

Sustainability, Resilience, and Disaster (Special Track: Urban Issues in Central & South America and the Caribbean)

Real estate ventures: a new land use of the Brazilian coastline

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This paper aims to present the real estate ventures as a tendency of occupation to Brazilian coastline. These real estate ventures are an association between second homes and resorts. The main idea is to understand the role of international capital in the production process as well as to verify the places where these enterprises are located. Our focus is the Brazilian Northeast region. It is supposed that are transfer circuits of capital to built space and it there is an association between local real estate agents and the foreign capital helped by public policies and taxes incentives that strongly help the concretion of tourist investments mainly real estate ventures along the Northeast coastline. The financial liberalization and deregulation in the years of 1990 as well as the strong intervention of Brazilian State especially after the edition of the first Tourism National Policy in the same decade, is the scenario presented in this paper. Therefore, National Tourism Policy and theories like transfer circuit of capital to built space, theory of machine of growing and high mobility of capital are presented to help us understand this new land use of Brazilian coast line, especially in Northeast region. As a conclusion, the main question is to alert about the large number of launch of real estate ventures without an urban planning policies that equalizes different land uses considering social and local economics issues.

Gender-Responsive Planning in Post-Earthquake Haiti

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Gender Based Violence (GBV) is one of the ways in which unequal power relations between men and women are manifested, particularly during times of social and political instability. GBV can impact community health and resiliency and set the stage for continued disorder in fragile regions. Gender-responsive planning, however, puts forward policies that can prevent GBV and support community development. Following the 2010 earthquake in Haiti, GBV remains a critical problem that if inadequately addressed will have negative, long-term consequences for the overall stability of Haiti. This paper discusses how Haitian grassroots women's organizations and their allies (including the Haitian Ministry of Health and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)) can advance a gender-responsive planning strategy that addresses GBV. Then, it examines strategies from Haiti's past gender equality movements

that incorporate strategic and practical gender needs (Moser 1993), and can be re-appropriated for use in reconstruction plans. Finally, this paper explores how gender-responsive planning in Rwanda and the DR Congo can inform planning projects in Haiti and the wider Caribbean.

Incorporating Sustainability and Resiliency for Housing in Earthquake Prone Areas of Latin America and the Caribbean

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Natural disasters present a serious issue for Latin American and Caribbean countries. Studies note that there is an average of 32.4 disasters per year in the region, which have caused a total of 226,000 fatalities over the past thirty years (Charveriat, 2000). Injuries exceed the death toll from these disasters and damages are in the tens of millions a year on average (Kenny, 2009; Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, 2012). According to data from the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters, a significant portion of the total costs of natural disasters can be attributed to earthquakes. Much of the human and economic costs associated with earthquakes are related to building collapses. Impoverished regions of Latin American and Caribbean countries are much more vulnerable to such earthquake-related consequences. In a major earthquake, these poorer areas tend to experience a substantial number of human fatalities and injuries from earthquake-related structural failures due to inadequate construction methods and weaker enforcement of building regulations. The collapse of buildings, especially housing, can also have indirect effects on the health, safety, and economic livelihood of a community. Over the last 10 years, housing research and practice in developing countries has concentrated on affordability and sustainability; the latter typically focusing on the environmental impacts of design elements, such as materials and energy consumption (see, for example, Choguill, 2007). However, in hazards research, resiliency is the focus. Resiliency is broadly defined as minimizing the negative impacts of a hazard event such as an earthquake (Cutter, Barnes, Berry, Burton, Evans, Tate, & Webb, 2008); therefore, housing resiliency in earthquake prone areas would be concerned with the structural integrity of a country's housing stock. This paper presents an integrative understanding of urban housing vulnerability, resiliency and sustainability for urbanized, earthquake prone areas in developing countries. We base our conceptualization on the assessment of available published materials, available published data, and interviews with key informants in the housing development process. In our analyses we consider the opportunities, limitations, and tradeoffs in cities with and without sustainability planning with a particular interest in the prospects for the poorest households in earthquake prone areas of Latin American and Caribbean countries.