

Dr. (Eng.) KWJP Wijesundara,
Professor in Architecture
Department of Architecture, University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka
jwijesundara@uom.lk
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4483-7067>



Janaka Wijesundara is a Professor and the current head of the Department of Architecture at the University of Moratuwa in Sri Lanka. He is the founding director of the Masters program in Urban Design and currently leads this program in the same department. He is also the founding director of 'UOM Urban Lab'- Centre for Cities. He is an architect, urban planner, urban designer, and conservator. He is a Fellow member of the Sri Lanka Institute of Architects, a Corporate Member of the Sri Lanka Institute of Urban Designers, a Corporate Member of the Town Planners Institute of Sri Lanka, and a full member of the Canadian Institute of Planners. He is the founding and current president of the Sri Lanka Institute of Urban Designers.

He has won a DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst) fellowship to conduct his PhD studies in Germany in 1995. He obtained a PhD from the University of Aachen in Germany in 1999 with a specialization in renewal of urban design, and urban conservation.

He also has obtained a Post Graduate Diploma in Architectural Conservation, a Master of Science Degree in Architecture, and a Bachelors Degree in Built Environment from the University of Moratuwa.

He has a professional work experience of more than 30 years in the fields of architecture, urban design, and planning. He has previously worked in Germany and Canada involving with conducting research in the areas of urban design and urban heritage and also involved with urban design and planning project implementation working as an urban designer in the City of Toronto and as a senior urban designer and urban planner in City of Clarington in Ontario. Currently, he works both in the practice and academic environments while extensively involved in teaching, research, and publication in the areas of architecture, urban planning, sustainable urban design, city and public space, and built heritage.

He has delivered paper presentations and attended as conference session chair at several national and international scientific symposiums and professional conferences on architecture, urban planning, urban design, city and people, urban heritage conservation, sustainable design, and community sustainability. He has previously worked as the Editor in Design of "The Architect"-Journal of SLIA, Editor of 'UDA Journal' and the author of several recent research publications. He has worked as the conference chair of several international conferences on the themes of sustainable living, Cities, people and places, and Future Envisions in Architecture. He also has contributed with his expertise in many national development projects in Sri Lanka.

He is currently involved with supervising undergraduate dissertations, postgraduate and Ph.D. dissertations/thesis in the areas of urban design, urban planning, city and people, urban heritage conservation, sustainable design, and community sustainability. He currently supervises Ph.D. research thesis works on the areas of creativity education and the relationships of behavior and spatial design in low-income community neighborhoods, and typological studies of administrative functions. He has won a Research Fellowship (1995) and a Publishing Grant from the Federal Republic of Germany (2000), Sri Lanka Institute of Architect's Architect Award (2013), and Sri Lanka Institute of Architect's Architectural Research Publication Award (2013), Sri Lanka Institute of Architects Design Award (2017).

Research Interests:

Urban architecture, Urban Design, Sustainable design, urban and community planning; people's places and cities, urban architecture, heritage and cultural identity, urban re-generation, eco-cities, Urban Planning, and urban design in South Asia.