

Prof. Bharat Dahiya

Prof. Bharat Dahiya is a **Global Sustainability Leader, Professional Keynote Speaker, Urbanist, Planner, Geographer, Futurist, Educator, Trainer and Mentor**. He is a passionate advocate of making our planet liveable and sustainable for our children, youth and future generations. He helps policymakers, international organizations, knowledge institutions (universities and research institutions), businesses, non-profit organisations, community-based organisations, and consumers to ‘raise their game’ in delivering sustainable solutions for people, prosperity, and our planet.

Prof. Bharat is **Director** of Research Center for Sustainable Development and Innovation at the School of Global Studies, Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand. He is an **Extraordinary Professor** at the School of Public Leadership, Stellenbosch University, Stellenbosch, Western Cape, South Africa, and a Distinguished Professor at Urban Youth Academy, Seoul, Republic of Korea. He is also a Founding Board Member of the World Smart Cities Economic Development Commission—under the World Business Angels Investment Forum, based in Miami, USA.

An award-winning urbanist, Prof. Bharat holds a **PhD in Urban Governance, Planning and Environment** from the **University of Cambridge, United Kingdom**. He read for his M.A. in Geography from Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Master of Planning from School of Planning and Architecture, both based in New Delhi, India.

Professionally serving over 30 countries around the world, Prof. Bharat has recently completed 25 years of his global journey that started in October 1996. He combines cutting-edge research, policy analysis and development practice aimed at examining and tackling socio-economic, environmental and governance issues in the global urban context of sustainable development as defined by the *New Urban Agenda, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*, and the *Paris Agreement*.

Working with the World Bank, UN-Habitat, Asian Development Bank, UNDP, United Nations University, and Metropolis, he has initiated, led and/or contributed to international development projects and programs on sustainable urban development and urban innovations around the world. For example, he led the preparation of the first-ever *Citywide Pro-poor Ger-area Upgrading Strategy and Investment Plan for Ulaanbaatar*, capital city of Mongolia.

Throughout his career, Prof. Bharat has been involved in the preparation and dissemination of cutting-edge knowledge products. At the World Bank headquarters in Washington DC, USA, Prof. Bharat conducted the first-ever systematic review of the Bank’s investments for improving urban liveability, published as a co-authored book, [Urban Environment and Infrastructure: Toward Livable Cities](#) (2004). At UN-HABITAT, he led, conceptualized, and coordinated the preparation of United Nations’ inaugural report on [The State of Asian Cities 2010/11](#) (2010). More recently, he co-authored [Partnering for Sustainable Development: Guidelines for Multi-stakeholder Partnerships to Implement the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific](#) (UNU-IAS, and UN-ESCAP, 2018), and co-edited [New Urban Agenda for Asia-Pacific: Governance for Sustainable and Inclusive Cities](#) (Springer, 2020).

On invitation from UN-Habitat HQ, Prof. Bharat prepared the regional report on “Progress in the Implementation of the New Urban Agenda in Asia and the Pacific” during 2018-2021. For Metropolis—the world association of major metropolises, he led the consultant team that prepared the first-ever [Asian Metropolitan Report](#) (2021).

Prof. Bharat advises several professional, academic, private sector, and non-profit organisations around the world. Since 2019, he has been a Member of the International Advisory Board for the UN-HABITAT’s [World Cities Report](#) (Nairobi, Kenya). He is also a Member of the Advisory Group for *Future Earth Urban Knowledge–Action Network* (Montreal, Canada). He has held academic positions in Australia, Indonesia, South Africa, and Thailand.

Since early-2014, Prof. Bharat has been the Series Editor for the SCOPUS-indexed Springer book series,

[Advances in 21st Century Human Settlements](#), which has a growing collection of over 35 monographs and edited volumes.

For his professional contributions to sustainable urban development in Mongolia, the Government of Mongolia awarded Prof. Bharat with a *Certificate of Honour*, and the Municipal Government of Ulaanbaatar decorated him with a *Medal of Honour*. In December 2021, the Global Council for the Promotion of International Trade conferred a *Global Sustainability Award 2021* on Prof. Bharat.

In 1997, he was elected a Fellow of the Cambridge Philosophical Society – Cambridge’s oldest scientific society. In the same year, the Cambridge Commonwealth Trust admitted him to the status of Fellow of the Cambridge Commonwealth Society.

Prof. Bharat serves on the editorial boards of the *Geographies of the Anthropocene* book series, and several journals: *Environment and Urbanization ASIA*, *Journal of Urban Culture Research*, *ICON: Journal of Archaeology and Culture*, *National Geographical Journal of India*, *Chinese Journal of Population, Resources and Environment*, and *Jindal Journal of Public Policy*. Reuters, Inter Press Service, SciDev.Net, Nishi-Nippon, The Korean Economic Daily, China Daily, The Hindu, Deccan Herald, Bangkok Post, The Nation, UB Post, The Sunday Times, and Urban Gateway have quoted Prof. Bharat’s work.

Prof. Bharat has recently launched a special issue of *Sustainability* journal on “Urban Innovation and Sustainability” to support the publication of case studies in urban innovation.

[05 July 2022]