

OSTROM WORKSHOP RESEARCH SERIES

Mansee Bal Bhargava

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“Looking for a Language of Urban Lake Governance and Sustainability”

Wednesday, November 16, 2016

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Ostrom Workshop, 513 N. Park



My Fulbright project looks at the contextual and institutional environments—those that facilitate/challenge the integration of water resources (urban lakes here) into the planning and management of cities. The project applies a multi-tier Social-Ecological System (SES) framework (inspired by the works of the Ostrom Workshop). A diagnostic ontological approach is used to analyze the variables and subvariables of urban lake systems. The research component is an attempt to model the patterns of interactions between the variables and the subvariables of the contextual and institutional environments—those that facilitate the integration of urban lakes into the planning and management of the cities. A SES database of urban lakes is used for analysis of the patterns. The classificatory structure for explanation is inspired by Christopher Alexander’s *A Pattern Language*. The teaching component emphasizes the application of the SES framework in a pattern language towards integration of urban lake management into urban development.



Mansee Bal Bhargava is an entrepreneur and educator. Her entrepreneurial work is carried out with Akshay Bhargava through Environmental Design Consultants, Ahmedabad, and includes landscape and architectural consulting for residential, institutional, industrial, and recreational developments; and research on the governance and sustainability of social-ecological systems like urban lakes. Her education work is diverse in affiliation and field, spanning architecture, planning, governance, and sustainability. She holds a PhD from Erasmus University, Rotterdam ([website](#)).

Presentations are open to the public (see our website for papers). You are welcome to bring your lunch. For questions, contact Allison Sturgeon (sturgeon@iu.edu; 812/855–3151).