

Megacities in Asia and their (governability and institutional) problems: natural hazards and other risks

AOGS-EGU Joint Conference on New Dimensions for Natural Hazards in Asia: Theme 3 – Natural Hazards in the Megacity

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Conveners

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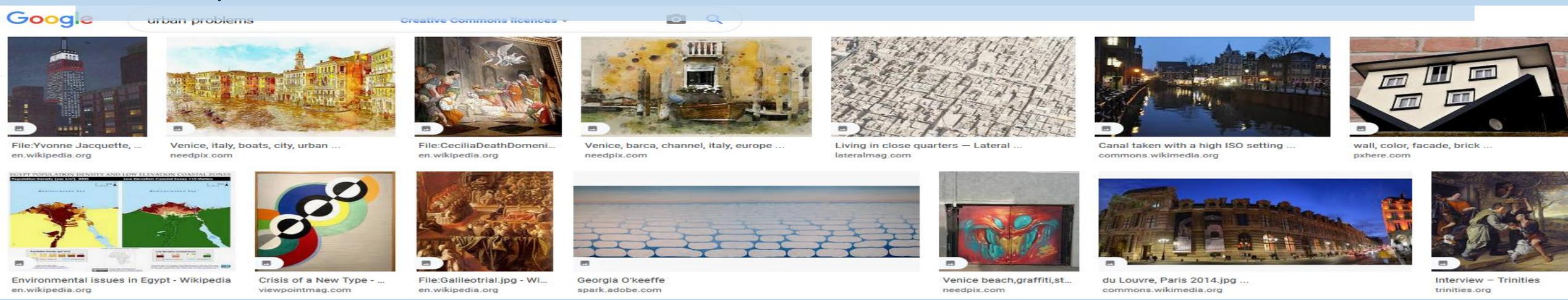
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Framing (institutional) problems through institutional lenses

- Improved sophistication in risk assessments and monitoring worldwide are not followed by institutional progress! (e.g. smart city approach?)
- Lack of risk governability: Unmanaged hazards, multi-dimensional risks, poverty and vulnerabilities as institutional problems
- Urban development and adaptation as games – there are players and rules; Players vs games; Players create games that might be maladaptive to hazards, risks and vulnerabilities.
- Generating political will as a strategic gaming: (1) creating legitimate rules that are beneficial for the participants for both short and long-term (2) Enforcing legitimate rules; (3) allowing alternative options;
- Typical institutional problems: incentives; disincentives; decision heuristics; collective risk perceptions; leadership issues; urban politics are agnostic to climate and disasters;
- Lack of clarity in institutional design to deal with complex and interconnected problems resulted in the misplacement of resources and incentives.



Orchestrating institutional solutions: institutional pluralism

- Rational choice options via technical rationality such as risk assessment, risk communication and risk management: do not always work but remain a necessity! This approach requires bureaucratic transformations (capacity building)
- Sustain adaptation and risk reduction imperatives by sustain the incentives for public and private sectors
- Creating more alliances of cities that delivers results
- Creating an ecosystem of leadership literacy that are pertinent to climate and disaster risk management

