



Urban Synergies Group

- Code of Conduct -



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CREATIVE - EFFECTIVE - RELEVANT - PASSIONATE - REFLECTIVE

Preamble

Urban Synergies Group is an international think tank based in Canberra, Australia, that provides services, training, inquiries and raises awareness. Urban Synergies Group finds the best ways to improve urban systems without borders by creating effective synergies in a complex global environment that enables better health and well-being outcomes for all people.

Urban Synergies Group is funded by donations from companions such as trusts, individuals and commissioned services.

We operate internationally and offer independent advice in support of the overall health and wellbeing of urban systems.

Urban Synergies Group is listed as an Australian Business under the formal name Urban Synergies Group PTY LTD with the following ABN 73 610 612 470. It is a business with a cause.

Philosophy

We are creating bridges between cutting edge academic research, non government organisations, governments and practices, enriching community spirit by sharing our success.

We see ourselves as a strong network of people that share critical thoughts and have very curious minds around sustainable urbanism that can truly benefit all people.

We believe the effective way to improve urban liveability is through:

1. effective engagement
2. collaboration
3. knowledge sharing and
4. collective reflection

on the greatest most pressing challenges we are all facing.

Our Vision

We are achieving meaningful impacts in urban systems that led to improved outcomes on health and well-being.

Our goals

To become a trusted advisor to key decision makers in the area of social and urban planning.

To positively influence and support those making valuable contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions reduction through strategic policy advises and research translation.

To be identified by our peers and stakeholders as international experts in the field of urban health and planning.

To build strong international bridges between academia, government, non-government organisations and businesses.

Devotee

Definition

Urban Synergies Group defines a devotee as a person with special expertise that supports and promotes the Urban Synergies Group philosophy. This person can make a meaningful contribution towards our goal within their respected field through provision of expertise and proactive USG promotion (see obligations). Devotees are all equal members of the Urban Synergies Group.

Devotee benefits

a) Specific devotee benefits for each devotee member

- Opportunity to earn additional income generated through sub-contracting arrangements we provide
- Professional exposure with bio, image and key expertise on our web based channels (web, Linked-in, Facebook)
- A dedicated section to you in our Urban Synergies Group brochure
- Access to our online blog to publish your critical observations
- Invitation to regular Urban Synergies Group networking meetings

b) Wider devotee benefits

- Access to a communal knowledge base.
- Connect with likeminded individuals and entities through our networking events
- Channel your ideas and research to key policy influencers
- Access to peer review of your ideas
- Get exposure to a global network of urban health thought leaders

c) Optional benefit

- Individual brochure promoting exclusively yourself (fee may apply for print and related graphic design works)

Obligations

- Lending your name and expertise in your respected field of interest to the greater cause of Urban Synergies Group.
- Actively help to co-promote Urban Synergies Groups philosophy, objectives and sustainability approach.
- Contribute to and stimulate the group from your field of expertise (in person or digitally).
- Attend Urban Synergies Group meetings when possible
- Attend the annual knowledge exchange and reflection meeting

Obligations relating to service delivery

- If Urban Synergies Group is approached for a service, that may require your respected expertise, respond in real time (max three (3) work day return) if you are available to make a contribution with a specific offer, based on the information provided to you.
- Service delivery follow standard subcontracting procedures.
- Invoices resulting from your services shall be directly submitted to the Director of Urban Synergies Group once service has been delivered.
- Urban Synergies Group will reserve the right to add a service fee on the bill to the external client. This income will be used so service the infrastructure and used towards achieving the Urban Synergies Groups goal.

Ethical behaviour account

Profits that are meaningful (above the service fee) and generated through our collective services will be put aside. Through collaboratively decision making at the annual knowledge and reflection meeting funds will be invested in a good cause either to initiatives in countries that need support most or outcome focused interdisciplinary research.

Companions

Definition

Urban Synergies Group defines a companion as a visionary business entity, trust or individual that takes its corporate responsibility seriously and wants to make a meaningful contribution to Urban Synergies Group. Companions are not members of Urban Synergies Group.

Companion benefits

- Making a contribution to society beyond their core business.
- Donate and contribute financially to enable better evidence based policy, advice and actions that aim to improve the health and well-being of communities.
- Want to improve their image amongst their target group.
- Create a legacy.
- A mentioning on Urban Synergies Group website can be negotiated.
- Urban Synergies Group logo can be used based on confirmed consent.

Companion obligation

- Companions do not have any obligations.

Contributions of Companions

- Donations and financial contributions from Companions, will be directed towards projects as outlined in conditions by the Companions.
- Should the contribution be without any condition, funds will go towards the ethical behaviour account, where devotees are part of the decision making process.
- Should the contribution be considered unethical or contradictory to the Urban Synergies goal and its philosophy, the Director reserve the right to refuse a contribution.

Friends

Definition

Urban Synergies Group defines a friend as a passionate individual or entity that believes in the Urban Synergies Group philosophy and cause. Friends are not members of Urban Synergies Group.

Friends benefits

- Learn more about how the natural and built environment can shape your personal health and well-being.
- Tips and info graphics that help them to make better informed decisions around healthy design.
- Information that provides new ideas on how to make their environment friendlier for all generations.
- Spread the word, findings and info graphics amongst social networks.
- Volunteer and become part of Urban Synergies Group knowledge exchange.

Friends obligation

- Friends do not have any obligations towards Urban Synergies Group, but can donate time to Urban Synergies Group.

Membership

Devotee membership fee

Membership is free of charge.

Becoming a Devotee

- Expression of interest shall be submitted to the Urban Synergies Group director for consideration.
- Expression of interest is valid in written form.

Cancellation of Devotee membership

- Should the devotee decide for personal or professional reasons discontinue the membership a simple letter in writing should be submitted to the director.
- Should the obligations be breached, the director has the reserved right to announce a discontinuation of membership in written form.

Amendments of this code of conduct

Urban Synergies Group reserves the right to amend this internal code of conduct.

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