

Florida State University-Panama
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

Summer 2007, Session A

URP 5615: Infrastructure and Housing Issues in Developing Countries

Tuesday and Thursday: 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Classroom 310

Professor: Dr. Olmedo J. Varela, Ph.D.

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Office Hours: by appointment

Text:

- Sam Romaya and Carole Rakodi (eds). 2002. *Building Sustainable Urban Settlements: Approaches and Case Studies in the Developing World*. London: ITDG Publishing

Supplementary books:

- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). 2003. *The Challenge of Slums: Global Report on Human Settlements*. London: Earthscan.
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). 2006. *Meeting Development Goals in Small Urban Centres - Water and Sanitation in the World's Cities*.
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). 2003. *Water and Sanitation in the World's Cities: Local Action for Global Goals*. London: Earthscan.

Course Description:

This course examines **infrastructure and housing issues** related to **sustainable urban development in less developed countries (LDC)**. Development is defined as a process which center in goals related to collective human wellbeing. Achieving such development goals depends on the ethics of development and its resulting investment priorities. Sustainable urban development takes places as a result of a balanced investment in constructed, natural, human and social capital in urban settlements aimed at achieving development goals. Infrastructure and housing issues are examined within the context of sustainable urban development and the role they play in achieving collective wellbeing.

The course is designed to provide students with an understanding of planning and urban development processes, including the forces and actors behind such processes. Case studies will be introduced to illustrate discussions. Students will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge learned in class by designing basic strategies for planning and evaluation of infrastructure and housing issues related to sustainable urban development in LDC.

Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to understand and participate more effectively in public policy and the decision-making processes related to infrastructure and housing issues in LDC. Students will also acquire basic skills to access and manipulate related information.

Grading Policies:

- One short analytical writing assignment identifying one critical problem 30% (5-7 pages and Power Point presentations).
- One problem solving statement (5-7 pages and Power Point presentations) 30%.
- Final report with policy recommendations regarding one specific problem or a combination of problems within one dimension of sustainable urban development related to infrastructure and housing issues (10-15 pages and Power Point presentations) 40%.

Note: Use the “insert text” option in Power Point to include the text with your speech for each slide in all presentations. Assignments will benefit from the use of maps, pictures and other types of graphic representations, including animated presentations.

Class Schedule: (6 weeks)

Week 1 Introduction to the course: Sustainable Human Settlements

Definition and relationships of key concepts

Readings:

Carol Rakodi and Sam Romaya, “Introduction” pp. 1-9 in Sam Romaya and Carole Rakodi (eds) 2002, *Building Sustainable Human Settlements: Approaches and Case Studies in the Developing World*. London: ITDG Publishing

United Nations Development Program, “The Challenge of Slums”, International Poverty Centre; *In Focus*; May 2004; pp. 12-13

Suggested additional readings:

- Agenda 21 Chapter 7: Promoting Sustainable Human Settlement Development: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/>
- United Nations. 2003. *Indicators for Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals: definitions, rationale, concepts, and sources*. New York: United Nations, pp. 64-69 (Goal 7, Targets 10 and 11; Indicators 30-32).
- UN Millennium Project. 2005a. *Investing in Development: A Practical Plan to Achieve the Millennium Development Goals*. New York: Earthscan.
- United Nations. 2006. *The Millennium Development Goals Report 2006*. New York: United Nations.
- The World Bank. 2003. “Chapter 6: Getting the Best from Cities” pp. 107-132 in *Sustainable Development in a Dynamic World: transforming institutions, growth, and quality of life*. New York: The World Bank and Oxford University Press.
- National Research Council. 2003. *Cities Transformed: Demographic Change and Its Implications in the Developing World*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

Week 2

Housing and Tenure: rights and policy issues

Readings:

United Nations Human Settlements Programme. 2004. *Urban Land for All*. Nairobi: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT)

Marianne Fay and Anna Wellenstein, "Chapter 3: Keeping a Roof over One's Head: Improving Access to Safe and Decent Shelter" pp. 91-124 in Marianne Fay (editor) 2005, *The Urban Poor in Latin America*. Washington DC: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank.

Suggested additional readings:

- Claydio Acioli Jr., "The Challenge of Slum Formation in the Developing World", *Land Lines*, April 2007; 19, 2; Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
- Theo Schilderman and Lucky Lowe, "Developing appropriate housing standards and procedures" pp. 222-237 in Sam Romaya and Carole Rakodi (eds) 2002, *Building Sustainable Human Settlements: Approaches and Case Studies in the Developing World*. London: ITDG Publishing.
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme. 2002. *International Instruments on Housing Rights*. Nairobi: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme. 2003a. *Monitoring Housing Rights: Developing a set of indicators to monitor the full and progressive realisation of the human right to adequate housing*. Nairobi: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) / Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme. 2003b. *Handbook on Best Practices, Security of Tenure, and Access to Land: implementation of the HABITAT Agenda*. Nairobi: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).
- UN Millennium Project. 2005b. *A Home in the City*. Task Force on Improving the Lives of Slum Dwellers. London: Earthscan
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme. 2006. *Analytical Perspectives of Pro-poor Slum Upgrading Framework*. Nairobi: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).

First Assignment Due: One short analytical writing assignment identifying one critical problem related to infrastructure and housing issues in LDC (5-7 pages and Power Point presentations).

Week 3

Infrastructure

Readings:

United Nations Development Program, “The Challenge of Slums”, International Poverty Centre; *In Focus*; May 2004; pp. 12-13

United Nations Development Program, “Improving Water and Sanitation Facilities”, International Poverty Centre; *In Focus*; May 2004; pp. 14-15

UN Millennium Project. 2005b. Chapter 4, “Supporting and enacting local pro-poor policies” pp. 48-76 in *A Home in the City*. Task Force on Improving the Lives of Slum Dwellers. London: Earthscan.

Suggested additional readings:

- UN Millennium Project. 2005c. *Health, Dignity and Development: What Will it Take?* Task Force on Water and Sanitation. London: Earthscan.
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme. 2006. Chapter 6, “The Way Forward” pp. 60-61 in *Analytical Perspectives of Pro-poor Slum Upgrading Framework*. Nairobi: United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT).
- United Nations. 2003. *Indicators for Monitoring the Millennium Development Goals: definitions, rationale, concepts, and sources*. New York: United Nations, pp. 64-69 (Goal 7, Targets 10 and 11; Indicators 30-32).

Invited Speakers

Republic of Panama’s Census Office

Week 4

Social Capital, Urban Poverty and Planning

Readings:

Michael Woolcock, “Chapter 7: Calling on Friends and Relatives: Social Capital” pp. 219-238 in Marianne Fay (editor) 2005, *The Urban Poor in Latin America*. Washington DC: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank.

Judy Hutchinson; Avis C. Vidal. “Using Social Capital to Help Integrate Planning Theory, Research, and Practice”. *American Planning Association. Journal of the American Planning Association*; Spring 2004; 70, 2; ABI/INFORM Global pg. 142.

Suggested additional readings:

- Kliksberg, Bernardo, “Social Capital and Culture: master keys to development”, UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC); December 1999; CEPAL Review 69, pg. 83.

Invited Speakers

Republic of Panama’s Department of Urban Development

Second Assignment Due: One problem solving statement related to the first assignment that incorporates social capital investment as part of the problem solving strategy (5-7 pages and Power Point presentations).

Week 5

Social Capital, Infrastructure, Housing Issues and Urban Poverty in the Republic of Panama

Readings:

Varela, Olmedo J. 1998. *The Panama Canal, Migration Streams, and the Changing Patterns of Human Settlement in the Republic of Panama*. University of Wisconsin Joint Center for International Studies, Milwaukee, WI

The World Bank. 2000. *Panama Poverty Assessment: Priorities and Strategies for Poverty Reduction*. Washington DC: The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/THE WORLD BANK

Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas, Dirección de Políticas Sociales. 2005a. *La Pobreza en Panamá: Encuesta de Niveles de Vida – 2003: principales resultados*. República de Panamá.

Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas, Dirección de Políticas Sociales. 2006. *Percepciones de la Comunidad: Encuesta de Niveles de Vida – 2003*. República de Panamá.

Maria-Valeria Junho Pena and Hector Lindo-Fuentes “Community Organization, Values and Social Capital in Panama” The World Bank; *Economic Notes*, April 1998; Number 9.

Anirudh Krishna and Elizabeth Shrader “Cross-Cultural Measures of Social Capital: A Tool and Results From India and Panama” The World Bank, *Social Capital Initiative Working Paper No. 21*, October 2000.

Suggested additional readings:

Poverty Assessment: Priorities and Strategies for Poverty Reduction

- Programa de Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (2002) *Informe Nacional de Desarrollo Humano*. República de Panamá.
- Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas, Dirección de Políticas Sociales. (2004). *Jerarquización de Corregimientos según Niveles de Satisfacción de Necesidades Básicas de Vivienda, Salud y Educación*. República de Panamá.

Governmental Programs

- Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas. 2005. *Visión Estratégica de Desarrollo Económico y de Empleo Hacia el 2009*. República de Panamá (English Version Available)
- Ministerio de Economía y Finanzas (2000) *Plan de Desarrollo Económico, Social y Financiero con Inversión de Capital Humano*. República de Panamá

National Goals by Consensus

- PNUD (1999) *Visión Nacional 2020: Repensando el País*. Panamá, Republica de Panamá.
- Varela, Olmedo J. 2004. *Las Agendas Nacionales de Desarrollo y los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio: relación, justificación, seguimiento y evaluación*. Gabinete Social/Sistema de Naciones Unidas. República de Panamá.

Week 6

PowerPoint presentations of final reports by students

Final Report Due: Based on previous assignments and applying the knowledge acquired during the course, write a final report with policy recommendations regarding one specific problem or a combination of problems within one dimension of sustainable urban development related to infrastructure and housing issues (10-15 pages and Power Point presentations).