



## **PREFACE**

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### **WELCOME to REAL CORP 2013, the 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Urban Planning, Regional Development, Information Society and Urban/Transport/Environmental Technologies.**

When holding an urban planning conference in Rome, one cannot but think about the great history testified by the many monuments, the rise and fall of many Empires and powers that the city has absorbed in its changing form but also about the future challenges that cities are confronted with when dealing with the management of human and natural resources or by their fragility, as shown by the many natural disasters that have hit also cities in the Country hosting us. The past CORP conferences discussed the concept of constant change in cities which we would like to now enrich by exploring the relationship between space and time.

### **It's 'Planning Times'!**

It is therefore a pleasure to discuss with all our participants how we all constantly work between space and time when planning our cities, when defining projects that may improve the conditions of our society, when proposing decision processes that manage the space around us, when implementing techniques to foster development.

But 'Planning Times' also means that we must plan today for a long term future, regardless of the contingent economic interests or the administrative changes. Time has come to plan for the society we wish future generations live in: hopefully inclusive, sustainable and just. How to arrange the steps along the way?

During the four conference days we will explore this complex synergy by discussing how planning practice and theory have dealt with concrete issues such as:

- How to plan taking into account time, both past history and future development?
- How to integrate monitoring within the planning decision processes, such as in the case of natural disasters?
- How to handle time that cannot be planned, such as long decision processes or real time decisions?

REAL CORP 2013 in Rome is a moment of discussion and reflection about theories and methods but also hands-on experiences from all over to world on how planning deals with space in time in order to plan our cities and regions.

A city with such a long planning tradition and with such diverse challenges like Rome is a great occasion to have the city itself giving valuable input and inspiration to the conference, making every walk through the city, every espresso in some café and each conversation with Romans an occasion to bring back to the conference table even more content and reflections, which we are looking forward to sharing.

As when thinking of Urbanity and Time, the Eternal City of Rome appears to be the perfect location to hold this conference, even more so it is within the House of Architecture of the Acquario Romano, where our local partner the Chamber of Architects of Rome and Province is based and who we would like to thank for their support.

The building we stay in already shows some of this complex relationship between past and future of cities as this was the Roman Aquarium. Only for a few years it hosted an aquaristic show, the project failed only little later to then be used as storage room of the nearby Opera House. Besides that, it temporarily served as venue for fairs and exhibitions, to then be a storage space until in 1984 when the renovation works started which were funded by the city administration. Now the building is usable as museum and event facility und currently hosts the House of Architecture and the Chamber of Architects of Rome and Province.

We are happy to say that we add a new role to this building by opening a window on 5 continents thanks to all the people from around the globe that are here.

REAL CORP 2013 brings together nearly 350 experts from different fields and from all over the world and provides the stage for meeting and learning from each other how to deal with city structures and prepare them for a sustainable future enhancing their resilience.

REAL CORP 2013 covers many different topics in more than 200 presentations. The proceedings comprise about 1,500 pages of hand-picked knowledge for planners and for cities. Since our first conference in 1996, REAL CORP has turned into a real interdisciplinary and international event. During the upcoming four days, The Acquario will be the host of an incredible exchange of planning knowledge, face to face networking and development of new thoughts, ideas and projects.

**Welcome to Rome and the beautiful Acquario Romano!**

**Have a great conference!**

**Manfred SCHRENK, Daniela PATTI, Christian EIZINGER, Clemens BEYER and the REAL CORP Team**

*“For if there are times past and future, I desire to know where they are.”  
(Augustine, Confessions XI.18)*