

## **Curriculum Vitae – Dr. Katrin Hofer**

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Name Katrin Hofer  
E-Mail [kathofer@ethz.ch](mailto:kathofer@ethz.ch)

### **Areas of specialization**

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Urban Development, Public Participation, Urban Governance, Informality, Housing

### **Current Position**

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**Postdoctoral Researcher & Lecturer**, Spatial Development and Urban Policy, Institute for Spatial and Landscape Development, ETH Zurich, Switzerland  
11/2024 – ongoing

### **Education**

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**Dr. sc. ETH Zurich**, Spatial Development and Urban Policy, Institute for Spatial and Landscape Development, ETH Zurich, Switzerland  
12/2019 – 08/2024

- Thesis: [Towards a more nuanced understanding of public participation in urban development](#)
- Case Study: Johannesburg, South Africa

**MSc Urban Development Planning** (Distinction), University College London, United Kingdom,  
09/2016 – 09/2017

- Thesis: "My struggle continues! Does yours?" – An analysis of the relationship between housing and citizenship in post-apartheid South Africa (Distinction)
- Field work in Tanzania. Topic: Transforming Solid Waste Management in Dar es Salaam

**BA Social Work and Social Policy and Social Sciences and Studies of Culture and Religion** (insigni cum laude), Universität Freiburg, Switzerland, 09/2010 – 09/2013

- Thesis: Effectiveness of vocational training projects in the field of development cooperation (*Wirkung von Berufsbildungsprojekten der Entwicklungszusammenarbeit*), case study: vocational training project by HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Benin (5.5)

**Exchange year** in Pretoria, Clapham High School, South Africa, 07/2006 – 06/2007

**Grammar School**, Gymnasium Köniz-Lerbermatt, Switzerland, 08/2005 – 07/2009

- Main Focus: Philosophy, Pedagogy, Psychology

### **Relevant Professional Experience**

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**Research Fellow**, Asian Coalition for Housing Rights, Community Architects Network, The Bartlett Development Planning Unit, Host organisation: Arkomjogja, Yogyakarta, Indonesia  
03/2019 – 10/2019

**Research Associate**, Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, Switzerland  
01/2018 – 03/2019

**Researcher**, University College London (Development Planning Unit), United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), home-based  
06/2017 – 06/2018 (part-time)

**Project Manager**, Save the Children, Switzerland  
02/2014 – 08/2016

## Relevant publications (a selection)

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### Journal Articles (double-blind peer review)

- Hofer, Katrin, Michael Wicki & David Kaufmann (2024) Public Support for Participation in Local Development, *World Development*, 178. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2024.106569>
- Debrunner, Gabriela, Katrin Hofer, Michael Wicki, Fiona Kauer & David Kaufmann (2024) Housing Precarity in Six European and North American Cities: Threatened by the Loss of a Safe, Stable, and Affordable Home, *Journal of the American Planning Association*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01944363.2023.2291148>
- Hofer, Katrin & David Kaufmann (2022) Actors, arenas and aims: A conceptual framework for public participation in planning. *Planning Theory*, 0(0). <https://doi.org/10.1177/14730952221139587>
- Wicki, Michael, Katrin Hofer & David Kaufmann (2022) Planning instruments enhance the acceptance of urban densification. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*, 119(38). <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2201780119>
- Wittwer, Stefan, Katrin Hofer & David Kaufmann (2022) An urban take on sustainable development. Urban policies and corresponding positioning strategies. *npj Urban Sustain* 3(1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s42949-022-00080-y>

### Book Chapters

- Hofer, Katrin (2022) „My struggle continues! Does yours?“ – Eine Untersuchung wie das Recht auf angemessenes Wohnen und Bürgerschaft in Post-Apartheid Südafrika zusammenhängen. In F. Sowa (Ed.), *Figurationen der Wohnungsnot: Kontinuität und Wandel sozialer Praktiken, Sinnzusammenhänge und Strukturen* (pp. 193-215). Weinheim: Beltz Juventa.

### Working Papers

- Hofer, Katrin (2024) Diverging Understandings of Public Participation in Urban Development. *In preparation*.
- Wicki, Michael, Fiona Kauer, Katrin Hofer & David Kaufmann (2024) Navigating Urban Growth: Ideological Divides in the Acceptance of Housing Densification. *Submitted for publication*.

### Other publications

- Hofer, Katrin (2024) Towards a more nuanced understanding of public participation in urban development. Doctoral Thesis. ETH Zurich. <https://www.research-collection.ethz.ch/handle/20.500.11850/709218>
- Hofer, Katrin & David Kaufmann (2024) Response to E.R. Alexander's Comment on "Actors, arenas and aims: A conceptual framework for public participation". *Planning Theory*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/14730952241245936>
- Kolovou Kouri, Marina, Katrin Hofer, Nada Sallam & Aji Bima Amriza Amalsyah (2020) Grounded Learning: people-centred approaches to housing in Yangon and Yogyakarta. London: DPU Development Planning Units. [https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/development/sites/bartlett/files/2020-05-16\\_ground\\_learning\\_2018-2019.pdf](https://www.ucl.ac.uk/bartlett/development/sites/bartlett/files/2020-05-16_ground_learning_2018-2019.pdf)
- Wandeler, Bernard & Katrin Hofer (2019) Werkstattheft: Soziale Arbeit und nachhaltige Entwicklung. [https://interact-verlag.ch/products/soziale-arbeit-und-nachhaltige-entwicklung?\\_pos=1&\\_sid=1e1134465&\\_ss=r](https://interact-verlag.ch/products/soziale-arbeit-und-nachhaltige-entwicklung?_pos=1&_sid=1e1134465&_ss=r)

## Teaching

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Courses in 2025:

- [Key Concepts in Urban Planning Theory](#), ETH Zurich
- [Public participation in urban development](#), University of Basel
- *Citizen and Stakeholder Participation in Policy-Making* (Certificate of Advanced Studies: Technology and Public Policy, ETH Zürich); spring 2022, 2023, 2025

Supervision of Bachelor and Master theses (6 Master theses, 2 Bachelor thesis, 1 Seminar thesis), 2019 – ongoing

## Occasional teaching in specific courses:

- *Urban planning & urban policy course* (MSc Spatial Development and Infrastructure Systems, ETH Zürich)
  - o Lecture on *Smart cities*; spring 2021 & 2022
  - o Lecture on *Informality*; spring 2023, 2024, 2025
- *Modul 5: Transformation Gestalten* (Certificate of Advanced Studies: Zukunft der Raumentwicklung); Winter 2025
- *Comparative Planning course* (BSc Transport, City and Environmental Policy, CDIC – Chang’an Dublin International College of Transportation); Lecture on *Urban (development) planning in Africa*, Spring 2023, 2024

## Previous teaching tasks:

- Responsible for the coordination of all student theses within the institute, 2019–2022
- Teaching assistant in the Interdisciplinary project work course (MSc Spatial Development and Infrastructure Systems, ETH Zürich); fall semester 2020 & 2021
- Practice in Urban Development Planning module (MSc Urban Development Planning, Development Planning Unit, University College London), Guest Lecture on *Land and housing in urban Indonesia*; Winter 2020 & 2021
- Rethinking Mobility summer school (KNUST-ETH Mobility Summer School, ETH Zürich & Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology); Lecture on *Public participation in planning*; Fall 2023

**Research Grants**


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09/2022 – 02/2023	<i>ETH Zurich Doc.Mobility Fellowship</i> ; Visiting Researcher at the Centre for Urbanism and Built Environment Studies (CUBES), School of Architecture and Planning, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
08/2024 – 01/2025	<i>ETH4D Research to Action Grant</i> ; Dissemination of thesis results in Johannesburg, South Africa