

Virtual Seminar:

Female role in sustainable urban development

With

Prof. Fatma Mohamed, University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

Dr. Nonkululeko Radebe, Karlsruher Institute of Technology, Germany

Mareike Thiedeitz, TU München, Germany

Pheladi Tlhatlha, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung, Germany

Esther Kamaara, STAR KIDS Initiative, Kenya

Tuesday, 08 March 2022

Venue: Online

Registration Link: <https://bam-bund.webex.com/bam-bund-en/j.php?RGID=rd0369eb792131c00e9abb51f90ba82e8>

Time: 13:00 – 15:30 (CET)

GEFÖRDERT VOM



Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

Female role in sustainable urban development

Programme at a glance:

13:00-13:10: Welcome by BAM/FALCONESS Pheladi Tlhatlha, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung, Germany
13:10-13:30: Urban planning with a female eye Prof. Fatma Mohamed, University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania
13:30- 13:40: Q and A
13:40-14:00: Sustainable development research without women? It's counterproductive Nonkululeko Radebe, Karlsruher Institute of Technology, Germany
14:00- 14:10: Q and A
14:10-14:30: Creative solutions for building challenges -Make a difference Mareike Thiedeitz, TU München, Germany
14:30- 14:40 Q and A
14:40-15:20: Workshop with Young African Girls representing South Africa, Kenya, Tanzania, and Ghana Introduction: Esther Kamaara, STAR KIDS Initiative, Kenya
15:20- 15:30:Reflections and Closing remarks Pheladi Tlhatlha, Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung,Germany

About the Seminar

Urban development is crucial for global challenges, and it is one of the global key parameters to achieve sustainable development goals and mitigate climate change progress.

In the past, gender aspects have been neglected in the context of development, hence it is crucial to have intersectional solutions when we engage in sustainable development discourse. There is still a huge disparity in the representation of women in STEM fields across the world not just in Africa. In sub-Saharan Africa only 31.3% of women are in employed Research and Development positions and of which most are in lower positions and have limited decision-making power. There is a need to have inclusive solutions that will ensure the success of women in STEM and achieving sustainable development.

Objectives

The Seminar “Female role in sustainable urban development” gathers high-level experts from materials, architecture and sciences who will give insights on ways in which different research specialisations can centre gender considerations, inclusivity and intersectionality in our efforts to achieve sustainable development.

Profiles

Fatma Mohamed: Have you observed any change in the role of women in decision-making that influences development or sustainable development in a broader sense over the past 10 years?



Integrating female priorities into urban planning is essential in improving urban vitality and sustainability. Female priorities are better served by the inclusion of females in urban design and planning. Although the number of females in decision-making positions has been increasing throughout the world, its impact on urban planning is still lacking especially in developing countries. Empowering women in other areas is needed as well to bring the required changes in urban sustainability.

Nonkululeko Radebe: What are the aspirations you have for the younger generation of women that are going into STEM?



My hope is that they find their voice in which ever STEM field they find themselves in. Because women in STEM, specifically the so-called hard sciences, are so few, we often yield our opinions and ideas for whatever self-esteem related reason that is linked to being and feeling unheard. I want to remind them that they are not where they are by chance, they are intelligent enough and have put in the time and effort to perfect their craft. They should never be afraid to call yourself what you are and sell themselves short. They are a physicists, engineers, and architects.

Mareike Thiedeitz: What has been the most enriching parts or experiences of being a scientist or an engineer in your field?



For me, being a scientist in civil engineering means to deal with the built environment, understand it and find the most non-destructive solutions both for nature and people. Since I have come to realize this, I do my job with all my passion. My most enriching moments are projects with students, when I come to realize that I can inspire the next generation to have the same passion as I have.

Pheladi Tlhatlha: What aspects of sustainable urban development excite you the most?



I think it is exciting because we are focusing more on having development that factors in justice and inclusiveness and environmental health. Our development in the past overemphasised on growth focused as opposed to other aspects such as equitable access to human services and needs. I hope that sustainable development leads to more participatory actions and wellbeing for humanity and environment as a whole.



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