

HAIM YACOBI DONALD BROWN

LECTURE

ARCHITECTURE LECTURE SERIES
2019, UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS

**WHY SHOULD ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS CARE ABOUT
URBAN HEALTH? A VIEW FROM MALAWI AND ISRAEL/PALESTINE**



**THURSDAY 14 MARCH, 2019
19.00 - 20.30**

Ledras 68, 1010, Nicosia
Ground Floor, Exhibition Area
Department of Architecture



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The Right to Health is the Right to Land: Settler Colonialism and Health\Space Politics

This presentation critically analyses the links between ideology, planning and health. Based on the case of the Bedouin community in Israel, I will illustrate the ways in which infrastructure or housing are basic conditions not just for ensuring healthier environments but also for the provision of proper care. I argue that ideological forces, such as settler colonialism, have a significant impact on how space is organised. Space is a social product that produces and reproduces power relations and inequality; the fact that premature death or diseases are disproportionately concentrated within marginalised communities points to the necessity to take space seriously when discussing health. I also suggest that planning should be seen as a significant determinant of health (SDOH), defined by the World Health Organisation as the “causes of causes” for population health.,Haim Yacobi



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Prof. Haim Yacobi is an architect who specialized in critical urban studies and urban health. His latest books are *Israel\Africa: A Genealogy of Moral Geographies* (Routledge 2015), *Rethinking Israeli Space: Periphery and Identity* (Routledge 2011 with Erez Tzfadia) and *The Jewish-Arab City: Spatio-Politics in a Mixed Community* (Routledge 2009).

Planning healthy urban environments in emerging African towns: Insights from Malawi

This presentation argues that achieving a healthy urban future will depend increasingly on how the growth of small and intermediate urban centres in sub-Saharan Africa is planned and managed. Drawing on the experience of Malawi, with specific reference to Karonga, an emerging secondary town, I identify ‘in situ urbanisation’ – describing the place-based transition of a rural settlement into an urban settlement – as an increasingly important form of urbanisation with significant implications for urban planning and public health. Particular attention is paid to the unique challenges in situ urbanisation presents for the governance of urban planning and development in the context of an emerging urban settlement. From the case, I argue for urban planning to be understood specifically as an institutional determinant of health so as to implicate the institutional environments in which multiple stakeholders (formal/modern and informal/traditional) make planning decisions, notably regarding land and infrastructure.,Donald Brown.



Dr. Donald Brown is a Lecturer at the Bartlett Development Planning Unit, UCL. As a qualified urban and regional planner with a PhD in Development Planning, Donald has ten years of experience in research consultancy and planning practice in sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia. His work centres principally on the nexus between the environment, health and development in the context of urbanisation, disasters and climate change, and urban poverty and informality. Donald's PhD focused on the links between urban planning and public health in secondary urban centres.

