Port City Futures *Workshops*

Creating a Vision for Port Cities

MOROCCO

Edition



Creating a Vision for Port Cities: Workshop and Fieldtrips. *Morocco Edition*.

December 7th - December 11th 2026. Registration ends December 1st

Port city territories are unique intersections of urban development, communities, and waterfront environments. Their deep connections between water, heritage, infrastructure, and port residents create both exceptional opportunities and complex challenges. Yet too often, their distinctive qualities are overlooked, resulting in development that neglects heritage, weakens identity, and misses opportunities for communities, businesses, and the environment. Achieving **sustainable futures** in these territories requires a clear, robust, and **shared vision**.

This 5-day workshop based in Rabat, Morocco invites participants to explore how port cities can harness their heritage and unique characteristics to develop sustainable urban spaces and engaged communities, while maintaining the essential flows of port activity. At its core, the workshop asks: **How can port cities balance urban life with the demands of global trade? What kinds of strategies can ensure resilience, inclusivity, and adaptability over the next 30 to 50 years?** Using a **value-based approach**, participants will apply tools and methods to design strategies for resilient, multifunctional port spaces that integrate economic, social, and environmental priorities.



Hands-on Learning through Port Tours Immersive visits to the ports of Tangier, Tangier Med, and Casablanca, and the cities of Rabat and Salé, will allow participants to experience firsthand the dynamics of port city territories—from maritime flows and industrial infrastructure to urban landscapes and socio-ecological contexts. These tours provide a living laboratory to apply analytical tools, spark discussion, and inspire project ideas.



What you will learn

- Identify local and global challenges of planning for port city territories.
- Understand overlapping needs and potentials through shared goals and values.
- Apply tools and methods for analysing and planning future-proof port city territories.
- Communicate insights to diverse stakeholders.
- Develop actionable strategies and long-term visions for your port city, informed by fieldwork, tours, and peer feedback.

TU Delft facilitators include John Hanna, Carola Hein and Annabelle Duval.

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Day 1 (December 7th) **- Exploring Port City Territories**
The workshop opens with a welcome session, introductions, and case study sharing, followed by a lecture on valuebased, socio-cultural approaches to port city development. In the afternoon, participants embark on an instawalk through Rabat/Salé, using visual storytelling to capture layered histories and socio-ecological dynamics.

Day 2 (December 8th) **- Multi-Scalar Stakeholders and Tools for Transition**
The morning introduces the multi-scalar nature of deltas and port city territories, with tools for stakeholder mapping and identifying shifting values. Participants engage in interactive activities such as spatial mapping and a serious game on port construction. In the afternoon, a field trip to the Port of Casablanca provides firsthand insight into logistics operations, trade flows, and socio-ecological challenges.

Day 3 (December 9th) **- Temporal Thinking and Visioning for Port City Transitions**
This day focuses on time and temporality in transition processes. A morning lecture and workshop guide participants in creating collective global and local timelines of port city change. Participants then explore trade-offs and cooperation through a serious game on water values. In the afternoon, design and mapping workshops allow participants to analyse port city sites, visualize socio-ecological dynamics, and co-create future-oriented strategies.

Day 4 (December 10th) **- Understanding Port Landscapes**
Participants spend the day in Tangier, combining historical and contemporary perspectives. A morning field trip to Tangier City port highlights the integration of the port with urban life, communities, and passenger activities. After lunch, a visit to Tangier Med provides an in-depth look at large-scale port infrastructures, industrial operations, and sustainability challenges.

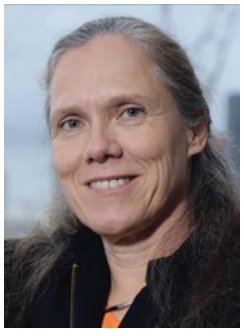
Day 5 (December 11th) **- From Visions to Action: Strategic Planning for Port City Futures**
The final day brings together the insights and methods explored throughout the week. In the morning, an applied design lab guides participants in developing 30-year strategic roadmaps, personas, and impact assessments for their own port city territories. In the afternoon, participants present their visions and strategies in a concluding session, with feedback from peers and instructors.

Full fare: €800
Africa-based participant: €500
Students: €300

The fee includes lunch, field trips transportation, and a group dinner at the end of the first day. Fee does not include accommodation and travel expenses.

Enroll now!

Location: *NIMAR, 3, Avenue Mohamed El Fassi (ex. Av. Marrakech)*
10010 Hassan
Rabat, Morocco



Lead Instructor
Carola Hein is Professor and Chair of the History of Architecture and Urban Planning department at Delft University of Technology. She leads the PortCityFutures research program that aims to evolve socio-spatial conditions, use and design of port city regions, in particular exploring areas where port and city activities occur simultaneously and sometimes conflict.