Professor Edward Blakely  
Ambassador

Professor Edward Blakely is an honorary professor of urban policy at the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney. He is a global leader in all aspects of urban and regional planning and has won numerous awards for his services to cities, states/provinces all over the world in planning and management of large-scale development projects.

He served as the executive director of recovery management for New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, the worst urban disaster in US history from 2007-2009. Prior to that, he served in leading recovery roles in Oakland, California 1989 and 1991 as well as 9-11 in New York. He has been Dean of Urban Planning at the University of Southern California and the Milano Graduate School of public policy at the New School University in New York as well as Department Chair for more than a decade at the University of California at Berkeley.

He chaired the Sydney Metropolitan Plan Reference Panel 2003-2005 and has advised on metropolitan planning in Melbourne, Brisbane-Southeast Queensland and Adelaide as well as San Francisco, Los Angeles, Long Island and in cities in Vietnam, France, England, Sweden, Nigeria, South Africa, China, Malaysia, Turkey and Canada. He is author/co-author of 12 books; 3 prize-winning works and more than 200 scholarly and professional articles and hosts his own weekly podcasts.