Deep Place Planning: Achieving equitable and sustainable development

Prospectus presented by Compass Housing Services
“The way it is currently, with consumption and production, and with the ever-increasing population, the planet’s resources will not sustain unless something is done to change the way we treat our planet”

Wu Hongbo, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

The Three Agreements

The United Nations has achieved three groundbreaking agreements in recent years which, if implemented, will move the world to greater environmental sustainability and greater social justice.

The 2014 Paris Agreement

The Paris Agreement was signed by 197 countries. In the agreement, all countries agreed to work to limit global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius, and given the grave risks, to strive for 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The 2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The SDGs were adopted by 193 countries. They are 17 goals committed to ending poverty, protecting the planet and ensuring prosperity for all.

The 2016 New Urban Agenda (NUA)

The New Urban Agenda was adopted by 167 nations and sets a new global standard for how we plan, manage and live in cities.

Deep Place

Compass is playing a leading role in promoting, advocating for and implementing the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda in Australia and globally. To assist us we use the Deep Place method and we are developing it for use throughout Australasia and the Pacific region.

The Deep Place method identifies the uniqueness and key challenges faced at national, regional, city, town or neighbourhood level and creates an Action Plan to achieve the SDGs and the NUA.

The method comes from the viewpoint that the greatest asset of any place is its people. Connecting people and place is the starting point to create liveable and inclusive places.

The Deep Place method is a conscious and planned approach that identifies what makes places unique. It identifies their assets and challenges, and the specific combination of opportunities that can revitalise communities to create equitable and sustainable places of constant renewal. It was developed in the context of highly disadvantaged post-industrial communities in Wales, UK and has since been extended with the first Australian study of Muswellbrook, NSW.
Connecting People and Places:
The Deep Place approach to equitable and sustainable places

Too often we focus only on the physical space. The Deep Place method connects the physical with the social space. This approach closely aligns with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Habitat New Urban Agenda. A Deep Place Plan provides the means for planning for equitable and sustainable cities.

The Deep Place method identifies the need for purposeful collaboration between multiple levels of government, civil society and the private sector.

Deep Place planning advocates the creation of a ‘coalition for change’ to redirect resources and services to maximize their positive impact.

The Deep Place method addresses the severity of the challenges faced in disadvantaged communities, but also recognises the opportunities that exist locally to help generate and provide employment experiences and skills development.

Deep Place Origins

The Deep Place practice was developed by working with government, third sector and private sector partners and through inclusive work with community members and organisations.

The Deep Place Centre was established in 2016 to promote adoption of the Deep Place model. www.deepplace.org

It is committed to the develop an international community of Deep Place practitioners who recognise that poverty eradication and environmental sustainability are the critical social problems of the era and that they are intricately connected. The Centre has delivered Deep Place studies in the UK and works with local authorities, government and communities to realise the objectives identified.

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The Deep Place Collaboration

The responsibility for creating sustainable places is shared by a wide range of organisations in government and in civil society. Great places emerge from collaboration, cross professional practice and multi-disciplinary approaches.

There is no silver bullet, but rather multiple combinations of practices that create good places to live, work, visit and share in a community of belonging.

Deep Place delivery in the Asia Pacific region is a collaboration between the Deep Place Centre based in the UK and Compass Housing Services based in Australia.

The two organisations are deeply committed to the achievement of Agenda 2030 and implementation of the New Urban Agenda.

The Deep Place method was developed to achieve the twin objectives of poverty eradication and environmental sustainability. This ensures that it provides an essential first stage to develop a strategy for Agenda 2030 and NUA Implementation.

Deep Place and your organisation

We are building a global community of Deep Place practitioners. We are able to support your organisation by:

• Providing Deep Place training for your teams
• Supporting your team to deliver a Deep Place study
• Conducting a Deep Place study on your behalf

Deep Place planning can be applied at regional and local government levels. It is also particularly powerful as a focus at community or neighbourhood level.

It delivers a deep analysis to fully map and understand the combination of issues and opportunities that exist to create vibrant places.

It is particularly useful in areas that experience high levels of disadvantage and social exclusion, where it is able to focus on economic integration of marginalised populations.

Why you should adopt the Deep Place method

Developing a Deep Place program enables:

• Identification of key issues and challenges at national, regional, city, and neighbourhood level
• Understanding the relationship between urban, rural and remote regions
• Mapping economic, social, cultural, community, landscape and heritage assets
• Identification of existing and innovative opportunities for economic development
• Development of a ‘foundation’ economy strategy to promote inclusive patterns of employment for marginalised populations.

Your Commitment

To fully benefit from the Deep Place approach we ask partner organisations to commit to providing data, assist identification of key stakeholders and be active partners in the research, design and delivery of the final Deep Place report.
Deep Place Core Concepts

The Deep Place method brings three core concepts together in a triangulated methodology to coordinate, curate and plan for better places.

Transition Planning

The environmental imperative demands that we find new approaches to old problems and that we neutralise, or make positive, our environmental footprint.

Total Place Practice

An innovative approach to the design and delivery of public services that focuses impact, reduces wasted effort and aligns services with citizens needs and expectations.

Foundational Economy

Recognises the economic impact and further potential of the local economy that meets our everyday needs of food, shelter, transport, energy, healthcare and education to create meaningful economic development at the local level.
About Compass

Compass Housing Services is a Tier One Community Housing Provider in Australia delivering a social regenerative approach to social and affordable housing.

Compass delivers housing services in Australia and New Zealand and humanitarian and housing initiatives in the wider Pacific Region.

Compass is a sector leader in engagement with programs including:

- Participation in UN Habitat III program
- Organisation of the international Implementation of the New Urban Agenda Conference (Melbourne May 2017) and subsequent development of NUA Standing Conference
- ECOSOC recognised since 2016
- World Urban Campaign Associate partner
- World Urban Forum participation
- Member of UN General Assembly of Partners (UN GAP)
- Group Manager Director, Greg Budworth is the Vice President of UN GAP
- Manager, International Strategy, Larry O’Brien is Co-Chair of the UN GAP Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Partner Constituent Group (PCG)

Compass is also the lead agency in the Global Home Network (GHN), a global peak body for housing practitioners and professionals.

Contact Us

To explore further how the Deep Place approach can assist you please contact:

- Australasia and the Pacific region: Professor Dave Adamson DavidA@compasshousing.org
- You can join the network at https://www.deepplace.org/contact