

Building the 'Liveability' Capacity of Metropolitan Government in a Middle Income City Context through an Online Training Module

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To achieve the global aspiration of the SDGs there is an urgency to increase understanding and capabilities that enhance liveability in low-to-middle income cities. Using an international partnership project, this presentation will describe the use of an online training module to: 1) reposition and reprioritise global knowledge of liveability for Bangkok, Thailand; and 2) demonstrate how to utilise liveability spatial indicators to measure and monitor Bangkok. Commencing in 2017, the initial partnership was established between RMIT University (Australia), the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (Thailand), the UN Global Compact-Cities Programme, the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services (Australia), and supported by the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation (VicHealth, Australia). The online training module will be delivered to ~50 representatives within the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (Thailand) in August 2019. The aims of the module were developed by key stakeholders within the BMA, and module content was developed by the research team. The training module is designed to provide: background material on liveability, the social determinants of health, the SDGs, and relationships with health and wellbeing; training on spatial indicator development and application for monitoring liveability; and progress-to-date guidance on mapping and interpreting indicators within Bangkok. We anticipate the online liveability training module will broadly contribute to liveability in Bangkok by introducing a set of spatially-derived liveability indicators and identifying opportunities for guiding liveable urban policy, planning, and governance; aligning with the aspirations of the SDGs. It is anticipated that this proof of concept will be scalable and relevant to other cities globally.

Biography

Associate Professor Hannah Badland is a Principal Research Fellow based in the Centre for Urban Research at RMIT University, Australia. She has worked on two NHMRC Centres of Research Excellence covering health, liveability and disability and has been an investigator in a 14-country study. Hannah was the inaugural Australian Health Promotion Association Thinker in Residence and is a Salzburg Global Fellow. Awarded a Vice Chancellor's Senior Research Fellowship in 2017,

Hannah examines how the built environment, through the social determinants of health, is connected to health, wellbeing, and inequities in diverse population groups internationally.

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