Editorial Preface

DESIGN WITH CARBON IN MIND

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Sustainability has become a focus in the world of architecture and design, inspiring designers to rethink how they design today. In fact, Earth Day is an annual reminder to the designers of their responsibilities to protect the environment and to change how the designers design to mitigate environmental issues. Designers have the capability and responsibility to provide solutions that minimize the environmental impact when they design particularly in reducing the carbon footprint. A carbon footprint is the total amount of carbon released into the air by an individual, organization, or community. Designers need to work closely with other professionals in order to mitigate CO2 at local and international level at the same time be equipped with information regarding environmental issues. It is no longer a choice to reduce carbon emissions; it is a necessity and not an impossibility in today’s time and much important designers need to start to design with carbon in mind.

With governments and companies around the world asserting a climate emergency and setting out strategies to radically cut carbon emissions, it is just not acceptable for designers to be unaware or uncaring about the carbon impact of their designs. Whether it is a piece of fabric, packaging, a device or a building, each decision right from the start has carbon consequences.

I would also like to thank all of the authors who contributed to this issue. Ten articles have been published where some of these articles are directly or indirectly related to issues related to this year’s Earth Day theme. It is timely, designers need to engage themselves in resolving global issues e.g. towards the reduction of CO2, flash flood, global warning, food security etc. through research, practice and innovations. It is also hoped that in the future ALAM CIPTA would like to receive more issues related to how designers solve environmental issues in the future. On behalf of the editors, I would like to acknowledge my gratitude to all the authors and reviewers who have contributed to this issue.