



Osaka
Metropolitan
University



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE
DIPARTIMENTO DI
SCIENZE PER L'ECONOMIA
E L'IMPRESA



UNIVERSITAT
POLITÈCNICA
DE VALÈNCIA



UNIVERSITAT
DE VALÈNCIA



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
DI PADOVA

5th International Conference on

RETHINKING CLUSTERS:

CRISIS AND PATH RENEWAL OF PLACES IN TIME OF UNCERTAINTY

5-7 September 2022, Osaka Metropolitan University

The fifth edition of the international conference “Rethinking clusters” will be in **dual modality (physical and digital)**, and the organization will be in Japan, at the Osaka Metropolitan University.

Besides the typical themes of the conference, which also characterized the previous editions, this year the conference will focus on the path renewal evolutionary trajectories of places in phase of crisis.

There are two defining conditions of a crisis. First, the widespread sense of urgency. Second, a high degree of uncertainty, which pertains both to the nature and the potential consequences of the crisis. The word crisis, in both Chinese and Greek, indicates a critical point, a fork in the road of development: the word “crisis” implies threat, but also opportunity. It is this second path that we want to cover in this conference. We want to look at crisis as an opportunity for the development of places. The conference will discuss the ways in which places react to crisis, taking in great considerations social, economic, and technological transformations.

We welcome contributions that are related, but not limited, to the following themes:

1. Smart cities: between digital technologies and social inclusiveness
2. The competitiveness of industrial districts, clusters, regions, and ecosystems
3. Resilience and the sustainability of places in time of uncertainty
4. Artificial intelligence, big data, block-chain, and places
5. Place sensitive industrial policies and value creation
6. The local/global dimension of multiple innovation networks
7. The role of territory in platform economy
8. The role of culture and creativity in evolutionary trajectories of places
9. The circular economy in cities and regions

We encourage submissions from scholars, practitioners, innovators and leaders who are forging ahead with strategies to shift towards the resilience of places. We welcome contributions that develop innovative approaches in concepts, theory, methods or analysis and have deep or broad implications to inform place sensitive strategies for crisis reaction and path renewal in a complex and dynamic scenario.

Organizational matters

Due to COVID restrictions, the Rethinking cluster conference, will be held in dual modality (online and offline).

Interested contributors are invited to send an extended abstract or a full paper to the email address info@rethinkingclusters.org by **June 4th, 2022**.

Extended abstracts should contain a minimum of 500 words and a maximum of 2500 words. Extended abstracts can contain figures, tables and/or images which are not included in the word count.

Full papers (optional) should not exceed 8000 words, inclusive of the abstract (maximum 150 words), tables, references, figure captions, endnotes. Full papers will be circulated among participants.

Members of the community that are willing to organize a **Special Session** within the workshop are kindly invited to send an email to info@rethinkingclusters.org before the **14th of May**, including a description of the contents of the session and a list of the participants. The acceptance of the extended abstracts/full papers will be announced by **June 24th, 2022**.

Registration and fee. There are two types of fee: one for the digital attendance, which will cover the organization of the conference, including the digital platform and the technical support team; the other for the in person attendance, which will cover lunches, dinners and coffee breaks during the days of the conference. Authors of contributions accepted for presentation must register for the one or the other modality by **July 11th**. All the information will be published on the conference website.

Local organizers: Masayuki Sasaki (ma7sasaki2@ybb.ne.jp), Tamane Ozeki (tamane.ozeki@dimmi.jp), Luciana Lazzeretti, (luciana.lazzeretti@unifi.it), Silvia Rita Sedita (silvia.sedita@unipd.it).

Co-organizers: Francesco Capone (francesco.capone@unifi.it), Annalisa Caloffi (annalisa.caloffi@unifi.it), Jose-Luis Hervas-Oliver (jose.hervas@omp.upv.es), Rafael Boix Domènech (rafael.boix@uv.es).

Important dates

Submission deadline:	June 4 th , 2022
Notification of acceptance:	June 24 th , 2022
Registration deadline (for presenters):	July 11 th , 2022
Workshop:	5 th -7 th September 2022

Publications opportunities

We believe that the dissemination of topics and discussions of Rethinking Clusters are valuable to the academic community and policy makers. For this reason, we are organizing special issues on a selection of journals (Scopus and WOS-Clarivate) and edited books for international publishers (Routledge, Springer, etc.), where to offer publication opportunities to a selection of papers.

VISIT THE WEBSITE: <https://www.rethinkingclusters.org/>