

Unit 4/5_4 Building environmental assessment tools: LCA/Assessment tools

Unit 8 Management of technologies

Unit 9 Sustainable structural systems

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As I expected through these sessions, very high quality papers presented as form of oral and poster presentations, however to me the poster sessions were more interesting in case of variety of topics, richness of study, aspiring, the way they look to sustainability ...etc. anyway apart from good things such as well organized sessions, a very good schedule, best equipments for presentation, friendly atmosphere, I want to argue some critical points as a student of architecture:

The common sense of these sessions were to “imagining sustainability” by “imaging sustainability” which is a idealistic way and it has strong relation with “logic of the image” and inherit problematic of image culture, so it become a problem in sustainability.

it is supposed that we are seeking for sustainable technology, sustainable structure system or program to asses amount of sustainability and we assumed sustainability as an *End* but as we know **“sustainability is not an endpoint that can be defined or imaged, rather it is a process”** so it follows by infinite “seen” and “action”. In all three sessions presenters argued about “sustainability” not “unsustainability” According to Anne-Marie Willis, *“Learning to see the unsustainability of what is now (and to see it in ways that connect detail with the panoramic view and which are alert to the persistence and mutation of the past in the present) is more urgent task than constructing utopian visions which in fact conceal the need for learning to see.”* for example in “Management of technologies” I can not see any propose or action toward:

- 1-Constructing strategies of green technologies for the earth sustainability,
- 2-Suiting the renaissance of traditional technologies and measures to locations,
- 3-The technology transfers and educational cooperation of sustainable building for the developing countries,

Which are supposed to be the main criteria for this unit.

Little by little “sustainability” is moving from the field of architects to the field of engineers by imaging sustainability to technology such as high technology of solar cells, prestigious natural ventilation (which is done by complicated wind towers and software) in high-tech offices, smart technology in controlling indoors quality such as temperature and this list will not end. Unfortunately, a vastly underdeveloped understanding of sustainability, inherent limitation of image culture, “add-on sustainability”, ignoring the differences of local communities,

fixing global assessment tools, granting financial value, ocularcentrism, labeling the speakers of unsustainability as “doomsayers”, proposing “solutions” on the basis of feel-good factor rather than adequacy to problem, **cause moving toward sustainablitism**. At the end of SB05 I am thinking of two questions,

1-should I see “unsustainability” or “image of sustainability”?

2-how can I assess the sustainability of sustainable strategy (3S)?

Reference:

“undoing the relation: image, sustainability and architecture” by Anne-Marie Willis with Tony fry