

# **Dr Stephen Appiah Takyi**

## **About**

In the context of the global south, urban dwellers are mostly at an advantage when it comes to advocating for policy makers to respond to their needs. However, due to limited education and access to communication, rural dwellers have not been effective in advocating for policy makers to improve their living conditions. There is therefore the urgent need for researchers, civil society organization, educational institutions and other interest groups to take the lead in bringing rural development issues to bare. Nonurbanism which seeks to provide the platform for experts from the global community to present non-urban issues and discuss their solution is going to contribute enormously to the rural development agenda. It will promote innovative approaches to dealing with rural development issues and will serve as the basis for rural policy formulation and implementation globally. It is my expectation that participants will not just see this as an award-winning competition but as a means to provide innovative ways that will help address the enormous rural development challenges confronting the global community. Participants must make their works as practical as possible whilst at the same time observing the highest level of ethical standards.

## **Jury Statement**

Dr. Stephen Appiah Takyi is a planning educator whose research interest is in the area of Development Policy, Urban Policy, Rural Development, Environmental Planning and Management, Environmental Impact Assessment, and Social Policy Planning. The complex interrelationship between economic, social and environmental goals makes it necessary to have scholars with strong academic background and research interest in economic, social and environmental policy discourse. Dr. Takyi's approach to research acknowledges the complexity of societal problems in our world today. He therefore emphasizes on the need to approach complex societal problems from a multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspective. The academic background and stream of work of Dr. Takyi at the undergraduate level focused on Development

Policy Planning with emphasis on economic planning. Dr. Takyi's specialization at the master's degree level was in the area of urban and regional planning whilst his doctoral research focused on environmental planning with the scope being in the area of parks planning and management. In terms of work experience, Dr. Takyi taught Introduction to Planning and Environmental Impact Assessment at the UNBC School of Environmental Planning from 2012 to 2016. Within the same period, he was in charge of the editorial desk of the Journal of Architectural and Planning Research (JAPR), a scholarly blind refereed journal which has published for over 33 years. Stephen also worked as a Writing Tutor at the UNBC Academic Success Center. Additionally, Dr. Takyi has held a number of positions at the consultancy and administrative level. These include serving as an Assistant Planning Officer for the Ejisu-Juaben Municipal Assembly, Consultant for Padane and Fame Management Consult and Marketing and Communication Assistant for the Queen's University Marketing and Communication Department.