Adaptive Planning and Dealing with Uncertainties
Dr Naomi Clara Hanaka | Assistant Professor | National University of Singapore

Synopsis
Dynamic urban conditions and various uncertainties about our future are challenging the development of a sustainable urban condition. In particular with regards to environmental challenges like climate change and sea level rise, building in capacities for our cities to adapt to conditions more extreme than what we currently anticipate is critical for protecting people, ecosystems and other assets. Whilst the attempt to eradicate uncertainties is common practice in urban planning, it is only the acceptance of uncertainties that allows realistic forecasts and a productive engagement with urban issues. This requires a new approach to planning and planning tools and the integration of time as a critical planning component.

In this talk Naomi Hanakata will share practices and examples of urban planning with adaptive capacities and how to plan in 4D. She will discuss some of the key principles of adaptive planning and what it takes to deal with uncertainties.

Speaker’s Biography
Naomi C. Hanakata is an Assistant Professor for Architecture and Urban Design at the College for Design and Environment at the National University of Singapore. She is also Co-Founder and consultant of HANAKATA, a research and planning practice based in Singapore.

Her work focuses on the research and development of adaptive planning strategies to deal with uncertainties and dynamic urban futures in urban development and planning. Addressing challenges of planetary urbanization, decarbonization, decentralization of resources and digitalization in planning practice are central in her work towards sustainable and equitable urban futures. She has practiced in Zurich, Tokyo, New York and Singapore as planner and consultant. She has taught at Rice University and ETH Zurich and was educated at ETH, Tokyo University and LSE. and holds a Ph.D. from ETH Zurich.

16 September 2022 | 6.30 PM
Online Seminar (via Zoom) 
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