

# FROM CRISIS TO TRANSFORMATION: THE CORONAVIRUS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

## GUEST EDITORS

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## DESCRIPTION

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Most scholarly and policy attention to the coronavirus has been paid to cities in high- and middle-income countries where effective health systems are set up and where sanitary reforms have been implemented. But what if the pandemic spreads to low-income cities? Many of these cities accommodate a large share of their fast-growing populations in overcrowded informal settlements lacking adequate housing and basic services, including health care, water and sanitation, drainage, sewerage, and solid waste management. Poor quality living environments create the conditions for infectious diseases to spread, with the urban poor bearing the brunt of the burden.

This special issue aims to harness the pandemic as an opportunity to rethink the ways in which the field of urban development planning can remedy global health and environmental challenges in the 21st century, with a particular focus on the global South. We are looking for articles which are based on empirical, critical and theoretical discussion, that will also highlight the necessity to discuss the below topics from different disciplinary perspectives:

### **Key topics:**

- ▶ The underlying conditions that fuel the spread of the coronavirus in low-income cities in general and informal settlements in particular
- ▶ The coping mechanisms of residents and communities in densely populated and highly mobile environments
- ▶ The complexity of the social and institutional environment in which decisions about responding to the corona crisis are negotiated and made
- ▶ The implications of the corona crisis for transforming the field of urban development planning to remedy the health and living conditions of the urban poor
- ▶ The ways in which the corona exposed hidden social, political and economic divisions in cities and hence re-thinking the notion of “crisis”

## HOW TO SUBMIT

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Before submission authors should carefully read the Instruction for Authors:

[degruyter.com/publication/journal\\_key/OHE/downloadAsset/OHE\\_Instructions%20for%20Authors.pdf](https://degruyter.com/publication/journal_key/OHE/downloadAsset/OHE_Instructions%20for%20Authors.pdf)

All submissions to the Special Issue must be made electronically via online submission system Editorial Manager: <https://www.editorialmanager.com/openhe>

All manuscripts will undergo the standard peer-review process (single-blind, at least two independent reviewers). When entering your submission via online submission system, please include a cover letter informing that the manuscript has been submitted to the special issue.

Submission of a manuscript implies that the work described has not been published before and it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else.

The deadline for submissions is **December 31, 2021**, but individual papers will be reviewed and published online on an ongoing basis.

### **Submission and publication in this Special Issue are free of charge.**

Contributors to the Special Issue will benefit from:

- ▶ free of charge submission and publication
- ▶ quick and constructive peer review provided by experts in the field
- ▶ no space constraints
- ▶ convenient, web-based paper submission and tracking system – Editorial Manager
- ▶ quick online publication upon completing the publishing process (continuous publication model)
- ▶ better visibility due to Open Access
- ▶ long-term preservation of the content (articles archived in Portico)
- ▶ extensive post-publication promotion for selected papers

In case of any questions please contact **Alicja Pawlak** (Managing Editor of Open Health; [alicja.pawlak@degruyter.com](mailto:alicja.pawlak@degruyter.com))