

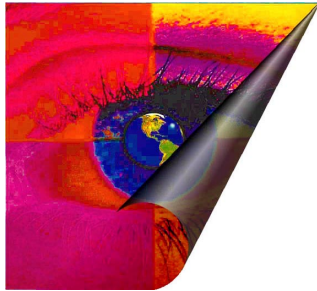
Designing for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century III - Rio de Janeiro, Brazil : 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> December 2004  
**Keynote Presentation on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2004**



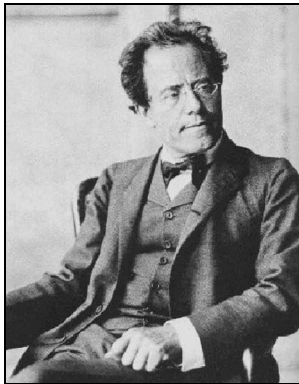
## **Disability in a Sustainable Human Environment**

**Time to Wake Up & Smell the Coffee !**

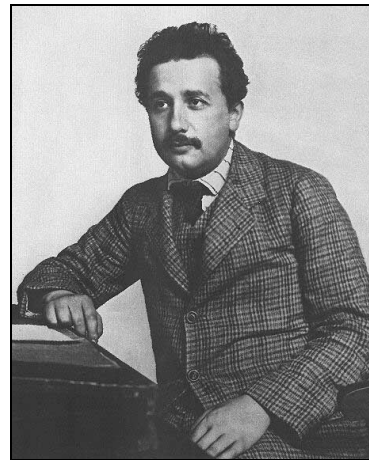
**C. J. Walsh**



## 100 Years Ago ....



1900-1910



**Les Femmes d'Alger (O. J.)**

1907



## **1929 Barcelona Pavilion**

Architect : Mies van der Rohe

## **People Must Use the Built Environment**

Awareness Raising ... Education ... Training ... Internet ????

## **'Person-Centred' Approach to Design**

Key to Unlocking the Next Major Phase of Design Development

## **Building Codes & Regulations**

Prescriptive, Performance, Functional ... Monitoring Compliance ??

## **Ethical Principles for Design & Construction**

[Model : WMA Helsinki Declaration on Ethical Principles for Medical Research]

## **Research**

Design for Mental/Cognitive/Psychological Impairment ... Cognitive Psychology ??

## **Multi-Disciplinary Technical Experts <-> Advocates**



## People Must Connect with the Landscape



## **A Complex Human Environment**

Social, Built & Virtual (Augmented Reality) || Natural

## **1995 UN Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development**

## **1992 UN Rio de Janeiro Declaration on Environment & Development**

# **Sustainable Development**

[World Commission on Environment & Development]

1987 Report : 'Our Common Future' - Chapter 2, Paragraph 1

**Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.** It contains within it two key concepts :

- the concept of 'needs', in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given ; and
- the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs.

## **1972 UN Stockholm Declaration on the Human Environment**

## **Sustainable (Human & Social) Development**

Development which meets the responsible needs, i.e. the **Human & Social Rights\***, of this generation - without stealing the life and living resources from future generations, especially our children ... and their children.

\*As defined in the **1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights** (UN OHCHR)

## **Social Wellbeing for All**

A general condition - in a community, society or culture - of **health**, happiness, creativity, responsible fulfilment, and **sustainable development**.

## **Human Health**

[World Health Organization]

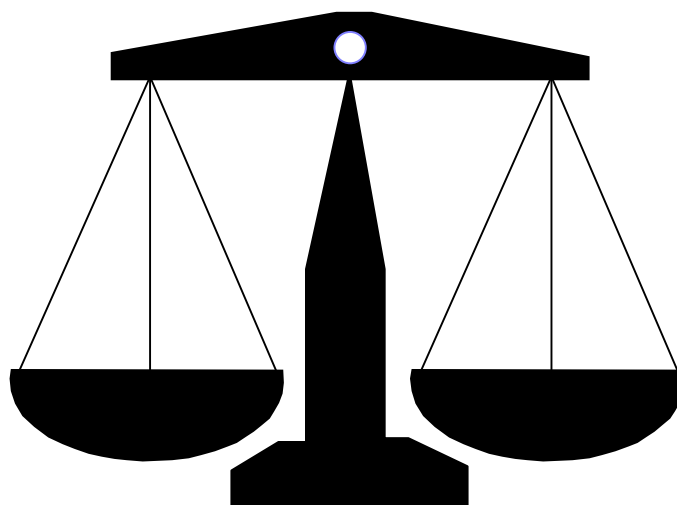
A state of complete physical, mental and **social wellbeing**, and not just the absence of disease or infirmity.

## **Sustainable Design & Construction**

The Ethical Response, in Built Form, to the Concept of **Sustainable Development**

## **Sustainable (Human & Social) Development**

Balanced Implementation is a Fundamental Principle



**Social + Economic + Environmental ...**

**+ Institutional + Political + Legal + Judicial ...**

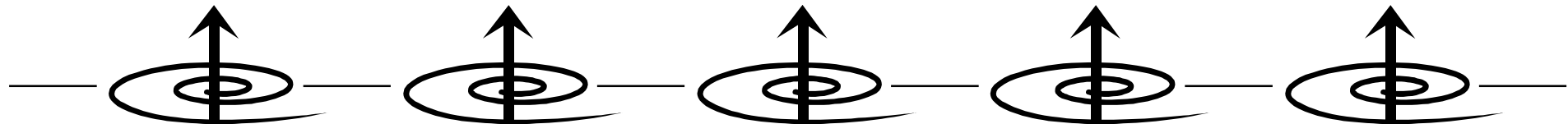


**Urban Environment in Italia**



**Urban Environment in Brasil**

## **Surface Response - Regional**



## **Deep Structure - Global**

- **Aspects of Sustainable Human & Social Development**
- **Essential Requirements for Sustainability + Performance Indicators**
  - **Fundamental Values in a Sustainable Social Environment**
  - **Philosophy, Spirituality, Culture, Meaning, Language & Terminology**
    - **Creativity, Fulfilment, Individual Welfare & Social Wellbeing**
    - **Fundamental Attributes of a Sustainable Built Environment**
- **Ethical Principles for Design & Construction in the Human Environment**

# Sustainable 'Built' Environment



**Buildings**

**Transport**

**Public Spaces**

**Utilities & Infrastructure**

**'Virtual' Environment (EICT's)**

## **Sustainable 'Social' Environment**

The complex network of real and virtual human interaction – at a communal or larger group level – which operates for reasons of tradition, culture, business, pleasure, information exchange, institutional organization, legal procedure, governance, human betterment, social progress and spiritual enlightenment, etc.

[ The 'social' environment shapes, binds together, and directs the future development of the built (incl.virtual) environment.]

**2001 WHO International Classification of  
Functioning, Disability & Health (ICF)**

**1995 UN Copenhagen Declaration on  
Social Development**

**1992 UN Rio de Janeiro Declaration on  
Environment & Development**

**1972 UN Stockholm Declaration on the Human Environment**

# 2001 WHO International Classification of Functioning, Disability & Health (ICF)

**Adopted 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2001**

While traditional health indicators have been based on the mortality (i.e. death) rates of populations, the **ICF** now dramatically shifts the focus to 'life' and 'living' for everyone - not just **People with Disabilities** - and how improvements can be made to ensure a productive, fulfilling life in society.

This has implications for the development and implementation of all **Services, Systems & Policies.**

The **2001 WHO ICF** presents :

- a more positive and liberating philosophy of 'disability' ;
- a tangible relationship with mainstream society ... because it refers to **Environmental Contextual Factors** ;
- the only basis, at international or regional levels, for a harmonized language of 'disability' ... allows better understanding and more effective communication.

## Sustainable 'Virtual' Environment

A designed environment, electronically-generated from within the built environment, which may have the appearance, form, functionality and impact - to the person perceiving and actually experiencing it - of a real, imagined and/or utopian world.

[ The 'virtual' and the 'built' environments continue to merge into a new, **Augmented Reality.**]

### **2003 UN WSIS Geneva Declaration on the Information Society**

We, the representatives of the peoples of the world, assembled in Geneva from 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> December 2003 for the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, declare our common desire and commitment to build a **people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society**, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling **individuals, communities** and peoples to **achieve their full potential** in promoting their **sustainable development** and **improving their quality of life**, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and respecting fully and upholding the **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**.

## Social Partnerships

A collective of groups and individuals, i.e. the social partners, business, industry, civil society and experts, which acts as a 'catalyst' in enhancing and broadening implementation in an area of human and/or social policy ...

### **Sustainable Urban Environments (Cities & Large Towns).**

[ Supplementary to, and not a surrogate for, Institutional Competences at International, National, Regional and/or Local Levels.]

## **Guideline Principles on Establishment & Operation**

- 1. Common Aim, Agenda & Objectives of a Social Partnership**
- 2. Respect for International Law, Peace & Ethical Values**
- 3. Vertical Co-Ordination of Activities**
- 4. Horizontal Integration of Outcomes**
- 5. Multi-Sectoral & Multi-Disciplinary Participation**
- 6. Openness, Transparency & Accountability**
- 7. Effectiveness & Coherence**
- 8. Funding Arrangements**
- 9. Freshness & Self-Renewal**
- 10. Progress & Future Growth**

Once we have created sufficient space  
for a meaningful discussion of Social Issues  
within the Mainstream Sustainable Development Agenda ...

And we have considered Institutional Aspects ...

How do we arrange and relate the different  
components of Disability & Ageing  
to fit comfortably into this wider framework ?

# **A Hybrid Approach to Disability & Ageing Rights & Law**

## **➤ Protection Against Discrimination & Abuse**

### **➤ Equal Rights & Social Development**

Good Housing, Good Education, Good Employment ... EICT's, Voting ...

### **➤ Access to the Human Environment**

Social, Built & Virtual Environments ... Adequate Accommodation ...

### **➤ Adequate Services, Systems & Policies**

Awareness Raising ... Cultural Change ... Affirmative Action ...

Without Access to the Human Environment (social, built, virtual),  
fundamental rights are denied to many people ...

## **Accessibility-for-All**

**A Fundamental Attribute of a 'Person-Centred',  
Sustainable Human Environment ...**

[A Fundamental Issue to be addressed by Ethical Design]

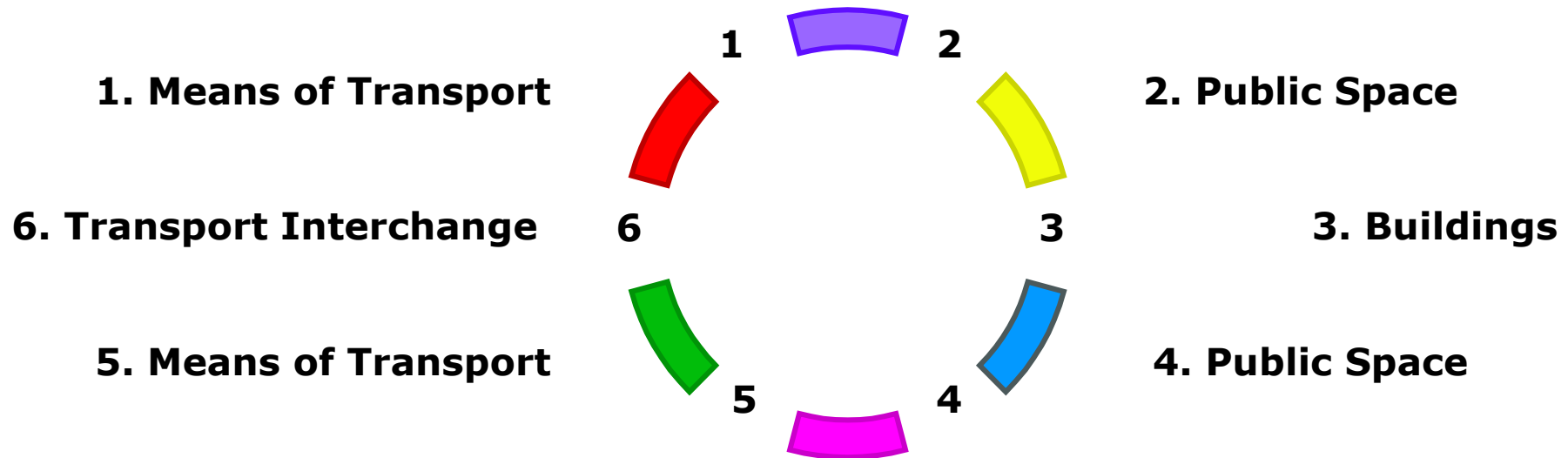
**... And an Essential Prerequisite for**

**Social Justice, Solidarity & Inclusion-for-All**

[Fundamental Values in a Sustainable Social Environment]

# The Accessibility Cycle

A dynamic, continuous and 'person-centred' process of independent activity and functioning - with confidence - in the **Human Environment** (social, built & virtual), and positive participation in the general life of a community on the basis of equality with every other person.



**e-Accessibility - With every day, the 'virtual' environment is merging more and more with the 'built' environment (Augmented Reality).**

## **Your Involvement is Requested**

### **2004 Rio de Janeiro Declaration on Sustainable Social Development, Disability & Ageing**

**Download** : <http://www.sustainable-design.com/sustain/documents.htm>

**Roundtable Discussion at the Rio Conference (11<sup>th</sup> December 2004)**

**After the Rio Conference - 6 Weeks More for Comments**

**Final Adoption of the Declaration - End of January 2005**

### **Ethical Principles for Design<sup>1</sup> & Construction in the Human Environment<sup>2</sup>**

1. Spatial Planning, Architectural/Engineering/Industrial Design, and e-Design
2. Social, Built & Virtual Environments (taken together as a complex whole)

**Development Currently Being Discussed with CIB**