

Professional Accreditation & Memberships

- Chartered Membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute (MRTPI).
- Member of RTPI London Regional Board. Lead of its CPD Committee.
- Chartered Member of the Danish Association of Architects (EU Directive).
- Architectural education assessed by Architects Registration Board (ARB) as equivalent to Royal Institute of British Architects Part II.
- Fellow of Higher Education Academy in the UK (FHEA)
- Appointed Member of the Scientific Committee of International Association Cities and Ports www.aivp.org/en.
- Appointed expert of the World Wide Network of Port Cities (AIVP).
- Affiliate of the UN-Habitat Programme Planners for Climate Action (P4CA).



Education & Development

- 2007 Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts
School of Architecture, Institute for Planning, Copenhagen, Denmark
PhD in Planning
Thesis title: Waterfront Redevelopment and Urban Revitalization in the Changing Industrial Port City
Funding: Scholarship by the Royal Danish Academy, Dreyer's Foundation, KAB Housing, COWI
- 1988 Institut d'Urbanisme de Paris IUP, University of Paris, France
Diplome d'Etudes Approfondis (D.E.A) in Urbanism & Planning (MRes)
Urban Policy, Spatial Planning and Space Management.
Funding: 4 Year Scholarship by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 1984 Faculty of Architecture, Damascus University, Damascus, Syria
Diploma in Architecture (5 years study)
Second Highest Ranking student in a cohort of 184 students
- 2012 APMG International, UK
Prince 2 Certified Project Manager (Credential ID 02610735-01-67HE)
- 2012 Ledernes Kompetence Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark
Project Manager
Grade: 12/12

Profile & Statement

Chartered Town Planner, urban strategist with over 25 years of leadership in planning, regeneration and sustainable development across the UK, Europe and the MENA. I bring a strong track record of shaping and delivering visions and integrated approaches to growth, climate resilience and quality place-making, working across local authorities, consultancy, higher education and international organisations and impacting systems.

As Founding Director of Platforms in London, I advise on strategic planning, regeneration, masterplanning, and sustainability to shape thriving cities, bringing innovation in the integration of land use, sustainable mobility, energy and resource systems and partnerships. I support place-based strategies that respond to climate and infrastructure challenges while aligning policy, investment and delivery across complex local & national contexts.

I have led and contributed to city strategies, regeneration and neighbourhood renewal, local plans, and planning reform processes, working with elected members, senior officials, multidisciplinary teams, stakeholders and communities. I bring particular strength in integrating evidence-based growth objectives into deliverable sustainable cities frameworks that balance ambition, viability, ecology and social value.

I have also contributed to professional and academic leadership through higher education in the UK as a Co-Course Director, advisory work, capacity building and international collaboration. As a trained project manager, I bring strong capability in programme design and delivery, aligning resources and enabling effective implementation.

I combine strategic, systems and design thinking with a strong understanding of how cities function in practice and the complexity of urban systems and their governance based on a robust PhD foundation and knowledge of UK local authorities' challenges. I am motivated by improving cities in ways that are inclusive, equitable and grounded in both infrastructure and the lived experience of communities - strengthening trust, wellbeing and long-term resilience.

Professional Experience

2025 - 2026 European Commission

Expert at Horizon Europe Programme

Assessing trans-European, cross-sector consortia's applications to funding.

European Union's main funding programme for research and innovation with over EUR 93 billion for the period 2021–2027, prompting collaboration between universities, industry, and public bodies.

2015 -
Current

Platforms for Sustainable Cities and Regions, London, UK. www.platforms.uk.com

Founder & Director

Platforms offer research-based consultancy to public and private sector organisations in strategic planning, urban and regional planning, regeneration, master planning and urban design to promote sustainable, thriving places and unlock social, economic and ecological value. The consultancy is explicitly informed by UK planning reform, Levelling Up priorities, the evolving role of strategic spatial planning. Selected activities include:

Consultancy for Government and international organisations, including

- Appointed Reviewer of the IPCC Report - First part. 2025.
- Assessment of large-scale projects (e.g. King Salman Park, Sports' Corridor) and consultancy related to Makkah Masterplan. Client: KSA Royal Commissions in Riyadh and Makkah.
- Established a Resilient Amman Scoping Strategy framework. Client: 100Resilient Cities, Rockefeller Foundation, London.
- Expert consultancy in sustainable port-city development and sustainable European coastal management for the EU Programme *Docks the Future 2030* at its kick-off phase.

Capacity Building and Consultancy to Higher Education, including

- Designed and delivered workshops in Sustainable Development, Strategic Planning and Climate Resilient Cities to local and national planning authorities in five MENA Region countries on behalf of the Swedish Cities' Association - INLOG. 2024.
- Curated and delivered the Planning Workshop 'Meeting Sustainability in Complex Working Environments', RCA, Masters of Architecture. 2024.
- Assessed the new BA Urban Design and Planning Course for Oxford Brookes University. 2017.
- Designed and delivered an Interactive Planning Workshop on Waterfronts' Regeneration, Sustainability and Governance for the MA Course, IDBE, at University of Cambridge.
- Designed and delivered a 4-day Sustainable Cities Lab for Saudi Women Architects and Planners, London and Oxford, in collaboration with several UK universities and leading professionals (Atkins, Aecom, AUDI and others), funded by the British Council & Aecom. 2018.
- Sustainable Cities Workshop designed and held at University College London, facilitated by UCLU Green Economy Society. December 2015.

Bids and competitions. Examples include Platforms' response to the following:

- Future Proof Newtowns in the UK, RTPi Invitation to Tender. 2025.
- Copenhagen Fingerplan 2.0 - A competition on the future of Copenhagen Region. Launched by the Danish Association of Architects and Dreyersfond. 2024.
- The Neighbourhoods for Generations Call by the Danish Building Fund, involving the regeneration of Post-War estates in Denmark through innovative approaches and management. 2023.
- Partial Review of Croydon Local Plan. 2023.
- Network of European Green Capitals. Technical Bid in response to Call of Tenders by European Commission as part of GOPA Consortium (Sub-contractor). 2017.
- Building the EU Observatory on Energy Poverty. Technical Bid to the EU in collaboration with GOPA com and other partners. 2017.
- Strengthening City Knowledge for Sustainable Urban Development in KSA - UN Habitat, Future Saudi Cities Programme and Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI). International Technical Bid

submitted by Platforms, Max-Lock Centre, University of Westminster, Professor Patrick Wakely and AUDI. Platforms was identified as the project's Technical Lead. Entry approved by UN-Habitat.

Knowledge-sharing. Examples include:

- Chair of the CPD Committee, RTPI London Regional Board, since January 2025, where I curate, support and chair CPD sessions for members, addressing key planning issues related to London challenges and growth, sustainability and UK Planning Reforms, including the Planning and Infrastructure Bill, Levelling Up and English Devolution, housing delivery and place quality.
This for example includes a session on strategic planning and SDS with Victoria Hills, RTPI; Lisa Fairmaner, GLA; Brett Leahy, Enfield Council; and Antje Saunders, SNG in Sep 2025; and sessions on innovative community engagement in London addressing Brixton BID, Oct 2025, digitalisation of local planning, Sep 2025, Compassionate Just cities, and Interorganisational Dialogue (RTPI, RIBA, UKGBC) around housing and climate.
- Member of the Steering Committee, Chichester Coastal Lab (Chilab), bringing research, local authority and communities around innovative bottom-up initiatives. Lab led by Dr Catja de Haas.
- Observer of UKGBC's working groups on System Change for sustainable Built Environment. 2024.
- Chaired the key session 'New Port City-Interface - Rethinking the Waterfront and Valorising the Maritime Identity' engaging with City and Port Managers at the 17th AIVP World Conference *Sustainable Blue Futures*, Tangier, 2022.
- Keynote on Smart Cities in *Toulouse Smart Forum*, invited by the Mayor of Toulouse, Dec 2018.
- Lecturer and panellist in the debate *Resource Urbanism* at London School of Economics, which launched LSE's research Divergent City Models - Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, Singapore and Hong Kong. Chair: Philipp Rode. Jan 2018.
- Rapporteur, Member of Scientific Committee and Topic Chair *How can joined flexible urban and port planning reinforce the sustainability of port cities?* 15th World Conference Cities and Ports, organised by the Worldwide Network on Port Cities, the Port and City of Rotterdam, Rotterdam. 2016.
- *Industrial Port Cities in Change* - with a focus on the North European context. Guest Lecturer at Oxford Brookes University, Urban Design, Planning and Development, October 2016.
- Moderated the panel *How to Build a Sustainable Smart City?* at *Smart to Future Cities*, hosting representatives from GLA, Helsinki & Ostend. London. 2019.

2017 - 2023 University of Westminster, London, UK

Senior Lecturer in Planning & Urban Design, Co-Course Leader BA Designing Cities (since 2019), Lecturer in Planning and Urban Design (2017-2019)

As a Senior Lecturer in Planning and Urban Design across MA and BA, RTPI accredited courses, Co-Course Director of the BA Designing Cities, and Module Leader, I developed educational programmes, and new learning methods and assessments, while establishing internal and external collaboration with UK LPAs and the industry around teaching. I supervised MA students' dissertations, Co-supervised PhD dissertations, and championed research on sustainability and climate resilience in London and Copenhagen.

Co-Course Director of the BA Designing Cities BADC and Module Leader (ML)

I strengthened the course, focusing on UK planning policy, sustainable development, and climate resilience. I also introduced a strategic planning approach into education at all levels as a powerful tool to localise sustainability and strengthen students' ability in planning and implementation. I supported the course in becoming an Affiliate of UN-Habitat P4CA based on my Module Sustainability and Environment (L6). My activity involved:

- Gave significant input to the course direction and revalidation in collaboration with the CL, focusing on the course profile, students' employability and innovation.
- Module Leader: Planning for Integrated Neighbourhoods (L4), and Sustainability and Environment (L6), providing a solid theoretical, and practical knowledge through lectures on sustainable development, the SDGs and climate change. Students' learning and assessment involved a

project that helped apply learning into a London neighbourhood. A collaboration I established with Hounslow Borough engaged the students in developing a 0-Carbon Neighbourhood at Brentford.

- Co-taught Strategic Planning (L5) and the Research Report (L6), which addressed planning topics as green space provision in London and use under the pandemic, planning for safety in neighbourhoods, circular cities, Integration of NBS and inclusive cities.

MA Urban Design (MAUD) - Core Team Member and Module Leader

- Module Leader: The Dynamic City. Urban Design and Planning in Context (L7). Taught with PL Bill Erickson.

I led this module, which explores the public realm and other infrastructures that support the layering of urban exchanges and how strategic interventions can influence these. I engaged the students in critical reflection on urban change and project-based coursework focused on place quality, addressing London Neighbourhoods (Deptford and Brentford). Module delivery engaged with the industry and involved a collaboration I established with Hounslow Borough to promote a Sustainable 15 Min Brentford, and with DNA Communities in Deptford to promote place quality.

- Module Leader: The Public Realm. Significance, Design and Experience (L7). Taught with PL Bill Erickson and Dr. Krystallia Kamvasinou.

This module supports students in critically reflecting on the factors that influence the formation, design and management of public spaces and the public realm, and formulating convincing strategies and design proposals for the improvement of particular spaces.

MA Urban and Regional Planning (MAURP) - Core Team Member, Module Leader

- Module Leader 2021-2022: Sustainable Cities & Neighbourhoods (L7), a shared module between the MA Urban and Regional Planning (MAURP), MA Urban Design (MAUD) and MA International Planning and Sustainable Development (MAIPSD) taught to 50 - 85 students. Taught together with Prof. Michael Neuman.

I redesigned the module proforma in 2021, focusing on UK planning policy and implementation, localising the SDGs and climate resilience through a project involving a collaboration I established with Medway Council, exploring Medway's complex ecology and planning context.

The module supports students in critically analysing and discussing evolving concepts of sustainable cities in the context of climate change and other environmental challenges, while addressing key economic and social sustainability issues within LPAs' constraints. It examines how the concept of sustainability (and the SDGs) is applied in practice in urban development. Students, organised in teams, learn to undertake a neighbourhood sustainability appraisal and to develop a strategic Sustainability Framework, they implement through urban proposals, identifying public and private partnerships and funding through for example CIL, climate finance, and UK Nature Accelerator.

- Participated in the Module teaching in 2020 together with Prof. Johan Woltjer (Module Leader) and Prof. Michael Neuman.

Supervisor and Marker of over 60 MA Dissertations and PhD Co-Supervisor

- Related to the courses: MA Urban and Regional Planning, MA Urban Design, and MA International Planning and Sustainable Development in topics related to sustainability, urban design, city planning, Circular and Smart City. Examples: Designing Walkable Neighbourhoods in Suburban UK, Green Recovery Strategies in Newcastle, and Urban Planning for Better Health in the UK.
- Co-supervised 2 PhD research and Assessed PhD progression.

Planning Research with publications

- Conducted leading research on sustainable development and climate change and their planning policy, regulations, and governance in North-Western Europe providing input to my teaching and practice. The research reveals achievements but the significant climate gaps, which among other factors, are due to issues of viability, need to strengthen system thinking, and climate governance. Research outcomes are documented in academic articles, including:
- Alkhani, R. Understanding Private-Sector Engagement in Sustainable Urban Development and Delivering the Climate Agenda in North-Western Europe—A Case Study of London and Copenhagen. *Sustainability* 2020,12, 8431.

- Sustainable cities and climate research resulting in the session Integrated and Holistic Approach to Planning and Collaborative Governance for More Climate-Resilient Cities that I organised at the global conference *Innovate4Cities* in 2021 on behalf of UN-Habitat's Planners for Climate Action (P4CA) working groups, involving leading academics. In the session, I shared outcomes from my research and students' work addressing neighbourhoods along the Thames Corridor.
- Exploring the benefit of a Holistic Approach to Sustainable Planning and Management of Coastal Areas, exploring sustainable port and city strategies, and green and blue cities.

Contribution to research and assessment across the School of Architecture and Cities

- Member of the *Climate Action Task Force* of the University of Westminster.
- Member of the Research Group *Planning Territories*, presenting my research in its kick-off conference in 2022.
- Peer-reviewed academic applications to funding, including to Leverhulme.
- Invited Critics at MA Architecture studios, including Ben Stringer and Peter Barber's studio.

Knowledge-exchange activities

- Designed, organised and moderated a debate on the *University as a Sustainability Hub*, under Prof. Johan Woltjer conference on sustainable development, hosting academics and professionals including directors from Jacobs, Arup, Viola, AAM.
- Member of UN-Habitat's P4CA working groups as a representative of academia and practice. I designed, provided input to, and organised the session 'Integrated and Holistic Approach to Planning and Collaborative Governance for More Climate-Resilient Cities' in the global conference *Innovate4Cities* by UN-Habitat & GCoM as input to Cop26.
- Curated the Exhibition 'Deptford from Boundaries to Potentials' with my MA students under LFA, featuring their urban design and planning interventions based on analysis of Deptford and dialogue with Deptford Communities. Key words: Place identity, place quality, urban design, connectivity, place-making, culture as a driver, local economy, inclusive design, community role, co-production, co-growing, access to waterfront, activating underused spaces, regeneration.

2012 - 2015 Independent Researcher and Advisor in Sustainable Development, Denmark and the UK

Provided independent research, policy advisory input, and international knowledge exchange on sustainable development, planning systems, and governance reform across Europe and the Middle East, bridging academic research, practice, and institutional application. This work contributes to comparative understanding of planning systems and current UK debates on planning reform, and spatial approaches to inclusive and sustainable growth.

- **Planning System and Governance in Syria.**
Authored a chapter for the International Manual on Planning Practice (ISOCARP, 2016), providing the first comprehensive analysis of the Syrian planning system. The work examined multi-level governance structures, planning instruments and regulatory frameworks, focusing on sustainability integration, control mechanisms, and citizen and community participation. This contributed to international understanding of planning system structures in complex governance contexts.
- **European Sustainable Cities Frameworks (Denmark / EU)**
Consultant to the Ministry of Housing, Urban and Rural Affairs in Denmark on the implementation of the *EU-Reference Framework for Sustainable Cities* within Danish local authorities. Contributed to knowledge transfer by translating the digital platform content into Danish, enabling wider institutional accessibility and uptake.
- **Inclusive and Sustainable Cities Research (International dissemination)**
Produced research on inclusive urban development synthesising planning theory and professional practice. Presented at the IFHP World Congress 2012, contributing to international debates on spatial equity, urban inclusion and sustainable planning systems.
- **Knowledge-Sharing with Universities in the UK, examples:**
Delivered lectures, seminars and policy discussions linking planning systems, sustainability transitions and cross-regional governance learning, including at the Development Planning Unit

UCL and other academic and professional forums. Topics included comparative planning systems, sustainability governance and urban development transitions between Europe and the Middle East.

2013 - 2013 Holbaek Kommune, Denmark
Jan Aug **Architect, Principal Planner, and Project Manager**

Responsibilities: Strategic and local planning, ensuring integration of sector development objectives, statutory compliance with planning regulations and spatial coordination among urban, rural, forest and coastal areas within a multi-settlement municipal structure.

- Delivered the Municipality's Main Development Structure within the Holbæk Kommune Plan, contributing to a new strategic narrative for post-reform municipal planning by strengthening synergies between urban centres and infrastructure, rural settlements and coastal landscapes.
- Reviewed and contributed to the Holbæk City Plan, supporting a more integrated spatial approach to growth, land use, central function, green-blue spaces and service provision.
- Led the Detailed Local Plan (LP) process for three urban areas, enabling mixed-use and elderly homes' construction in line with the Kommune Plan and regulations:

Through plan-making and statutory processes, I conducted context appraisals with GIS, researched themes and regulations (e.g. energy, safety, rising water levels) and translated this into Local Plan frameworks incorporating environmental screening, stakeholder engagement and plan delivery programming. Developed detailed Local Plan proposals, managed public consultation processes, and submitted for Municipal Council approval.

- Completed Sustainability Appraisal & EIA for city and local plans, ensuring regulatory compliance.
- Produced Municipal Plan documentation, Detailed Local Plans and Municipal Plan Summary.

Within this statutory planning context, I contributed to a broader interpretation of municipal planning reform by recognising emerging demographic and spatial challenges - particularly ageing population trends - and exploring how the planning framework could better integrate health, wellbeing and territorial identity. This included reflecting on opportunities to build on existing medical institutions, landscape and cultural assets to support a more coordinated "health-and-place" approach across the municipality. In parallel, progressively strengthened resilience considerations within local planning frameworks, introducing measures addressing climate adaptation, sea-level rise.

2009 - 2011 International Advisor in Sustainable Development
International Advisor to Syria Ministries: Ministry of Presidential Affairs, Ministry of Local Administration, National Planning Commission

Government advisor on national, regional, and local planning, strengthening the basis for planning and sustainable development. Work at the different levels documented in reports include:

National-Level

- Piloted a cross-sector Sustainable Development Programme for Syria based on ministerial negotiations on environmental, socio-economic, infrastructure, and spatial development to be an overall value-base, guiding national planning strategy.
- Advised on enhancing the planning system and legal frameworks, including the Urban and Regional Planning laws, environmental laws, and the Local Government Law.
- Assessed and provided input to Syria's Five Year Plan in spatial planning, urban and regional development, decentralisation, housing, sector integration and regeneration, collaborating with the Head of the Planning Commission and ministries.

Regional-Level

- Oversaw planning content and synergies in Greater Damascus' planning work, emphasising sustainability, sector synergies, and integration of urban development, transportation, and other infrastructure. Recommended a strategic approach to enhance synergies in service delivery and governance across administrative boundaries.
- Assessed and provided input to planning guidelines for two Syrian regions.

- Chaired the inter-ministerial *Summit on the Future of Syria's Eastern Region*. The region is severely impacted by climate change.

City and Neighbourhoods

- Oversaw process and quality, assessing Damascus Masterplan activity and reports, and providing strategic and detailed recommendations, documented in a Consultancy Report:
Roudaina Al Khani, Assessment of Damascus Masterplan activity and reports, and comments, input and recommendations with focus on sustainable development– on behalf of the Ministry of Presidential Affairs – to Ministry of Local Administration, Damascus Governorate (region) and the contracting international consulting company. 2011.
- Established strategic and detailed planning guidelines for sustainable Syrian cities. Report.
- Developed a pilot concept model for regenerating and managing Informal Settlement Areas. based on an integrated sustainable city development concept with strong social and participatory components and a flexible management tool, piloted in North Aleppo.

Successful impacts

- Sustainability aims integrated into planning documents.
- Cities authorities granted to establish development strategies.
- Regional Planning Law adopted.

2008 - 2008

International Consultant in Sustainable Development

International Consultant to German Technical Cooperation (GIZ), German Ministry of Economy

Key consultant in Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) to the GTZ-UDP Programme in Syria aimed to support planning capacities at all levels and decentralisation:

- Supported the Programme Manager in framing the Syrian-German government agreement by identifying key programme activities and establishing the concept and programme for a 2-day SUD Programming Workshop targeting central and local decision-makers. Consultant Report.
- Scientific moderator of the Mayors' Panel 'Challenges Facing Sustainable Urban Development in the Syrian Cities.' GTZ-UDP Programming Workshop.
- Assessed the State of Urban Development and Planning Frameworks, including the legal settings and capacities of planning organisations at all levels, making recommendations. Documented in three extensive Consultancy Reports.
- Co-launched work on the Syria State of Cities Report, supported by Cities' Alliance, and led the design and moderation of a 2-day workshop on the State of Physical Planning involving capacity building of central and local government actors of 16 cities. Resulting in detailed Consultancy Workshop Report.
- Co-author, providing scientific input and comments to the National Level *Memorandum on Sustainable Urban Development*. by GIZ, Ministry of Local Administration and Arab Urban Development Institute, adopted as input to Syria's cross-sector, National Five-Year Plan 2011.
- Delivered presentations and moderated the national-level sustainable development conference, panels and sessions, and engaging with diverse audiences.
- Examples of Outputs:
 - Roudaina Al Khani (2009). *Detailed Workshop Report: Kick-Off workshop on the State of Cities Report (SoCR), the State of Physical Planning (SoPP) and City Development Strategies (CDS), July 7-8, 2008. For 16 Syrian Municipalities, local and central level consultants and officials from Ministry of Local Administration and Environment.*
 - Roudaina Al Khani (2009). *Assessment of the legal settings framing urban development and planning in Syria in relation to sustainable urban development goals, and recommendations.* Report to German Technical Cooperation, 2009. 57 p.
 - Roudaina Al Khani (2008). *Current capacities and capacity development needs of planning organizations in relation to sustainable integrated urban development and planning at all administrative levels.* Report submitted to German Technical Cooperation. 54 p.

- 2006 - 2009
Aug. Nov. City of Copenhagen, Finance Administration, Centre for Urban Development (CBU)
Architect, City Planner and Project Manager strengthening sustainability through strategic and local planning, collaboration and processes
- Led content and inter-departmental municipal teams with 17 high-level representatives in producing a Strategic Plan Statement for Copenhagen Municipal Plan Strategy, delivering the Lord Mayor's policy for Copenhagen growth and renewal, integrating sustainability and climate resilience. The plan area embraced 504,000 inhabitants and their increase by additional 45,000, enabled regeneration along the 10 km coastal corridor, and investment in infrastructure. The work I led, working closely with the Lord Mayor, Economic Director, Planning Chief and Municipal Plan Lead, concluded successfully with planning reforms that delivered the Lord Mayor's objectives for sustainable growth and regeneration, climate target and effective budget alignment. It involved strong ability to balance political priorities against planning constraints.
 - Co-developed Sustainable Copenhagen Strategy as a Key Team Member.
 - Project Managed Copenhagen Environmental Local Agenda21 on behalf of CBD, Finance Administration, piloting sustainability at the urban scale.
 - Project Managed and enabled large-scale urban regeneration and sustainable growth delivery, implementing the city strategy by leading inter-departmental municipal teams in assessing the International North Harbour Regeneration Competition. The area, enabling 3 million m²; supports a pipeline of housing for 40,000 residents and 40,000 jobs, and established a model for unlocking sustainable urban expansion based on innovation in energy, waste, mobility and spatial planning, presented at Cop15. The first phase provided a framework for approx. £3.5 bn in infrastructure, development and climate adaptation.
 - Innovated planning processes and tools to support strategy implementation and ensure quality, leading teams in developing the City Sustainability Toolkit, piloted in the North Harbour to support decision-making, stakeholder engagement and sustainable procurement, later embedded in municipal planning practice.
 - Undertook quality appraisals of projects for pre-qualification, including assessment of financial implications for public and private stakeholders.
 - Strengthened governance and political engagement, advising on policy (Climate Plan, municipal policy papers) and designing city-wide engagement platforms to support collaborative planning and consensus-building with communities, industry and decision-makers, delivering the Lord Mayor's intention for collaboration around planning.
 - Contributed to Spatial Restructuring of Cultural Services in Copenhagen.
 - Project Managed Detailed Local Plans for Harbourfront regeneration representing CBU, establishing planning programmes, engaging stakeholders, and providing planning input.
 - Strengthened internal planning processes by developing a mini project management tool to align workflows towards sustainable outcomes.
 - Managed debate Platforms, including the City Debate Platform on Architecture & Plan (CopenhagenX) in collaboration with the Danish Architecture Centre (DAC) and Realdania Foundation, and debates between the Lord Mayor and international guests on key issues such as affordable housing and climate resilience.

Impact and Project Leadership outcomes across planning and governance

Contributed to positioning Copenhagen as a leading model for sustainable growth, climate-responsive planning and integrated urban regeneration, strengthening the city's ability to deliver large-scale development through aligned strategy, governance and implementation tools. Contributed to development of clear frameworks for local and international investments.

- 1999 - 2005 Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Architecture, Copenhagen
PhD researcher in spatial planning and regeneration at the Centre for Multidisciplinary Urban Studies KACTUS

PhD researcher, and participation in KACTUS' academic and knowledge-sharing activities:

- Research and PhD Dissertation: Roudaina Alkhani (2007). Waterfront Redevelopment and Urban Revitalization in the Changing Post-Industrial Port City.

Vol I - *Waterfront Redevelopment and Urban Revitalization - The factors, aspects and values involved in the regeneration and planning of harbour-front spaces.*

Vol II - *The Redevelopment of the Copenhagen Harbour-Front. A case study.*

Supervisors: Associate Professor Hans Ovesen, Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts and Architect Karsten Jørgensen, Ministry of the Environment, Denmark.

- Summary: This multidisciplinary research examines the transformation of outdated harbour and industrial corridors —waterfront redevelopment— and their regeneration into new urban spaces under shifting economic, political, social, and cultural conditions in industrial port cities, alongside increasing globalisation pressures. It explores the drivers of redevelopment, the evolution of project content, and changing strategies and public-private partnerships within planning, organisational and governance frameworks, and evolving planning ideals. The study also analyses conflicts of interest, as these sites increasingly gain new significance for cities and inhabitants and greater value for investors.

The research investigates key challenges in regenerating obsolete harbour and industrial areas, including environmental constraints, land ownership patterns, organisational complexities, reduced state funding, and wider financial and market pressures that place investments at risk. It explores redevelopment processes, policy responses, and the evolving strategies of public and private actors within planning, regulatory, and governance frameworks. Particular attention is given to power relations, including the role of communities and the impact of public scrutiny.

The study emphasises the need for holistic, multidisciplinary, long-term planning and strategic approaches to regeneration, recognising the diverse values and qualities generated for different groups and broader contribution to urban revitalisation, resulting from different types of governance and strategies. It emphasises the importance of approaching regeneration as a process of continuous spatial reproduction, positioning sustainability as a core value while critically engaging with underlying power relations. On this basis, the research advocates sustainable revitalisation through integrated, strategic planning that balances competing interests, supports informed decision-making and clear investment frameworks.

The research developed a qualitative, interdisciplinary, and multi-scalar framework for analysing and assessing regeneration processes, outcomes, and benefits to diverse groups. It contributed to advancing understanding of contemporary urban planning challenges and system response, while informing effective approaches to urban regeneration.

- Methods: Developed an innovative research methodology, combining:
 - A strong conceptual/theoretical framework linking different theories across planning, urban design, architecture, social and political theory, as a research model.
 - A case-study research focusing on the case Copenhagen, while exploring minor case-study cities - Oslo, Amsterdam, Gothenburg and London. Method praised by the PhD jury.
 - An extensive semi-structured stakeholder interview enquiry involving 24 in-depth stakeholder interviews with planning chiefs, councillors, investors, architects, districts' leads, and community groups in the four cities studied.
- Affiliation:
 - Centre for Multidisciplinary Urban Studies (KACTUS), and Centre for Planning.
 - Guest researcher, Danish Building Research Institute, Department Cities and Housing.
- Funding:
 - Royal Danish Academy scholarship, Dreyer's Foundation, KAB Housing, Realkredit Danmark, COWIFonden.
- Knowledge-sharing with diverse audiences:
 - Delivered keynotes at harbour-front redevelopment debates in the Danish cities & regions, commissioned by the former Minister of Interior, Britta Schall Holberg.

- Presented conference papers in Danish planning conferences, including Danish Urban Laboratory, SBI and the International Association Cities and Ports' global conferences (Marseille, Lorient, Montevideo).
- Published a scientific article and articles in influential professional magazines and newspapers, including *Hovedstaden*, and featured in radio interviews.
- International recognition as an Appointed Member of AIVP's Scientific Committee (1997-2008) and its Expert Network since 2009. This involvement has evolved until present.

1998 - 2008 Cities and Ports' Association AIVP, Le Havre, France
Appointed Member of AIVP Scientific Committee

1997 - 1998 The Danish Building Research Institute (SBI)
Visiting Researcher, Department of Cities and Housing

Previous employment

- **Architect**, Henning Larsens Architects, Copenhagen. Project: Tirana Trade Centre. International competition awarded 1st Prize;
- **Architect**, City of Copenhagen. Project: Regeneration of Copenhagen's Meat Cattle;
- **Architect**, Pierre Colboc Architects, Paris. Project: residential masterplan, infrastructure design.

Languages

English | Arabic | Danish (fluent)
French (professional working proficiency).