

Institute for Sustainable Futures

International Conference 2026:

Reinventing Urban Futures: Regenerative Cities for a Resilient Planet

3-4 September 2026

Queen's Building

De Montfort University, Leicester LE1 9BH

Programme

Day 1: 03 September 2026

9am – 9.30	Participant pack collection from the Queen's Building concourse
------------	---

Welcome address – Venue QB1.10 Auditorium

9.30-9.35	Conference inauguration – Prof. Subhes Bhattacharyya	Teams link for virtual participation
9.35-9.45	Welcome by Prof. Shushma Patel, PVC Dean, Faculty of Technology, Arts and Culture	

Keynote Address – QB1.10 Auditorium

Chair: Prof. Subhes Bhattacharyya

9.50-10.30	Keynote address by Dr. David Rubens, Executive Director, Institute of Strategic Risk Management, London	DOI	Teams link
10.30-10.45	Questions and Answers		

Break 10.45-11.00 – Tea & Coffee / Networking - Queen's Concourse

11.00-12.30 Morning Parallel session 1 – Regenerative Urbanism – Venue QB0.10

Chair: Dr Amal Abuzeinab (DMU) - Physical presentations

Time	Presenter	Paper title	Link to paper and presentations
11.00-11.15	Umeora, Chukwunonso Obiefuna (Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Nigeria)	The Role of Nature-Based Solutions in Climate Change Mitigation in Nigeria	
11.20-11.35	Xingxing Zhang, Dalarna University, Sweden	Co-creating regenerative urban furniture for positive energy districts: lessons from a demonstration in Sweden	
11.40-11.55	Rashid Maqbool, University of Manchester	Unlocking economic sustainability in facility management operations and management: insights from BIM and digital twin adoptio	

12.00-12.15	Mwangi P. Wanderi, Mount Kenya University (online)	Strategic Use of Infrastructure and Innovation in Promotion of Sustainable Cities and Communities – The Case of Ziwani Manor, Kiambu County, Kenya	
12.15-12.30	Questions, answers and discussions		

11.00-12.30 Morning Parallel Session 2 – Reimagining Urban Infrastructure- QB 0.12

Chair: Dr Mark Charlton (DMU)

Time	Presenter	Paper title	Link to resources
11.00-11.15	Vishvjit Thakar (Indrashil University, India)	Drone and Satellite Based Urban and Rural Planning in Developing Nations for Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure	
11.20-11.35	Abhishek Tiwary (DMU)	Reaching for the sky: Designing multi-functional urban infrastructure in vertical space	
11.40-11.55	Anna Beasley (JBA Consulting, UK)	Scaling up delivery of sustainable drainage in London: evidencing the case for change	
12.00-12.15	Anthony Maduabaum (DMU)	Adaptive Thermal Mass in Regenerative Urban Infrastructure: A Dynamic Simulation Study of Climate-Responsive Ventilation Strategies	

12.15-12.30	Questions, answers, and discussions		
-------------	-------------------------------------	--	--

Lunch break 12.30-13.30

13.30-15.00 – Afternoon Parallel Session 1 – Regenerative Urbanism (Virtual presentations) – QB 0.10

Chair: Dr Sahar Abdalrahman (DMU)

Time	Presenter	Title	Link to resources
13.30-13.45	Srajati Tiwari (Climate Solutions International, India)	Urban Energy Dynamics as a Regenerative Framework: Integrating Urban Physics and Circular Economy for Climate-Resilient Indian Cities (Case of Lucknow)	

13.50-14.05	Lee Knowles (DMU)	Beyond sustainability: Regenerative resort design for coastal ecosystems and communities in Vietnam	
14.10-14.25	Asma Mehan (Huckabee College of Architecture, Texas Tech University, USA)	Adaptive Reuse and Regenerative Urban Futures: Reimagining Post-Industrial Landscapes Through Community Resilience	
14.30-14.45	Dr Abhishek Srivastava (TERI SAS, India):	From Climate Classification to Urban Revival: A Revised LCZ Framework for Blue-Green Infrastructure Planning in Noida, India	

14.25-14.55	Questions, answers and discussions		
-------------	------------------------------------	--	--

13.30-15.00 – Afternoon Parallel Session 2 – Reimagining Urban Infrastructure (Virtual presentations) – QB0.12

Chair: Dr Rupert Gammon (DMU)

Time	Presenter	Title	Link to resources
13.30-13.45	Jamal A. Radaideh (Al-Balqa Applied University, Al Salt, Jordan)	Zero-carbon energy source for Sustainable New Urban Developments in Energy Limited Arid Regions	
13.50-14.05	Abdulrahman Haruna Muhammad	Optimising HVAC Setpoints Based on Occupant Neutral Temperatures in a Green-Certified Office Building in a Hot Climate: An Energy Simulation Study	
14.10-14.25	Ahmed Saleh	Heat Pump Control in Urban Buildings: Methods and Deployment Barriers	
14.25-14.55	Questions, answers and discussions		

15.00-15.30 - Coffee/ tea break and networking – Queen’s Concourse

15.30-17.00 – Workshop led by Dr. David Rubens (QB 0.12)

Reimagining Urban Futures: Cities 2050

Note: Links for presentation resources will open on the day of the presentation. Virtual presentations will take place via MS TEAMS. Links for online participation will be made available nearer the time.

End of day 1

04 September 2026 – Second day

09.00-09.30 – Networking – Queen’s Concourse

09.30 – 11.0 – Parallel Morning Session 1 – Rethinking Urban Governance (QB0.10)

Chair: Prof. Subhes Bhattacharyya

All presentation and paper links will be active on 4th of September 2026 for the second day.

Time	Presenter	Presentation title	Link to resources
09.30-09.45	Andrew Reeves (DMU)	Enabling universities’ regional engagement for climate action in cities and communities: an international comparison	
09.50-10.05	Shailendra C Baghell	Rethinking Urban Governance for Regenerative, Inclusive, and Climate-Resilient Cities	
10.10-10.25	Abdul-Jalil Ibrahim	Urbanisation, Electrification, and the Fossil-Led Energy Transition Trap in Sub-Saharan Africa	
10.25-11.00	Question and Answer session		

09.30-11.00 – Parallel Morning Session – Online Session – Rethinking Urban Governance and Economies – QB 0.12

Chair: Dr Yusra Ali

Time	Presenter	Presentation title	Link to resources
09.30-09.45	Nadia Falah (University of Seville, Spain)	Mapping SDG11–10R Alignment Gaps in Circular City Indicator Frameworks: A Quantitative Cross-Matrix Analysis	

09.50-10.05	Emmanuel Precious Muhammed (Covenant University, Nigera)	Investigating the Nexus of Population Growth, Eco-innovation, Digitisation, Urbanisation and Environmental Resilience in Emerging Countries	
10.10-10.25	Aseel J.Al-Radaideh (University of Seville, Spain)	Bridging the Ambition Trap: A Multidimensional Policy Maturity Assessment Tool	
10.25-11.00	Question and Answer session		

11.00-11.30 - Tea/ Coffee break - Queen's Building Concourse

11.30-12.00 – Parallel Poster Presentations - Queen's Building Concourse

Chair: Dr. Meisam Abdi

Time	Poster author	Poster title	Link to resources
11.30-11.35	Andrew Reeves	Civic Universities in Communities: The case of Cuba's Municipal University Centres	
11.35-11.40	Vishvjit Thakar	Leveraging Artificial Intelligence, Internet of Things, Machine to Machine and Cyber- Physical System for Smart Urban Decision Making and Resilient Infrastructure Management	
11.40-11.45	Abhishek Tiwary	Evaluation of a Hybrid Air Handling System Suiting Elderly and Immunocompromised Occupants	
11.45-11.50	Elmé Vivier	Sustainable urbanisation and participatory governance in peripheral neighbourhoods: Insights from Bogotá	

11.50-11.55	Kedar Mehta (Online)	Climate-Adaptive BIPV Concepts for Sustainable Urban Buildings: Perspectives from Global Climates	
11.55-12.00	Markus Killinger (Online)	Coupled CFD Modeling of ventilated BIPV T Façade	

Posters do not require any presentation. The chair and the evaluation team will come around each poster at the indicated time and the poster author is expected to be available for any queries.

12.00 – 12.30 – Lightening talks

Chair – Rahul Srivastava – QB0.10 + TEAMs

Time	Presenter	Talk title	Link to resources
12.00-12.03	Amal Abuzeinab (DMU)	Nothing is more powerful than an idea whose time has come	
12.05-12.08	Fatima Zafar (Nottingham Trent University)	Waste to wings through sustainable fuel innovation for regenerative futures	
12.10-12.13	Vishvjit Thakar	Satellite Based Internet of Things for Smart and Resilient Urban Infrastructure Development: Bridging the Connectivity Gap	
12.15-12.18	Clara Dunphy (NTU)	Where Broad Marsh used to be: Navigating nature-based solutions in Nottingham	
12.20-12.23	Kedar Mehta (Germany) - online	Towards Autonomous Building Envelopes: AI-Enabled Climate Adaptation in Future Urban Buildings	

12.30-13.30 – Lunch and networking - Queen’s Building Concourse

13.30- 15.00 Workshop: How to co-create, resource and incentivise regional research and knowledge exchange collaborations alongside a range of stakeholders

QB 0.12

15.00 Closing remarks and announcements of conference awards by Subhes Bhattacharyya

QB 0.12