OVERVIEW

Cities and regions everywhere are undergoing complex transformation.

Global processes of social, cultural, economic, political and environmental change are generating new patterns in how people live and work; how they are governed; how their economies are managed; how they connect to global and local communities and how they connect to their environments. These transformations produce critical challenges for communities, economies and environments and for their governance.

From geographical and interdisciplinary perspectives, CURS’ research focuses on the factors driving urban and regional transformations, their outcomes, the challenges they present and the prospects of creating just and sustainable urban, rural and regional communities, economies and environments.

Through basic, applied and community-engaged research, CURS contributes theoretically informed and empirically grounded knowledge and policy-relevant insights on the processes, dynamics and challenges of urban and regional change.

Our work connects to contemporary issues in public policy and practice through strong collaborative relationships with state government departments, local government agencies, and private, not-for-profit and community organisations.

EXPERTISE

CURS has strong local and international networks and wide expertise across areas including:

- Urban and Regional Social Development
- Asset-based Community and Economic Development
- Housing and Neighbourhood Studies
- Critical Development Studies
- Community Adaptation to Climate Change
- Cultural Politics of the Environment
- Resource Management Conflicts
- University Engagement with Regions and Communities

Our researchers have methodological expertise in qualitative research methodologies—including in-depth interviewing, focus groups and participatory action research—as well as expertise in questionnaire surveys.
WORKING WITH US

CORS has the research expertise and experience to support and enable projects with Australian and international organisations—including government agencies, community-based organisations, not-for-profit organisations and businesses—to build understanding of the processes, dynamics and challenges of urban and regional change and to identify the responses needed to create just and sustainable communities, economies and environments.

Research Services

We can provide the research and insight into guide organisations’ responses to the challenges of urban and regional transformation and to inform effective and practical policy outcomes.

Our approach is collaborative, interdisciplinary, and innovative. Our methods are effective. Our research is creative and high quality. We are experienced in communicating complex issues in an accessible and engaging way. Our researchers are often invited to speak at conferences, forums, workshops and seminars. We are also frequently called upon by print, radio and television journalists for expert opinion.

Partnerships

We have had many successful partnerships with state agencies and local governments, community-based organisations and businesses.

Publications:

We are committed to sharing the results of our work. Details of our reports, journal articles and conference papers and other work can be found at our website: www.newcastle.edu.au/research-centre/urban-and-regional-studies/

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