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Urban planning: an 'undisciplined' discipline?

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Abstract

The need for cross disciplinary boundaries appeared in scientific research at least twenty years ago. Since its foundation, at the beginning of the 20th Century, urban planning has been claiming the assets of multidisciplinary. It is particularly concerned with transgressing disciplinary boundaries. However, multidisciplinary may weaken urban planning as a discipline, because it is a recent knowledge domain that has borrowed without questioning from the knowledge acquired in both the social and engineering sciences. Urban planning may forget to formulate an inventory and to build its own theoretical and practical assets. This article argues that it is only when a discipline has acquired its own identity that it can implement a fertile transdisciplinarity contribution.



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