

**AedesEast**  
Internationales Forum für  
Zeitgenössische Architektur e.V.  
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Amtsgericht Charlottenburg VR 19884 Nz  
Geschäftsführung: Ulrike Giesler  
Bank für Sozialwirtschaft AG, BLZ 100 205 00, Konto-Nr. 3261600

Aedes-Concept for Exhibition with Symposium and Workshops

## “Smart City: The Next Generation”

**Organizer:** Aedes East - International Forum for Contemporary Architecture e.V. (N.P.O)

**Curator / Project manager:** Ulla Giesler, Cultural Scientist, Berlin

**Location:** Aedes am Pfefferberg, Christinenstr. 18-19, 10119 Berlin

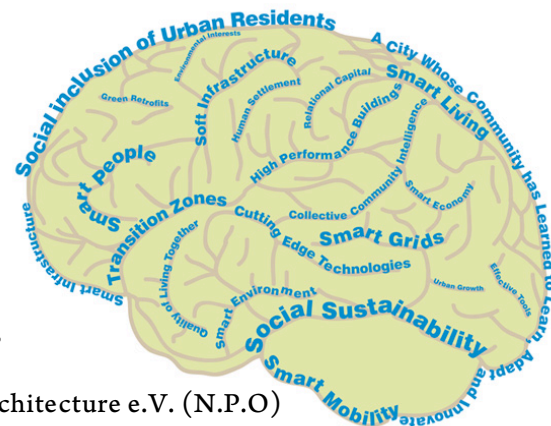
**Exhibition dates:** May – July 2013

**Symposium:** June 7 – June 8, 2013 in the framework of the APW 2013

**Co-operation partner:** Franz Xaver Augustin, Regional Director Goethe Institut South-East Asia, Jakarta

**Catalogue:** A catalogue will accompany the project

**Accompanying workshops:** at the Aedes Network Campus Berlin (ANCB) and at the Rujak Center for Urban Studies in Jakarta or further destinations in SEA: Winter 2012 / Spring 2013



*In a nutshell: Aedes will present an exhibition and public debates featuring innovative smart city projects from architects, urban planners, activists and artists in South-East Asia. Examples, which revive our cities, make them more efficient respectively sustainable and smarter. Moreover workshops will develop smart urban visions with and for the next generation, mixed with examples selected from the international creative and architecture scene.*

### 1. Content: “Smart City: The Next Generation”

Aedes East - International Forum for Contemporary Architecture (N.P.O) will present an exhibition on the topic of the “Smart City.” Under the working title “Smart City: The Next Generation,” **our emphasis is on intelligent solutions for environmental, infrastructural, social and sustainable issues in the urban context.** For the first time, **our regional focus will be South-East Asia**, as we showcase an emerging generation of young urban professionals. “The city of the future is smart, intelligent, integrated and linked in (global/local) networks.”

The exhibited **urban projects are primarily distinguished for their creativity, their innovative applications of (new) technologies and materials, and their sustainable approaches to use of resources.** Each perspective testifies to the region's enormous potential for effective solutions, far beyond South-East Asia.

In emerging and developing nations, as well as in the so-called “tiger states,” several stages of the “classical” industrial nations are being skipped. On the technological level, this mainly refers to the application of new and alternative methods. But the concept of intelligent, integrated, networked “smart cities” represents manifold challenges and opportunities in Europe as well, since old infrastructures, existing networks (energy provision, mass transport, mobility, water, sewer systems, etc.), urban traditions and behaviours (diverging interpretations of public space, etc.), municipal infrastructures, and models of governance have to be adapted to new structures, networks, and concepts.

The potential group of participants in the exhibition “Smart City: The Next Generation” consists not only of architects, but also of “**city makers**” in the broadest sense: urban planners, artists, activists, environmentalists, but also institutions, firms, and politicians, decision makers, investors, as well as engineers and scientists.

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A co-operation in the framework of the Asia Pacific Weeks 2013 is a future objective. The expertise of the project partners and participants will flow into the scientific and economic programme of the APW in Berlin. In so doing, the **Europe-Asia exchange** in Berlin will be furthered in additional disciplines, as has successfully happened in recent years.

Having their say will primarily be **the rising generation of young urban professionals**, but also established figures in the architectural scene whose participation is being solicited through our "Call for Proposals."

Within the wider context of "Smart City," the exhibition will also deal with "water" as a major resource of exemplary importance amid all the imminent challenges that our cities face in terms of environmental protection, especially for the residents of coastal regions. Our last comprehensive exhibition project "Water – Curse or Blessing! Encouraging Architectural Projects in Asia Pacific" in 2011 was a first research step with regard to "water" (both as a resource and force of nature) and it has on architecture and urban planning.

The theme "Water in the City" is extraordinarily complex and multifaceted: the secure provision of drinking water and efficient wastewater disposal for growing populations is a central theme for architecture and urban planning. Rising water levels, among other concerns, demands new thinking, since environmental protection has become a matter of survival. First, sustainable concepts must be implemented technologically, i.e. through "soft engineering techniques," while secondly, a deeper level of sensitization to the reality of resource shortages is also needed. These are **the themes of the future** – and not only in South-East Asia.

Shelby Elizabeth Doyle's current research entitled "City of Water: Architecture, Infrastructure, and the Floods of Phnom Penh, Cambodia," is one project example in this context. She is a Fulbright Fellow and architect, based in Phnom Penh and her research aims to document the relationship between water, architecture and infrastructure. The objective is to record the architecture and urban conditions sustained by and subject to the cyclical floods of the city's rivers, through interactive maps, using cost effective, integrated modelling solutions. A second of her ongoing projects could be the „Flash Flood Map of Phnom Penh" based on available data and ground truthed through crowd-sourced photos of the actual conditions. The interactive map shows the estimated flood extents in a user-friendly interface. The flood extents are generated using an innovative flood inundation-modelling tool designed to allow quick assessment of flooding. It provides results in seconds or minutes as opposed to hours or days.

The range of "Smart City" projects extends from **low-tech to high-tech**; and from preliminary **ideas and visions** all the way to **successfully realized undertakings**. Low-tech approaches are often characterized by their sheer **inventiveness**, for example in **user behaviour, changed habits and practices** and demonstrate how solutions can emerge **without elaborate technology or substantial financing**. Here, a smart city will be a city whose community has learned to learn, adapt and innovate. Projects in this category, moreover, are often **transferable to other contexts**.

At the other end of the spectrum are advanced technologies. Here, the goal is to show the extent to which new technologies are being deployed in South-East Asia. The city-state of Singapore in particular is known for visionary long-term planning, for the implementation of best practices, for comprehensive, successful water recycling, and for outstanding water quality. Among the 22 cities investigated by the Asian Green City Index, Singapore was the only one ranked "well above average". For years now, Singapore has improved its profile as a "Smart City" and a "Green Metropolis." In every sense Singapore has developed into a trailblazer and example for regional – but also European - counterparts.

We envisage vivid exchanges of ideas and information within the region, together with the reinforcement of increased networking activities in both directions that will create sustainable links between South-East Asia and Berlin/Europe.

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### 2. Co-operation partners:

Our major cooperating partner in South-East Asia is the Goethe Institute in Jakarta under its regional director Franz-Xaver Augustin. We are planning to include all of the regional Goethe Institutes in Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam in our work with and around the exhibition.

Several universities in the region will help to create and enforce this network in SEA. We are currently negotiating cooperative agreements with the Rujak Center for Urban Studies (RCUS) in Jakarta (Indonesia), with the Bandung Institute of Technology (Indonesia), and with the Faculty of Design and Architecture at the Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

Winy Maas (MDRDV Architects/The Why Factory, Delft Technical University) will lead a design workshop in Berlin at the Aedes Network Campus, whose research results will be incorporated into the exhibition.

Indispensable partners in this undertaking include a number of private enterprises. On a variety of levels the “smart city” offers opportunities for engagement with the business community, since new materials, technologies, and products are essential for its success. Exchanges between cultural institutions, universities, and industry make **multilevel exchanges** possible, which generate new contacts and **alternative networks**, which again helps to create highly **desirable synergies!**

### 3. Workshops:

*Workshops / Research and Design in Asia:*

During Winter 2012 and Spring 2013 semesters the departments of architecture and urban studies of the universities in SEA, will develop together with their students, project-based **examples of the next generation of smart cities**. These will be part of the exhibition.

*Workshops / Research and Design Studio at the Aedes Network Campus in Berlin (ANCB):*

During the timeframe of the Smart City project – its development, preparation and the exhibition period - two complimentary projects will take place at ANCB The Metropolitan Laboratory:

- an international design workshop, entitled ‘Performing the Smart City: Applying Knowledge, Process and Technology to the Form of the Future City’, and
- a research project on the innovative management of water in cities, entitled ‘The Urban Water Challenge’, including a design workshop for young professionals.

These projects will not only investigate **the potential of intelligent communication technologies, construction technologies and materials** to address critical issues cities are facing. Importantly, they will also explore **the potential of smarter user behaviour**, where **changes to daily habits and cultural practices** also bring about positive effects. This smarter behaviour comes about through knowledge and awareness on the part of the individual as well as the society. The workshops will demonstrate how this knowledge is not only a factor of digital information tools but also of ‘design’. An alternative approach to the process, emphasis and expression of the design of **these projects can assist politics and governance in both raising awareness and promoting discussion of the issues**. These aspects will frame the presentation in the exhibition. The projects developed in these workshops will relate to case study sites in Berlin and critical issues the city is facing.

Both will generate content for inclusion in the ‘Smart City: The Next Generation’ exhibition. Opportunities will be provided for **selected students from the Asia Pacific Region to take part in the respective design workshops**, without payment of tuition fees and with support from the Goethe Institute’s budget to fund their flights and accommodation in Berlin.

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### 4. Symposium:

The symposium “Smart City: Next Generation” will feature the protagonists from South-East Asia – including European architects active in the region – who will present their projects and **explore cross-connections in interdisciplinary discussions**. This event will provide an opportunity for architects, activists, urban sociologists, urban economists and artists to **exchange ideas** in Berlin.

The symposium will primarily discuss the potential of design, architecture, and urban planning, as a tool for city administrations in achieving Smart City targets. However, it will also take the opportunity presented by visiting politicians, planners, and architects from the Asia Pacific region and worldwide in Berlin, **to provide a forum for critiquing and reflecting on the core dimensions of the Smart City ‘index’** – smart economy, smart mobility, a smart environment, smart people, smart living, and smart governance’ – and thereby offering **proposals for the refinement and improvement of the next phase** of this concept. By comparing the experiences of these professionals and also the nature projects presented in the exhibition, perspectives will be shared on the effectiveness of this concept in cities of varying culture, size, and traditions.

### 5. Exhibition / Presentation / Installation / Design:

Under the supervision of Prof. Gabi Schillig, an artist from Berlin and professor at the University of Applied Science, Düsseldorf, design students will develop “**grid structures**” for presenting the projects in the exhibition. This structure should be low cost travelling modules, or/with media components, which can be re-used, re-printed, etc., when the exhibition will travel back to Asia. The idea is to present the exhibition in all Goethe Institutes in South-East Asia afterwards.

The exhibition content will comprise (randomized) insights across a broad spectrum of scenarios. Projects, planning measures, and organizational concepts from various countries and architectural practices will be illustrated by means of plans, diagrams, drawings, images, and texts, thereby showcasing a selection of urban projects and concepts currently being realized or under discussion.

Common to all projects will be presentation format, designed by the art students, which will provide basic data and summarizing statements for each individual project. They will function as a unifying element pulling together the exhibition as a whole.

In the course of preparations, participants will receive the requisite guidelines. Data exchanges will take place for the most part via e-mail or FTP servers. The exhibition will be produced in English. Selected projects will be allocated varying amounts of space depending upon their respective content dimensions. Project participants will be invited to introduce some additional display materials. This spectrum will extend from visual and textual material to be prepared by Aedes for project partners with limited production resources, all the way to larger models and installations, etc. Planning tools and artistic projects will join forces in the presentation to illustrate societal conditions.

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### **6. Call for Proposal:**

*Dear Friends of the Aedes Architecture Forum in Berlin, Dear Creative Professionals, Architects, Initiators, Activists, Urban Planners, Politicians, Decision Makers, Investors, as well as Engineers, Scientists and Artists working in South-East Asia,*

*The Aedes Architecture Forum, the internationally acclaimed gallery of architecture and urbanity, together with the Goethe Institut in Southeast Asia are planning an exhibition with symposium that will focus on the "SMART CITY: The Next Generation" under the guidance of curator Ulla Giesler in the context of environmental, behavioural and technical challenges – amongst others specifically water-related challenges.*

*We are seeking innovative urban and architectural smart city projects and solutions for improved smart urban living conditions in South-East Asia, which lie in a closer connection of two aspects: Human behaviour and new technology, which exemplify social compatibility and sustainability in both ecological and feasible terms.*

*Please share your ideas with us:*

*- visionary smart city use concepts, which we have not even begun to imagine...*

*- high performance building or infrastructure with cutting-edge technologies*

*- unusual adjustment of low tech idea*

*all pushing the frontiers of sustainable and social urban use to the next level*

*What are your examples of ongoing or future projects in South-East Asia?*

*Please send brief descriptions of either completed projects or preliminary ideas and "visions" to Ms. Ulla Giesler at [smart@aedes-arc.de](mailto:smart@aedes-arc.de) and do not forget your contact details.*

*Projects will be selected in Autumn of 2012, and the Berlin exhibition is planned for May to July 2013. Please forward this appeal to any colleagues who might be interested. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions. Our cooperative partner in South-East Asia will be the Goethe Institute of Jakarta.*

*Ulla Giesler, Curator*

*Aedes International Forum for Contemporary Architecture*

### **7. Schedule:**

The lead in concept was prepared in Spring / Summer 2012. The Call for Proposals will be issued via the existing Aedes network in the region to reach as many new projects and project partners as possible. The Goethe Institute will also forward this call to key players in SEA. The entire project timeframe is: October 2012 and August 2013

Spring/Summer 2012: Concept development

Autumn 2012: Call for proposals, Sponsor acquisition

November / December 2012: Selection of the projects

From November 2012 onwards: Communication, coordination with the participants

November 2012 – March 2013: Semester of accompanying workshops in SEA

Jan 2012 - June 2013: Workshops at the ANCB

February - March 2013: Design phase of exhibition and catalogue, transport and travel arrangements

April 2013: Production of the exhibition and catalogue

May - July 2013: Exhibition period

June 2013: Symposium at ANCB

