetuate the “disability problem” in Turkey. It is also the story of one change maker, Ercan Tural who embarked on a personal quest to become the change he wished to see in the world. His alternative journey has become part of a series of innovative solutions to the “disability problem” in Turkey.

An Accessible Life Journey And Social Change Leadership Adventure.

Awareness;

The University years in Germany were the years when my awareness of the existence of the disabled in social life began and I turned into consciousness by observing, thinking about and making inferences about active forms of existence in all areas of life.

Individuals from different disability groups could be found in the pool, library, disco, bus, subway, workplace, sports fields and streets almost everywhere. They enjoyed all the constitutional, human and civil rights like other citizens fully and equally. And even dozens of social living spaces, which provided special solutions for different need groups, stood in front of me as models that opened their doors to everyone.

Fabrics, integrated workplaces, ateliers where are managed by PWD and/or they were 100% employed; "life houses" that take the burden of the severely disabled on the family and offer a guarantee of life, dozens of sports clubs affiliated to federations, holiday villages, hotels, dormitories and especially public transportation solutions..

Each one of them, as indispensables of modern and human life, formed the cornerstones of a brand new life goal in my soul and consciousness.

Flashback ;

Perhaps the most important turning point in the whole process of awareness and consciousness formation would be to remember the current situation in my country and then to personally research it. Were they able to actively participate in the education and employment processes? Were the legal practices adequate and, moreover, could existing laws be enforced?

I realized that there was almost no normal frame of life that I could clearly remember. From my childhood and early teenage years, there were blind street singers, beggars with canes and wheelchairs, mental hospitals, children in chains, disability reduced to the concepts of mocking, humiliation and swearing.

There was a "discrimination", "social exclusion" and "stigma" that started in concepts at the very first stage, and in almost all of our society, the concepts of disability were used as adjectives of contempt, ridicule and swearing.

Consciousness;

"Be the change you want to see in the world...(Gandhi)"

Yes, Gandhi said, "Whatever change, innovation and revolution you want, you have to be that first"; If so, I would start with myself. I tried to enrich my life sharing by deepening research, reading more, making detailed observations, and entering personal relationships. To make it happen, I had to be the one first. And in every step I took, in every new relationship I entered, I saw that only and only "human" was in front of me. And there were decent opportunities and solutions.

Each of them had different life stories

One that looks like ours, that might look like his...(e.t)

Genetic disorders that cause impairment and thus disability, traffic accidents, birth defects, malnutrition, wrong first aid, consanguineous marriages, bad habits... the list went on and on. Knowing all these, I had to determine the methods and methodology for my way to the goal. The general situation determination in the world already put a grave picture before us; 200 million of the 1,5 billion disabled people were in the ranking of this "great minority" just because of malnutrition. My face was red when I thought of the leftovers on our tables and our spoiled choice of food. These figures

were approximate for almost all countries.. While it was around 10 % in developed countries, this rate was approaching 15% in less developed, low income and backward countries.

Aim ;

Being aware of the reality lived in was raising awareness, and now it was necessary to go on a journey with a determined goal and to engage in an active participation process. Next was the responsibility of expressing, taking on tasks and developing solutions, imposed by the level of consciousness that became clear. And I was ready to take on this responsibility. With these first steps I took to solve the problem I described, my journey of a thousand miles had begun.

The name of the road; It was to produce solutions for the biggest minority who had congenital or after birth disabilities, diseases, physical-mental-hearing and visual differences and were deprived of their most basic right to life only because of these realities, and to be the active implementer of these propositions. Thus I had a strong purpose and put on the clothes of this new journey. It was necessary to return to the country and start working with this determination.

To face reality;

"Do the blind dream? Sure they do.. Those who lose their real dreams become blind.. It is not the blindness of the individual but the social blindness that we are afraid to name in this rapid flow.!(e.t)

Very different from the short-term comings and goings, I started to understand the real dimension of the current situation in Turkey, but

the day I returned for sure, I started to understand better. First, I tried to visit official institutions, associations, foundations, sports clubs and rehabilitation centers related to these issues and collect concrete information and data. I wanted to see the obstacles in its structure closely, and on the other hand, I wanted the steps I would take to be suitable for concrete situations.

Insensitivity and stigma were at the highest level in the society in general. There was almost no source on the subject of disability, and aside from the lack of literature, the terminology used was outdated. Regardless of the subject, the lack of standards was the most prominent issue. International standards were not even mentioned. and then it was disconnected from all social life processes. They did not exist, they were ignored and excluded.

There were no NGOs that put the disability phenomenon on the basis of the work program. The associations were playing "associationism" and operated almost with the logic of a coffee house. Being an NGO, creating a civil initiative awareness etc. was not even known.

As a volunteer, social entrepreneur or sensitive citizen who has already gone on a journey to define the problems and find solutions, the doors I knocked on -whatever we say- were always closed in my face. There was no information, data, source, representative authority and addressee in the official channels. Rehabilitation centers and academics did not have much patience for someone other than themselves to try to find a solution. I always had to come back through these doors. Many times..!

The strongest support has always come from my family and close friends. If you have a strong castle, you do not collapse...

First step;

"..we discovered the healing and liberating power of the ocean..(J.M.Cousteau)

I had no time to lose. Because it was very obvious that the environment was not ready for innovations in this area yet. Choosing the right fields and tools would speed me up. With the "sports for social change" approach, I could break the ice and awaken the sleeping giant through sports.

With "Diving is Freedom!" motto, I started free of charge scuba diving trainings for the disabled. I was also carrying out the training of trainers and assistants who could take an active role in these studies. I wanted to spread international standards on diving sports and show that anything can be done if desired.

Making the accommodation and activity areas suitable for wheelchair users, and the meeting of the first dive candidates with the magic of the underwater world, lit the first spark starting from our environment. These initiatives created awareness in the close social circle and especially in the media and became the main news in the national media many times. People, tradesmen and institutions started to open their doors and hearts.

The healing and liberating power of the underwater world has enabled not only the bodies and worlds of disabled divers, but also a sensitive social environment to look at the subject freely and without prejudice. Dozens of people from different (dis)ability groups participated in these activities. They received their certificates and became acquainted with the mystery of the world of the seas.

Yes, underwater world has no barriers... a world of no dependency on a person, a vehicle and an object.

A world of underwater where the wheelchairs, crutches and white canes you were destined for, lost their power... A world of freedom and equality..

The crippled-solid, dwarf-giant, black-white and sight-blind, who do not distinguish..it is entirely yours.

a world.. Free from obstacles, unlimited with fish, algae and corals..

You and Him

alone, a world for you with its healing and liberating power..

No high sidewalks, steep slopes and stairs, narrow doors, no elevators and no ramps. A world without the shame of "modern" life such as discrimination, ignoring and degrading. A world where you feel better, freer, more equal and more human. .. A world underwater that gives you back the life you thought that it has already gone away from your grasp...

And eyes that can't see, bodies that can't walk become fish, algae and sea in this world...

They call out to those who think they see them, screaming from underwater;

"Diving is Freedom!...(e.t)"

And diving was truly freedom..!

Second step ;

The Red Sea Documentary and J.M.Cousteau..Two important keywords of my journey to a barrier free life. The level of diving activities

initiated with disabled people in Turkey and the level reached had to be shared with the international public as one of the best examples for the country. Actually, we mostly knew Father Cousteau from his documentaries about the world of the seas, not J.M.Cousteau. It was our dreams to take part in those documentaries and dive into the magical blue world from Cousteau's boat. It was written that he was shooting a diving documentary. He made an underwater film by making a diving trip with 6 disabled people from different parts of the world. As a summary of this work, J.Michel said, "We discovered the healing and liberating power of the ocean...".

I searched for sponsors for a year and finally a pharmaceutical company sponsored our diving trip and documentary filming in the Red Sea.

Changing, healing and liberating lives were actually both the subject and the award of the documentary we shot.

"A cloud above the sea / yellow fish in a silver ship on his face / a blue moss at the bottom / a naked man on the shore / standing and thinking Whether I am a cloud / a ship or a fish / algae or what it is, neither it, nor it / it must be the sea, my son With its cloud, its ship / its fish, its seaweed."

Mutlu..Ersoy..Gülçin...Berna...Ayhan...Safinaz...They were now the sea..!

The documentary "Diving is Freedom" was broadcast in the main news on TV for days, was screened in the documentary generation, received awards in international competitions, its photographs were exhibited many times, it was the subject of congresses in seminars, it traveled around the country in special screenings of documentary film

festivals. and even the world diving community has seen what disabled people can do and should be able to do when given the opportunity.

Third Step ;

Yes, diving, taking advantage of the buoyancy of water, no gravity and its dynamic and meditative power, and leaving the white canes, wheelchairs, crutches, fears and anxieties on the shore and becoming free had become livable. Hundreds of disabled young people met the beauties of a world they had not even dreamed of anymore, reinforced their self-confidence and became active members of social life.

But I shouldn't have stopped here, I had to open new doors and produce new models for social transformation. The idea of Alternative Camp was born from these needs. I visited almost all the disabled sports federations in Europe and tried to find out which sports branches they practice and by what methods. I tried to obtain new information from researches, private conversations and resources. There were very rich applications and dozens of different sports branches. While disabled sports were stuck between 3-4 branches in our country, more than 50 different sports events were held at Olympic standards in almost all European countries.

It was necessary to bring together disabled and disadvantaged youth in our country with all these activities. This could be done in such a way that sports, education, integration and vacation could be experienced together. The name of this definition was Alternative Camp.

Alternative Camp was opened in Bodrum in 2002 with the support of a few responsible businessman, despite all the resistances, oppositions and economic impossibilities.

The concept of the camp was entirely based on volunteering. Even from the farthest corners of the world, young people interested in the subject came to our camp to do long-term volunteering, do internships, improve their credit scores and take important steps in their career journey. Disabled people who go on vacation for the first time in their lives, see the pool and sea for the first time, have the opportunity to meet a foreign person for the first time, dive and ride a horse for the first time, use a canoe, wall-climbing, receive first aid training and even dance for the first time. .here is the pinnacle of integration..!Spanish volunteer playing dominoes with the visually impaired young people from Samsun with great pleasure..Japanese volunteer danced with a young man from Mardin in a wheelchair who had never seen or danced in a discotheque in his life..that was the integration.!

In the whole concept, almost everyone, volunteers and disabled participants were experiencing everything for the FIRST TIME. This is where the Alternative Camp project was most successful and its power to be innovative, entrepreneurial and alternative.

Alternative Camp had established a sustainable, new and unconventional system that made the project permanent with the philosophy of "not buying the service, but producing it". It had sponsors from dozens of responsible private sector representatives, companies and individuals. The studies were made news on TV and in newspapers. It took part in seminars, congresses and university presentations. It received many national and international awards. It became the world champion in "Social Responsibility" in the World Young Entrepreneurship Competition. He received the "Good Example

Award for Youth” by UNDP. And it (Alternative Camp) became the subject of a series of awards and accreditations.

We also continued the work of spreading the wind, which started in Bodrum in the Aegean Sea, to all regions of the country, and we made short and long-term regional camps in Van-Sinop-Artvin-Fatsa-Antalya-Kaş-Fethiye and-İzmir at different times.

Since the beginning, thousands of PWD and socially disadvantaged youngsters attended our camp, free of charge. It was an important turning point in their career journeys for almost 2000 volunteers.

As a result, what remained from the camps were the changed life goals, the self-confidence gained, new breakthroughs that turned into productivity, the bodies that got rid of inertia and even healed, and the souls that were liberated.

Alternative Camp continues its journey, knowing that it is on the right track in its goal of permanent social transformation as a pioneering model and dynamic application of barrier-free social life.

Social Change Leadership as an NGO;

As the Alternative Camp project ceased to be a project and assumed a corporate identity, the need for a legal identity arose. Actually, studies could have continued within one of the existing institutions in order not to contribute to the inflation of associations, foundations etc. AYDER (Alternative Life Association) was born out of this stalemate and imperative need. As an association that develops and implements alternative, innovative and sustainable projects in all areas of social life in accordance with international vision and standards for all disability groups, other groups and individuals

experiencing social disadvantages..A civil society initiative based on voluntary participation...a pioneering visionary model.

Being the first to sign the UN "Global Compact Principles " and taking an active role in international organizations such as Caravan2000, ENAT (European Network of Accessible Tourism), HSA (Handicapped Scuba Association); Turkey has become an important model in the world and Europe showcase with the projects it has implemented and the values it has produced.

Diving is Freedom,(1997-2008)

Red Sea Documentary (2001)

Alternative Camps, (2002-2008)

Accessible Tourism for All (TURSAB),(2006-2010)

Reha Istanbul (RehaCare/Düsseldorf)(2004-2008)

Accessible Istanbul Travel Guide (2006-2010)

Barrier-Free Design (room of interior architects)(2006)

Dreams Academy (UNDP- Vodafone)(2008-2018-...)

Life Plus (UNDP-CocaCola)(2006-2007-2008)

Olivium Climbing Wall(2006-2008)

The Truth of Dream (2008)

Correct Approach to Disability Issue Training Program (2008)

Social Inclusion Band (2009-)

Dreams Company (2009-.....)

AYDER, which has signed a series of projects such as, without deviating from its main goal of social change; It continues its journey to change the standards in the country in favor of the disabled, to permanently solve the bleeding problems, to create a general

awareness and consciousness in the society, and to create a disabled majority that actively and fully participates in all areas of life.

Dozens of moments when this difficult and long journey from Diving is Freedom to Alternative Camp and from Alternative Life Association to Dreams Academy was crowned, verified and rewarded were the most meaningful and important moments of my life as a social entrepreneur.

Carrying the Olympic Torch 2 times was an honor in itself. Being selected as a social entrepreneur by ASHOKA, receiving awards in international institution and private sector project competitions such as the World Bank, Eurowards, Coca-Cola, Vodafone, etc., receiving special certificates of appreciation from the Presidency and Prime Ministry, receiving the "Good Example for Youth" award from UNDP, from professional chambers, Receiving awards, certificates and honorary certificates from local representatives, media and dozens of different institutions became the most beautiful pages of my social responsibility and social entrepreneurship story that I have continued for a quarter of a century, starting from the first step I took.

Last word;

According to official statistics, one out of every 7 people in our country is disabled.. In our family, relatives, neighbors, school or colleagues.. in short, there is still a bleeding wound anywhere in our life squares.. They say that "*a fire burns where it falls..!*"

Intelligent consciousness and individuals do not wait to be burned. But they do not turn their back on the fire outside either.. They create solutions and implement them..

They go out into the street and clean in front of thier doors...

And even in front of other doors as much as they can..!!

ERCAN TUTAL



TURKAN YOSUN

Adjunct Faculty at Sabanci University

turkany@sabanciuniv.edu

Türkan Yosun is an academic and farmer. After getting her BS degree from Bilkent University Management department, she worked as a finance professional at banks and auto companies.

She later got a PhD degree in Management from Sabancı University, where she still teaches courses on Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Entrepreneurship, and Technology Management. In her Phd dissertation entitled Marketization of Social Sectors and Strategic Responses of Social Enterprises, she analyzed the evolution and competitive dynamics of the field of supplementary education of the disabled in Turkey.

She has supported many social enterprises, mostly focusing on environment and fair trade, in volunteer, mentor, and founding member roles.

Türkan's interest in testing and making wine evolved into the adventure of starting her own vineyard. She later extended the idea to an ecological farm with different kinds of plants, where visitors can learn and experience ecological farming along with winemaking. In her short article in this issue, she explains the evolution of the idea and how the rising concept incorporates Sustainable Development Goals into the physical design and the business model.

Designing an Inclusive Ecofarm

TURKAN YOSUN

Adjunct Faculty at Sabanci University

A single woman doing agriculture? Don't dream about it.

Starting a vineyard? Way too difficult, forget about it.

You will make and sell wine? Only big bosses can do it.

An organic vineyard? This is not possible. Bullshit.

Agri-tourism? A customer won't like the tomato at breakfast, and you will go mad about it. (Yes, I literally heard this sentence, from a family member.)

As you guessed already, these were some of the reactions I got when starting the journey. No need to say I couldn't find any support, up until people saw I already did most of it.

Background Story

Going a few years back, to the pandemic era, as things to fix-paint-replace were diminishing in my apartment, along with my patience, my family understood my psychological need for a new larger apartment and agreed on selling a jointly owned property to finance it. I was not, at least intentionally, cheating them. (I had even forgotten about my plan of moving to an island to write novels, which had started a family crisis six years ago.) But once you have the cash, you know, people may lose themselves. I first started searching for a tiny vineyard, in addition to a new apartment, so that I could make my home wines-a hobby at that time- from my own grapes. Next, I was looking for bigger land where I could start a new vineyard. Then I

contented there should also be some tourism activity going on, so that the farm could financially sustain. Hey, why not grow some other plants as well?... At the end, I found myself buying a big land for which I paid half the money I had for the new house, later spending the rest for infrastructure work. But at least I did not move to a distant island.

To be honest, I was not planning on a venture with a deliberate social aim. It was a period of my life that I had quit the social ventures I was a member of due to internal disputes and underlying reasons, which would need another article to tell. All I wanted was a little hedonistic world for myself. My city-escape plan, however, gradually evolved into a high-impact business model, from which my subconscious apparently cannot escape after years of researching, teaching, and practicing the management of social ventures. In what follows, I will explain some observations, experiences, and the rising inclusive farm concept.

The Context

Nicaea is a town in the city of Bursa, Türkiye. It is situated by Lake Nicaea surrounded by plains and mountain villages. The town is world famous for being the site of the first Ecumenical Council of the Christian Church, as well as its tile art. In its history, this ancient Greek city has been controlled by the Roman, Byzantine, Seljuk, and the Ottoman Empires, with key roles in their culture and trade. Today, however, Iznik (with its contemporary name) is a modest town with a 44 thousand population and low economic activity based on agriculture and limited tourism income.

My farm is on 23 acres of land on the northern side of the Lake, at a hill with 460 mt altitude. It is situated in Yörükler village (of Iznik) but is only 300 meters from Fulacık village (of Kocaeli). The two

villages have quite diverse historic roots; former a Muslim Turk village proud of being one of the first two Turkish border villages founded by the Seljuk Empire, latter an ancient Christian Greek village once famous for its vineyards. In sharp contrast to today, the population in these lands used to be so high that cats could go from one village to the other by jumping on the roofs. The two villages lived in harmony for many centuries under the rule of several empires. Following WWI, however, Fulacık villagers were sent to Bulgaria in exchange for a Turkish population there. The newly arriving Turks were not into wine business and the vineyards gradually disappeared.

Today, around half of the land in these and nearby villages is sold to investors or city-escapers and the population goes on declining as the youth continue moving to big cities. The local villagers make a life by selling their agricultural products to wholesalers, by selling their land, and by working on the farms sold to the urban. Agricultural practices rely on using chemicals and the locals believe organic farming is not feasible. While many have shifted to drip irrigation with the help of subsidized loans, there is no interest in other good farming practices such as soil analysis. The wholesalers come to the village to buy the agricultural products grown and picked by the villagers. Not an exception to the global case, they pay very low prices to the villagers to get the bulk of profits for themselves. While a local villagers cooperative exists, its activities stay limited to bulk buying of some necessities, with no attempt to directly sell agricultural products in the market and/or adding more value by processing them. Despite not having much of an entrepreneurial orientation, villagers have seen an opportunity in cultivating farms of landowners from big cities. A fact that also caused some trouble for me at the beginning, is that they tend to charge astronomic fees for tasks like ploughing, fertilization, and planting. Unable to bear those costs in the long run, most city

escapers later escape from the village, where they had planned to stay on weekends and holidays. The planted trees and crops are left uncared for until the land is sold to new city-escapers or investors.

Women of the village are invisible heroes. There is a café in the village center, not officially but culturally reserved for men. I kept going there as the only woman, because I wanted to learn about the local life, and I needed local knowledge and connections. In time, they accepted my existence naming me Hoca Hanım (meaning the professor lady). I made many friends, especially of the elderly men who liked telling stories that I liked listening to. Months passed and I saw only a few women; one young girl shepherd, one old lady shepherd, and one woman in her garden as I stopped for the cute dogs in front of a house. I also saw from a distance, some women working on neighboring land. As the situation increasingly bothered me, one day I jokingly rebelled in the café: "Hey! Where are the women of this village?" I was told they were either at home doing housework or working on the farms, and that it was not proper for them to go to the men's café. One elderly friend of mine also explained that parents did not want their daughter to be married to the village as women are made to work very hard there. Therefore, they sought grooms living in the city, no matter how poor they are, to save their daughter from village life. "I will open a women's café; they will sit there, and you will go work on farms" I reacted, which they took as a joke, and I didn't take it further to avoid a dispute at that moment. I later had more chances of talking to local women who complained about the hard manual work they do in the farms while men do the easier work with the tractor.

The rising inclusive farm concept

Blending cultures:

The vineyard has a unique tile pattern; the Seljuk Star. In addition to its nice look, the corners in the pattern symbolize values of mercy, compassion, patience, integrity, confidence, loyalty, generosity, and gratitude. After sleepless nights of design phase, it took ten days of work on the land to mark the exact places of nearly 2000 vines. But at the end we succeeded without going mad. The whole pattern of the vineyard is visible from most parts of the farm thanks to the naturel altitude and slope differences, as well as the ground levelling we did to enable this. You have a view of the Nicaea Lake and a huge Seljuk Star, which the contemporary locals would all like. Coming to growing wine grapes and making wine, the mostly conservative locals do not really like it. However, their reaction turns to positive as I talk about this art in the vineyard; it successfully serves as an icebreaker. I believe it will be a cultural bridge between the region's past and today, and between people of different lifestyles. In addition to wine, I will also produce Hardaliye – a soft grape drink in which you add black mustard seeds to prevent fermentation, and sour cherry leaves. This way, people with diverse beliefs and lifestyles can enjoy nature and the workshops together.

Care for the environment:

To start with, I had a solar system installed, with an inverter capacity to also charge my electric car. Although I can have access to electricity from the grid with minimal investment, I will not do this but increase renewable energy capacity as needed. Next, I needed to store water and the practical way is of course plastic tanks. Instead, I ordered huge oak barrels from a local artisan. I was stamped crazy for

paying that price for water storage; but luckily, I don't care. Seeing another opportunity for the barrels, I designed a water collection and watering system with also another practical use. There is an umbrella on the barrel connected to a pipe. In rainy weather, the umbrella faces upwards to collect rainwater into the barrel. In shiny weather, it faces down to create shade and serves as an authentic bistro where you can sit around to enjoy the view. The farm is, no need to say, designed all organic. Instead of pesticides, I used products such as neem oil for protecting the trees from harmful insects. While preparing the vineyard for planting, I used cattle and worm manure, and forms of organic leonardites. When it came to fertilizing the vines after we planted them, however, things got trickier as plants needed specific minerals at different phases of growth. The organic alternatives to the chemical fertilizers are, in addition to being ten times costlier, not capable of diffusing to the soil to be absorbable in a reasonable time. Instead of directly giving minerals, I found a solution using some organic bacteria. These bacteria tear down some molecules to free away elements such as phosphorus from other elements they had tied to in the soil. This way, we are turning the minerals into a form absorbable by the vines.

Gender equality:

In addition to the unfair workshare for women in the family I explained above, women in the region are not paid equal with men. This is even evident in the day labor rates for olive picking workers announced by the chambers of agriculture. Having heard this before, I deliberately showed a big reaction when a couple working on my farm wanted different rates for themselves, and I paid them equally. I keep paying more than expected rates for women, with an expectation that

their perceptions and expectations will change in time. With an aim to turn them into microentrepreneurs, I also designed a shop for local women in the farm, where they can sell traditional food and handicraft to the visitors.

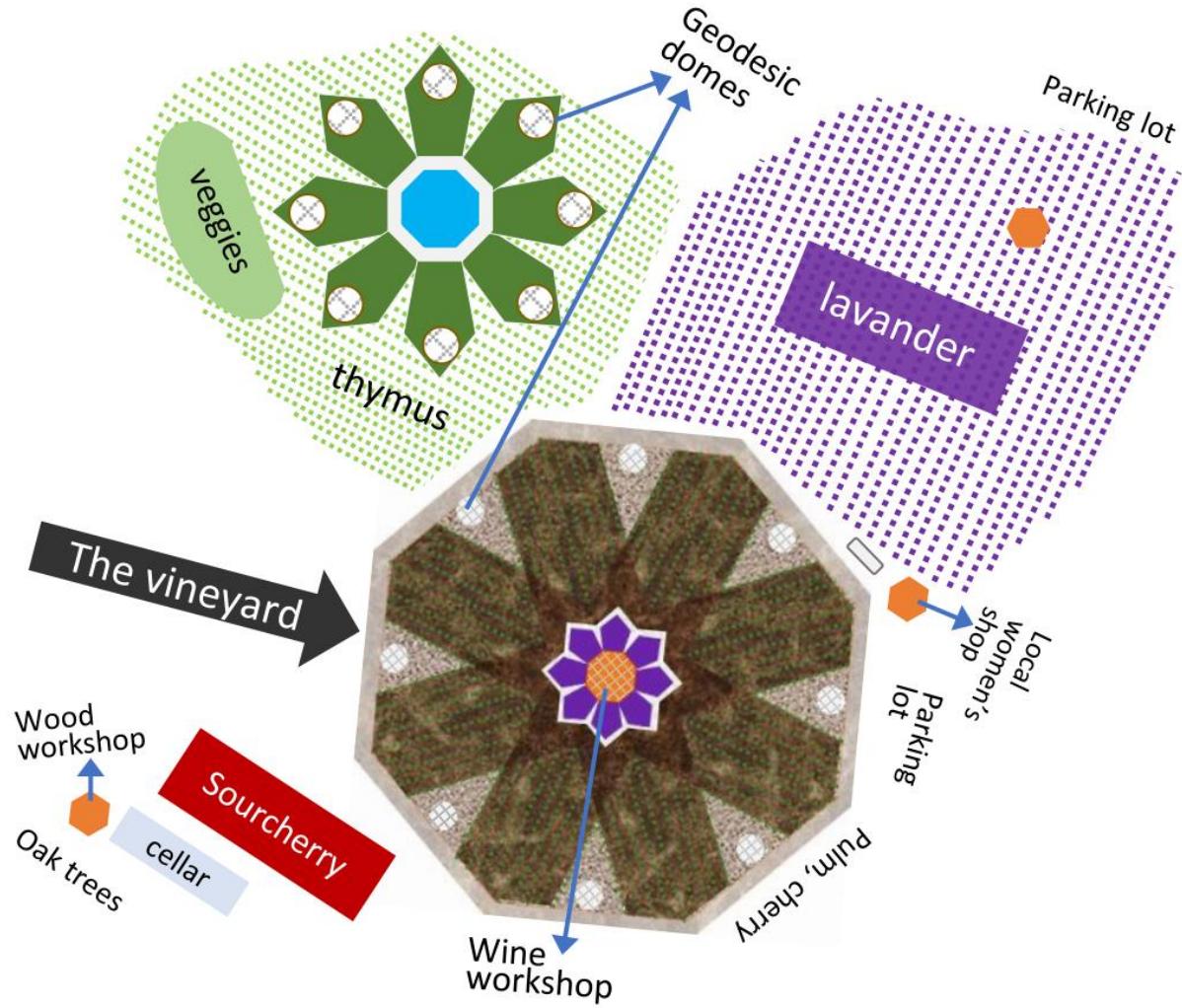
Accessibility:

The farm is designed considering accessibility for the disabled, although not all details have been put in place yet due to ongoing infrastructure works. I built an accessible path around the vineyard having the lateral slope levelled, and this will be extended to whole farm with addition of side ropes from which visually impaired can get help. As the geodesic domes are built, accessibility will also be a must in the internal designs.

Budget and solo travelers:

So many colleagues have been congratulating me saying that is also their dream, which they cannot realize due to several reasons. Many friends, on the other hand, have bought some land, but were not able to look after it. When they go to stay at small hotels in the nature or the farmhouses, on the other hand, as I personally experienced, the rates are super high. There are some low-cost options but are mainly camps or glamping areas without any facilities. Being a solo traveler is another problem due to the added cost of stay; there are no single rooms, and you even pay for the breakfast same with couples. Taking those into consideration, I designed geodesic domes with varying stay and work options in the farm, both within the vineyard and next to it. Visitors can look after the plants surrounding them during their stay and pick for themselves. There are also woodcrafts and winemaking workshops, in addition to permaculture trainings.

So, this is my farm, evolving for better day by day both for the nature, the public, and for myself.





Prof. Dr. Mine M. AFACAN FINDIKLI ¹

She has worked in various positions in the service industry for nearly ten years. Along with her private sector duties, she stepped into academic life as a part-time lecturer at Boğaziçi Uni, Yıldız Technical Uni. and ITU Tourism and Hotel Management Vocational Schools between 2005-2009. Meanwhile, she completed her graduate (2007), and doctoral (2012) education in the field of Business Administration focusing on Management & Organization, HRM, and OB. Expanding her doctoral thesis scope, she conducted her research with the support of the PERYÖN Association and published her first book, "Business Values and Reflections on Professional Life", in 2013. The other single-authored books have been titled (2020) Business Ecosystems, and (2021) "Does the word fly? From Psychological Contracts to Personal Contracts". She has been also a co-editor of "Creating Social Value Through Social Entrepreneurship" book. In 2020, she has conducted her academic studies at the University of

***Prof. Dr., İstinye University, Dean of FEASS, Business Dept, mine.findikli@istinye.edu.tr**

BATH for six mounts. Since 2010 she conducts her studies and writes articles within the scope of HRM, OB, and Social Entrepreneurship.

Currently, she is the Dean of FEASS, Head of the Department of Business Administration, and Head of the Graduate School of Business Administration at Istinye University.

Social Entrepreneurs: The Ethical Leaders And Drivers Of Sustainable Development

Prof. Dr. Mine M. AFACAN FINDIKLI ²

It is widely known that all the behaviors of individuals as well as organizations exhibit in society affect our societal environment in terms of their consequences. The basis of our actions is derived from the values that shape our perspective on life. Based on the values and assumptions morality and ethical understandings emerge, and actions, strategies, or policies are shaped. Starting from individuals, groups, organizations, and communities rise, grow, and mature on these values, as well as moral systems and relationships are shaped. However, the pressure of change and transformation processes that today's VUCA and BANI world create new problems and challenges for the business organizations and their management.

Especially in today's business world, where Sustainable Development goals are the focus in every channel, businesses cannot claim that their only responsibility is to increase their profits. On the one hand, they have to keep up with the changes in the external environment, market conditions, and ensure their profitability for their sustainability, while on the other hand, it is an increasing obligation to fulfill their responsibilities towards society. However, it is not easy to serve sustainable development goals as a responsible

***Prof. Dr., İstinye University, Dean of FEASS, Business Dept, mine.findikli@istinye.edu.tr**

corporate citizen and concurrently to satisfy shareholders. It may well be remembered that, in the second week of September 2015, media outlets around the world reported on the Volkswagen Group's emissions scandal.

When we evaluate this case from the perspective of sustainability and business ethics, we can conclude that Volkswagen Group only aimed to increase their market share and profits with regards to utilitarian ethical approach. To prevent such unethical corporate scandals and to increase their reputation in the eyes of the public, it can be argued that business organisations focus on corporate governance practices. The high number of independent members in the board of directors is also an important tool for this self-assessment of businesses. From this perspective, I believe that there is a crucial resource to help businesses engage in more effective projects in line with sustainable development goals (SDGs) and to better understand local needs: Social Entrepreneurs.

For the wellbeing of both the social and ecological environment, social entrepreneurs produce faster and more effective, inclusive, and sustainable solutions to the needs of local and minority groups. The way they do business and the way they manage groups are consistent with ethical leadership behaviors. Ethical leaders are guided by morality and justice in their interactions and act as role models for society. In the work environment, ethical leaders support their colleagues' participation in decisions and provide autonomy in their projects. They pursue their projects focusing on the responsible management. By creating an ethical organizational climate, ethical leaders invest in social capital and develop trust, loyalty, and a sense of belonging among work groups.

Social entrepreneurs act like ethical leaders in their practices and stakeholder interactions through social impact-oriented projects with inclusive, people- and nature-friendly business models. At the same time, their project management skills are highly developed. When businesses carry out projects with social entrepreneurs, one of their external stakeholders, they can both carry out social responsibility projects effectively and in a way that creates widespread social benefit and become a valuable financial resource for social entrepreneurs' projects. By bringing these two important actors together, the SDGs can be effectively served, and our world can become socially and ecologically healthier.

According to World Economic Report (Jun 28,2021) entitled "How collaborations with social entrepreneurs are helping to make the SDGs a reality?", social innovators are tackling some of the world's greatest threats – and by working more collaboratively, are shifting the entire landscape of the social change sector. Based on the report it is understood that while the COVID-19 pandemic has modified many of society's norms, it has also delivered some unexpected benefits. The way in which social innovators work with communities, governments, funders, and each other has undergone a rapid paradigm shift, with results that might not have been achievable in the same timescale at any other period in our history. Due to the nature of their work, social entrepreneurs aligning with the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals, they can forge successful networks to enable social Collective impact. Moreover, they show that systems can be changed.

Focusing on creating change and social impact within the framework of Sustainable Development Goals, social entrepreneurs

turn negativities into opportunities and give hope that we can live safely in this world. They give us hope that every individual can be an "agent of change" and demonstrate to us as role models that everyone can make a difference for their environment.

If you're wondering where to start and how to act to make an impact, here are some tips to get you closer to becoming a social entrepreneur:

- ***Find your passion and your strengths***
- ***Find your team members and build a strong team culture***
- ***Instead of worrying about the challenges do not hesitate to get started***
- ***Ensure and sustain your self-motivation and guard your resilience.***
- ***Foster your social networks and grow organically***



Alara Tobin

I am a Politics and International Relations student at University College Dublin, Ireland, I am passionate about promoting social justice and equality with a particular interest in gender equality and disability inclusion. Through my studies and personal pursuits, I hope to play a role in advancing conversation and action towards a more inclusive society.

Creating an Inclusive Society: The Importance of Social Inclusion and Integration

By Alara Tobin

Creating an inclusive society is crucial for promoting social cohesion and preventing social exclusion. An inclusive society affords access to full participation in life to all individuals, regardless of their background, abilities, or any other characteristic that might set them apart from others. It is based on the recognition and embracing of diversity and fundamental equality in all individuals, and on the principles of equality, dignity, and equity.

The Importance of Social Inclusion

Social inclusion is essential for creating an inclusive society. It is a process that involves ensuring that everyone has access to the resources and opportunities that are necessary for full participation in society. This includes access to education, healthcare, employment, and other essential services. Social inclusion is essential for creating a sense of social cohesion and preventing social exclusion, which occurs when individuals or groups are marginalized from society.

One of the key benefits of social inclusion is that it promotes shared prosperity. When everyone can fully participate in society, the benefits are far-reaching. Society becomes stronger, more resilient, and more innovative, because of the diverse perspectives and

experiences that are brought to the table. Social inclusion also promotes safety, stability, and cohesion, as individuals feel a sense of belonging and are more likely to contribute positively to their communities.

However, creating social inclusion is not without its challenges. Deeply rooted belief systems and norms of exclusion can be difficult to overcome and may require significant changes to societal structures and institutions. Creating social inclusion also requires addressing issues such as poverty, inequality, and discrimination, which creates barriers for some individuals to fully participate in society.

Practical Solutions for Making Social Inclusion Operational

Making social inclusion operational requires going beyond legal principles and implementing practices that recognize the dignity, value, and importance of all people. It requires addressing deeply rooted belief systems and norms of exclusion, and providing individuals with the resources and opportunities they need to fully participate in society.

One solution is to promote visibility. This means recognizing individuals as unique members of society, with their own strengths and weaknesses. It means valuing diversity and promoting respect for all individuals, regardless of their background, abilities, or any other characteristic that might set them apart from others.

Another solution is to promote consideration. This means considering the needs and perspectives of individuals when making decisions that

affect their lives. It means listening to individuals and incorporating their feedback into decision-making processes.

Access to social interactions is also critical for creating social inclusion. This includes providing opportunities for individuals to engage in social activities and interact with others. Social interactions help to break down barriers and promote understanding between individuals, which is essential for creating a sense of belonging and promoting social cohesion.

Providing access to rights is another key component of creating social inclusion. This includes ensuring that all individuals have equal access to education, healthcare, employment, and other essential services. It also means providing individuals with the resources they need to fully participate in society, such as housing, transportation, and other forms of support.

Finally, providing access to resources is essential for promoting social inclusion. This includes providing individuals with the resources they need to fully participate in society, such as education and job training programs, financial assistance, and other forms of support. By providing individuals with the resources they need to fully participate in society, we can help to break down barriers and promote social inclusion.

The Importance of Social Integration

Social integration is another key component of creating an inclusive society. Social integration refers to the process of breaking down barriers and creating opportunities for individuals to participate fully

in society. This includes promoting diversity, ensuring equal access to opportunities and resources, and creating a sense of belonging.

One of the key benefits of social integration is that it promotes social cohesion. When individuals from different backgrounds can interact and engage with each other, they are more likely to develop a sense of shared identity and common purpose. This can lead to greater social cohesion and a stronger, more resilient society.

Practical Solutions for Making Social Integration Operational

Making social integration operational requires going beyond legal principles and implementing practices that promote diversity, ensure equal access to opportunities and resources, and create a sense of belonging.

One solution is to promote diversity. This means recognizing and valuing the unique perspectives and experiences that individuals from different backgrounds bring to the table. It means actively seeking out and promoting diversity in all aspects of society, including in education, employment, and other areas.

Another solution is to ensure equal access to opportunities and resources. This means breaking down barriers that prevent individuals from fully participating in society, such as poverty, discrimination, and lack of access to education and healthcare. It means providing individuals with the resources and support they need to succeed, regardless of their background or circumstances.

Creating a sense of belonging is also critical for promoting social integration. This means creating opportunities for individuals to

interact and engage with each other, and fostering a sense of shared identity and common purpose. It means creating inclusive communities that celebrate diversity and promote social cohesion.

Creating an inclusive society is crucial for promoting social cohesion and preventing social exclusion. Social inclusion and integration are key components of creating an inclusive society, and require recognizing and embracing diversity and fundamental equality in all individuals. While creating social inclusion and integration is not without its challenges, practical solutions such as promoting visibility, consideration, access to social interactions, access to rights, and access to resources can help to make social inclusion and integration operational. By working together to create an inclusive society, we can build a stronger, more resilient, and more prosperous future for all individuals and communities.

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Dr. Asya Banu Babaoglu is an Associate Professor of Public Health at Izmir Katip Celebi University, with expertise in health education, health literacy, sexual, and reproductive health, child and adolescent health, and non-communicable disease control. Prior to joining academia, she served in various roles at the Ministry of Health in Istanbul and Izmir, where she led initiatives to improve public health outcomes. Dr. Babaoglu currently coordinates the Non-Communicable Diseases Working Group at the Association of Public Health Professionals (HASUDER) and serves as a member of the Izmir Provincial Health Directorate Healthy Nutrition and Active Life Provincial Board. She is also the Medical Faculty representative for the "Accessible Campus Coordinator" initiative and a volunteer trainer in health literacy studies at the Alternative Life Association."

Contact:

asyabanu.babaoglu@ikcu.edu.tr

linkedin.com/in/asyababaoglu



Breaking Barriers to Adolescent Health: Strategies for Promoting Accessible Healthcare

Asya B. Babaoglu

Abstract: Adolescence is a critical period for developing healthy behaviors and preventing health problems in adulthood. However, deficits and missed opportunities in adolescent healthcare services exist in many countries, including Turkey. In this article, the focus is on the status of adolescents' access to health services, the need for health information, and the preferred sources of information for adolescents to reorganize health systems for greater accessibility. Adolescents are often considered "healthy" by decision-makers and not among the priority groups in healthcare, making them a "disadvantaged" group in the first place. The article highlights the importance of taking precautionary measures before adolescents develop risky behaviors, which may result in severe morbidity or death. The article also emphasizes the importance of access to information and inclusion, which are crucial for achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs) 3, 4, 5, and 10. The article discusses the role of family health centers and family physicians in providing preventive, therapeutic, and rehabilitative health services to adolescents, as well as the need for increased awareness of adolescent health needs among family physicians. The article also

stresses the importance of strengthening reliable health education in schools and multidisciplinary approaches and inter-sectoral cooperation to improve adolescent health comprehensively. Finally, interventions to reduce inequalities in communities are critical to ensure equal access to healthcare facilities for everyone.

Keywords: Adolescent health, Healthcare access, Preventive care

Context

Literature reviews and observations suggest that there are deficits and missed opportunities in adolescent healthcare services in Turkey, as well as in many other countries. In this article, I aim to focus on the status of adolescents' access to health services, the need for health information, and the preferred sources of information for adolescents to reorganize health systems for greater accessibility. Adolescents are not among the priority groups in healthcare as they are generally considered "healthy" by decision-makers. This makes them a "disadvantaged" group in the first place. Adolescence is a critical period for developing healthy behaviors and preventing health problems in adulthood. However, risky behaviors such as tobacco, alcohol, and drug use, unprotected sexual intercourse, inadequate physical activity, unhealthy diet, and violence are common during this period. It is important to take precautionary measures before adolescents develop unhealthy behaviors, as these risky behaviors may result in death or severe morbidity. Many premature deaths due to risky behaviors can be prevented with appropriate and timely interventions. There are many opportunities to reach young people, either individually or collectively, within or outside the health system. Likewise, there are many choices for young people to search for help or information. The school environment, family members, friends, books, and media tools are common sources of health information that adolescents seek, other than healthcare professionals. However, the reliability of

information from these sources is difficult to verify and may result in incomplete or incorrect information. Inclusion and access to information are essential components of health literacy, which is crucial for achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs) 3, 4, 5, and 10. Goal 3 aims to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, including the promotion of mental health. Goal 4 aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Goal 5 aims to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls. Finally, Goal 10 aims to reduce inequality within and among countries, including inequalities in access to health care services.

Family health centers, which are part of primary healthcare services, play an important role in adolescent health since they are easy to reach and free of charge. Family health centers in Turkey are particularly important in this regard. They constitute mainly the first point of contact between individuals and the health system. Family physicians working at family health centers are expected to provide preventive, therapeutic, and rehabilitative health services to their registered population. Individuals can register with any family physician of their choice. According to the Family Medicine Practice Regulation in Turkey (2013), every family physician is required to update the health records for each registered person - regardless of age and gender - at least once a year. Besides, more frequent monitoring of groups with certain characteristics, such as women of reproductive age, infants, children, and adolescents, is recommended. Guidelines have been created by the Ministry of Health for the standardization of these follow-ups. According to the national "Infant, Child & Adolescent Screening Guideline," which is recommended for use by family physicians, adolescents should receive a routine well-care visit during each stage of adolescence: i) early adolescence (10-14 years), ii) middle adolescence (15-18

years), and iii) late adolescence (19-21 years). During these visits, it is aimed to conduct a general physical examination, obtain information about the adolescent's psychosocial status within the scope of the HEEADSSS assessment tool, and provide counseling if needed. HEEADSSS is a psychosocial assessment tool that covers topics such as Home and Relationships, Education and Employment, Eating, Activities and Hobbies, Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco, Sex and Relationships, Self-harm, Depression and Self-image, Safety, and Abuse.

Unfortunately, although most of adolescents have access to healthcare facilities, young people do not receive adequate preventive health services. Studies indicate that very few adolescents get psychosocial screening according to guideline recommendations. As family physicians are usually the most preferred source for counseling, interventions to increase family physicians' awareness of adolescent health needs are important to trigger preventive adolescent health services. In particular, studies should be carried out to increase family physicians' regular use of the guidelines. Non-preventive care visits should also be considered as an opportunity to reach out to adolescents.

Schools, where adolescents receive the most information should be strengthened in terms of standard and reliable health education. Considering the large dimension of adolescent health, it is recommended to give importance to the multidisciplinary approach and inter-sectoral cooperation to improve adolescent health comprehensively.

Adolescents' expectations should be valued and taken into consideration, but should not be the only criterion when deciding on

topics of health interventions as they may have a low-risk perception.

Besides, interventions to reduce inequalities in communities are critical to ensure equal access for everyone to healthcare facilities.

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ÖZLEM YALIM

oz@ozlemyalim.com

Özlem Yalım has a weekly column at Gazete Pencere for the last 3 years, published on Sundays. Her 10+ years of writing practice on creative industries, continued as a design critic on leading newspapers like T24 Pazar and Cumhuriyet Pazar.

She has been writing regularly at magazines like Optimist, Sanatatak, Arkitera, Art Unlimited, Istanbul Art News, XX1, and many others published in Turkey, previously.

Yalım is an Industrial Designer (BSC) who has a profession in strategic design and brand management, design thinking, creative brand positioning, creative marketing, design events, design and innovation consultancy, industrial design, furniture design, interior design, exhibition design besides product development and manufacturing.

One of significant projects was Istanbul Design Biennale, which she has been the ideator and designer of the event. She worked as the Director of Istanbul Design Biennale between 2009-2013. She was pointed on the "The Most Creative 50 Turks" list prepared by the Turkishtime magazine in both 2011 and 2012.



Conversation with ChatGPT*

ÖZLEM YALIM

A few questions on Architecture and Design

Q : What do you think about architecture in Turkey?

Turkey has a diverse architectural history, reflecting the influences of the various cultures and empires that have controlled the region throughout history.

Some important examples of Turkish architecture include Hagia Sophia and Blue Mosque in Istanbul, Selimiye Mosque in Edirne and Alanya Castle.

Ottoman architecture, characterized by domes, minarets and intricate tile work, is also an important aspect of Turkish architecture.

In addition, modern architecture has also had a significant presence in Turkey, with many contemporary buildings and skyscrapers being built in major cities such as Istanbul and Ankara.

Overall, Turkish architecture is a crucible of different architectural styles, reflecting the country's rich history and cultural heritage.

Q : Do you know any architects from Turkey?

Yes, there are many important Turkish architects throughout history and today. Some well-known Turkish architects are:

Sedad Hakkı Eldem (1901-1991) was an architect and city planner known for his contributions to the development of Turkish architecture. He designed many important structures from Ankara Central Train Station to the Ankara Opera House.

Behruz Çinici (born 1933) is a Turkish architect and educator known for his modernist designs and contributions to the development of Turkish architecture. He designed many important buildings, especially the Atatürk Cultural Center and Ataköy Marina.

Emre Arolat (born 1970) is a Turkish architect and the founder of EAA-Emre Arolat Architecture, one of the leading architectural firms in Turkey and the world. He is known for his modernist designs and use of natural materials. His projects have won numerous awards, including the Samanlı Village Mosque and the Aga Khan Architecture Award.

Melkan Gürsel and Murat Tabanlıoğlu (Melkan Gürsel Tabanlıoğlu) are the founding partners of Tabanlıoğlu Architects, one of the leading architectural firms in Turkey and the world. They built important structures from the Istanbul Finance Center to the Kanyon Shopping Center and the Vakko Fashion Center.

These are some examples of well-known Turkish architects, but there are also many other talented architects in Turkey who have made significant contributions to the country's architectural landscape.

Q : What are the most important problems of contemporary architecture today?

There are many problems and challenges facing contemporary architecture today. Some of the most important issues are:

Sustainability: One of the most pressing issues facing contemporary architecture is the need to design environmentally sustainable buildings. This includes reducing energy consumption, using sustainable materials and designing buildings that can adapt to changing environmental conditions.

Affordability: Another major issue facing contemporary architecture is the affordability of housing and buildings. Rising costs of building materials and labor, combined with the need to design energy efficient buildings, can make it difficult to create affordable housing and buildings.

Urbanization: As more and more people move to cities, the challenges of urbanization are becoming more and more important to architects. This includes designing buildings that are compatible with their urban environment and can meet the needs of a growing population.

Accessibility: Making buildings accessible to all people, including the disabled, is an important but often overlooked aspect of contemporary architecture.

Adaptability: As the world population continues to increase and urbanization continues, the need for buildings to be adaptable and changeable over time becomes increasingly important.

These are just a few examples of the major problems facing contemporary architecture today, but there are many other problems and issues that architects are trying to solve.

Q : What are the values that make a design successful?

There are several qualities that can make a design successful, including:

Functionality: A successful design must be functional and serve the purpose for which it was designed. This means that it should be easy to use and understand, and it should meet the needs of the people who will use it.

Aesthetics: A successful design should also be aesthetically pleasing and visually appealing. This includes elements such as color, form and texture that can be used to create a sense of harmony and balance in the design.

Innovation: A successful design must be innovative and push the boundaries of what is possible. This may include the use of new materials or technologies or the application of new design principles or techniques.

Sustainability: A successful design must also be environmentally sustainable and consider the long-term effects of the design on the environment and future generations.

Usability: A successful design should be user-friendly and easy to use, taking into account the needs and abilities of the people who will use it.

Contextual Relevance: A successful design must be relevant to its context and appropriate for the environment, culture, and society it is in.

Cultural and Emotional Attractiveness: A successful design must have a cultural and emotional appeal to the user. It should be able to evoke positive emotions and connect with the user on a deeper level.

Durability: A successful design must stand the test of time, both in terms of its physical durability and its relationship with the user.

Accessibility: A successful design should be accessible to everyone, including people with disabilities, and should be inclusive in its design.

These are some of the qualities that can make a design successful, but it's important to note that the success of a design is highly subjective and can be influenced by a number of different factors, including the target audience and the specific design context.

Q : What do you think about the politicians seeing building production and construction activities as a value?

Politicians may be interested in building construction projects for a variety of reasons. Some causes may include:

Economic development: Construction projects can create jobs and stimulate economic growth, which can be beneficial to a politician's local or national economy.

Job creation: Construction projects can create jobs and employment opportunities that can be beneficial for a politician's political career, as they can be seen as someone who can create jobs and improve the economy.

Improvement of infrastructure: Construction projects can improve infrastructure such as roads, bridges and public buildings,

which can make the area more attractive to businesses and residents and have a positive impact on the quality of life of citizens.

Voting: Construction projects can be popular with voters, and politicians may view construction projects as a way to gain public support and votes.

Legacy: Construction projects such as building monuments, historic buildings or tourist attractions can leave a lasting legacy for a politician and be a way to be remembered positively.

Getting support from the construction industry: Construction projects require the participation of construction companies, architects, engineers and other professionals, politicians may want to get support from these groups by promoting construction projects.

It is important to note that not all construction projects are solely focused on political gain, and many construction projects can have both positive and negative consequences for the economy and society.

Q : What do you think about preserving the existing building stock rather than demolishing it?

As a language model, I have no personal opinions or feelings. However, the preservation of the building stock can be seen as an important aspect of promoting sustainable development as well as preserving cultural heritage and history.

Historic buildings and structures can be important cultural and architectural assets, and their preservation can play an important

role in promoting cultural tourism and developing the character of a community.

Maintaining the building stock can also provide environmental benefits as it allows existing buildings and structures to be reused rather than constructed, which can help conserve resources and reduce waste.

In addition, maintaining the building stock can provide social and economic benefits because it can help create jobs and generate economic activity, as well as provide affordable housing and other community amenities.

But preserving the building stock can also be a complex and challenging process, as it may involve balancing conflicting interests and priorities, such as preserving cultural heritage, promoting sustainability and meeting the needs of society.

In summary, preserving the building stock can be seen as an important aspect of preserving cultural heritage and promoting sustainable development, while also providing positive social, economic and environmental benefits.

Q : Is it a good thing to fill the sea for the purpose of creating public space?

Filling the sea to create public spaces is a controversial issue with both benefits and harms. Here are some potential benefits of filling the sea to create public spaces:

Creating new land for development: Filling the sea can create new land that can be used for a variety of purposes, such as building residential, commercial or parks.

Improving access to the beach: By filling the sea, it may be possible to create new public spaces that provide access to the beach for people who would not otherwise have it.

Reducing the risk of flooding: Filling the sea can help reduce the risk of flooding in coastal areas by creating a barrier between land and sea.

However, there are several potential drawbacks to filling the sea to create public spaces. Some of these are those:

Environmental impact: Sea filling can have a significant impact on the local ecosystem, including loss of habitat for marine life, changes in water quality and destruction of natural coastal features.

Cost: Filling the sea is a complex and expensive process that requires extensive planning and engineering.

Loss of natural beauty: Filling of the sea can lead to the loss of natural coastal landscapes and landscapes, which can be a significant disadvantage for residents and visitors alike.

Sustainability concerns: Sea-filling can create areas that are not resistant to sea level rise and storm surge, putting newly created areas and the people who use them at risk.

Consequently, filling the sea to create public spaces is a complex issue that requires careful consideration of its benefits and drawbacks. It is important to balance the needs for new areas with

environmental and sustainability concerns and long-term impacts on the area.

Q : In line with the importance of free expression for the development of creative industries, I would like to ask, is Turkey a place with freedom of expression?

Turkey has a history of restricting freedom of expression and press freedom. The government has been criticized for cracking down on journalists, media outlets and other forms of freedom of expression, especially in recent years.

The government is accused of using laws and regulations to restrict freedom of expression, including criminal defamation and the use of anti-terrorism laws. Additionally, the government has been accused of putting pressure on media outlets to limit their coverage of certain topics or to keep up with the government's line.

The government has also been criticized for restricting access to the internet and social media platforms, shutting down independent news outlets and arresting journalists for alleged terrorism or other crimes.

Turkey ranks 154th out of 180 countries in the World Press Freedom Index in 2021, performing poorly in terms of freedom of expression and freedom of the press.

It is important to note that the situation is complex and constantly changing, and that some journalists, academics, activists and politicians have been arrested, charged or convicted for their political views and criticism of the government.

Q : Based on the necessity of a certain economic level for the development of creative industries, I ask, is Turkey a poor country?

Turkey is considered a country with a mixed economy and is not considered a poor country. Turkey has a highly industrialized and diversified high-income mixed economy. Turkey has a large automotive industry and is also an important textile, white goods and foodstuffs producer. Türkiye has a strong agricultural sector and is an important exporter of agricultural products. Türkiye is also an important player in the tourism industry and has a growing service sector.

The Turkish economy has grown over the years and has become one of the 20 largest economies in the world. However, Turkey also faces some economic challenges such as high inflation and unemployment, a large current account deficit and high public debt. Additionally, over the past decade, Turkey has faced political instability, which in some cases has affected the economy.

It is important to note that classification of a country as rich or poor is a complex process and depends on a number of factors such as GDP per capita, standard of living and access to resources and services.

Q : Will artificial intelligence kill the architecture profession?

AI and automation have the potential to change the way architects work and design buildings, but AI is unlikely to replace architects

completely. While AI can assist architects with tasks such as building simulation, energy analysis, and code compliance, the design process is a complex and creative endeavor that requires human intuition, creativity, and problem-solving skills that AI currently cannot fully replicate.

Artificial intelligence can be used to assist architects in the design process by creating design options, analyzing data, and identifying patterns and trends that can help architects make more informed decisions. In addition, AI-powered tools can help architects optimize building performance, reduce errors and increase efficiency.

However, it is important to note that the use of artificial intelligence in architecture is still in its infancy and its impact on the profession is not yet fully understood. AI is likely to change the way architects work, but is not expected to replace them completely. Instead, it will increase their skills and help them create more efficient, sustainable and livable buildings.

Q : And finally, do you think I can go for a walk on the beach tomorrow morning?

I'm sorry, but I'm a language model and have no ability to predict future events or whether you'll be able to take a walk by the seaside tomorrow.

I suggest you check the weather forecast and plan your hike accordingly. Also, please make sure you follow local guidelines and regulations regarding COVID-19 and social distancing.

(*) Writer's note: This interview with the AI bot is the very first example published in Turkey, and its the leading one in its field. Sadly Turkey has experienced the devastating Anatolian Earthquake right after



Dize Kandu is a Marine Biology and Psychology graduate of the University of Miami. She has worked as a mentor for IMPACT, an upward bound program at Miami Science Museum and also worked as a strategical coach in Miami for C-level executives through her own consultation company. She has been a volunteer and a project director for Alternative Life Association in Türkiye, a non-governmental organization that was established with the purpose of increasing awareness on the needs of socially and physically disadvantaged people, their integration into social life; and developing partnerships among disadvantaged groups and with the governments, local authorities and the private sector. Dize founded SHERO, a non-profit project with a mission to guide and empower international women using self-help workshops, training seminars, sports and themed event camps. She currently works globally as a strategical consultant with her partner and continues her

involvement with social responsibility projects both as a director and an author.

Contact: dizekandu@gmail.com

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/dizekandu>

The Dangers of Woke Culture: How It's Harming Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) and ways to move towards true EDI

Dize KANDU,

board member and project director of Alternative Life Association, strategic consultant and author

As I look back on my childhood, I realize how fortunate I was to have been raised in an environment that encouraged awareness and participation in social issues. From an early age, my parents made sure that I was exposed to a diverse range of people and perspectives, and they instilled in me a deep sense of empathy and a desire to create positive change in the world.

Growing up, I became more aware of the many challenges facing our society, from poverty and inequality to environmental degradation and political corruption. But instead of feeling overwhelmed or helpless, I was taught to view these issues as opportunities for growth and transformation. I was encouraged to ask questions, to seek out knowledge and information, and to take real action to make a difference.

The more I got involved in non-profit organizations and social responsibility projects, the more I realized that just like anything else in life, there can be wrong approaches with good intentions, which cause more harm to the cause than good. The incredibly fast paced and attention seeking presence of social media in our lives caused a spotlight on awareness, volunteering and altruistic behavior. Although spreading such content can bring more attention

to issues and help solve them faster with a massive reach, it also created bumper-sticker activists, keyboard warriors, woke culture and shallow, pretentious content to gain attraction for personal profit with no real influence or applicable solutions. This might sound like a harmless trend on a personal level, however on a larger scale, it is diluting the real deal.

The term "woke" has been used for decades in African American Vernacular English (AAVE) to describe being aware of and actively fighting against racial injustice and oppression. However, in recent years, the term "woke culture" has emerged as a broader phenomenon that encompasses a range of social and political issues beyond just race.

The exact origins of the term are difficult to pin down, but it has become more prominent in mainstream discourse in the past few years thanks to the rise of social media and the ability to quickly disseminate information and mobilize groups of people around shared causes. This resulted in heightened awareness of social issues, such as racism, sexism, and inequality, and a commitment to addressing these issues through individual and collective action. What could go wrong with an approach like that? Woke culture has become overly focused on identity politics and cancel culture, and it stifled free speech and open dialogue. Some may argue in contrast that the increasing polarization of political views in many parts of the world has fueled a greater awareness and activism around issues of social justice, which is also a possible effect to consider.

While the intentions of woke culture may be admirable, its approach and tactics can often be harmful to the very concepts it seeks to promote such as equality, diversity, and inclusion.

Harmful Effects of Woke Culture

Woke culture often relies on a "us vs. them" mentality, which can create division and animosity among people of different backgrounds. This approach can hinder the progress towards equality, diversity, and inclusion by creating tension and mistrust. Rather than promoting unity and cooperation, the "us vs. them" mentality reinforces an idea that people are fundamentally different from each other and that their differences are irreconcilable. This kind of divisiveness creates a hostile environment that can make it difficult to build bridges and work together towards common goals. To move beyond the divisiveness, polarity and misunderstandings, we need to find ways to promote unity and cooperation. This involves emphasizing commonalities to create a more inclusive society, encouraging dialogue across different perspectives to find common ground, acknowledging complexity of social issues and recognizing that people are multifaceted and have different experiences and finally focusing on solutions instead of dwelling into the drama of it all.

Another concern of woke culture is that it is often associated with cancel culture, which involves shaming, boycotting, or otherwise punishing individuals or organizations for perceived wrongdoings. This approach can create a culture of fear and silence, as people become afraid to express their opinions or ideas. How many times were you left in awe in a positive or negative sense about a content you saw online that was pushed by more and more people by the minute, maybe even took action about it verbally or physically, to find out that it was false information, propaganda or production for entertainment purposes in the end? I personally have done my share of content spread on the spur of the moment without researching its validity. We feel such linger for a sense of belonging in the society

that we are so ready to jump on a wagon of seemingly good deed. When it turns out to be empty however, we realize that it actually causes people to think that the necessary action is already being done by others, therefore creating a halt to actual, beneficial projects. This halt is created in the form of perception; however, the cost can be the lack of funds to support causes because there is an oversaturation of the seemingly solved subject at hand.

Woke culture also likes to overemphasize identity categories such as race, gender, and sexual orientation, often at the expense of other aspects of individual identity such as personality, values, and beliefs. People are being reduced to their identity categories, which causes lack on nuance rather than being viewed as complex individuals. Emphasizing intersectionality, which recognizes the complex and interconnected nature of different identities and experiences is critical to understanding and addressing multiple forms of oppression.

Moving Towards True Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

I learned firsthand the power of collective action and the importance of working together towards a common goal as a social entrepreneur and a volunteer. Nothing mentioned in this article should discourage you from implementing your own course of action to make a difference; if anything, it should help you take more efficient and accurate steps along the way.

Equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) have become buzzwords in the modern society, but how do we move beyond the buzzwords and harms of woke culture to achieve true EDI?

EDI initiatives often fail because they are little more than lip service, with companies and organizations making grand statements but failing to follow through with meaningful action. For true progress to

be made, we need to move beyond the platitudes and focus on concrete steps that will make a real difference. What does that look like?

- ***Understanding the Complexity of the Issue***

Achieving true EDI is not a simple or straightforward process. It requires a deep understanding of the complex and multifaceted issues that underlie discrimination and inequality. By recognizing and addressing the underlying causes of these issues, we can create a more inclusive and equitable society.

- ***Breaking Down Barriers***

One of the biggest barriers to true EDI is a lack of representation. This can include barriers to entry for marginalized groups, as well as a lack of diversity in leadership positions. By breaking down these barriers, we can create a more diverse and inclusive workforce, one that better reflects the society we live in.

- ***Addressing Unconscious Bias***

Another barrier to true EDI is unconscious bias. This can manifest in many ways, from hiring decisions to everyday interactions in the workplace. By addressing and acknowledging these biases, we can create a more inclusive and welcoming environment for all.

- ***Challenging the Status Quo***

Finally, achieving true EDI requires challenging the status quo. It requires us to be willing to question the way things have always been done, be brave and also embrace change. This may be

uncomfortable, but it is necessary if we want to create a more equitable and inclusive society.

Moving towards true EDI requires purposeful action, not just words. It takes willingness to examine our own biases, avoiding the pitfalls of oversimplification and taking concrete steps to address the issues that stand in the way of progress. The impact and significance of woke culture on this path will continue to be debated and contested for years to come, as people grapple with the complex and evolving issues it seeks to address.

We are all trying to figure life out, striving to be useful and helpful to each other, while enjoying the experiences of feeling connected to the big picture. Yet, we should always keep in mind the importance of meaningful action and the significance of seemingly innocent but harmful effects we may cause with our approaches to issues in life. By doing so, we can then create a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable society for all.



CENK ÇAKIL

podima@gmail.com

He graduated from Mimar Sinan University, Department of Interior Architecture in 1994. He has been working as Yenilem Project Consulting -Manager / Interior Architect since 1998. He is a Member of the Board of the Chamber of Interior Architects, T.M.M.O.B. Istanbul Branch, Expert at the Civil Courts, Honorary Member of the Crown Foundation, Member of TÜRSAB, the Disabled Tourism Committee, Kadıköy Municipality City Council, Member of city planning Commission, Member of the Alternative Life Association.

AN INCLUSIVE OVERVIEW OF ACCESSIBILITY

CENK ÇAKIL

It is not possible to think of our environment and the places we live in independently from human life. The areas that make our lives easier and that will enable us to live in a happier, peaceful and secure way need to be planned and arranged according to our correct and current needs, using the opportunities offered by our age.

I don't want to dwell on what states, institutions and individuals should do when it comes to accessing fundamental rights and freedoms, whether they are disabled or not. I think everyone is now aware of the need, importance and what, how and when it should be done. I think it would not be wrong to say that rights are not actually given, they are obtained through struggle, and that the services provided are mostly due to the demands of the needy, the efforts of volunteers, social entrepreneurs and non-governmental organizations.

I think that this will continue in the future, and everyone will try to make their voices heard by doing their best with new awareness and initiatives. Of course, the point we are at today is not at the desired level, but it would not be wrong to say that it has made progress when compared to the past. I think it is important not to be hopeless and to continue to think and draw attention to production.

Design:

One of the solution partners in the full participation of disabled and disadvantaged individuals in life is designers. Innovations in many areas such as transportation, business, culture-arts, food and

beverage, education, entertainment, shopping are redesigned according to today's needs, making life easier for all of us.

Although the concept of accessibility is thought to be focused on urbanism, environment, building and industrial product design, nowadays accessibility has started to be more inclusive and gain a completely different dimension with the innovations brought by technology.

We can make our accessibility arrangements in our home, office or individual areas according to our own needs and economy. These are private fields; It can vary from person to person, age, disability group, economic opportunities and many other factors. However, public spaces need to be inclusive, sustainable and enable direct users without the need for help from others.

In addition to design awareness, social awareness and education have to be in parallel with all these processes, and products that are not accessible even if they fulfill their function are more obstructive, exclusionary and alienating than serving.



A design that makes life easier can complicate the lives of others if there is no awareness.

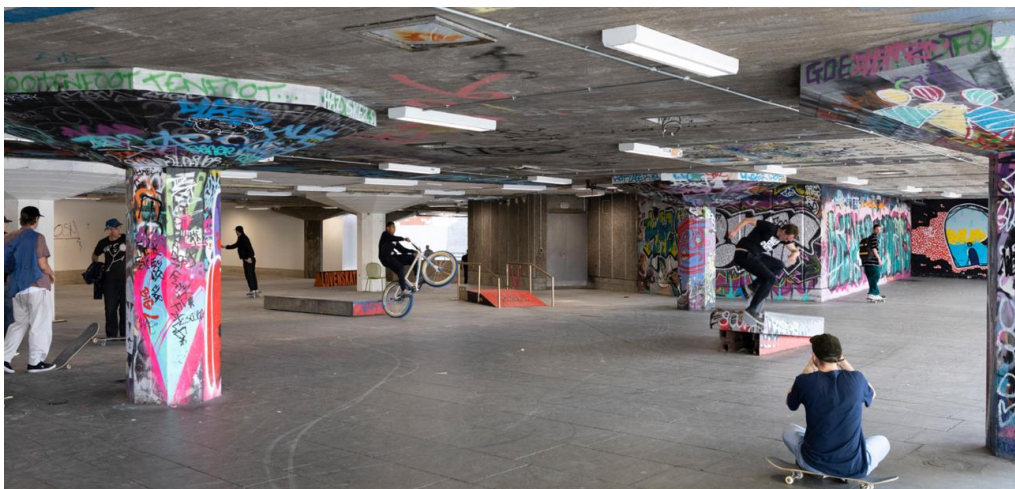
Useful transformation:

From the production process of the designs to the time they are presented to the user, architects, engineers and designers have to consider all the accessibility concerns of the disabled, apart from the demands of their customers, budget, laws, regulations and technical rules.

Today, it is not possible to obtain efficiency and user satisfaction from a shopping mall, office structure, education or a museum building that is not well designed and does not pay attention to accessibility criteria.

Building construction is not as easy as it used to be, and it is no longer possible to produce new land for housing, office and similar structures for the increasing population in metropolitan cities, in addition to rising construction costs.

The budgets of the municipalities are not sufficient for the creation, maintenance, repair, sustainability and protection of new green and public spaces. For this reason, existing structures and areas need to be renewed, transformed, and unused areas need to be evaluated



Londra / Soutbank / skateboard area in unused underpass

Digital accessibility:

Today, we have to add digital accessibility to the concept of accessibility to public spaces. It is not difficult to measure the satisfaction of visitors and staff, workforce efficiency, service quality, complaints and demands. Even digital platforms, which were used only as a socialization tool in the past, have now become the channels where companies collect statistical data, make large expenditures and follow up in market research.

Because the differences, details, planning, which provide customer satisfaction in the design of the buildings, affect the sustainability and profitability of the buildings. Especially during the covid-19 period, we all better understood the place of the digital world in our lives and what it means to be limited in movement.

As technology directs our lives in every field, the demands of users are increasing and changing. The usage time of smartphones, tablets and computers and mobile applications that we sometimes complain about, which is a part of our lives, is increasing day by day.

Today, in many areas including shopping, communication, transportation, entertainment and security, web/digital accessibility seems to rule us rather than serve us. Information companies provide more convenience to users in creating accessible spaces.

Marketing in Accessibility:

These services have been started to be used in all places open to the public. We no longer set out to learn about the traffic even before we set off, or to do research about the place when we are going to attend an event.

All information and communication in public areas are provided through these accesses. Disabled or not, we now act with these guidelines. We even make our satisfaction and complaints through these digital platforms.

The number of App applications developed for individuals belonging to different disability groups is in the hundreds, and these products have recently begun to shape design products such as sales and marketing, wearable technology.



Quick Check service in markets



McDonald's kiosk units

Wearable technology:

OrCam MyEye eyewear design that opens up a whole new world for people with visual impairments or eye disorders. With the camera system, you can read the texts on devices such as newspapers, books, mobile phones or laptops, you can recognize the faces you have defined before when they enter the camera angle, you can instantly learn the name, color, expiration date, price and shape of the objects you will buy or use.



OrCam MyEye glasses design is a design that reads printed or digital texts aloud for the visually impaired and those with reading difficulties.



Bimed's artificial intelligence-based software notifies the user of stationary or moving objects in the environment a few seconds beforehand through spatial sounds. It also warns important objects or people that have been filtered.

Renovation of buildings:

Arrangement and restoration of old buildings to meet today's possibilities and needs is a different architectural discipline. The fact that the historical buildings, which should be protected, remained in the city centers made them more valuable. We see important studies and examples on this subject in metropolitan cities of Europe.

Old buildings, which are in the historical texture and need to be protected, often acquire new identities with their new functions, which are more accessible, user-friendly and in line with international disability standards. Environmental organizations, which take into account many parameters such as consumption of natural resources, reduction of new construction, and energy, also support this effort.

Governments and local governments, who do not hesitate to bend the rules and permits from time to time in order to ensure that the building can live and transform with its new function, taking into account the environment and cultural heritage;

At the same time, they make great contributions to the tourism economy with the innovations they create. Recently, the Canadian government has launched a campaign to make the restoration of all historic buildings more inclusive and accessible.

Restoration examples ;

Apple, one of the most important of these service providers, made a difference a few years ago with a decision to open new concept stores in historical buildings that need to be preserved. The restoration of the Palazzo Marignoli building in Rome, made for the Apple Store by the world-famous Foster Partner, shows how a 150-year-old historical building has been transformed.

In these restoration and renovation applications, many arrangements and planning that were not originally thought of in the past and perhaps never needed, now have to be done. Fire escapes, elevators, ramps, toilets, disabled and special needs areas, security measures, heating, cooling and even prayer areas are planned.

In addition to these, many instructions regarding visual, auditory, tactile, intuitive use and digital accessibility are offered to users and visitors.



Palazzo Marignoli / Apple Shop





The interior that offers more comfortable spaces for users and visitors



The Quarry Theatre / Bedford

Another good example of this is the English Moravian Church building, which was built in 1865 and restored by Foster Wilson Architects in England. The building, which served as a school before,

has now been transformed into a theater with a change of function and opened its doors to its visitors.



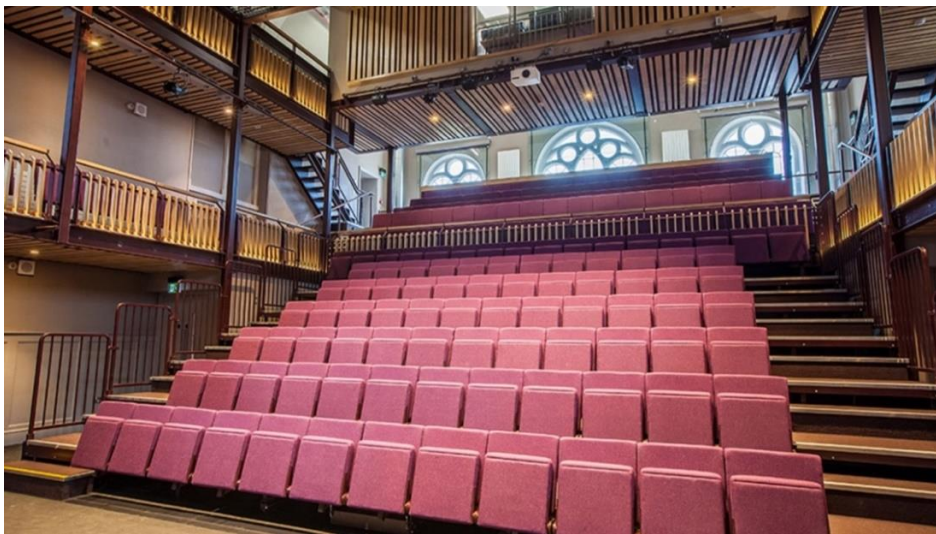
The Quarry Theater at St Luke's and the cafeteria section added to the building



Cafeteria



Auditorium for 300 people added to the building later



sits of spectators replacing the worship area



Elevator and stairs added later

Pera Museum / ISTANBUL

The building, which was built in 1893 by architect Achille Manoussos in Istanbul's favorite district of Beyoğlu / Tepebaşı, served as the Bristol Hotel for many years and then as an office building. It was completely overhauled by Architect M. Sinan Genim and turned into a museum equipped with contemporary and international standards. Pera Museum, which produces joint projects with the world's leading museums, collections and foundations such as the Maeght Foundation, Tate Britain, Victoria and Albert Museum, St. Petersburg Russian State Museum, JP Morgan Chase Collection, New York School of Visual Arts, serves as again Pera Museum, which has been working with the Suna and İnan Kıraç Foundation since the beginning of June 2005



Pera Museum/ Istanbul



Pera Museum/ indoor exhibition hall



Pera Museum / indoor exhibition hall

Narmanlı Han / ISTANBUL

The famous Narmanlı Han building in Beyoğlu, Istanbul was built in 1831 and has been used for different purposes such as embassy and prison throughout history. The building, serving with functions such as a museum, cafeteria, store, office, in accordance with today's needs and demands, designed by Yenilem Project & Consulting and Architect Dr. Sinan Genim has been restored in accordance with parking lot, elevator, fire safety and disabled standards.



Narmanlı Han



Narmanlı Han



Abdullah Dönmez

abdllhdmz@gmail.com

Interior Designer / Restorer

who has a profession in interior design, architectural restoration, accessible design, furniture design, product design-development and manufacturing, online marketing, strategic design and brand management, design thinking, creative brand positioning.

Dönmez is volunteering for Alternative Life Association since 2014. He has designed and built buildings. Besides of it he have been in social and educational projects for different age groups.

Our stories

A short story about equity for children with disabilities

Abdullah Dönmez

Once upon a time, in a small town called Equality, there lived two children named Emily and David. Emily was a bright and curious girl who loved to read books, while David was a cheerful and adventurous boy who loved to play outside. However, there was something that set them apart from other children - Emily had a visual impairment, while David had a hearing impairment.

Despite their disabilities, Emily and David had a lot of potential and talent, but they faced many challenges in their daily lives. Emily struggled to read books because the letters on the page were blurry, while David found it hard to communicate with his friends because they didn't know sign language.

One day, their school decided to launch a program to promote equity for children with disabilities. The program included a range of measures such as providing accessible learning materials for Emily, and sign language classes for David's friends. The teachers and students also received training on how to be more inclusive and understanding towards children with disabilities.

Emily and David were thrilled with the program, and they quickly began to thrive in their studies and social lives. Emily was now able to read books with the help of a magnifying glass, while David's

friends were excited to learn sign language and communicate with him better.

As time passed, Emily and David's talents and abilities were recognized and celebrated, and they became an integral part of their school community. They were no longer seen as children with disabilities, but as valued members of the community who contributed in their unique ways.

The program's success inspired other schools in the town and beyond to launch similar initiatives, promoting equity and inclusion for all children with disabilities.

In the end, Emily and David's story taught the town of Equality an important lesson - that every child deserves an equal chance to succeed and be happy, regardless of their differences or disabilities.

A short story about equity for people with disabilities,

Once upon a time, in a town called Harmony, there lived a young man named Alex. Alex was a bright and ambitious young man, with a passion for music and a talent for playing the guitar. However, Alex was born with a disability - he had a visual impairment that made it difficult for him to read music and navigate the world around him.

Despite his disability, Alex was determined to pursue his dream of becoming a musician. He practiced tirelessly, relying on his ears and his memory to learn new songs and perfect his technique. However, he often faced barriers and discrimination in a world that did not always accommodate for people with disabilities.

One day, the town of Harmony launched a program to promote equity for people with disabilities. The program included a range of

measures to support people with disabilities and ensure that they had equal access to opportunities and resources.

The program included accessible buildings and public spaces, sign language interpreters, and assistive technologies for people with hearing or visual impairments. The program also included training for employers and businesses on how to be more inclusive and accommodating towards people with disabilities.

Thanks to the program, Alex was able to pursue his passion for music without facing the same barriers he once did. He performed at local events and venues, with the support of sign language interpreters and accessible technology. He was able to connect with other musicians and collaborate on new projects, and he even started his own band.

Alex's story inspired the people of Harmony to be more inclusive and understanding towards people with disabilities. They realized that everyone has unique talents and abilities, and that by creating a more equitable and inclusive society, they could unlock the full potential of every person, regardless of their abilities or disabilities. In the end, the program was a great success, and Harmony became known as a town where everyone was valued and included, regardless of their differences or disabilities.

A short story about equity for older people with disabilities,
Once upon a time, there was an elderly woman named Maria who had a physical disability that made it difficult for her to move around. She had lived her entire life in a small village in a remote part of the country where people with disabilities were often marginalized and forgotten.

As Maria grew older, she began to realize that she was not being treated fairly by her community. She was unable to attend local events or even visit her friends because the buildings were not wheelchair accessible. The roads were unpaved and uneven, making it nearly impossible for her to leave her house without assistance.

One day, Maria decided that she had had enough. She went to her local government office and demanded that they make changes to the village to make it more equitable for people with disabilities like herself. She spoke passionately about the need for wheelchair ramps, accessible buildings, and smoother roads.

At first, the government officials were hesitant to listen to Maria's demands. They had never considered the needs of people with disabilities before, and they didn't think it was a priority. But Maria persisted, and eventually, the officials began to understand the importance of equity for older people with disabilities.

Together, they worked to make the necessary changes to the village. They built ramps and widened doorways, and they paved the roads so that they were accessible to people with disabilities. Maria was overjoyed to see the village she had known her entire life become a place where she could move around freely and independently.

Thanks to Maria's advocacy and the willingness of the government officials to listen, the village became a model for other communities in the country. Older people with disabilities in other parts of the country began to demand similar changes, and slowly but surely, equity for older people with disabilities became a national priority.

Maria never stopped advocating for herself and others like her. She became a respected community leader, and her legacy lives on as a champion for equity and inclusivity for people with disabilities.

These stories were generated by ChatGPT.

When we ask

short story about equity for children with disabilities

short story about equity for people with disabilities

short story about equity for older people with disabilities

What is ChatGPT? It is a large language model developed by OpenAI, based on the GPT-3.5 architecture. It is designed to generate human-like responses to a wide range of natural language inputs, including text-based conversation, questions, and commands.

How ChatGPT generate these stories? It works by using a deep learning algorithm known as a transformer model, which is a type of neural network that is particularly well-suited for processing natural language data.

Simply using our internet network database and generating responses by its own algorithm.

As we see on the first story, Emily and David as children, on second story Alex as young person and on the third story Maria as an older person have similar problem related with their disability.

We all know very similar stories like them. We all see lots of similar maybe completely same problems they had. ChatGPT is generating our realty.

I asked another story from ChatGPT and this time question was 'story about a kid with disability who is superhero'

Once upon a time, there was a young boy named Max who was born with a rare genetic disorder that left him unable to walk without the aid of a wheelchair. Max was often teased by other children for his disability, which left him feeling alone and isolated.

But Max had a secret that he kept from everyone else. Whenever he put on his superhero cape and mask, he felt like he could do anything. He imagined himself flying through the air and fighting off villains with incredible strength and agility. In his mind, he was the greatest superhero the world had ever seen.

One day, Max stumbled upon a group of bullies who were picking on a group of younger children. Without hesitating, Max donned his superhero outfit and jumped into action. The bullies were shocked to see Max standing up to them, but Max was fearless. Using his wit and intelligence, Max was able to outsmart the bullies and send them running for cover.

From that day forward, Max knew that he had a purpose in life. He became known as the "Wheelchair Warrior," a superhero who used his intelligence, strength, and compassion to protect those in need. Max's disability had once been his greatest burden, but now it was his greatest gift. He was a true superhero, and nothing could stop him.

Even when we ask a story about a kid with disability who is superhero, Max who is greatest superhero the world had ever seen, fights against of bullies. What a terrible social memory.

Nowadays, as we can see technology is one of the real superhero. Technology has the potential to help solve inequality in a number of ways:

Access to Information, access to Education, access to healthcare, access to job opportunities, equal opportunity for entrepreneurship, increased efficiency, financial Inclusion.

Overall, we just had Covid-19 Pandemic. We all remember how all the world were fighting with it. People did not even go out of home for months. During these time we all had advantage of technology on communications, working, healthcare, shopping, banking, education etc. Scientist has great benefit of technology to finding out a solution. They did not only wish a good luck to world, they all put their hands under the stone. We can clearly see that when we wish to solve any problem, even most difficult ones, we are able.

After all, I believe that we have a very short way which looks long.

References:

Our realty by ChatGPT



Letter from the Chairman's Desk By Sunil Bhatia PhD

I was going to my institute in the morning and noticed a father pushing the handlebar vertically attached to the back portion of the children's tricycle where his hardly two-year-old child was sitting. That handle was designed for such height that an adult person can hold the bar for pushing as well as can use it for maneuvering the tricycle's direction. As I crossed them found the child's leg was so small he was unable to reach the peddle attached for movement. He was not peddling but the tricycle peddle was continuously in motion with the push of the handlebar of the tricycle by an adult. A question surfaced in my mind. Is the machine should push the child for peddling or it should be the child's effort of peddling for movement? I thought this tricycle is designed for learning in walking and peddling will give strength to his legs. If the machine's peddle moves with the motion of the tricycle is the wrong design as per my knowledge.

It appears to me a wrong design where the operator should enjoy the liberty of peddling rather machine should move the peddle without the effort of the driver. As a designer, we designed a machine that keeps moving continuously in constant motion, and human intervention is designed for taking out desired outputs. In the general case, the designer designed the machine where the intervention of motion of the machine is in complete control of humans for taking out desired outputs. A manual cane juice extraction machine is designed where the human has complete control over extraction. In engine-operated cane sugar operated

machines continuously moves with constant motion and humans keep feeding for extracting juices.

When I was a student and lot of foreign students were in my institute for studies. One of the students who passed the final examination of a higher course gifted his bicycle from his native country that he brought along for movement on the campus for short distances. That bicycle was a racing cycle and was without any brake for stopping. As the rear wheel moves the peddle also moves forward along with the wheel. If you wish to stop it just use the leg power on peddle and it worked as the brake. It was designed for racing but normal cyclist faces great challenges as they start to peddle as they do for the normal bicycle. They follow what peddle was instructed to keep it in motion. As they wished to stop found there is no brake and peddle that power at the speed of the bicycle. Either they met with some kind of accident or at the beginning surrendered for not being competent in handling such a difficult bicycle.

Sometimes in industry, a specific machine is designed where humans intervene for desired outcomes and where the machine is continuously in motion. Man's role is designed to satisfy what the machine demands for desired outputs. Generally, machines are designed where it is in motion as per the will and demand of the operator not as the machine is in motion and demanding for output. The conveyer belt where is continuously in motion and it is the demand of machines for placing items for transporting. If nothing is placed then also it designed and sends nothing to the destination for it is designed. Similarly in buffing where steel wool is in continuous motion and the operator takes the utensils for polishing for rubbing with placing for scrubbing.

At the domestic level gas burner is on continuous flame and the person interface is designed by controlling the knob for desired heat for cooking. He places various cooking utensils over it for indirect heating for cooking.

Emergency services are designed where vehicles are moving for reaching their destination without facing any manmade hurdles. When an ambulance carrying a patient or fire brigade is designed for reaching as soon as possible for lowering the damage expects that people on the road will give proper way for reaching its destination without any delay. It is the machine that is forcing the human to behave accordingly to what the machine is demanding.

I am grateful to Mr Ercan Tural who has accepted our invitation as Guest Editor and kept his promise despite his country experiencing earthquake devastation. I was fearing that come Mr. Ercan will submit his publishing material for the special issue. I feel like stand and salute him for fulfilling his commitment even though they are under the affects of recent time earthquakes.

Lambert Academic publication for celebration of 150th special issue by publishing a book by compiling editorials "Design For All, Drivers of Design" was translated into eight different languages from ENGLISH to French, German, Italian, Russian, Dutch, and Portuguese. Kindly click the following link for the book. "Morebooks", one of the largest online bookstores. Here's the link to it:

<https://www.morebooks.de/store/gb/book/design-forall/isbn/978-613-9-83306-1>

Enjoy reading, be happy, and work for the betterment of society.

With Regards

Dr. Sunil Bhatia

Design For All Institute of India www.designforall.in

dr_subha@yahoo.com

Tel 91-11-27853470®



Forthcoming Issues

June 2023 Vol-18 No-6



Debra Ruh CEO Global Impact

| Executive Chair, Billion Strong | Host of Human Potential at Work

AXS Chat Co-Host

Talks about #inclusion, #tech4good,

#accessibility, #digitalinclusion, and

#disabilityinclusion Talks about hashtag inclusion, hashtag

tech4good, hashtag accessibility, hashtag digitalinclusion,

and hashtag disabilityinclusion

Rockville, Virginia, United States

July 2023 Vol-18 No-7

Manisha is a thought leader in the power of thinking from the edge and has appeared on Big Ideas on Radio National, Sydney Writers festival and fronted the Disability Royal Commission. She has over 20 year's experience in strategic marketing, communication, transforming cultures and creativity and now leads the Centre for Inclusive Design as the organisation's CEO. She has a unique ability to bring together industry experts and global partners to identify areas ripe for disruption where we can make the greatest impact. Manisha has worked in government, community, and technology sectors. She is passionate about social justice and business growth and believes that when we combine the two, we get gold.

August 2023 Vol-18 No-8

Divya Chaurasia is an award-winning industrial designer, with a background in engineering and user experience. An

expert in user centered research, sustainable practices and design for manufacturing, she has a Masters in Industrial Design from Pratt Institute, New York and Bachelor's in Technology from Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India.

Currently, Divya works as a senior industrial designer and user experience lead at Spitfire Industry, a design consultancy based in Brooklyn, New York. She designs products and experiences for brands like Clorox, All Clad, Tefal, Bausch & Lomb, Cook's Direct, Hunter Douglas, GoTrax, and Nectar. Divya's work is inspired by the everyday pursuits of people. She is fascinated by the connection between humans, objects and environments, and captures this relationship in delightfully functional products. Her work has been exhibited at NYCxDesign (New York Design Week) and NYC Media Lab Annual Summit and received recognition by Chicago Athenaeum Good Design Award in 2021 and International Design Awards 2023. Being a strong advocate for sustainable practices in design, Divya has given guest talks at the Industrial Design Society of America Technical Deep Dive and North Carolina State University on the topic. Divya also volunteers her time for supporting young designers. She serves as a mentor for Masters students at Virginia Tech University and the Offsite program, and as a Creative Liaisons Coach for the London International Awards.

October 2023 Vol-18 No-10

Dr Dolly Daou has 23 years of academic and industry experience leading global academic programs and non-profit associations and initiating practice-based research projects for medium-large organisations in Australasia, Europe and the Middle East. Dr Daou's professional background is in interior architecture and urban design research, her career path led her to France where she became the Director of Food Design Lab at l'École de design, Nantes Atlantique. During her leadership to the lab Dr Daou developed and implemented system-based and food entrepreneurship education strategies. Combining her multidisciplinary and my international industry and academic experience Dr Daou developed workshops that transform theoretical research into impactful commercial outcomes and strategies with ecological benefits particularly in the food sector. Dr Daou is currently the co-founder and co-chair of Food Think Tank Research Working Group at Cumulus Association. Dr Daou established the Interior Architecture Program at Swinburne University of Technology and implemented its transition and rebranding, was the Director of the non-profit Association of Professional Interior designers/Architecture (MENA) in the Middle

East and North Africa, where Dr Daou was awarded the title AISafeer Congress Ambassador by Dubai Business Events, a Community Manager for a team of start-ups at the European Innovation Council (EIC), European Commission and invited Quality Assurance reviewer for TEQSA and for international quality assurance agencies for higher education in Australia and in Bahrain.

November 2023 Vol-18 No-11



Dr. Soumyajit Bhar is currently an Assistant professor of environmental studies at Krea University, India, where he offers and coordinates a course on Design Thinking. Soumyajit straddles action and academic research with more than 14 years of experience (both volunteering and full-time) working with various environmental and sustainability issues. He holds a Ph.D. in Sustainability Studies (with a specialization in ecological economics) from Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (ATREE) as part of a unique interdisciplinary Ph.D. program. His dissertation attempts to understand socio-psychological drivers and local and regional scale environmental impacts of conspicuous/luxury consumption basket in India. Soumyajit is furthering postdoctoral research at the intersection of rising consumerism, sustainability concerns, and inequality levels in the context of the Global South. He is also keen to explore how design education can broaden students' perspectives and help them delineate pathways to

a better world. He has published in international journals and popular media. He is also interested in larger questions of philosophy and ethics, particularly pertaining to environmental issues.

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SHERYL E. BURGSTAHLER is an affiliate professor in the College of Education at the University of Washington in Seattle, and founder and director of the university's Disabilities, Opportunities, Internetworking, and Technology (DO-IT) and Access Technology Centers.

“Sheryl Burgstahler has assembled a great set of chapters and authors on universal design in higher education. It’s a must-have book for all universities, as it covers universal design of instruction, physical spaces, student services, technology, and provides examples of best practices.”

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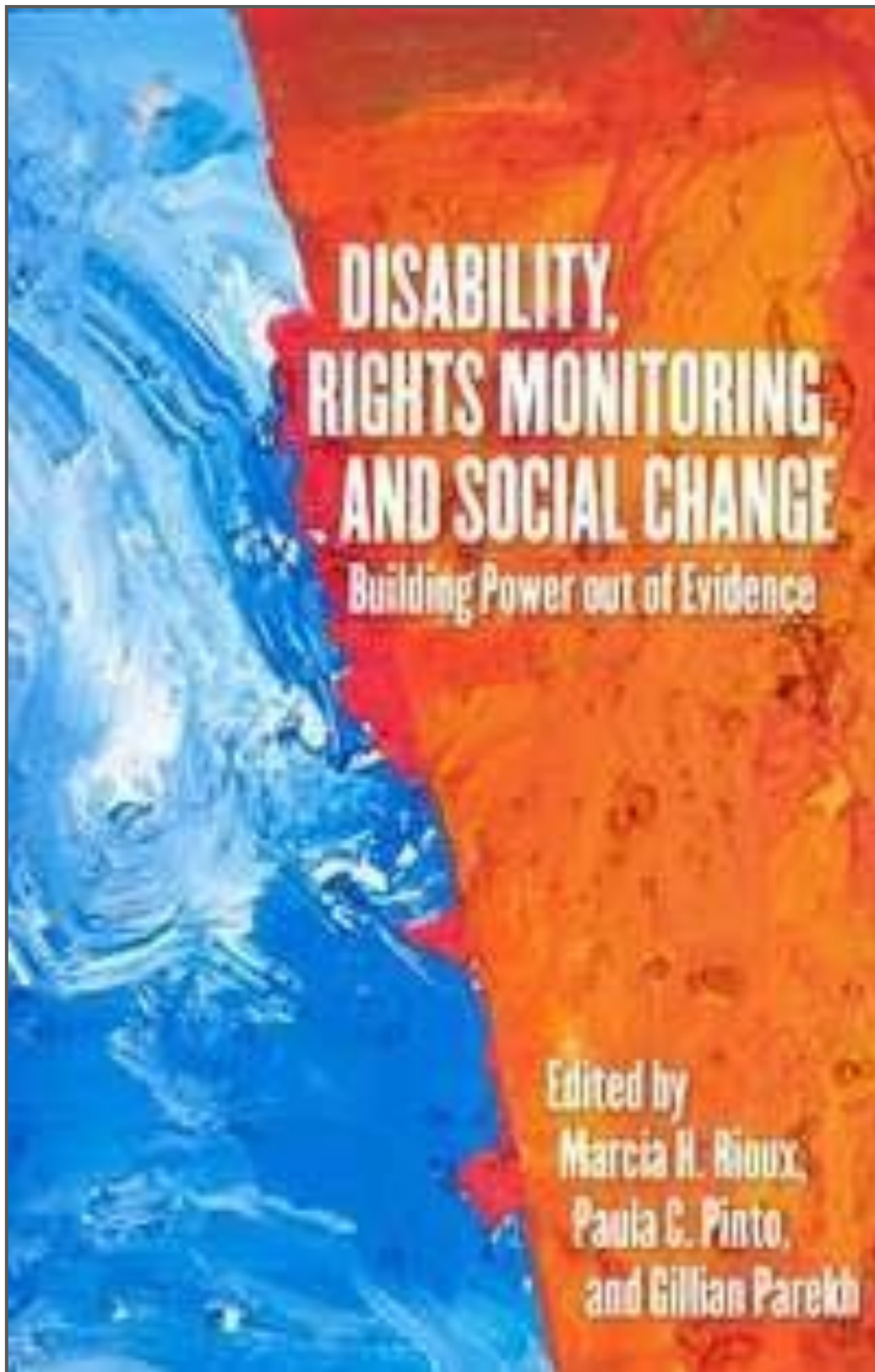
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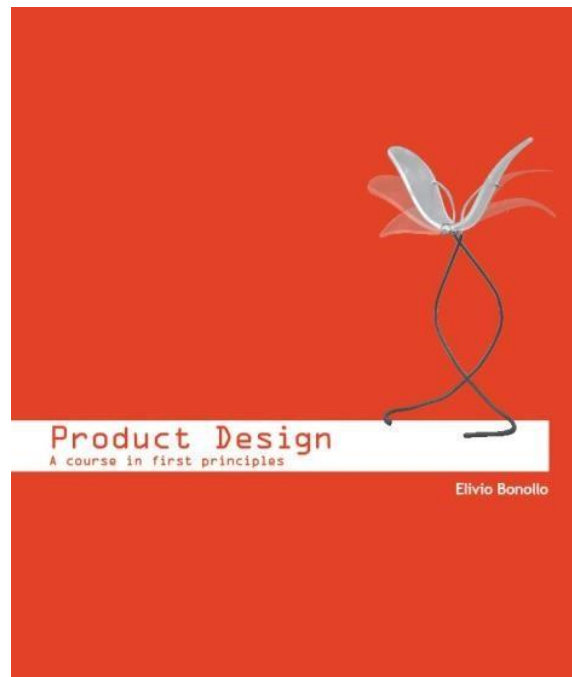
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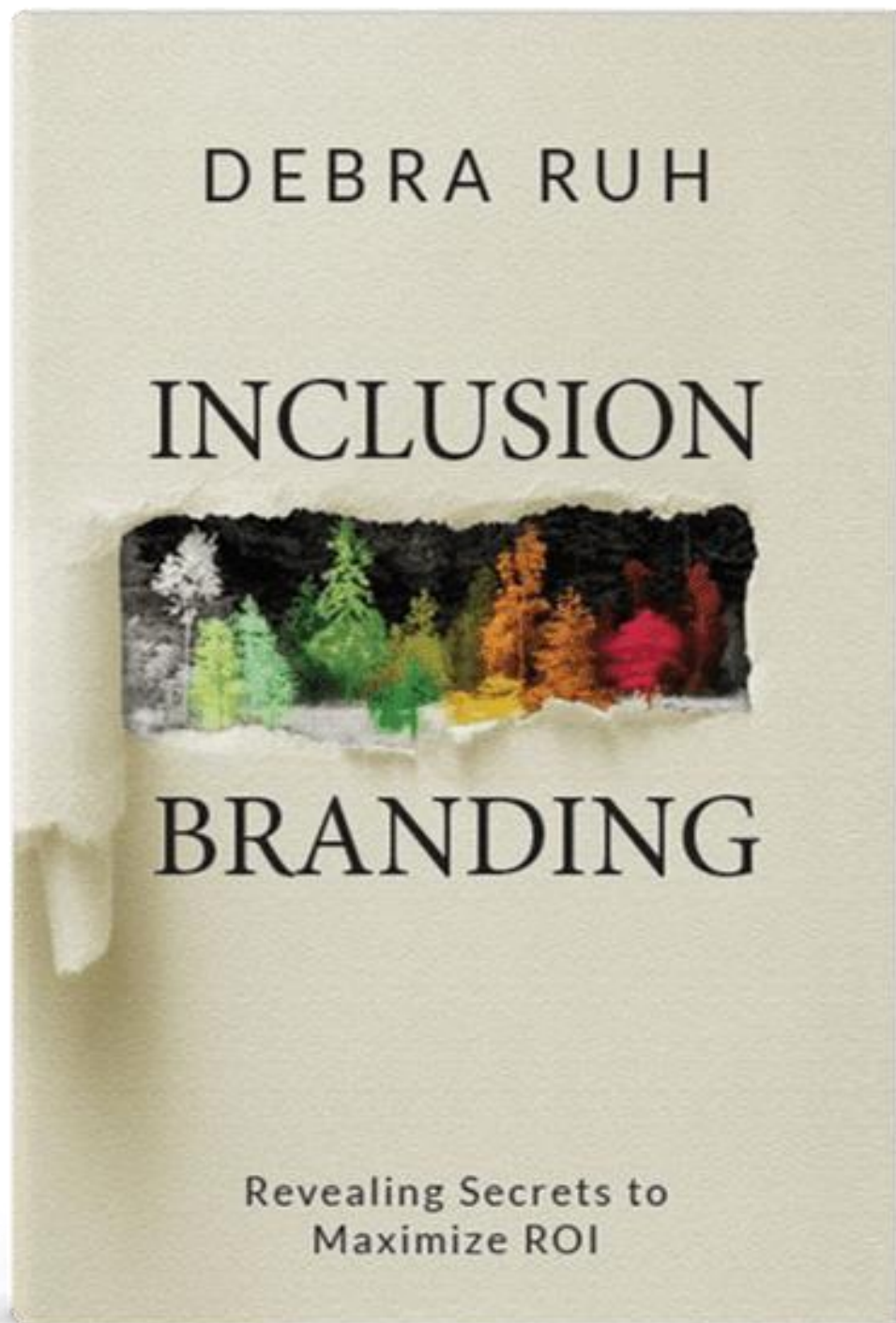
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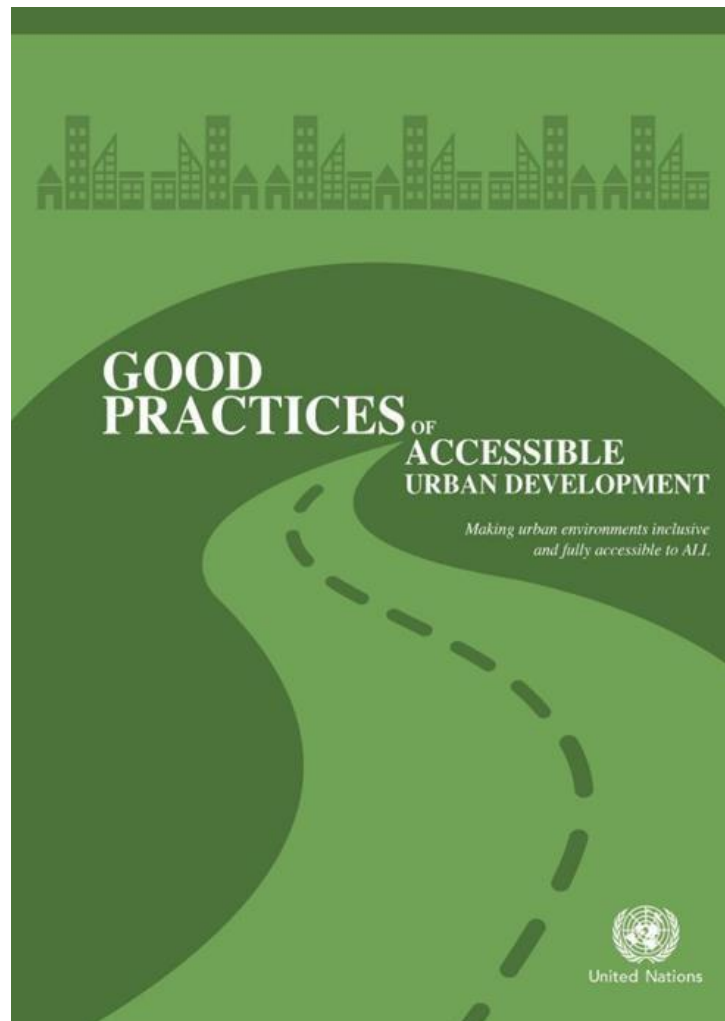
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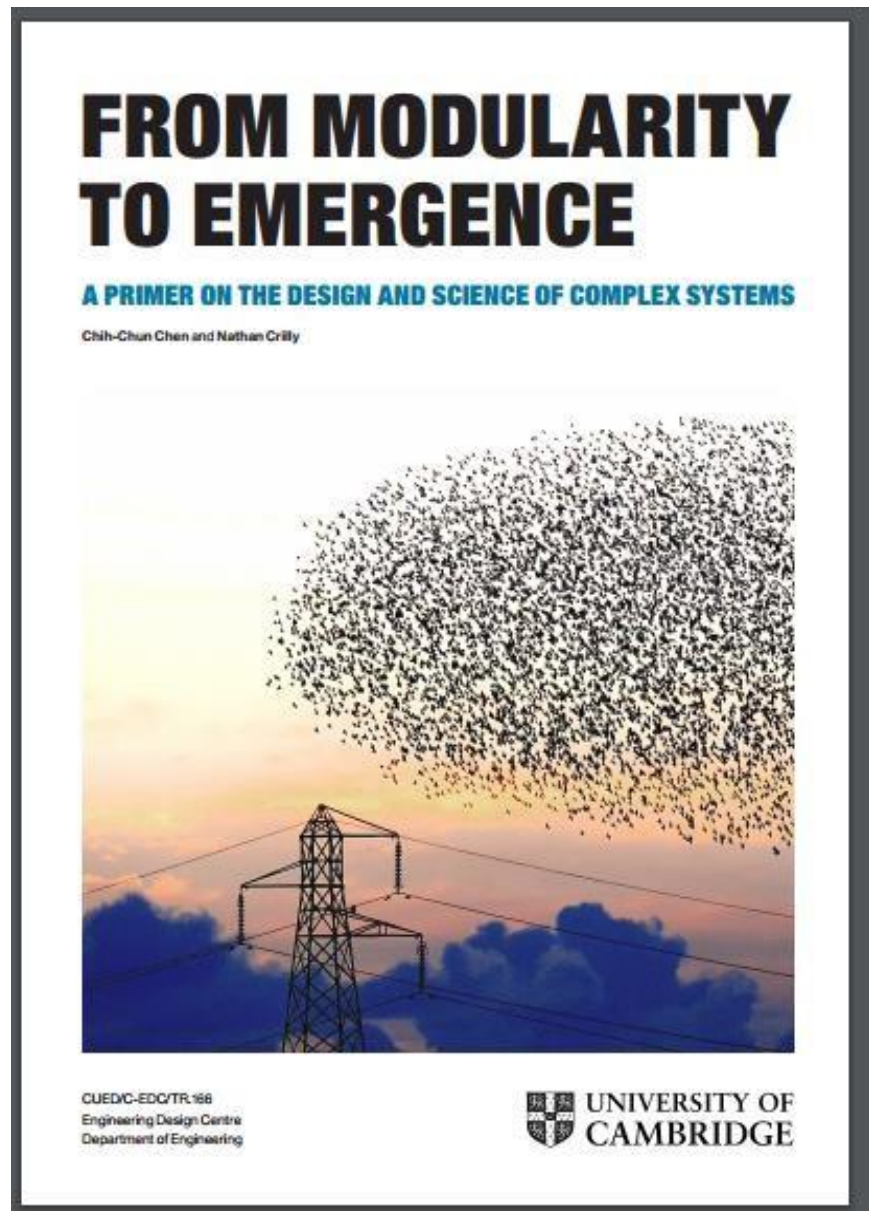




In light of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) and the imminent launch of the New Urban Agenda, DESA in collaboration with the Essl Foundation (Zero Project) and others have prepared a new publication entitled: "Good practices of accessible urban development".

The publication provides case studies of innovative practices and policies in housing and built environments, as well as transportation, public spaces and public services, including information and communication technology (ICT) based services. The publication concludes with strategies and innovations for promoting accessible urban development. The advance unedited text is available

at:http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/desa/good_practices_urban_dev.pdf



Dr Chih-Chun Chen and Dr Nathan Crilly of the Cambridge University Engineering Design Centre Design Practice Group have released a free, downloadable book, *'A Primer on the Design and Science of Complex Systems'*.

This project is funded by the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EP/K008196/1).

The book is available at URL: <http://complexityprimer.eng.cam.ac.uk>

Changing Paradigms: Designing for a Sustainable Future

Editors:
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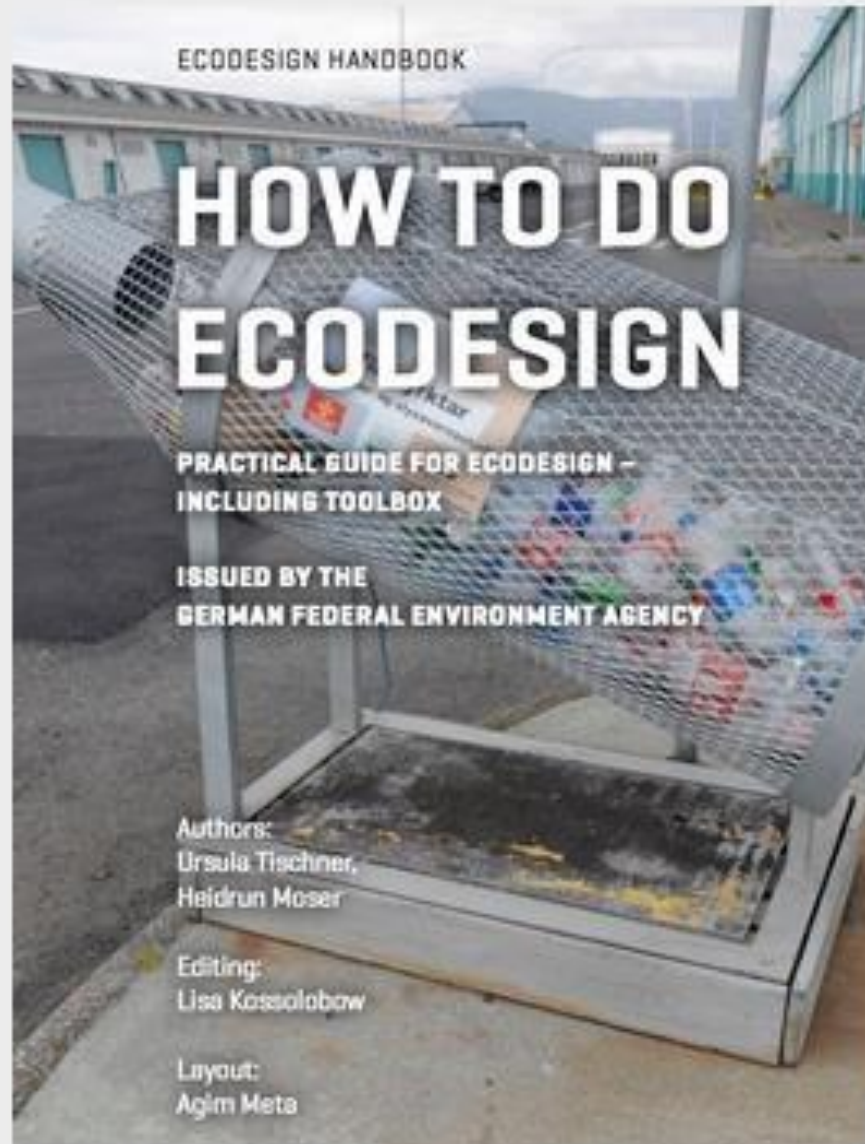
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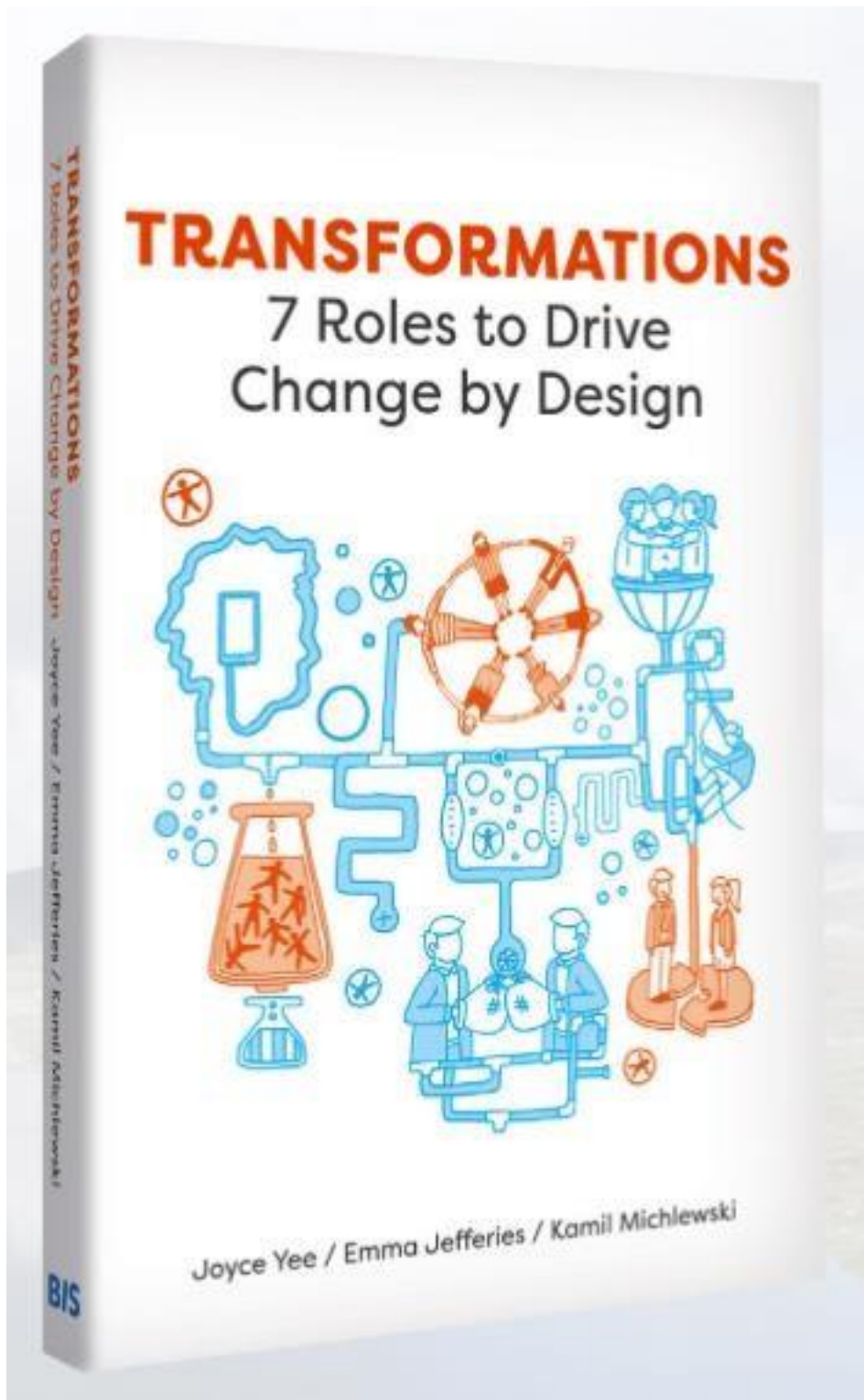


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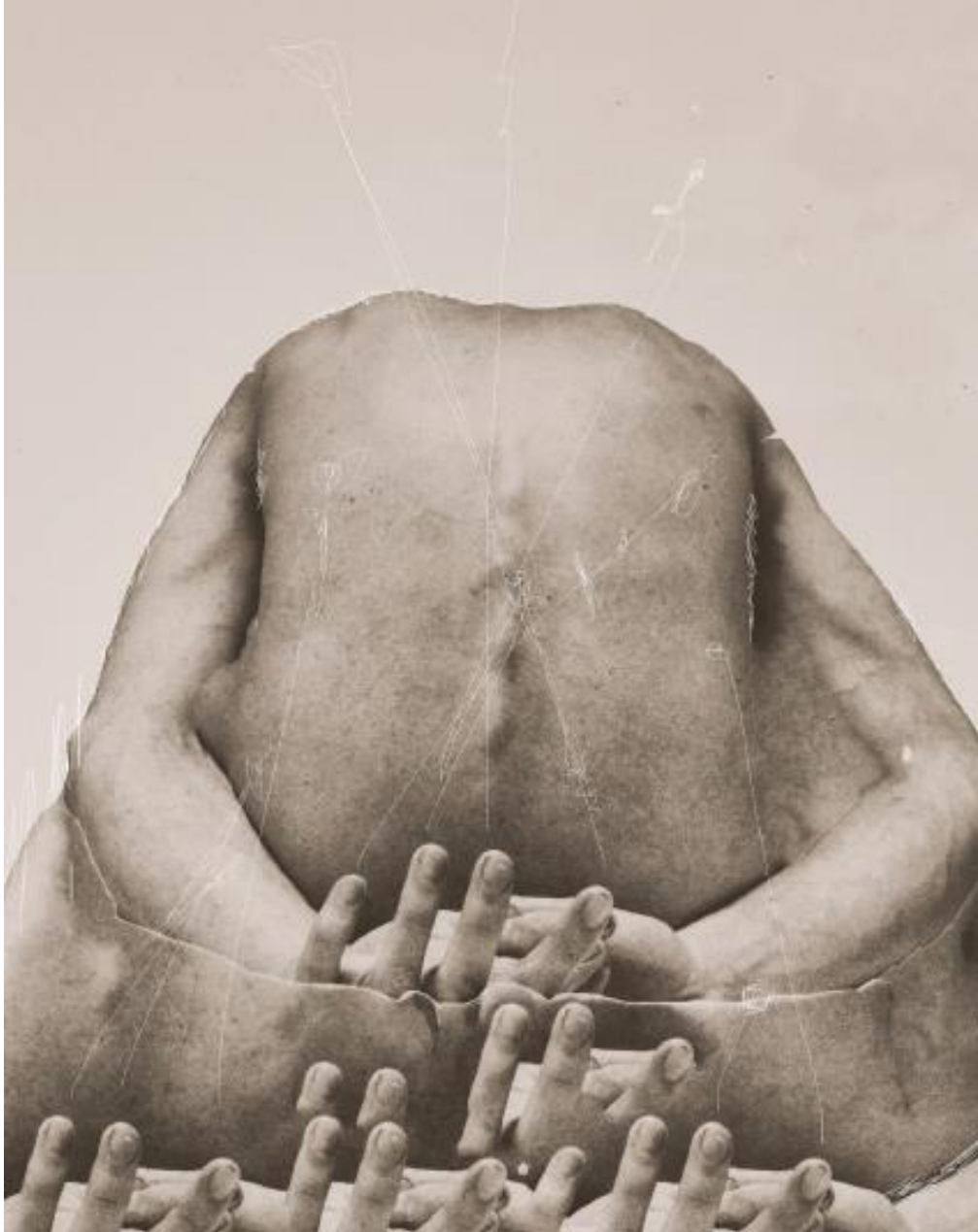
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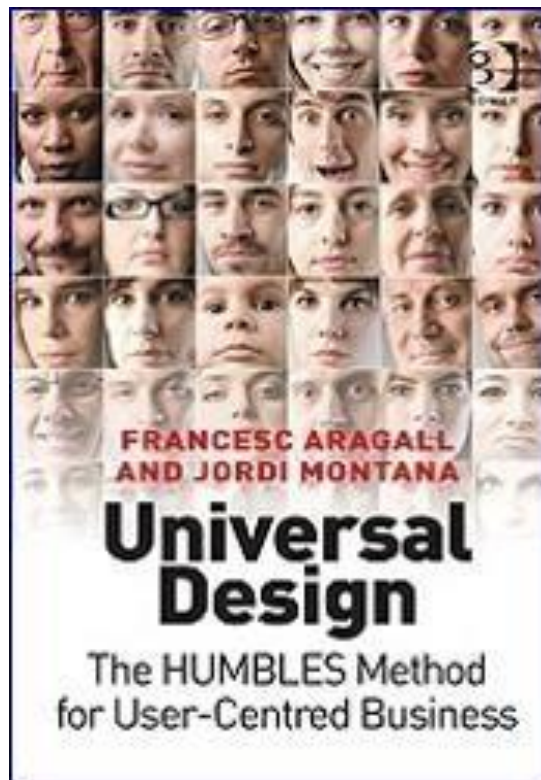
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Neo-liberalism, grief and the nation form



Universal Design: The HUMBLES Method for User-Centred Business



“Universal Design: The HUMBLES Method for User-Centred Business”, written by Francesc Aragall and Jordi Montaña and published by Gower, provides an innovative method to support businesses wishing to increase the number of satisfied users and clients and enhance their reputation by adapting their products and services to the diversity of their actual and potential customers, taking into account their needs, wishes and expectations.

The HUMBLES method (© Aragall) consists of a progressive, seven-phase approach for implementing Design for All within a business. By incorporating the user’s point of view, it enables companies to evaluate their business strategies in order to improve provide an improved, more customer-oriented experience, and there by gain a competitive advantage in the marketplace. As well as a comprehensive guide to the method, the book provides case studies of multinational business which have successfully incorporated Design for All into their working practices. According to Sandro Rossell, President of FC Barcelona, who in company with other leading business professionals endorsed the publication, it is “required reading for those who wish to understand how universal design is the only way to connect a brand to the widest possible public, increasing client loyalty and enhancing company prestige”. To purchase the book, visit either the Design for All Foundation website

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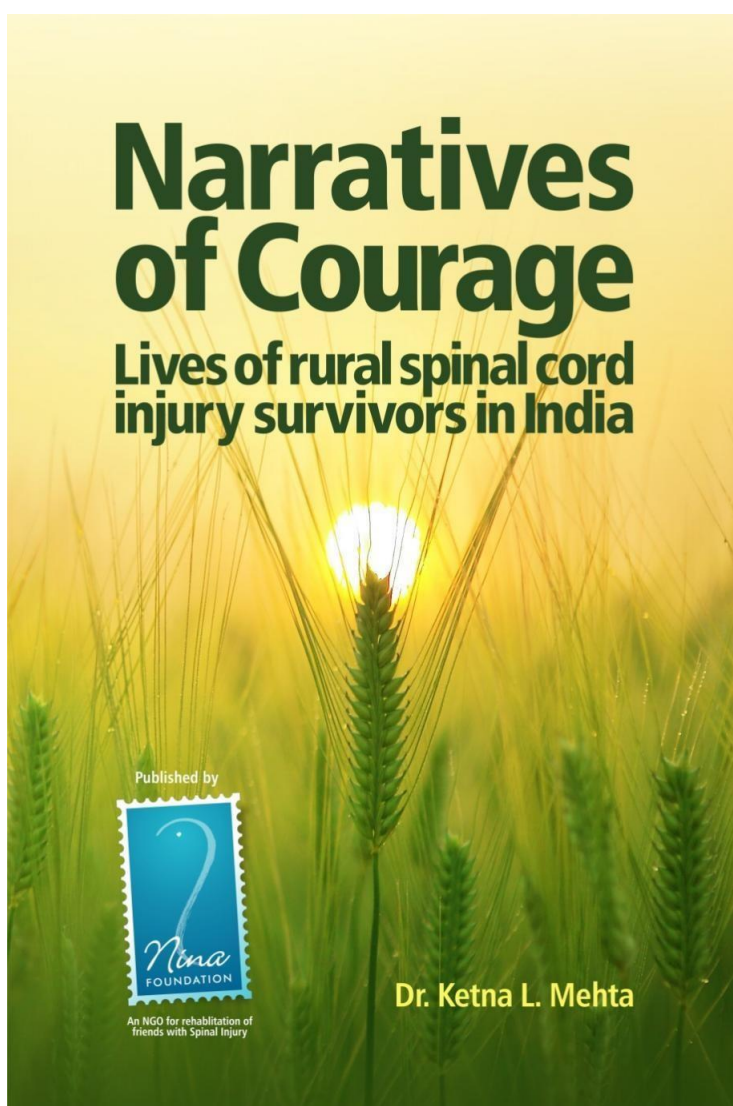
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NOW AVAILABLE

Case Studies in Applied Behavior Analysis for Individuals with Disabilities *(Second Edition)*

Keith Storey, Ph.D., BCBA-D
Linda Haymes, Ph.D., BCBA-D

This book responds to a critical need for highly qualified personnel who will become exemplary professionals because of their advanced knowledge, skills, and experiences in working with students and adults that have varying disabilities, including Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). Since Board Certification for behavior analysis was introduced, there has been an expansion of training programs in Applied Behavior Analysis to meet the demands from school districts, health insurers, and families. In spite of these developments, a case studies book has not been available that uses the Behavior Analyst Certification Board Task List, Fifth Edition (BACB) guidelines for educating individuals receiving their BCBA, or for those in the field such as teachers, and service providers. The goal of this book is to fill that need. In this newly revised second edition, eighteen case studies are provided—case studies with complete analysis, case studies with partial analysis, and case studies without analysis. The format, readability, and detailed description of instructional methodology makes this text a valued resource for instructors and behavior analysts responsible for improving the skills of people with disabilities.



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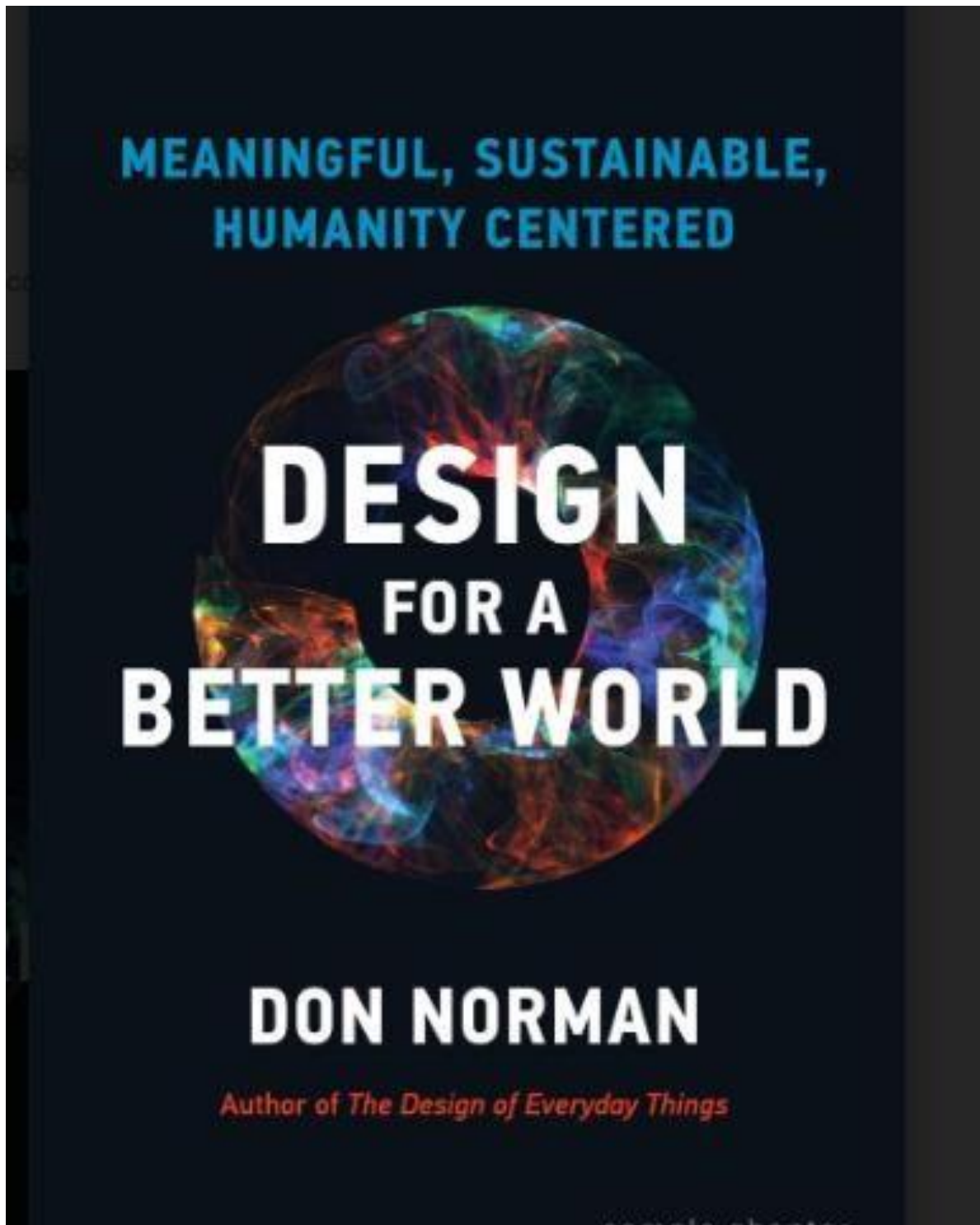
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Appendix: Revision Regarding Applied Behavior Analysis and People with Disabilities

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Subject Index

Case Studies in Applied





News

1.

The design of societal impact: UTSA architecture students create a health campus for people who are blind or visually impaired

On a recent Wednesday, UTSA architecture students prepared for visitors who would soon review their designs. They helped each other tape architectural renderings on the wall and neatly align corresponding models of their floorplans on tables.



This review was different for the group. Something important was on the line.

The class, led by Neda Norouzi, an assistant professor in the UTSA School of Architecture and Planning, has been collaborating with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Center for Architects at San Antonio and disABILITYsa, a local

nonprofit organization advocating for people with disabilities, to design a health center for people who are blind or visually impaired.

The course encourages students to practice evidence-based design and gives them experience using architecture as a tool to apply in real word settings.

Students are also gaining lessons in compassion, empathy and the impact design can have on people, Norouzi explained.

“We are interviewing with local San Antonians who are visually impaired or blind to better understand their needs from the built environment,” Norouzi said. “The data collected from these conversations are being used as the foundation of students' design.”

Wendy Walker, president of the San Antonio Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind Texas, traced her fingers along the raised floorplan where walls would be built as students described the layout. She provided the students with feedback on architectural solutions that could be improved and the design elements that she found especially innovative.

“I didn’t want to over-design. I wanted to design an experience in itself,” said Justin Joyce, a senior architecture student. “I wanted to give people independence and control of their movements.”

His project, “Touch of Echo,” seeks to give independence by using simplistic forms of wayfinding, a method that guides people through physical environments and enhances their perception of a space. He used texture, sound and artificial intelligence as the three main architectural features for the health campus he designed.

Joyce incorporated wayfinding in the form of a textured wall to help individuals decipher which direction they are heading by moving their hand either along the smoother edges, which led further into the building, or along the sharp edges that indicate the exit is nearby.

He found his inspiration among a group of rocks settled in San Pedro Creek. Joyce noticed how one side of the rocks was

polished smooth but rough on the other side where the stream had carved a unique texture.

“I pictured my hand grazing these rocks and I could tell which way I was going depending on the texture. That inferred my design. This is my first exploration into universal design. It’s another dimension of a puzzle we were already learning in previous studios,” Joyce said.

Universal design (UD) is defined as the development of products and environments that are usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.

Although the concept of universal design is well-documented, the unique design needs of persons who are blind or partially sighted have not always been fully considered or incorporated into the built environment, according to the World Blind Union.

Melanie Cawthon, cofounder and executive director of disABILITYsa, said the experience for students is important, even if their paths don’t lead to a career that focuses on designs for people who are blind or visually impaired.

“On a scale from 1 to 10, it’s 10. They’re helping put focus on part of the population that has been left out of the conversation. Design and programs that are inclusive take planning and knowledge so when we do include that in the educational system, we don’t miss out on those opportunities to be inclusive,” Cawthon said.

The students will present their final projects on May 3 at the Center for Architecture, located at 1344 S Flores St., from 4 to 6 p.m.

— Ari Castañeda

UTSA Today is produced by University Strategic Communications,

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(Courtesy: USA Today)

2.

How cities worldwide are planning for an aging populatio



According to the United Nations, the number of people aged 65 or over is projected to reach 2.1-billion by 2050, more than double today's numbers. GEBER86/GETTY IMAGES

In 1997, Paul McGarry wrote his first action plan to improve the lives of older people. The award-winning head of the Greater Manchester (Britain) Ageing Hub crafted a vision for urban planning that accounts for all ages, bringing together stakeholders from civil society, government, social work and more.

He'd go on to help Greater Manchester – where, in 2015, approximately 33 per cent of the population was over 50 – become an age-friendly region, the first in Britain to join a [global network](#) of them.

Mr. McGarry was in his 30s when he wrote his first age-friendly city design plan. He's almost 60 now, and he's still talking about the same issues: social isolation, transport and housing, issues that are gaining prominence in his field as the global elderly population grows.

"Aging isn't going anywhere," he says, noting that investing in age-friendly urban design can reduce the need for high-cost health and

care services later on. “We need leadership, including older people’s leadership, to connect the quality of life and the health care-social services savings agenda.”

Today, Mr. McGarry is one of a growing number of urban planners grappling with the question of how to serve a population that’s aging worldwide. According to the United Nations, the number of people aged 65 or over is projected to reach 2.1 billion by 2050, more than double today’s numbers. What’s more, the population of older people living in cities increased by **68 per cent** between 2000 and 2015. That trend shows no signs of abating – and has the potential to transform the way our cities operate and how people live, travel and socialize.

This presents policy questions for municipalities, which must figure out how much to invest in planning while providing for and averting unnecessary costs from health care, emergency-room visits, social services for the elderly, and the like.

The trick, Mr. McGarry says, is providing supportive environments for aging populations “without pathologizing them.”

Manchester deemed its aging population “valuable, not vulnerable” in a recent campaign celebrating the contribution of older adults in the coronavirus pandemic response. In the wake of COVID-19, elderly residents took paid front-line roles, provided support to family and neighbours and offered community engagement in a time of crisis.

But this doesn’t mean the municipality ignores the reality of health-related issues for its aging population.

“We’ve got compelling international evidence and guidance on the devastating effects of falls, for example, but the uptake [on implementation] is patchy,” Mr. McGarry says. “The challenges are in what we do right now, and connecting those actions to medium- and long-term changes.”

Making a city age-friendly involves more than implementing a falls-prevention program – though Manchester has one, along with programs for creating age-friendly homes, creative care kits for isolated citizens, and Talking About My Generation, a radio news program run by older volunteers. Systematically improving intersections by adding longer crossing times, shorter crossing distances and sloped entrances for street access are important, but not everything. High-quality housing, social networks that improve health and well-being, and a vibrant cultural life are also key components of an age-friendly city.

University of Toronto Scarborough human geography professor Andre Sorensen researches urbanization and development issues in Canada and Japan, including the importance of active transportation such as walking and cycling. Cities shouldn't be automobile-dependent, he says, and need a mix of housing types so residents can downsize easily in their own neighbourhoods, keeping their routines, networks of friends and destinations.

High-density development brings residents of all ages together, Prof. Sorensen says – and saves cities infrastructure and maintenance costs along the way. “If you have six houses on a one-kilometre stretch of road, covering all the long-run supply and maintenance costs will be a lot higher per house than if you have 60 houses on that stretch of road,” he says.

The city of Toyama, Japan, is one example of a city that has taken a high-density planning approach, bringing older residents together in Residential Encouragement Zones (REZs), where public facilities, frequent and accessible transport, intergenerational activities and housing design meet their needs. Toyama's Compact City Strategy was developed in 2002, subsidizing those who moved into and built REZs, which had the effect of creating revived neighbourhoods with sparkling cultural centres.

Moving citizens into Toyama-style zones is a classic strategy, Prof. Sorensen says. “Property taxes in low-density areas don't raise enough money to supply and maintain local infrastructure like water systems, public transportation, or ambulance and fire services,” he indicates. “Toyama recognized the high cost of low-density development and made an economic analysis and policy in response.”

“Planning for an aging society is not just where people live,” says assistant professor Jordana Maisel, director of research at the Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access

(IDEA) at the University at Buffalo. Rather, planners thinking about accessibility should consider all elements of a city that residents interact with – shops, community hubs and the like.

“There’s a trend to build age-friendly housing or assisted living facilities in the middle of nowhere, disconnected from social supports and activities,” Dr. Maisel says. “Social participation is a critical component of our interpretation of inclusive design.”

Founded in the mid-1980s, Dr. Maisel’s IDEA Center is focused on inclusive, evidence-based, built environment design. Among the centre’s projects is a new certification and resource program called isUD: Innovative Solutions for Universal Design, for buildings that go above and beyond minimal code compliance for accessibility. Similar to the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification doled out for green buildings in the U.S., isUD awards museums, stores and offices based on their adherence to eight principles, such as wellness, comprehensibility and cultural appropriateness.

Making a space accessible involves more than just mobility impairments, such as focusing on wheelchair users, Dr. Maisel says. “Inclusive and universal design thinks of a broader population, including individuals with vision and hearing impairments, as well as the more frail.”

Wider hallways and doorways to accommodate modern wheelchairs – which have changed considerably in the half-century since the original accessibility standards research was done – are only part of inclusive design, Dr. Maisel says. Wayfinding, acoustics, lighting and limited steps are also considerations. To be truly inclusive, consultations with end-users are an essential element of the design process, whether referring to buildings or programming.

“We’re not just thinking about addressing issues for an aging population,” Dr. Maisel says. “We’re focused on good design. If you think about the most vulnerable, it’s those with disabilities and older adults. By addressing the needs of those populations, you provide a better solution for all.”

(Courtesy: The Globe and Mail)



Programme and Events





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International Call:

D'source DIC-BHU SDGs Design Challenge

<https://dsourcechallenge.org/>

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also known as the Global Goals, were adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that by 2030 all people enjoy peace and prosperity.

Against this broad, reflective context we need you to brainstorm and look for opportunities where design can now make a difference.

We, therefore, welcome you to this international **D'source DIC-BHU Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) Design Challenge** in seeking creative, innovative, out-of-the-box, resourceful, appropriate solutions. We request you to use your creative energies and come out with solution(s) that might become a contribution of immense benefit in a real world situation that is today crying for problem-solving.

The chosen entries will be generously felicitated with accolades. Our intention is to make these solutions available on an open design platform for the maximum benefit of people.

This International call is open to students, fresh graduates, and young designers from around the world. You may work as individuals or work as collaborative groups.

You are also encouraged to seek guidance from faculty members and professionals, because we recognise that it takes collective endeavor to come out with something meaningful.

For the international D'source DIC-BHU Sustainability Development Goals (SDGs) Design Challenge, ten design problem areas have been identified. You may choose to work on one or more than one area.

Additionally, you have a choice of identifying your own design problem area outside of the listed areas to work with.

Accordingly, we request the following groups to work as stakeholders with your community of young students, fresh graduates, and young designers, by extending your help in whatever way possible:

To **faculty members/teachers**, we request that you take the initiative to inform, motivate and guide your students to work on finding solutions by addressing the problem areas listed.

To all **working professionals**, we request that you volunteer some of your time to mentor students or young designers who may be working with you as interns or colleagues.

We also urge faculty members and professionals to go ahead and register so that we can keep you in the loop and acknowledge your help. Further, this will help us build connections and form networks for future references.

[Link to Registration:](#)

Submission and Dates:

The first cut-off date for submission: 30th April, 2023

The first announcement of results: 31st May, 2023

Contact Details:

D'source Corona Design Challenge

Contact email for any queries: DsourceChallenge@gmail.com

Best regards,

D'source Challenge Team

**THIS YEAR'S TOPIC:
ARCHITECTURE DESIGNED FOR AGING**



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The BERKELEY PRIZE supports the study and teaching of the social art of architecture. The online, two-stage Essay Competition (in English) is open to undergraduate architecture majors in accredited schools of architecture throughout the world. The Travel Fellowship Competition is open to the Essay Competition semifinalists.

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2023 JURORS

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SCHEDULE

Competition opens: **September 15, 2022**; Stage One entries due: **November 1, 2022**.
 For more information go to www.berkeleyprize.org

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Please forward this message to undergraduate student message boards, newsletters, any and all electronic platforms, and to those who might be interested. [Download PDF for full size image to post.](#)

DEAWARDS CALLS FOR 2023 ENTRIES

Competition 'Design Educates Awards' (DEAwards) goes a step further as it combines architecture and design with an educational impact. The aim is to push aesthetics to reach and obtain a lasting, informative influence on society. Visual arts have always been perceived and used as means of expression socially and politically, but the competition seeks to change this through original concepts and ideas revolving buildings or products that can be implemented for their function and effectiveness. Renowned Architects like Toyo Ito and Anna Heringer make part of the jury panel that is set to select the outstanding projects based on implementation, aesthetics, feasibility, and quality of the informative layer.

To join the Awards and register click the link here before it's too late! **Deadline for submissions is February 2, 2023.**



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Chief-Editor:



**Dr.Sunil Kumar Bhatia Faculty Member,
13, Lodhi Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-
110003(INDIA)**

E-mail:dr_subha@yahoo.com

Editor:



Shri L.K. Das

**Former Head Industrial Design Center, Indian Institute of
Technology (Delhi),**

India E-mail:

lalitdas@gmail.com

Associate Editor:



**Prof Dr Rachna Khare, School of planning and *Architecture*
, Bhopal,
India**

E-mail: rachnakhare@spabhopal.ac.in

Editorial Board:



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India**

Email: ravindra@dtu.ac.in

Special Correspondent:

**Ms. Nemisha Sharma,
Mumbai, India**

Nemisha98@gmail.com

Address for Correspondence:

**13, Lodhi Institutional Area,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003India.**

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