

Climate Action Plans in Georgia

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Georgia Planning Association

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Athens



Planners for Climate Action is a cooperative initiative born at the 23rd Conference of Parties (COP-23) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in Bonn on 11 November 2017.

The initiative, convened by UN-Habitat, is comprised of associations of planning practitioners and planning educators, collectively representing tens of thousands of planners worldwide, as well as other partners active in this area.



American Planning Association
Making Great Communities Happen



中国城市规划学会
URBAN PLANNING SOCIETY OF CHINA



RTPI
Royal Town Planning Institute

IFHP
International
Federation for
Housing and
Planning

Creating our futures
ECTP-CEU
European Council of Spatial Planners
Conseil européen des urbanistes

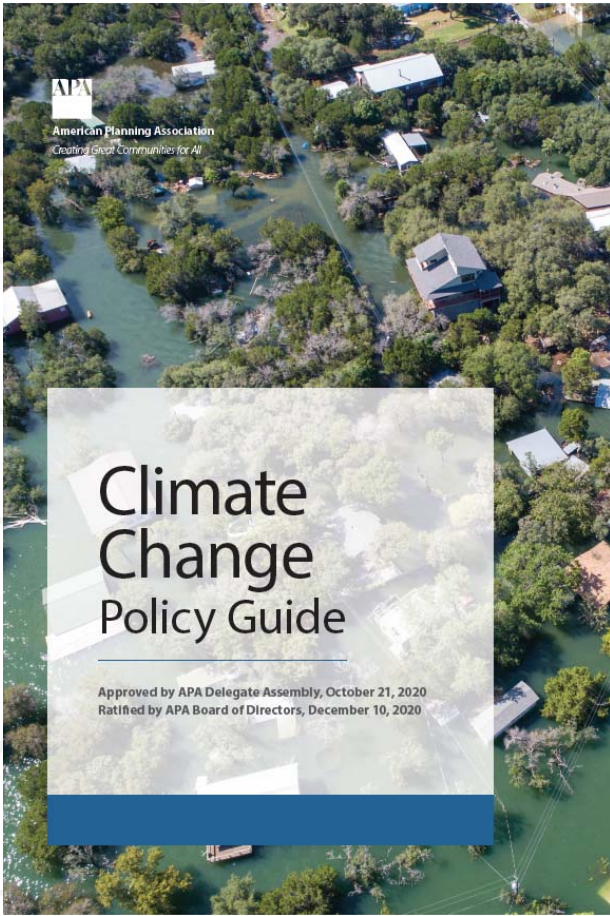


An aerial photograph of a city, likely New York City, showing a dense cluster of skyscrapers and a large green park area in the foreground. The image is overlaid with two yellow circles and an equals sign.

Climate
Action
Planning



Good
City
Planning



Climate Change Policy Guide

American Planning Association (2020)

Multi-modal **transportation**

Transit-oriented development

Coordinate transit with job clusters

Green and complete streets

Mixed **land-use** patterns

Infill development

Green building design

Conserve historic resources

Prohibit development in hazard zones

Resilient development and infrastructure

Smart **infrastructure**

Accessible public facilities and parks

Reduce **GHG emissions**

Protect environmentally sensitive lands

Green infrastructure network

Promote **stormwater** management

Improve/protect **air quality**

Climate change adaptation

Regional cooperation

Solid waste reduction

Water conservation

Protect watersheds and floodplains

Climate attuned **economic development**

Workforce development for clean energy
and sustainable economy

Regional **clean energy** strategies

Resource-efficient economic development

Climate-ready infrastructure

Post-disaster recovery planning

Food systems planning

Integrate **equity** considerations

Connect underserved communities

increase **affordable housing**

Equitable, resilient economy

Mitigate risks to vulnerable populations

Plan for social determinants of health

Address **public health**

Coordinate digital connectivity

Transportation

- Mass transit funding
- Low-cost, green mobility
- Clean transport energy
- Transition away from fuel taxes
- Revamp performance measures for road projects
- Revise parking requirements
- Promote congestion pricing
- Zoning to allow T-O-Ds
- Transit connectivity to jobs
- Non-auto-centric development patterns
- Multimodal transportation
- First/last mile connectivity
- Emerging technologies in transit system design
- Transportation demand management
- Climate positive travel options
- Enhanced transit availability
- Reduced transit emissions
- Repurpose public rights of way



Policy on Climate Change Planning

Canadian Institute of Planners (n.d.)

- **Built Environment**

- Mitigation, adaptation, DRR
- Compact, walkable neighborhoods
- Multi-modal transport
- Near- or net-zero energy profiles in new developments....

- **Natural and Rural Environments**

- Assess risks
- Adaptation in changing surroundings
- Protect water resources

- **Social Environment**

- Recognize scientific evidence
- Support social development
- Reinforce principles of good planning
- Min. mental and physical health impacts

- **Ensure Effective Decisions**

- Act in public interest
- Solutions that counteract, not exacerbate
- Know Climate Change projections
- Base planning on authoritative data

- **Collaborate Across Sectors**

- With other professionals
- Develop shared language
- Monitor impacts

- **Engage Indigenous People, Stakeholders, General Public**

- Consult widely
- Be inclusive and respectful of indigenous
- Perspectives of vulnerable communities
- Inform the public

PIA CLIMATE SERIES:

**Planning in a Changing
Climate**

Position Statement
March 2021



Planning in a Changing Climate

Planning Institute of Australia (2021)

- **Leadership**
 - Planners as leaders
 - Accept responsibility
- **Education, Research, Innovation**
 - Improve planning ed
 - Develop new/innovative approaches
- **Policy and Practice**
 - Frameworks for mitigation and adaptation
 - Assess vulnerability
 - Accept uncertainties
 - Precautionary principle
 - Build Back Better
- **Capacity Development**
 - Professional development
 - Info sharing/networking
 - Education of elected officials
- **Community Engagement**
 - Stakeholder engagement
 - Inclusivity
 - Improve our ability to communicate
- **Collaborations and Partnerships**
 - Work alongside other professions
 - Work with peak bodies
 - Collaborate with neighbor nations

PIA CLIMATE SERIES:

Role of planning in reducing carbon

Discussion Paper
March 2021



Role of Planning in Reducing Carbon

PIA, 2021

- **Improved urban accessibility**
- **Transport choice**
- More attractive local destinations
- Plan for evolving technology
- Support **energy alternatives**
- Reinforce **circular economy**
- **Adaptive infrastructure** performance priorities
- **Biodiversity** conservation
- Decentralized energy generation
- **Streets/open spaces** that generate **cooling**
- Carbon **building performance** rating
- Development incentives that promote design excellence
- EIA frameworks for **net zero emissions**

Role of Planning in Adapting to a Changing Climate

PIA, 2021

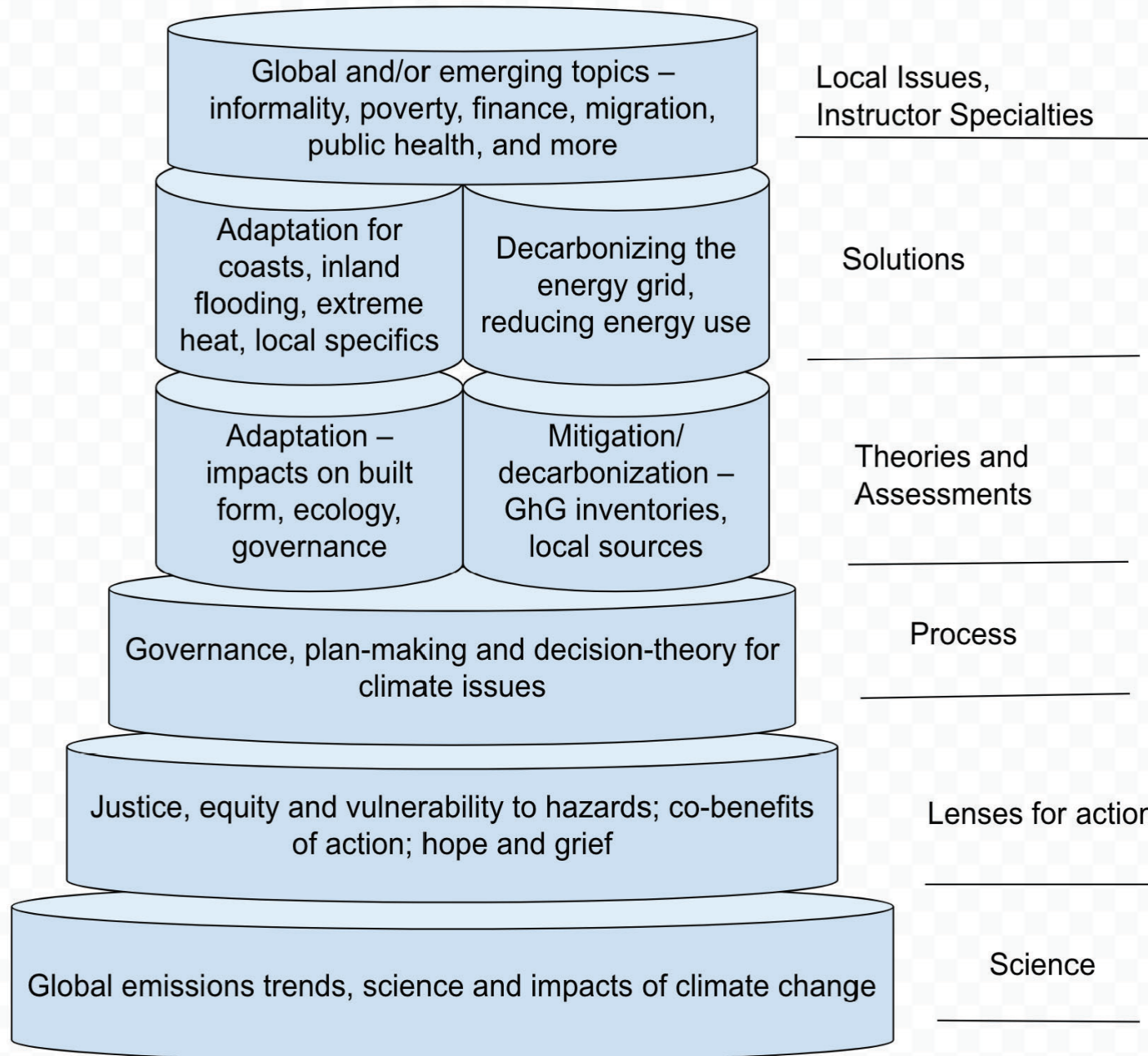
- Test hazard/risk profiles
- Test planning strategies
- ID consistent assumptions
- Set **adaptive management** plans
- **Move beyond “approve and forget”** paradigm
- Ensure climate consideration at every gov’t level
- Integrate **natural values and protection of biodiversity**
- Give statutory effect to resilience strategies
- **Define unacceptable risk**
- ID limits of planning responses
- Provide proactive planning/assessment pathways

Findings from Practice Guides

- Climate-responsive urban planning is not about adding a new functional planning area; it is about changing how we do most all of our planning.
- In order to plan effectively for climate, planners must engage widely, both with professionals and stakeholders/public; and must learn from many disciplines.
- We don't know what to do with any certainty, but we don't have the luxury of time for experimentation. Research and action must take place simultaneously.

Table 2 An overview of UN-Habitat climate change modules (UN-Habitat 2015)

Module	Topics covered		
Theory and concepts of climate change	<i>Understanding climate and climate change—the science</i> <i>Climate change mitigation</i> Greenhouse gas emissions and emitters Cities and climate change mitigation Acting on mitigation <i>Climate change adaptation</i> Climate change impacts Adaptation planning	Climate change and urban water cycle management	<i>Urban water resources—the global and urban water cycles</i> <i>Urban water infrastructure</i> <i>Impacts of climate change on water resources and infrastructure</i> <i>Climate change impacts on urban water infrastructure and urban sanitation</i>
The practice of urban climate change adaptation and mitigation	<i>How cities are affected by climate change</i> <i>How cities contribute to climate change—assessing greenhouse gas (GHG) contributions</i> <i>Introduction to climate change risk and vulnerability assessments</i> <i>Climate change mitigation and adaptation—rationale, objective and measures</i> <i>Climate change mitigation and adaptation for sustainable development</i>	Climate change and urban energy	<i>The link between climate change, cities and energy</i> <i>Energy and cities: some fundamental concepts</i> <i>Energy: related climate action</i> <i>Energy policy and planning for climate change</i>
		Climate change and urban mobility	<i>Effects of climate change on mobility and effects of mobility on climate change</i> <i>Adaptation response strategies</i> <i>Mitigation: technology and logistical responses</i> <i>Comprehensive response strategies (adaptation and mitigation combined)</i>
Planning for climate change	<i>Planning frameworks</i> <i>Approaches to climate change planning</i> Ad hoc versus strategic (stand-alone) plans versus mainstreaming <i>Climate change planning process</i> General process approaches Public participation Scenarios <i>Policy decision rules</i>	Climate change and shelter and housing	<i>Planning</i> <i>Housing design</i> <i>Renewable energy substitutes</i> <i>Carbon offset through photosynthesis and carbon sinks</i> <i>Behaviour change</i>



Topics to be covered in a full Climate change curriculum

Seasons, Lyles and Infield,
J. Planning Literature

Coverage of explicit climate change issues across the sample of urban planning degrees

	Climate change (general)	Climate change adaptation	Climate change mitigation	Transformation	Innovation/ new ways of doing	Climate resilience	Greenhouse gas emissions	Disaster risk reduction	Disaster response	Disaster recovery	Scientific uncertainty	Incomplete knowledge	Bush fire	Flooding	Heat wave	Sea level rise
Degree	4/9	3/9	3/9	1/9	3/9	3/9	0/9	1/9	1/9	1/9	1/9	1/9	1/9	1/9	1/9	0/9
Accreditation Document	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO

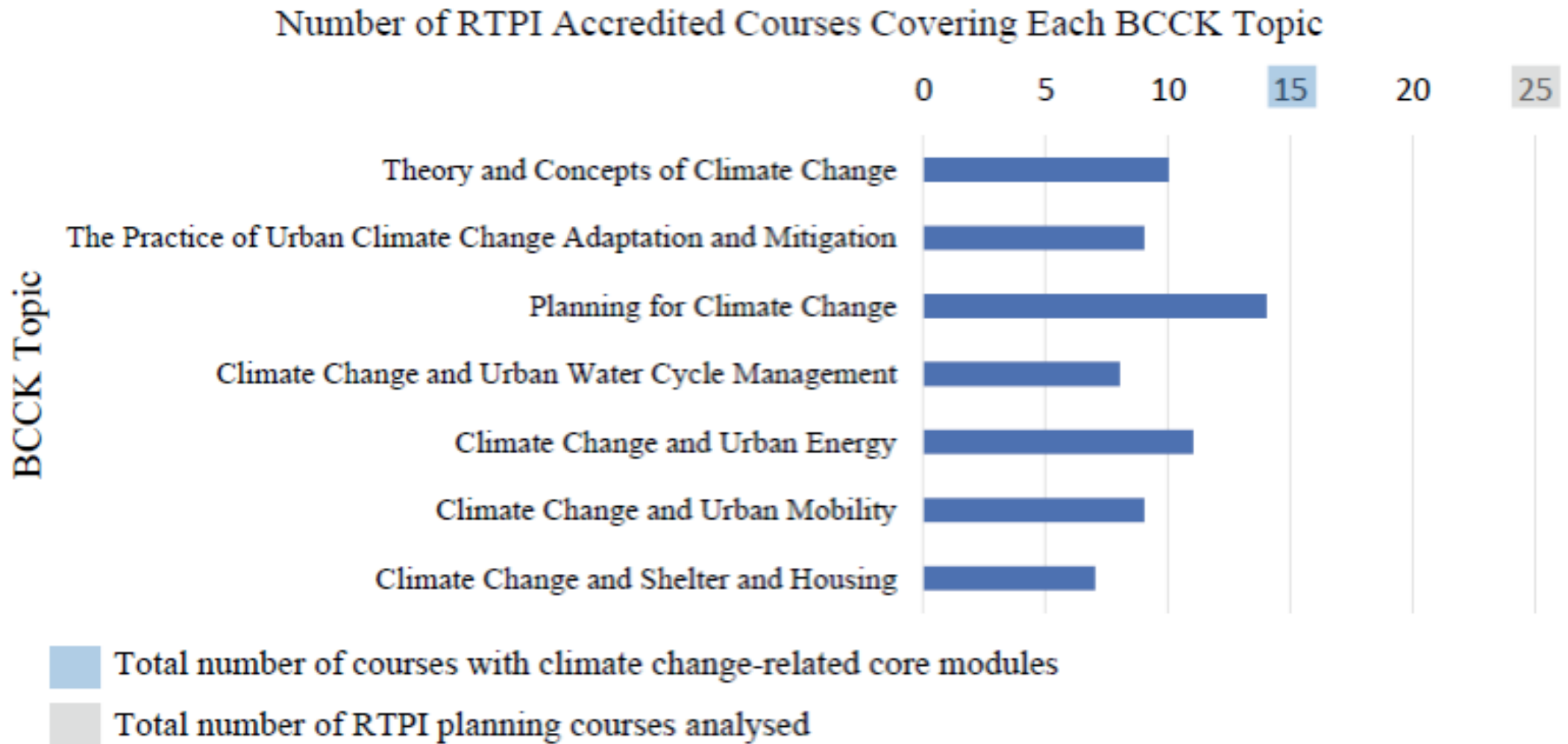
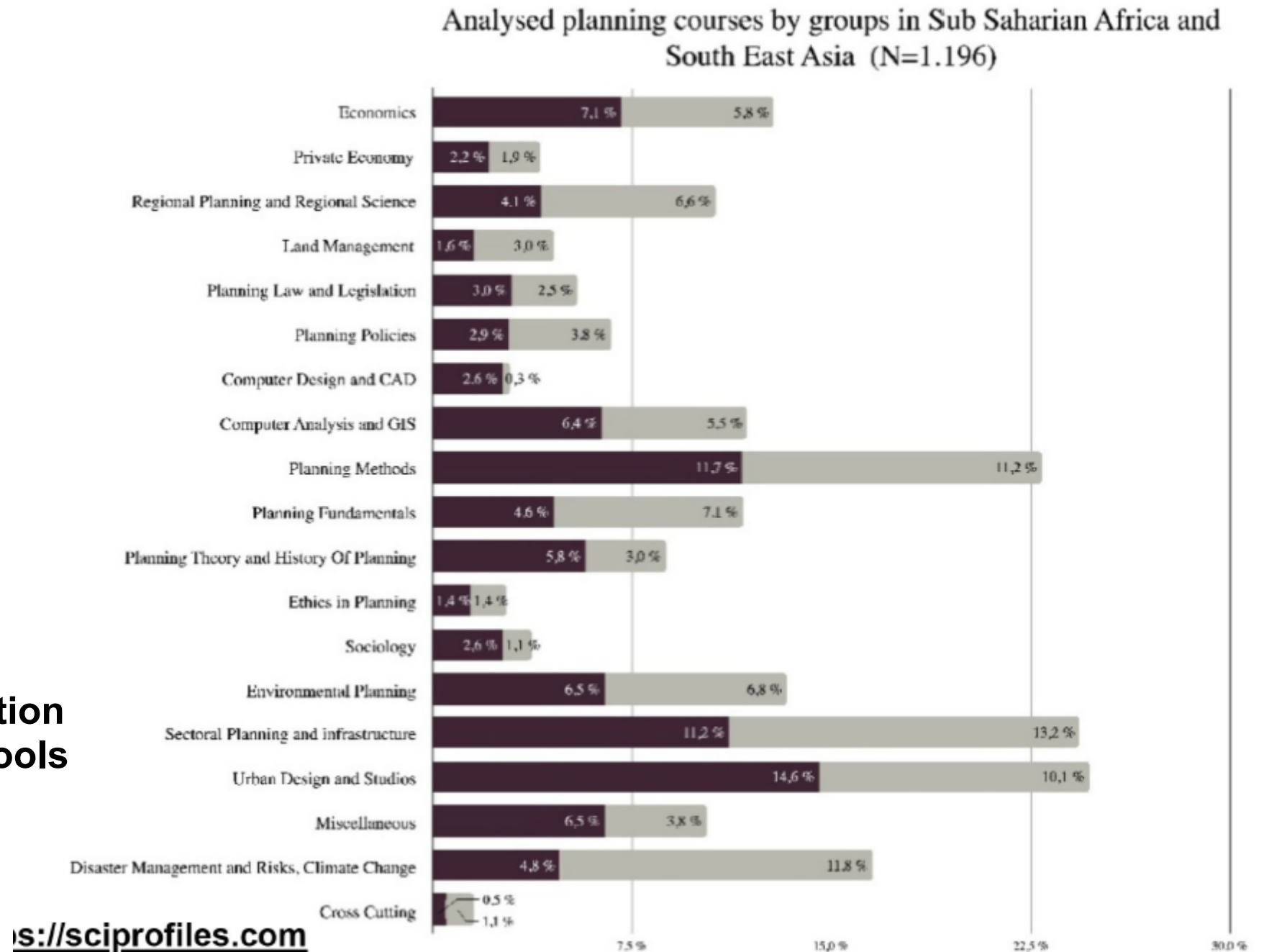


Fig. 3 BCCK topic coverage in RTPI accredited courses

Source: Preston-Jones 2020

Wolfgang Scholz.
Presentation to Association
of African Planning Schools
Congress, 2021



USA: Planning Accreditation Board Climate Change accreditation curriculum criterion:

- "Sustainability and Climate Change Responsibility: environmental, economic, and social/political factors that contribute to sustainable communities, reducing the impacts of climate change, and creating sustainable, equitable, and climate-adapted futures."

ACSP Climate Action Task Force

- **Climate in Existing Courses**

- Urban Design studios address sea level rise
- Transportation courses include climate change projections into mapping of future demand
- Land Use classes examine rolling easements to slowly move buildings away from shorelines
- Housing studios/courses consider wildfire dangers for regional land use planning
- Theory courses teach the history of environmental racism and the ways it may be reproduced – or redressed—through climate change policies

ACSP Climate Action Task Force M A I N P O I N T S:

**Climate is not a specialist topic.
Like equity, it should be addressed in (almost) everything we do.**

Climate issues are beginning to be included in many planning courses, but this needs to be strengthened (and that's now required by PAB standards).

Picture it as equivalent to demographics - just part of the normal data we use to plan.

Mainstream it into land use or other core classes, some programs offer stand-alone courses

Both Decarbonization and Adaptation need to be taught.

Education Findings:

- Our schools are mostly latecomers to climate action
- Professional statements of knowledge and skills required for CA are very broad, with significant overlaps with traditional planning subjects.
- Minority of planning schools have substantial climate curricular content.
- Climate content is largely embedded in courses on broader subjects

Thank you!

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