The MeeFS project aims to develop, evaluate and demonstrate an innovative multifunctional façade system for drastically improving the energy efficiency of retrofitting geared towards the residential building sector across Europe.

The team will work collaboratively on the façade development (architectural, energetic, breakthrough technologies according to passive and active technologies, energy management system, installation, and structural material), façade evaluation (of energy efficiency, new composite material life cycle and fire resistance) and façade demonstration (in real life building in Spain).

The project brings together a multidisciplinary consortium with a well-balanced distribution between industry sector and research organizations. The team is composed of large companies (research capabilities), technologically specialized SMEs (manufacturers), research (dealing with energy efficient buildings and solutions) as well as open innovation and government organizations.
Dr. Michelle E. Portman
Coastal Management – The International Journal of Marine Environment, Resources, Law and Society (in print)
Losing Ground: Mediterranean Shoreline Change from an Environmental Justice Perspective

Abstract

Loss of land due to coastal erosion is a problem in the Mediterranean region and world-wide. Following a review of environmental justice (EJ) issues among different sectors of activity and contexts, this article describes research that examines the socio-demographic characteristics of populations destined to be effected by erosion in the city of Netanya, Israel. It also examines the availability of open space serving as an alternative to that expected to erode. Results provide a basis for which to explore the EJ implications of coastal erosion. The study finds that seashore dwellers in the case study area are generally mixed populations, not particularly strong or weak as defined by environmental justice paradigms in the literature. Also, planners and city managers have increasingly provided residents in close proximity to the shore with alternative open space. This work highlights the complexities of considering coastal erosion from a justice perspective. Although coastal erosion does not fit the typical EJ paradigm, the use of this analytical approach in the future at appropriate temporal and spatial intervals is recommended.
Societies in Motion: Innovation, Migration and Regional Transformation (New Horizons in Regional Science series)

In today’s globalized world, modern society is characterized by rapid transitions in space that are in part the result of technological developments of previous decades. This unique book deals with the complex issues raised by these transformations, focusing particularly on the impacts on regional development, technological innovation, and the flows and mobility of ideas, knowledge, people and firms.

Societies in Motion examines the dynamic forces of technological and institutional change that are affecting the design of society, the economy and the environment, and provides a base for policy makers to develop new systems for a better, more sustainable future. The leading contributors adopt a systems approach to mobility exploring knowledge, ideas, flows of information and creativity, human capital and transportation.

Authoritative and detailed, this book is an ideal source of analysis and debate for research scholars and students of regional science, economics and geography. Policy makers will also find plenty of invaluable information in this original volume.

A Narrative Portrait of Israeli Modernity: The Urban and the Rural

Since the nineteenth century, Palestine has undergone three major phases of modernization: the first influenced by the industrial revolution during the Ottoman Empire, the second, by the colonial development under the British Mandate (1917-1948), and the third, by the nation-building projects in the State of Israel. Each of these stages represents two different, parallel scenarios of urban and rural modernization.

Zionism, which arose in the late nineteenth century as a response to the anti-Semitism in Europe, was essentially a modernizing movement. It called for the settlement of the Jewish nation in its ancestral land. It was also a cultural endeavor, seeking to build in Palestine a "Jewish national home" that was envisioned as two projects, one urban and one rural.

One can plot the history of modernization in Israel on an axis between two poles, the urban and the rural. Looking at this dichotomy, we can find at one end the urban "Zionist project," the city of Tel Aviv, founded just north of Jaffa in 1909, with its Modernist section - the "White City," dating from the 1930s—and Jerusalem, the modern capital of Mandatory Palestine. At the other end is the rural "Zionist project," the collective settlements of the kibbutz and the moshav. The kibbutz was a small commune of "pioneers" who established farming colonies in Palestine starting in 1909; the moshav was an agriculture-based "cooperative village" first created in the early 1940s.

In this essay we will suggest a narrative portrait of Israeli modernity as comprised of the parallel urban and rural modernization "Zionist projects."
The American Solar Energy Society (ASES) has announced the "2012 Passive Solar Pioneer Award" to Dr. Edna Shub.

Dr. Edna Shub, a renowned expert in passive solar design, was honored for her significant contributions to the field. The award recognizes her work in developing innovative solutions for energy-efficient buildings.

Over the last 40 years, she created software, integrated ideas on community design, and initiated research in the United States and Israel, changing the way buildings perform.

Professor Dani Chermansky, selected as the head of the Regional Science Association International, and students Yaron Rachel and Amir Tomshov, winners of the "Arad Prize" for the magazine "Israel Architecture," were honored for their work on the project "Doli City." Together with the European Union, they received the "Prize of the Year" for their efforts in developing innovative solutions for energy-efficient buildings.
Contemporary cities and their residents face phenomenal vulnerabilities stemming, inter alia, from social polarization, urban conflict, terrorism, natural disasters, and, most recently, climate change, which augments the likelihood and intensity of such disasters and, in addition, undermines the urban infrastructures on which modern life depends. Their destructive impacts, both those we can anticipate today and those which are as yet unknown, are likely to increase in the near future. In recent years, there has thus been growing awareness among scholars and practitioners in a variety of fields of the urgent need for cities to increase their resilience to the threats they will almost certainly encounter. The proposed call for papers is seeking to address critical questions concerning the readiness of cities around the world in general and in developing countries regarding climate change risks. How resilient are our cities? Do they have the capacity to cope with the multiplicity of climate change challenges and the threats pose? What cities do to reduce their vulnerabilities? What policies and measures have cities adopted to augment their coping with climate change?

Dr. Yosef Jabareen
Guest Editor
بحث אוניברסלי ידוע ובשנת 2012 פרס בר-אילן בשיתוף עם פרופ’ דני בן-שחר ופרופ’ ארזה צ’רצ’מן.

בר-אילן, פרופ’ ארזה צ’רצ’מן ודר’ דני בן-שחר חקרו את הת огромнויות של הפעילות האדריכלית של ישראל באיראן. הニュー לסיימן ב-11.5.2012, atlantisktt.com

המחקר של בר-אילן, שנעשה בהנחיית פרופ’ דני בן-שחר, החל כסקירה כללית של הפעילות הענפה של אדריכלים ישראלים ברחבי העולם בעשורים הראשונים לאחר קום המדינה וباك Irece Alper, 1978

בר-אילן אחראי על חמשת אחתים מחמישהimento acompanera, 2011

