

MUKURUSPA CONSULTATION MEETING

Devolution and subsidiarity

Hallsworth Conference
Manchester, June 2019



www.muungano.net/mukuru-spa









About Mukuru informal settlement

Kenya Physical Planning Act 2012: a County can designate as Special Planning Area an area which has unique development and environmental potential while also raising significant urban design and environmental [social, economic, and physical] challenges”



100,561 households & **302,000** people

7 billion ksh annual economy

670 acres of land divided between

150+ informal schools

230+ land deed holders

Average **234** households share **1 tap**

94% of residents are **tenants**

Average **67** people share **1 toilet**

Housing density is up to **240 hh/acre**

Services run by **cartels**:
households pay

142% more for electricity &
300% more for water

What is Mukuru Special Planning Area?

- Potentially one of the largest slum upgrading projects, ever-
- Gazetted in 2017 by Nairobi City County government-
- Development suspended for 2 years while an ‘integrated development plan’ -is prepared—to be delivered August 2019-
- Innovative, large-scale, collaborative community planning process:
 - Led by Nairobi County government and Mukuru’s residents-
 - Involving 40+ organizations from civil society, academia, private sector-

THE PHYSICAL PLANNING
(Chapter 286, Laws of Ken

DECLARATION OF MUKURU KWA NJENGA, MUKURU KV

www.muungano.net/muku

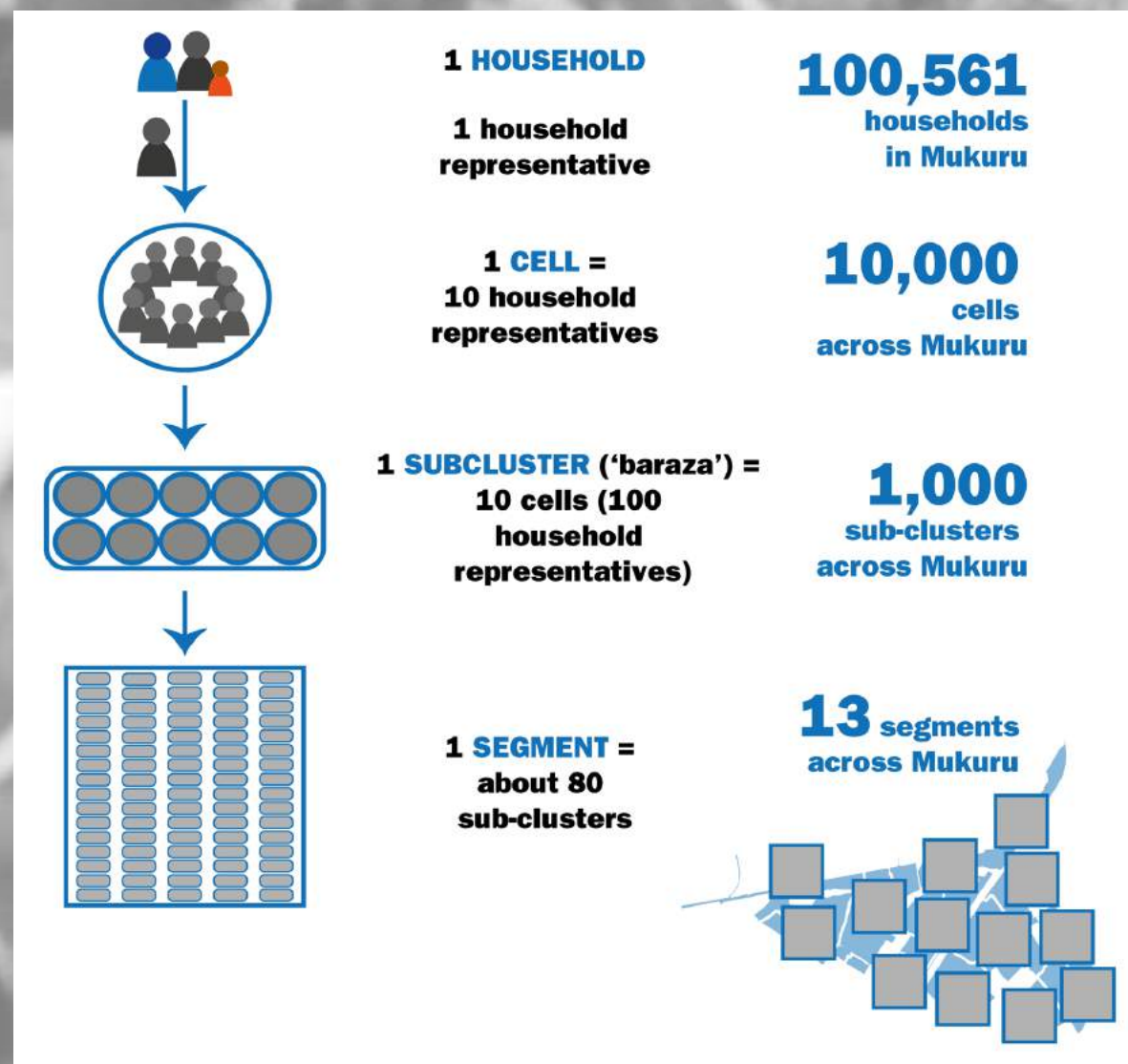
The Planning Structure





- **1st round community consultations completed or 90% completed by all of the consulting planning consortiums (about 60 in 2018 – rest planned for early 2019)**
- **Ongoing research** on finance, land tenure and legal options
- **Briefing** sessions for County depts, Nairobi County Assembly Members and committees, Ward Administrators, and Area Chiefs
- **Online information platform (Eng & Swahili) & Muungano youth documenting the process**
- **Mukuru is a learning centre across the global SDI network**

Community-led planning consultation process





Capturing Community Views





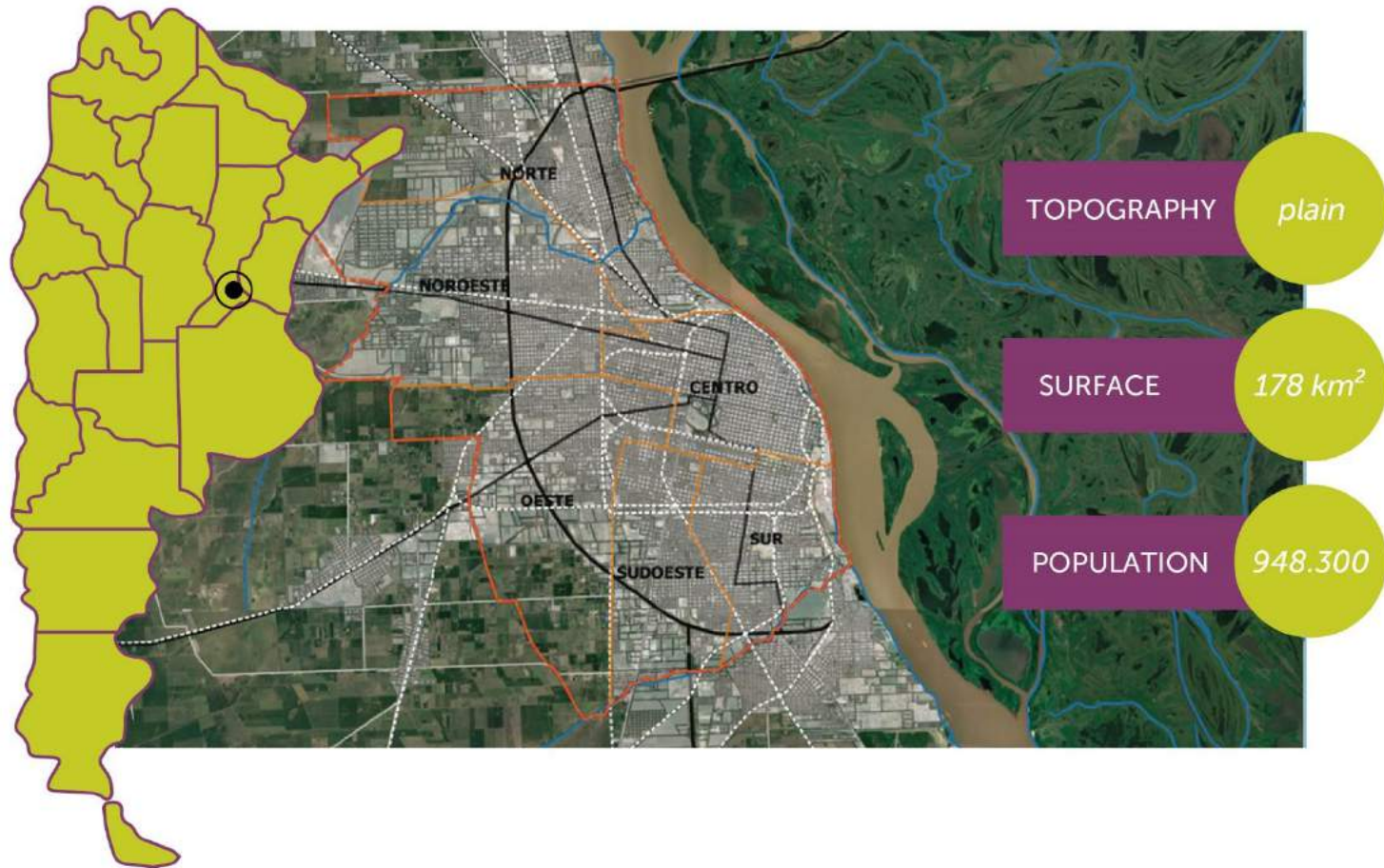
PROVOCACIONES URBANAS

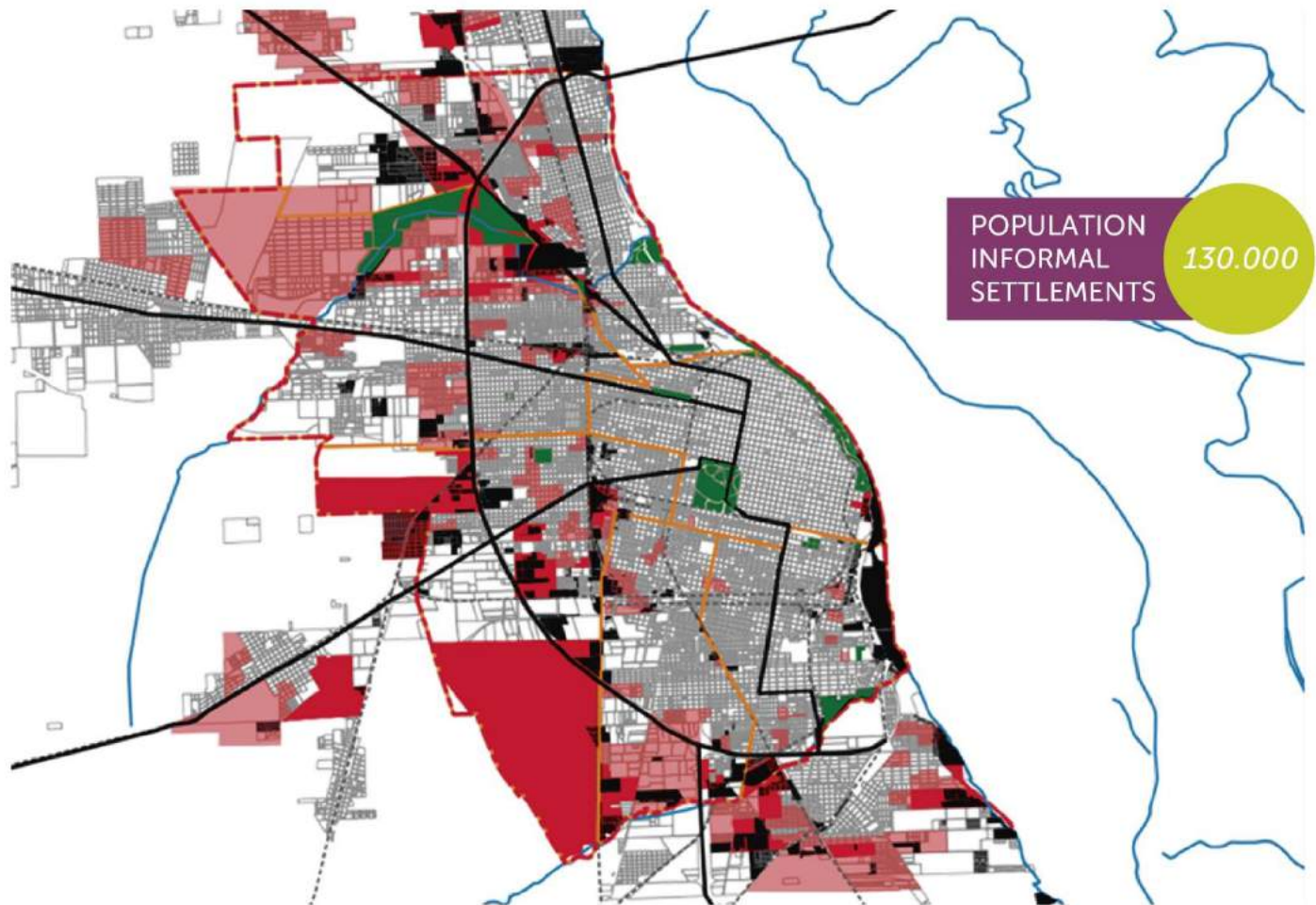
URBAN PROVOCATIONS


Prioritizing Inclusion

“Radical ways of co-producing inclusive cities. The case of the party-movement, Ciudad Futura, and its plan “Barrio- Ciudad”, Rosario, Argentina”

ROSARIO, ARGENTINA.





 *Unsatisfied
Basic Needs (UBN)
Overcrowding*

 *Illiteracy*

 *Informal
Settlements*





REAL ESTATE BOOM

6.000.000
m² built
2003 - 2011

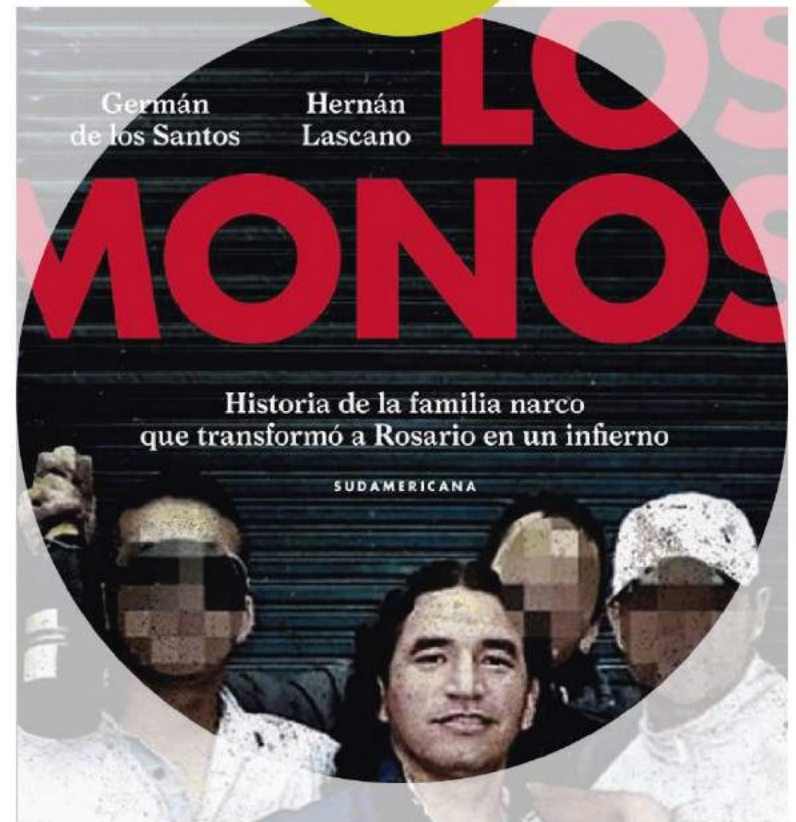


*Puerto Norte is a mega-project
in Rosario*

DRUG-TRAFFIKING CRIMINAL ECONOMY

13 homicide
per 100.000
people
(2018)

23 homicide
per 100.000
people
(2013)



*"The story of the narco family
who turned Rosario into hell"*

Ciudad Futura



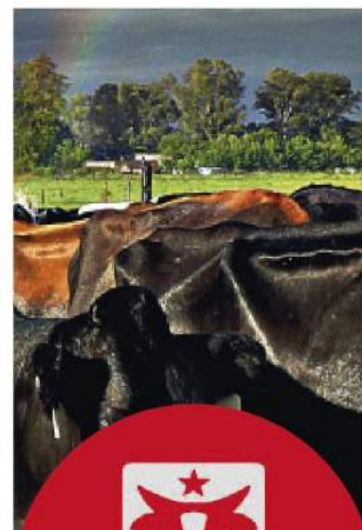
Misión
Anti Inflación



Etica
Educación de gestión Social



Bachi
Tablada



La Resistencia
Lacteos



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Ya son más de 700 familias las que mensualmente reemplazan la compra grande en los hipermercados utilizando esta vía, con un ahorro promedio del 50%.



CIUDAD
FUTURA >>

BARRIO CIUDAD

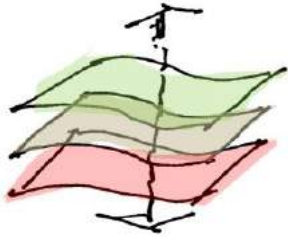


URBAN INTEGRATION

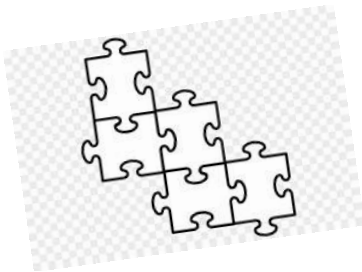
Right to the city and empowerment of the periphery



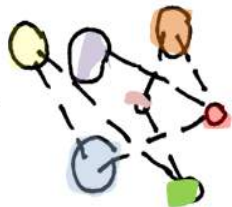
An integral vision and an action in 'acupuncture mode'.



A multidimensional intervention: social, educational, productive and urban.



Articulation of State actors and multi-party political agreement.



Popular organisation and participation.

WHAT IS?

It is an urban equality project that emphasizes the empowerment of the most vulnerable inhabitants. Planned as a policy that foresees a multi-party consensus.

The program prioritizes a set of public interventions whose aim is to balance and to connect the city.

WHAT FOR?

Integration of the periphery neighbourhoods in a project aimed towards rooting and strengthening the dignity of the life in those territories.

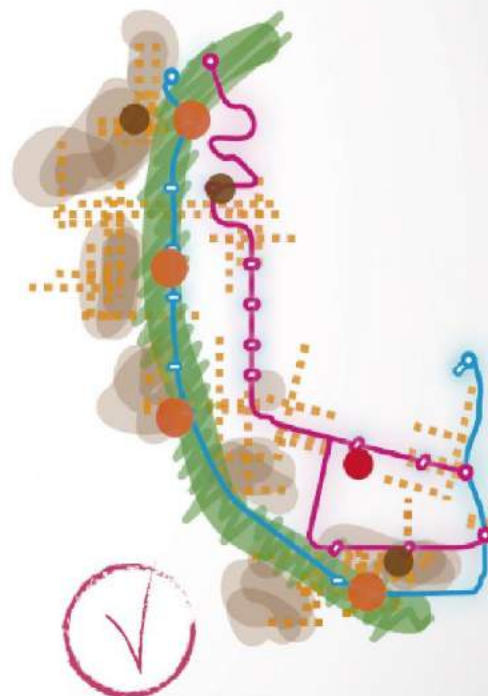
TYPE OF INTERVENTIONS

- Quality urban and sports equipment.
- Public dwelling.
- New forms of connectivity between the centre and the periphery.

- Territorial hubs of food production and distribution.
- New institutional spaces to access justice and education.

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FUTURA >>>

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BARRIO CIUDAD

JOINING NEIGHBOURHOODS
WITH NO NEED TO GO DOWNTOWN

+

GENERATION OF NEW CENTRALITIES

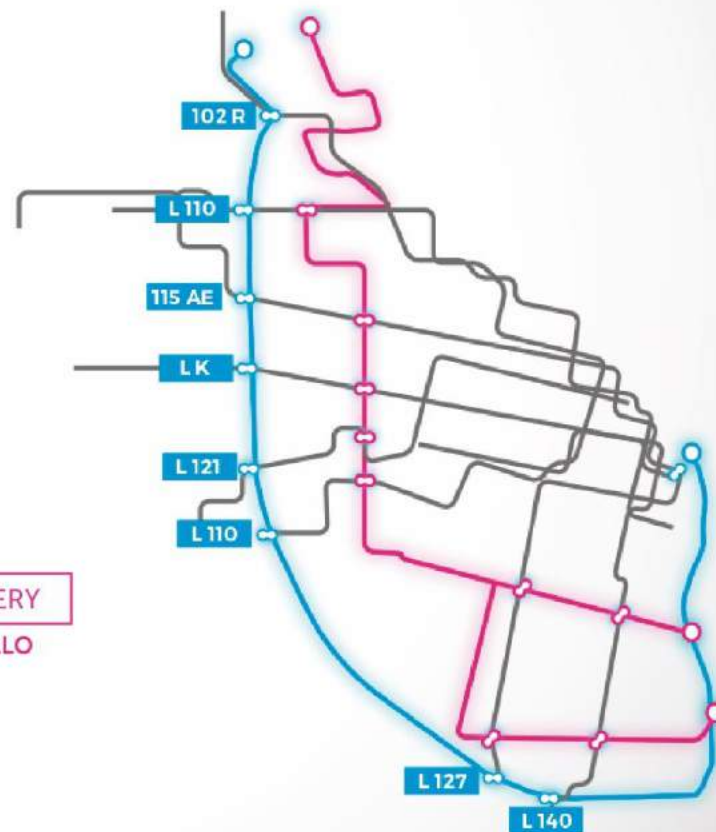
LINE 1 PERIPHERY CONNECTION

ZONA CERO-MONUMENTO

LINE 2 INTERNAL PERIPHERY

RUCCI - TABLADA / SALADILLO

DRAFT OF NEW PROPOSED LINES
To be analysed and designed
with the Mobility Entity (*Ente de la Movilidad*)

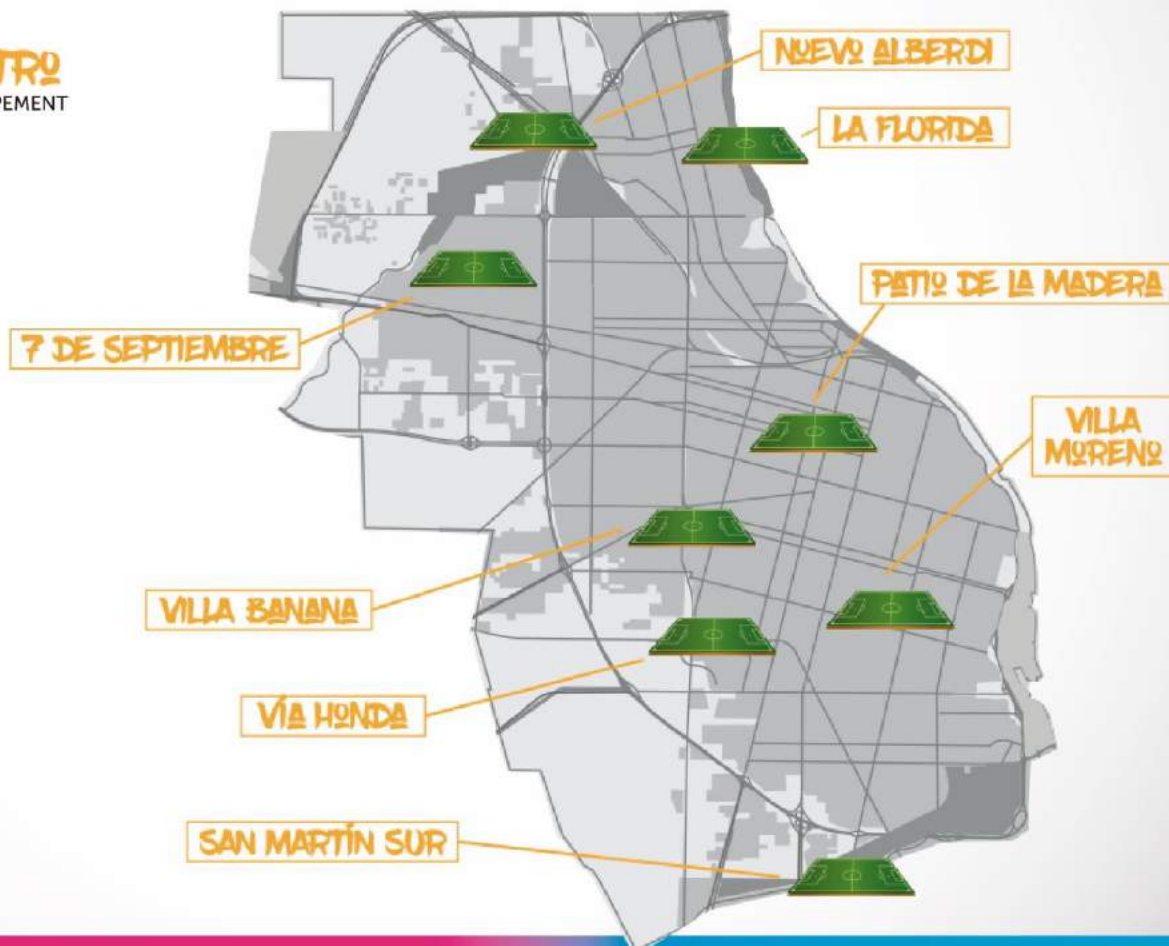


CIUDAD FUTURA

BARRIO CIUDAD

MISIÓN BARRIO ADENTRO

QUALITY EDUCATIONAL AND SPORTS EQUIPEMENT



CIUDAD
FUTURA >>>

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CIRCUNVALACIÓN PARK AND FOOD MARKETS



SOUTHWESTERN
Production corridors

PTE PERON

Fruits and vegetables.

SOUTH
Production corridors

SAN MARTÍN

Fish, bread, pasta.

NORTH
Production corridors

BAIGORRIA

Fish, baked goods, pasta.

NORTH
Production corridors

EVA PERON

Cereals, spices, legumes.



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CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC HOUSING

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENTS

SETTLEMENT REGULARISATION
TERRITORIAL INTEGRATION HUB

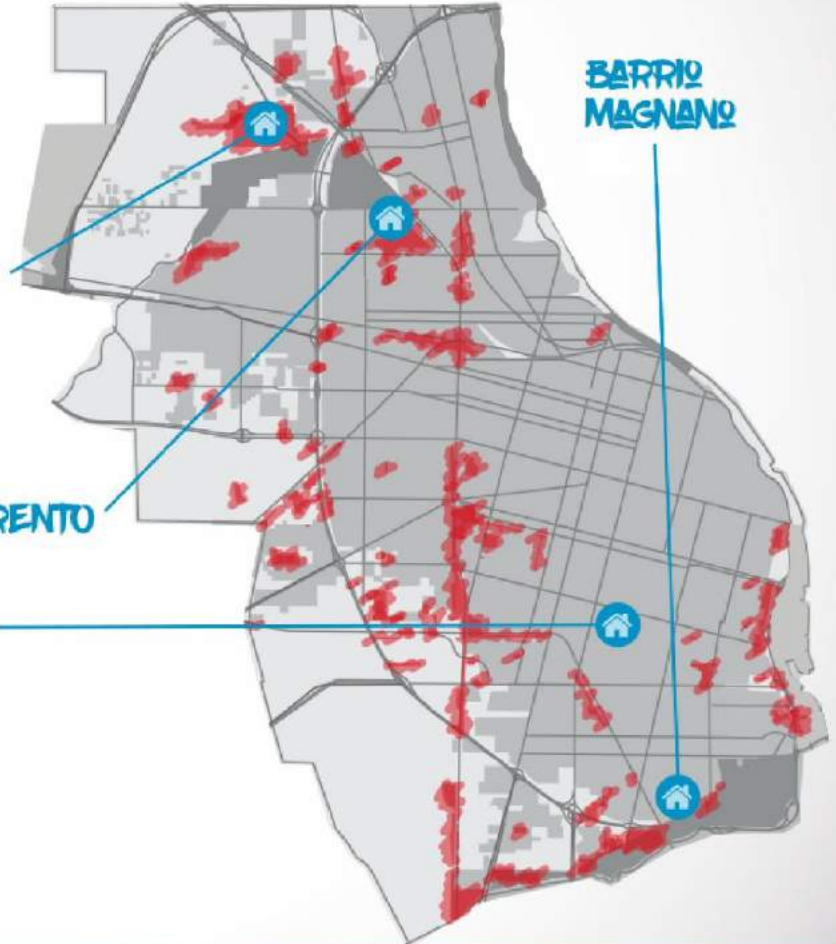


NUEVO ALBERDI

CULLEN Y SORRENTO

VILLA MORENO

BARRIO
MAGNANO





metrbus

TRANSPORTE Y CONECTIVIDAD

-  LÍNEA 1 - CONEXIÓN PERIFERIA (ZONA CERO - MONUMENTO)
-  LÍNEA 2 - INTERNO PERIFERIA (RUCCI-TABLADA-SALADILLO)

PARQUE DE LA CIRCONVALACIÓN Y MERCADOS DE LOS ALIMENTOS

- BAGORRIA** PRODUCCIÓN CORDON NORTE + CORREDOR RUTA 34
PESCADOS + LÁCTEOS + CARNES
- EVA PERÓN** PRODUCCIÓN CORDON NORTE + RUTA 9
CEREALES + ESPECIAS + LEGUMBRES
- PTE PERÓN** PRODUCCIÓN SUDOESTE + CORREDOR RUTA 33
FRUTIHORTICOLA
- SAN MARTÍN** PRODUCCIÓN SUR + CORREDOR RUTA 11
PESCADOS + PANIFICADOS + PASTAS

MISIÓN BARRIO ADENTRO EQUIPAMIENTO DEPORTIVO DE CALIDAD

 **ROSARIO SIN BARRIO**
PAVIMENTACIÓN DE 400 CUADRAS

 **ROSARIO SEGURA**
ILUMINACIÓN EN LOS BARRIOS

CONSTRUCCIÓN DE VIVIENDAS + INTERVENCIONES INTEGRALES

PROGRAMAS QUE AMALGAMAN LAS OBRAS

- REGULARIZACIÓN DOMINIAL
- PRODUCCIÓN SOCIAL DE ESCALA
- ACCESO A LA EDUCACIÓN Y A LA JUSTICIA

About challenges and collective learnings

Recover the value of use of the city, Lefebvre (1968)

Territorialize democracy

Empower community actors

Organize and involve citizens based on specific projects

Focus on education as a way of thinking
about social transformation

Thank you!

Julieta Maino

PROVOCACIONES URBANAS
Urban Provocations

Political Science and Architecture Module
National University of Rosario, Argentina.

Tracing Policy Immobilities
through *A Posteriori* Comparisons:
What "Best Practices" Leave Behind

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Theorizing from (cities of) the South

(Robinson 2002, Roy 2009, Watson 2009)



One of the most problematic issues
in contemporary Latin American urban studies:

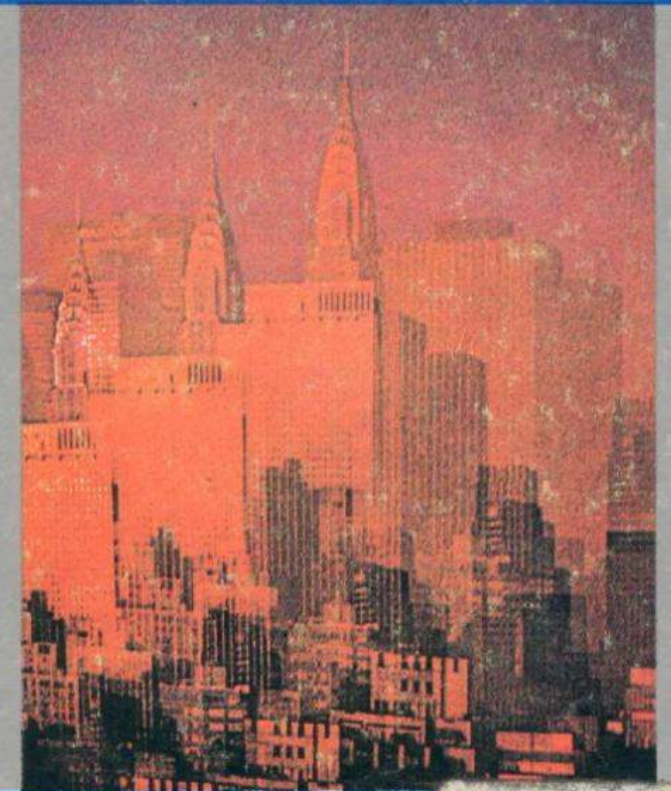
“is the uncritical import of conceptualizations
that were built to explain other
socio-economic realities and
have been imposed to [explain] the
Latin American reality”

(Emilio Pradilla Cobos,
Interview with Victor Delgadillo, 2013: 188).

Contribución a la crítica de la “teoría urbana”

del “espacio” a la “crisis urbana”

Emilio Pradilla Cobos



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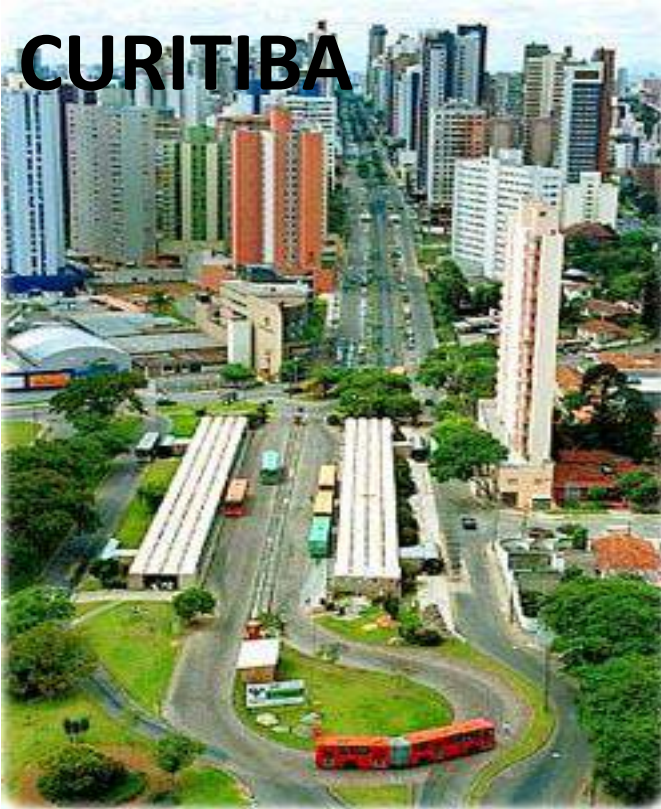
– **COMPARATIVE URBANISM:** New Geographies and Cultures of Theorizing the Urban

JENNIFER ROBINSON

Abstract

In response to the growing interest in ways to take forward an agenda for a more global urban studies, this essay advocates a comparative approach to theory building which can help to develop new understandings of the expanding and diverse world of cities and urbanization processes, building theory from different contexts, resonating with a diversity of urban outcomes but being respectful of the limits of always located insights. The essay is inspired by the potential of the comparative imagination but, mindful of the limitations of formal comparative methods, which in a quasi-scientific format can drastically restrict the scope of comparing, it outlines ways to reformat comparative methods in order to put them to work more effectively for a more global urban studies. The essay proposes a new typology for comparative methods based on the vernacular practices of urban comparison, tracing these through the archives of comparative urbanism. It also suggests some lines of philosophical reflection for reframing the scope and style of theorizing. New repertoires of comparativism are indicated which support the possibility of a revisable urban theory, starting from anywhere.

CURITIBA



PORTO ALEGRE



MEDELLÍN



BOGOTÁ



A Posteriori Comparisons as an explicit comparative strategy to theorizing contemporary global urban dynamics

- ***A Posteriori*** case selection – rather than *a priori*. Also, looking for surprising similarities in urban processes, not cities
- **Starting from** – rather than concluding with- **paradoxes** (this is particularly important for Global South cities)
- Focusing on **repeated instances** – rather than “controlling for difference”
- Generating **abstract (mid-range?) concepts** - rather than universal theorizing or a too narrow focus on case variations
 - objective: putting existing theories to the test

A Posteriori Comparisons as an explicit methodological strategy to theorizing contemporary global urban dynamics

An explicit strategy, not necessarily new

A posteriori case selection

Comparing the construction and circulation of Bogotá & Porto Alegre as “best practices”



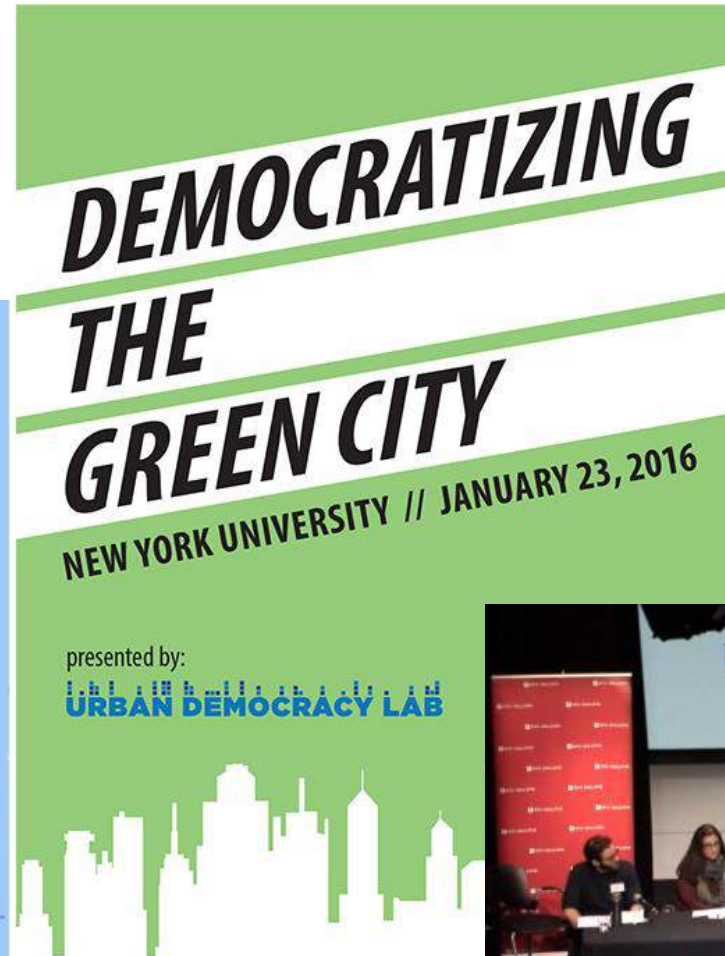
Sergio Montero



Urban Democracy Lab



gianpaolo baiocchi



DEMOCRATIZING THE GREEN

Our symposium examines the link between urban development and social displacement and asks how it is possible to address this dilemma. The dilemma has been addressed in a variety of ways in urban studies, ranging from from neighborhood gardens and gentrification, critical approaches to governance, to the global relationship between planning and informal settlements, to anthropological development. We propose to unite these approaches in an analytical frame, examining them as cases of urban development in order to better specify the mechanisms by which improvement leads to social displacement, to identify points of leverage at different scales that policy can focus on large cities from the Global North and South, and to explore strikingly similar dynamics, despite distinctive contexts.

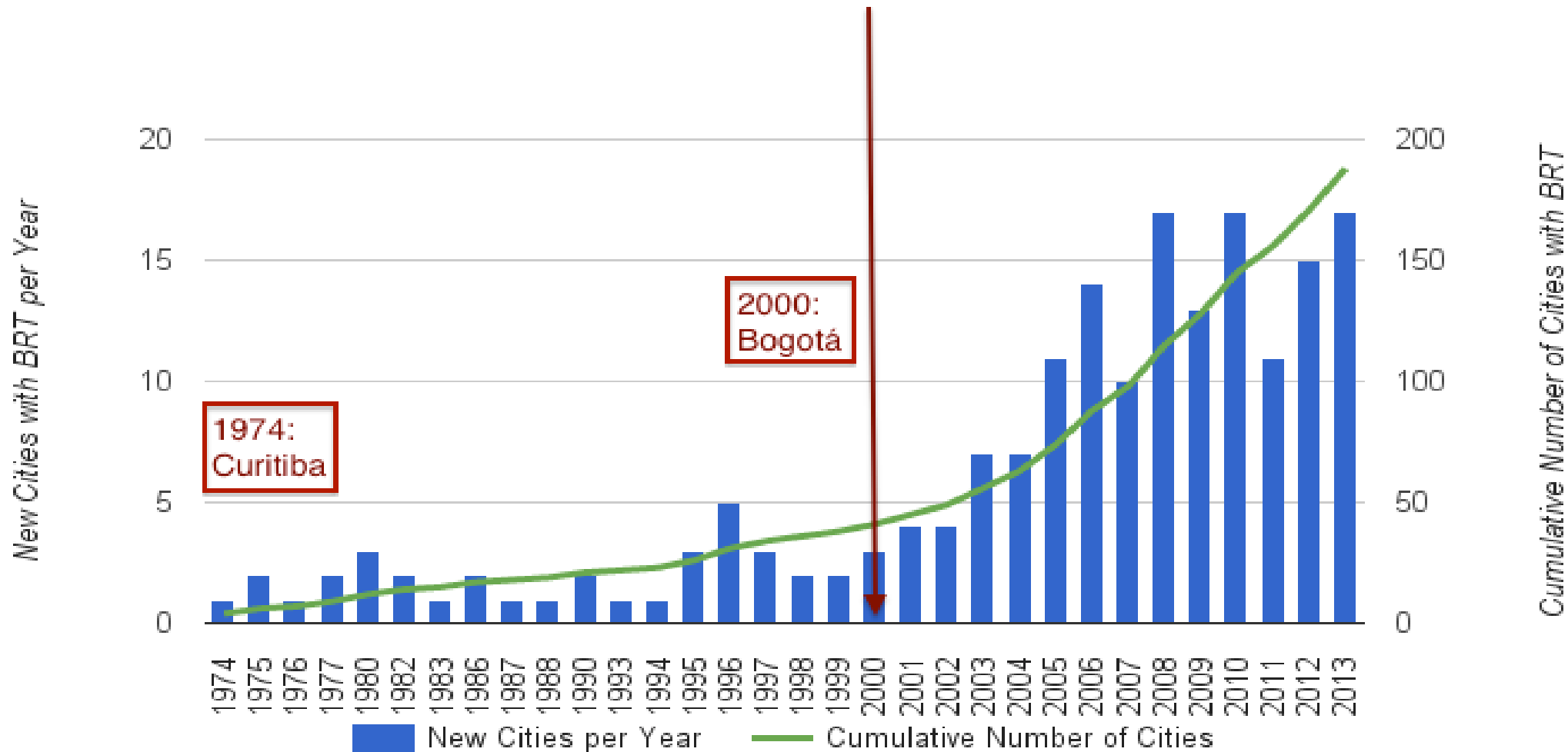
Conveners: Gianpaolo Baiocchi (NYU)
Daniel Aldana Cohen (NYU)
Hillary Angelo (UC-Santa Cruz)
Miriam Greenberg (UC-Santa Cruz)

** For live-tweeting, please use #NYUGreenCity





Number of Cities with a BRT system (1974-2013)



Source: Own elaboration based on www.brtdata.org (EMBARQ 2015)

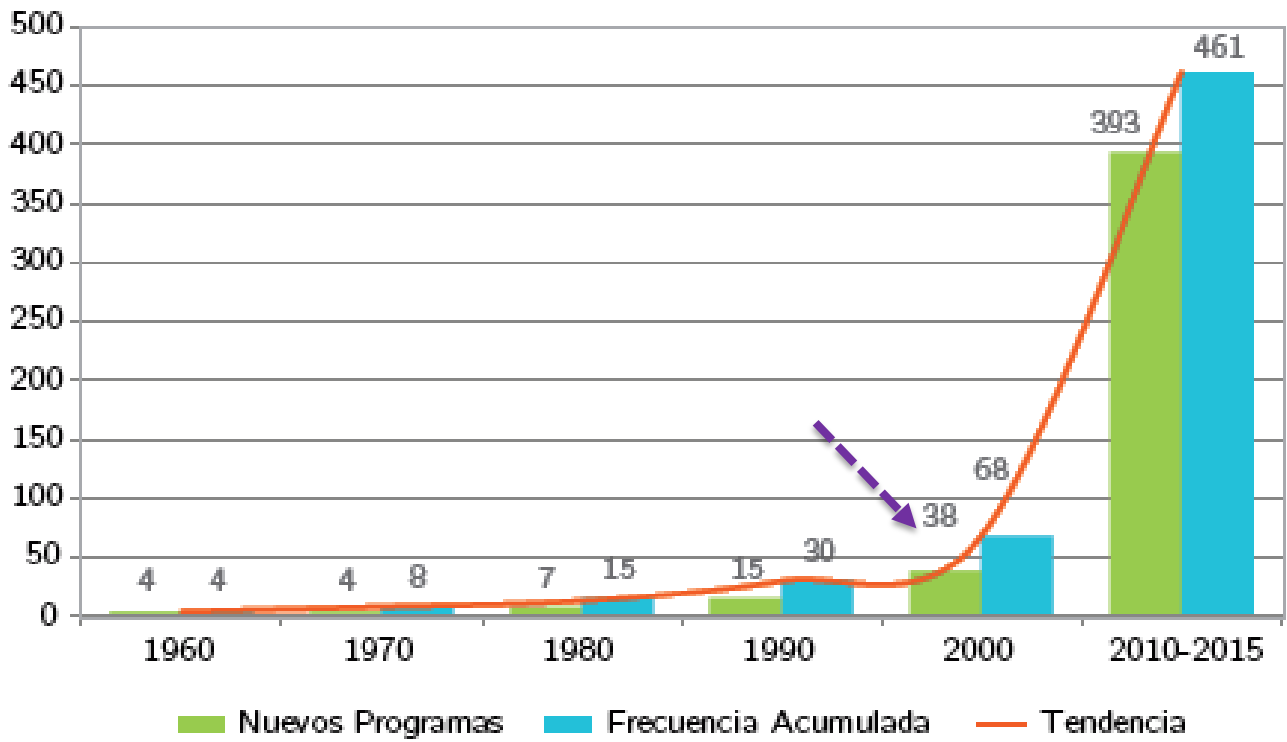
Number of Cities with Ciclovía initiatives in the Americas

* By 2016: around 460-70 (Source: Sarmiento 2016)



0 1 2-8 9-32 >32

Figura 2. Una epidemia saludable: expansión de Ciclovías Recreativas en las Américas en los últimos 55 años *



Three (Initial) Paradoxes about the “Bogotá model”

1. Neither BRT or Ciclovía are new. Why do they circulate extensively since the early 2000s?
2. Bogotá’s policies have extensively travelled South-South and even South-North. What is (or not) new?
3. **Many changes took place in Bogotá and Colombia during the 1990s beyond BRT and Ciclovía. Why do they not circulate?**

+ What circulates as the Bogotá model?

Montero, S. (2017). "Worlding Bogotá's Ciclovía: From Urban Experiment to International 'Best Practice.'" *Latin American Perspectives*, 44 (2), 111-131.

+ How does it circulate?

Montero, S. (2017) "Persuasive Practitioners and the Art of Simplification: Mobilizing the "Bogotá Model" through Storytelling" *Novos Estudos CEBRAP*, Vol. 36 (1): 59-75

Montero, S. (2017). "Study Tours and Inter-City Policy Learning: Mobilizing Bogotá's Transportation Policies in Guadalajara," *Environment & Planning A*, 49 (2), 332-350.


Sosa, O. y S. Montero (2018) "Expert-Citizens: Circulating and Contesting Sustainable Mobility Policy in Mexican Cities," *Journal of Transport Geography*, 67: 137-144.

+ Why does it circulate (now)?





Montero, S.(forthcoming 2019) "Leveraging Bogotá: Sustainable Development, Global Philanthropy and the Increased Speed of Urban Policy Circulation." *Urban Studies*

What circulates as the “Bogotá model”?

Mobile policies as simplified narratives or a “mythical narrative” (Lietao 2015)

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SEARCH

Bogotá Shares Urban Revolution with the World

February 1, 2003

In just a few years, innovative planning transformed Bogotá, Colombia into the world's leading model for sustainable urban design. The once polluted and congested city, where many people were unable to reach vital destinations, now has one of the world's most efficient and accessible transportation networks. The Seminar will allow international visitors—many from cities that suffer problems similar to those that plagued Bogotá—to witness these successes first hand.

Visitors were greeted Thursday by the world's largest Car Free Day, during which the entire city of 135 square miles (35,000 hectares) was free of private motorized vehicles ? an event first undertaken three years ago to publicize the positive results of curbed automobile use. During the four-day seminar, attendees will witness Bogotá's other achievements, including:

- Latin America's largest network of bicycle routes, 150 miles long (250 km);
- A world-class Bus Rapid Transit system of dedicated bus lanes called TransMilenio;
- The world's longest pedestrian-only street, spanning 10.2 miles (17 km); and hundreds of miles of sidewalks, many through the city's poorest neighborhoods;
- Car-Free Sunday, when many streets are closed to motorized traffic to make space for thousands of cyclists and pedestrians.

Bogotá's simplified narrative of “urban transformation:”

from Third World dystopia to a world-class sustainable city
thanks to BRT and bicycle programs

It is possible for any city to transform itself into a sustainable city...



Center for
Sustainable
Transport



www.embarq.org



What does not circulate?



Failures of the “model” in Bogotá

Complaints about BRT

- Capacity
- Pollution

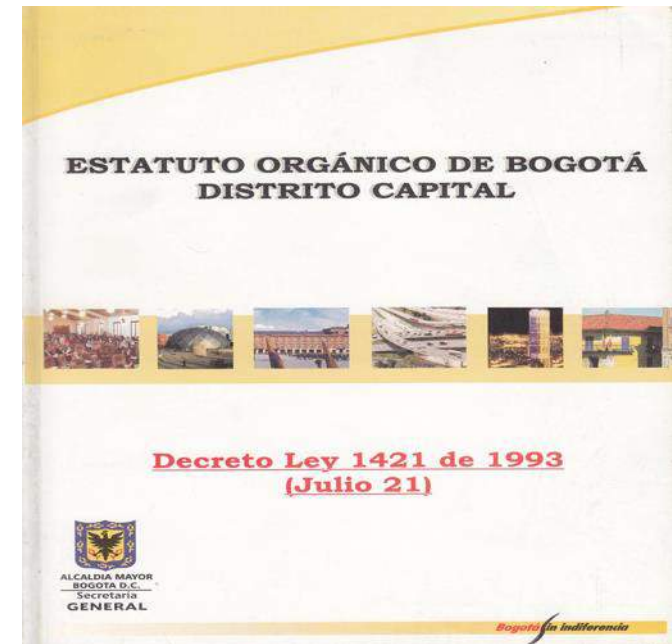
Bike lane deterioration



What does not circulate?

Democratization and fiscal reforms that took place in a context of extreme violence and profound delegitimation of the state (late 1980s/early 1990s)

- Popular elections of mayors (1989)
- Law 388 of 1997 (decentralization of urban planning)
- *Estatuto Orgánico de Bogotá* (1993)



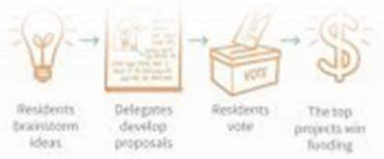
What does not circulate?

*Figure 4. Per Capita Local Tax Revenues in Bogotá and Colombia, 1990-2001
(in 1998 Colombian Pesos)*

	1990	1996	2001
Bogotá D.C.	73,660	161,765	164,814
National Average	20,052	34,371	46,185

Source: Iregui, Melo and Ramos 2004

Porto Alegre's Participatory Budgeting



BUDGET PARTICIPATIF
TOMEZ LE COÛT DE VOTRE PROJET

EXEMPLES DE RÉALISATIONS D'ÉQUIPEMENTS

- Renovation: 2100 A / 43000 £ / 100
- Renovation: 400 A / 2100 £ / 100
- Installation d'un ouest: 40 000 A / 150 000 £
- Installation: 2300 £

580 x 325 - techpresident.com



- 5. Implement & Monitor of projects
- 4. Com



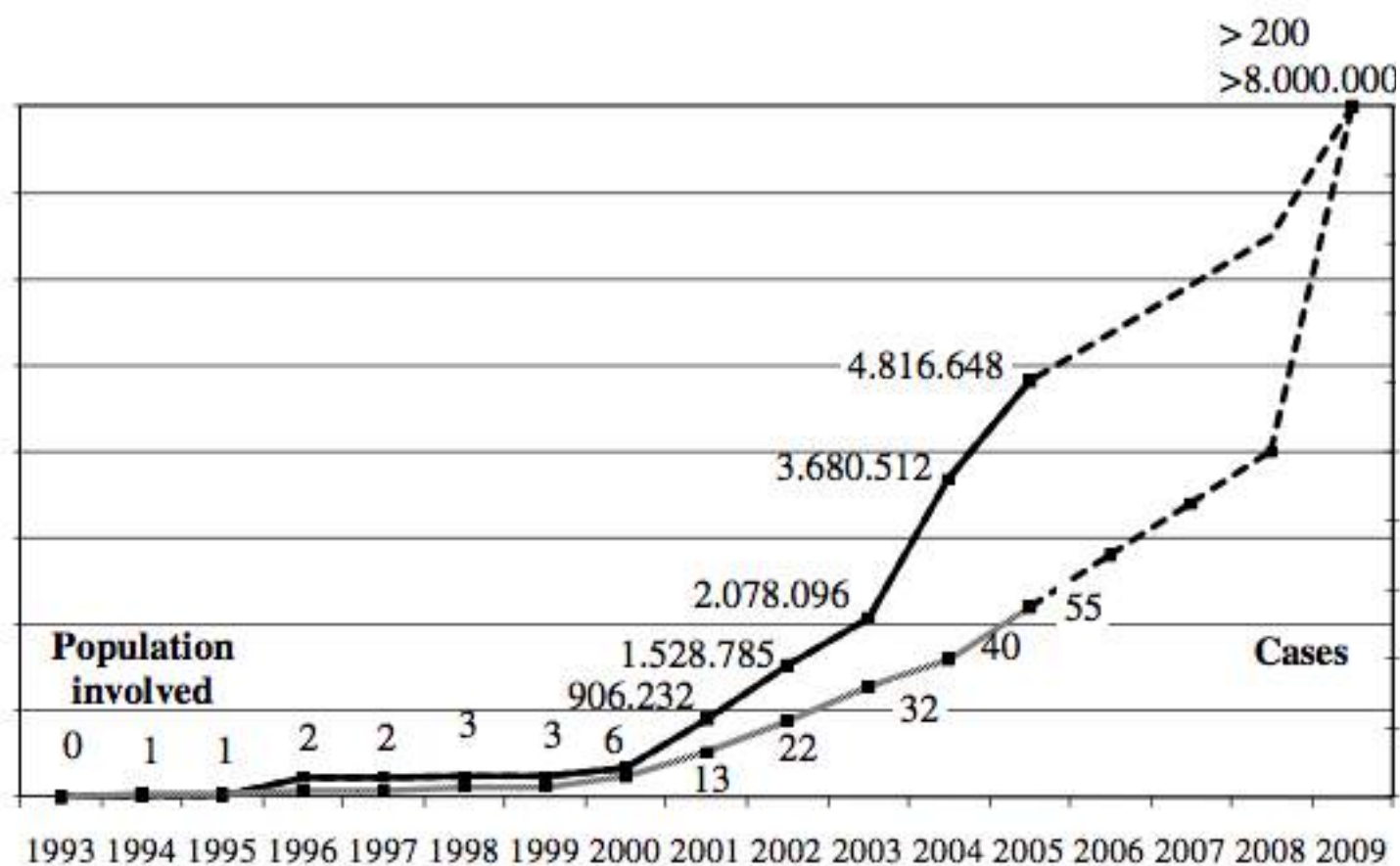
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING



in NYC?

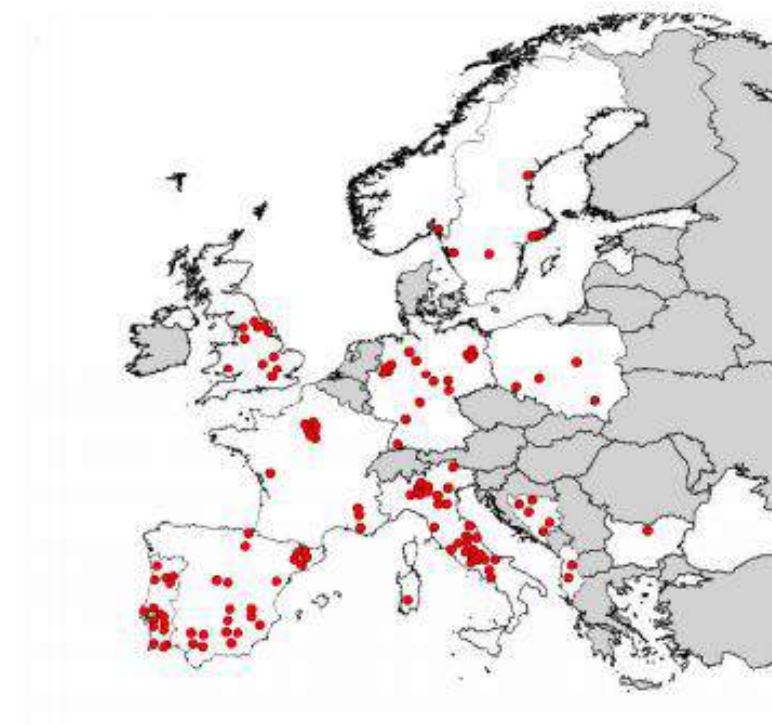
NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL

Figure 2: Number of participatory budgets in Europe and population involved



Source: Sintomer et al., 2013b

Figure 3: Map on participatory budgets in Europe (2010)

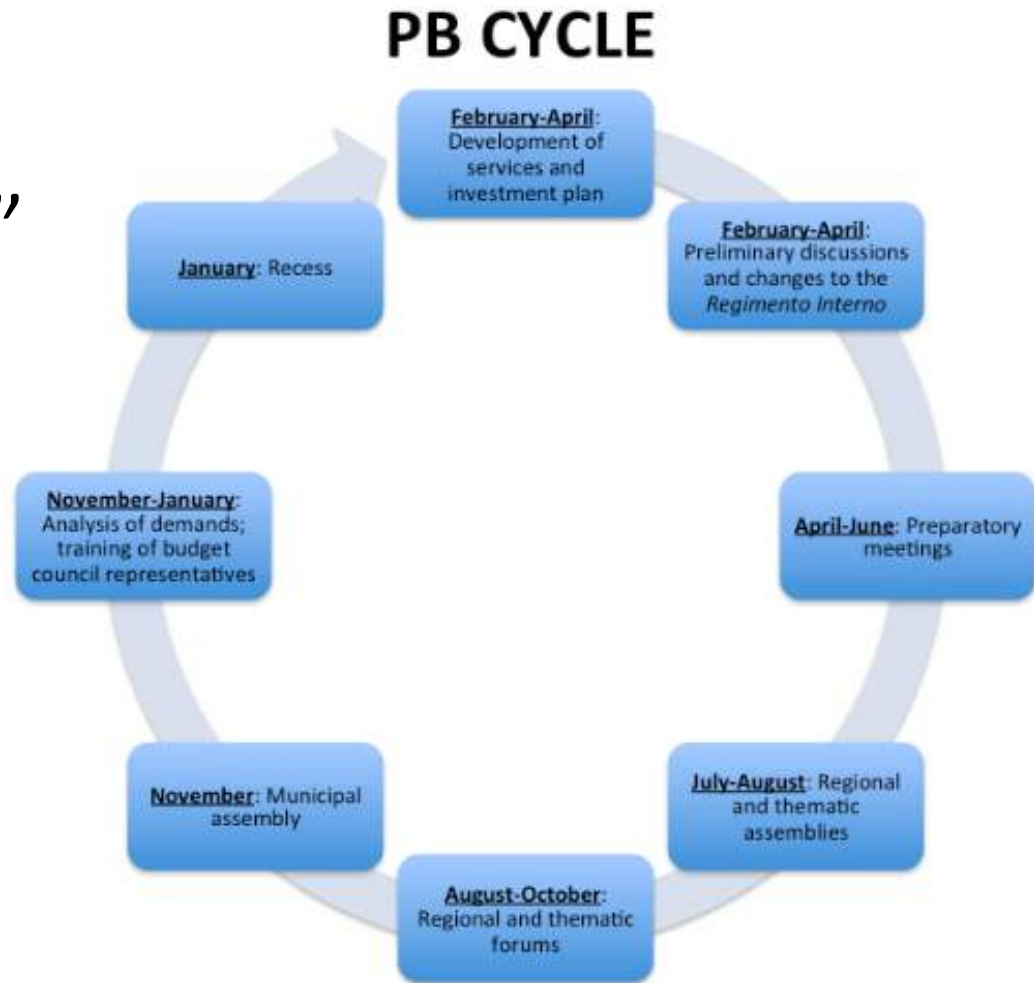


Source: Sintomer et al., 2013b

What circulates as the “Porto Alegre model”?

A local “good governance”
model

(participatory
methodologies)



What does not circulate?

Important Institutional Reforms in Brazil and Porto Alegre

- Decentralization and democratization in Brazil (1988 Constitution)
- Fiscal Reforms (both at the national and local levels)
 - National: 161% growth in local real revenues btw 1989-1995
 - Porto Alegre: From 1988 fiscal crisis -- to having 16% of budget for local investments in 1992
- Participatory Budgeting as part of a bigger and more radical project
 - Democratizing local governments (Workers Party)

Some findings after comparing *a posteriori* the global circulations of Bogotá & Porto Alegre

Focus on *repeated instances* – putting “policy mobilities” to the test

- **Simplified (mobile) narratives** as a strategy of the intern. dev. apparatus
The role of dev banks and global philanthropy in the construction and circulation of South-South “best practice” (or simplified) versions of Bogotá and Porto Alegre
- **Institutional Immobilities** (policy immobilities)
Fiscal Reforms and Expansion Silences
Bogotá and Porto Alegre could have been mobilized as examples of Keynesian Municipalism!

Dilemmas and further implications

- How to categorize? How to generalize?

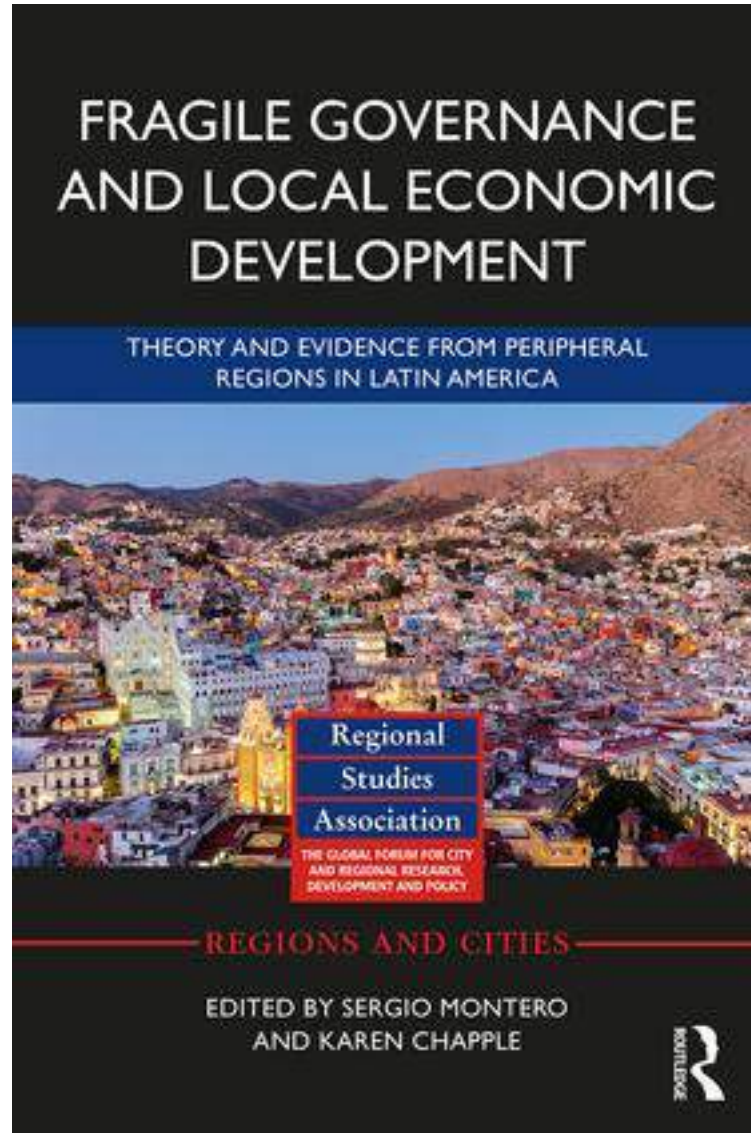
Abstract concepts, mid-range theorizing? – *Institutional Immobilities*

Tactic: Not using Bogotá, Porto Alegre or Latin America in the title?

- Implications of *a posteriori* comparisons for collaborative research

Rethinking academic conferences

Theorizing urban processes by comparing cities not often compared
(cities of the Global South, language difficulties, translation)



Event co-organised by
Manchester Institute of Innovation Research

Sergio Montero

Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Development,
Universidad de los Andes

Fragile Governance and Local Economic Development: Theory and Evidence from Latin American Peripheral Regions

Much of our understanding of local economic development is based on large urban agglomerations as nodes of innovation and competitive advantage that connect territories to global value chains. This framework not only over-represents the urban and regional dynamics of cities of the global North, it also fails to characterize well the challenges of smaller cities and peripheral regions in both the North and the South, which are following different development trajectories and modes of insertion to the global economy while still subject to the forces of globalization, financialization and planetary urbanization that affect large urban agglomerations. Drawing from debates around governance and peripheries in the Anglophone and Spanish-speaking worlds, I propose an alternative way of looking at local economic development based on the idea of fragile governance and a set of three related variables: 1) associations and networks; 2) learning processes; and 3) leadership and conflict management.

Monday 17 June, 14.00

3.008, Alliance Manchester Business School
The University of Manchester

Thank you

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Session 3: Devolution and Subsidiarity

In the Devolution and Subsidiarity session, three presentations were made by three participants focusing on the role of devolution and overall political reform as well as the role of subsidiarity principles for scaling-up participatory planning and experimental urban policies.

The first presentation by Jack Makau of SDI Kenya showed scaling up participation from within, the second talk by Julieta Maino Rosario, Argentina, highlighted the scaling up of participation from the periphery in a radical manner, and the last presentation by Sergio Montero from Universidad de Los Andes, Colombia, draws attention for the complexity of scaling up participation or policy experiments at the global scale.

Jack MaKau made the first presentation on the role of the devolution of power to the county level in creating and expanding the coproduction of settlement upgrading by SDI Kenya federations ([Muungano wa Wanavijiji](#)). He used the case of Mukuru (one of the biggest informal settlement in Nairobi) to elucidate his point. According to Mr Makau, the new constitution of Kenya stipulated the establishment of directly elected county councils with the responsibility of bringing the planning and implementation of sectoral social departments closer to the communities as well as the recognition of social and economic rights. SDI Kenya took advantage of the local government act, which allows County Councils to declare a special planning area if that area is impoverished. Using this provision, SDI Kenya convinced Nairobi County to declare Mukuru (670 acres) informal settlement a planning area. The County housing department, recognising its limitation in upgrading planning, involved other departments and other actors, such as universities and civil society groups, to develop an Integrated Plan. All the involved actors brought funds, and the planning process was used to integrate their intervention. SDI Kenya established neighbourhood level associations, without abandoning women-led saving groups, to ensure active involvement of the community and to benefit from the legally ordained (County Law) fund for community associations. The participatory plan will be finalised in August 2019.

Short Q&A

What is the potential impact of the draft urban planning law of Kenya for SDI federations?

- SDI Kenya hopes the draft planning law will be promulgated action since it will not affect the properties of the middle-class as previous laws.

Julieta Maino made the second presentation on “Radical ways of co-producing inclusive cities: The Case of the party-movement, Ciudad Futura and its plan ‘Barrio-Ciudad’” in Rosario, Argentina. According to Maino, Rosario spatial inequality is visible - whereby the central part of the city is well planned, well-serviced and with adequate public spaces, the peripheral parts of the city are dominated by informal settlements with poor infrastructure and social services. In addition, recently, there is a growing problem of a drug-related homicide. For example, the homicide rate in 2015 was 23 murder per 100,000 inhabitants, mostly affecting the youth of the peripheral informal settlements. In response, a political and territorial social movement emerged against property speculation and urban violence. In this context, Ciudad Futura is presented as a new way of doing (and understanding) politics based on the principles of autonomy, social management and prefiguration (materialising projects with available resource). The movement joined global municipalism networks against neoliberalism, patriarchy, and created solidarity with leftist parties in

different parts of the world. Since 2012, it evolved into a political party becoming one of the influential parties in Rosario with three seats on the council. On June 18, 2019, the party is running for city administration election. Its principles are creating a neighbourhood city, ensuring the right to the city of the marginalised, empowerment of the vulnerable, public interventions prioritising the periphery, public transport and acupuncture multidimensional intervention selected problem areas. The party aims to territorialise democracy (Lefevre, 1968).

Short Q&A

Q: What will happen if the party did not get elected?

A: The party was formed from the merger of two social movements, and it is now forming a leftist front with other parties that shares its principles.

Q: What does the party do against crime and violence?

A: The party's solution to drugs is multi-scalar. They want to properly tax the real estate sector, which was fuelled by the illegal drug trafficking, to provide alternative lifestyle and job opportunities for the youth in the periphery. For example, multiplying the schools in the periphery is one way to go about it.

Q: What is the relationship between NGOs and Ciudad Futura?

A: Ciudad Futura works with NGOs. For example, to recuperate abandoned factories.

Q: What does Ciudad Futura understand of the concept "urban acupuncture"?

A: Ciudad Futura's acupuncture is not intervening in an emblematic project but intervening in selected areas to bring social change.

The third presentation was "Tracing Policy Immobilities through a posteriori comparison: What "Best Practices" Leave behind" by Sergio Montero.

He positioned his research based on the suggestion of Robinson (2002), who advises Global South scholars to generate theories from comparative analysis Southern cities. However, his methodological contribution was undertaking a comparative analysis of the findings from two cases after the research was done, in a posteriori manner. He problematises the policy mobility of Bus Rapid Transit from Bogota (BRT) and participatory budgeting from Porto Alegre. He argued that it is the myth of policy that transfers from one context to others as a best practice, not the actual practice itself. The best practice story ignores the structural reforms that enable the policy experiment. Using the example of Bogota BRT, he argued that TransMilenio does not look like as consultants represent it. Besides, Bogota was able to implement the BRT due to the introduction of a democratic election of a mayor and the devolution of power that allowed the city to increase its revenue significantly. However, such structural enabling factors do not travel with the best practice. Similarly, participatory budgeting was also part of the devolution and democratisation of Brazil in the 1980s and 1990s. Nevertheless, there was a simplified policy transfer in the policy mobility of both cases. Finally, Dr Montero provided methodological recommendation by saying that Global South scholars should avoid putting the name of the city in their title, and instead he advised they should highlight their contribution to knowledge. He also advised academic conferences should be used not only to present findings but also to create relationships among findings from different contexts.

Q: Which of the reforms were prominent in both cases?

A: All the reforms are interrelated and equally important.

Q: Has Bogota captured increased land value due to the BRT

A: There was a mechanism to capture increased land value, but it did not happen.

Q: What theory to explain: although Bogota is led by the same mayor, who implemented the BRT in the early 2000s, nothing transformational is not happening now?

A: The mayor in the early 2000s, he was more focused on addressing local problems. However, now he is busy selling his previous achievements to the outside world than tackling pressing problems of the city.

Q: Institutions are not easy to change?

A: It is institutional changes that brought BRT and participatory budgeting.

Summary

After tea break, the rapporteur briefly summarised the talks and flagged out the following points for further deliberation:

1. In discussing devolution/decentralisation, it is crucial to highlight fiscal decentralisation. In many cases, decision-making power will be devolved to the local level but not revenue mobilising power.
2. There is a need to ensure flexibility in community mobilisation, especially in the case of SDI, to also organise communities not only through women-led saving groups but also neighbourhood associations, as in the case of SDI Kenya.
3. Although political mobilisation along class and territorial lines are crucial to upscale participation, as in the case of Rosario, we need to also prepare for the challenge posed by the emergence of narrow nationalist, xenophobic and homophobic political mobilisation in different parts of the Global South (for example Brazil).
4. There is a challenge to convince Southern city managers to adopt participatory policy experiments, such as participatory budgeting, while at the same time putting caveat such experiments succeed under specific fundamental structural reforms. Besides, academicians are being outsmarted by consultants and multilateral organisation in facilitating policy mobilities since most scholars talk to each other with less impact on policymaking.
5. Although institutional reforms have allowed policy experiments, such as BRT and participatory budgeting, we should not undermine the role of the agency (in these cases the mayors of Bogota and Porto Alegre) in coming up with a creative solution to enhance participation and tackle pressing problem of their constituency.
6. There should also be a discussion about the relevance of bringing new blood in the city administration, particularly concerning the mayor of Bogota, who was pro-poor and experimental in the early 2000s but not anymore.

Finally, some participants suggested the following key points:

- Ensuring the representation of women in patriarchal societies within informal settlement based social movements, such as SDI, should be given utmost attention.

- Notably, in the case of Porto Alegre, we should note that the working party that pushed participatory budgeting is now evolving into a conservative party.
- We are focusing on the relation between state and communities. However, the “elephant in the room”, i.e. market forces, are being ignored from the discussion.
- Most of the challenges faced at the city level are produced at the continental or global scale. Thus, the response should be at a continental or transnational alliance level as well.
- Academicians need to be more impact-oriented.
- National governments are hierarchal and top-down. Scaling-up participation works much better when there is a devolution of power supplemented by a democratic election of local government.