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right direction?

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Focus on

Urban Agriculture

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The rise of Urban Agriculture

Previously marginalised, urban agriculture (UA) has recently been receiving increasing recognition, and is moving higher on the urban agenda. At the same time, we are seeing a rapprochement between official agendas and grassroots movements in advocating UA. What is the explanation? A serious urban food crisis is now hovering. We will discuss the substance of this crisis in a moment, but the initial point to make is that official development discourses dare not acknowledge that food security is under threat, so it is not openly discussed. However, the increasing emphasis on UA constitutes a kind of coded recognition. Thus, both many national policies and laws in countries as diverse as Brazil, China and Peru, and many municipal policies, such as that of Kampala (Uganda), are now UA-friendly. On the community side, urban dwellers, finding their food security increasingly challenged, are unfolding many exciting new UA innovations, for example the *marâchers* (vegetable gardeners) in Dakar (Senegal), and Chinese mushroom producing co-ops. These developments give rise to new institutional forms, enabling official-grassroots dialogue, for example the multi-actor committee in Accra (Ghana), or

Peri-urban mushroom farming in China

the Transition Towns movement in Ireland and the UK, which is a development of potentially historic significance which has UA as a central focus.

Urban agriculture contributes to a sustainable form of development in a number of ways. It reduces poverty and hunger, generates jobs and can increase income. Its contribution to inclusion of a wide variety of destitute social groups is significant. At the same time, it allows for a recycling of organic domestic waste through compost and recycling of waste water and therefore contributes to improving the environment. The evidence is that this new trend is here to stay. But existing research has been deficient in key respects: although much empirical work has been done, analysis tends to be restricted to assessing 'best practice', at the expense of any understanding of the true significance and underlying logic of this crucial phenomenon. This paper is intended as an initial contribution to pushing the theory forward.

We define UA as the sum of food production activities in the city and its peri-urban region. We emphasise not just land, but space (rooftops, balconies). In the third section, we will attempt a normative definition.

Conceptual framework

The struggle for land has always had a dimension which explicitly challenges the ruling order. Capitalist development and urbanisation are everywhere accompanied by the degradation and eviction of rural labourers, and in response, we find an uninterrupted tradition of fighting back, running from the English Diggers of 1649 through to the Brazilian landless movement (MST).

But UA also has another side to it: integrative, in the sense of encouraging people to accept their lot within an exploitative system. For the working class, urban/industrial life can be alienating and oppressive; if workers can be made to calm down and peaceably dig their allotment, they are less likely either to get drunk, or to radicalise and fight the system in their workplace or the street. This was the thinking behind official backing for the English allotment movement, and behind similar programmes in France; in times of severe crisis UA has been seen as a source of 'values' and integration, which attracted strong support from the Nazis. It encourages the downtrodden to bear up to the everyday oppressions of urban life, without demanding a say in how the city



is run. There is therefore always a strong tension between the radical and co-opting facets of UA. In the current crisis, this historic contradiction is undoubtedly still present, but the bland ‘best practice’ discourse of much contemporary UA analysis serves to obscure it. It is this fudging which we need to clear away.

So much for the continuity with earlier history, but today’s crisis also introduces many new features. Workers employed in the formal sector are probably now the minority, and the principal problem is to manage the disaffection and alienation of the more marginalised populations who subsist in an *informal* way. Official discourses also correctly – albeit from a social control motivation – recognise a link with nutrition: poor nutrition underpins cycles of underachievement and exclusion.

The above points would apply at an individual or family level, but becomes even more interesting when we move to a community level. The sustainable livelihoods framework recognises the importance of networks, and also, their vulnerability at a time of crisis. Once again, this recognition is correct, but it can be pushed in an exploitative sense: if communities can be encouraged to guarantee their own social and economic reproduction in a low-cost way or outside the monetary economy, this will relieve a failing capitalism of the responsibility of repairing the social damage it continuously causes. Hence the ‘sustainable communities’ discourse, of which UA is an integral part.

We can formulate in theory the contradiction between a transformative or a merely palliative UA, but the reality of how this plays itself out can only be grasped in the concrete. For instance, the piqueteros in Argentina are a social movement which radically questioned power relations locally and globally. The movement has since been channelled to a significant extent into UA activity, notably in the city of Rosario. It might be that this has anaesthetised it; but on the other hand, UA practitioners have retained their militance, so this could also equally signify the birth of a new radicalised form of UA. Only research on the ground can answer such questions.

Let’s now add the dimension of the wider food crisis itself. In its initial form, this crisis seems to confirm Amartya Sen’s



theory that poor people lack ‘entitlements’ (the wherewithal to access food). But although Sen was right to attack the Malthusian notion of an absolutely deficient food supply, there remains something more profound underpinning the crisis: the actually existing global food system – squeezed between diminishing returns from chemical-based agriculture, peak oil, insufficient resilience in the face of climate change shocks, and a tendency for speculative finance capital increasingly to exploit the food sector – will soon genuinely be unable to feed the people.

A move in the right direction

In a normative sense, the fundamental programme is to shift to a radical movement of dispossessed and rightless. This will be possible if producers’ movements and urban agriculture co-ops can link up their struggles, and their initiatives, to a much broader array of social movements.

This may be concretely expressed in an agenda for change, addressing in a practical way the specific challenges facing an urban agriculture which, in many respects, stands today at a crossroads. The point is to accentuate those already-existing facets of UA which can seriously contribute to humanity’s surviving the crisis. As a preliminary contribution, we would highlight the following linked aspects. Firstly, the productivity of UA needs to be raised so as to constitute a serious contribution to the cause of ‘cities feeding people’. Secondly, cultivation methods associated with a high output of food must still be not just organic, but also low-input, including low input of labour (permitting the same individual to combine UA with diverse livelihood strategies), of energy and (a key point) of

ABUNDANCE project to demonstrate estate food-growing, on the Guinness Trust Estate, Loughborough Park, South London.

water, alongside low output of greenhouse gases and harmful waste. Thirdly, UA must be incorporated into a sustainable city metabolism, using methods similar to those of 'industrial ecology' to process things which would otherwise be waste (grey water, compostable material). Fourthly UA should become a laboratory of institutional experiments of wider significance to the new popular development project, e.g. regimes for the stewardship of common property resources. Finally, all of the above imply a big development and input of knowledge. This knowledge must aim at empowering grassroots producers, for example to select and save their own seed and experiment with it. This is fully compatible with, and in fact requires, a major investment in R&D, as in the Cuban case (research on biological pest controls, etc.)

We will conclude by highlighting a few trends to be emphasised in realising these goals. UA cannot be seen merely as a means to support the livelihood of the urban poor (even if it contributes). It must be the starting point for a critique of the entire food system: from industrial agriculture to the long circuit of marketing, and the very high ecological footprint of current agricultural processes. UA is a favourable starting point for launching a new agricultural revolution, because it is relatively immune from the hold of agribusiness. But if it remains restricted to the urban framework, this revolution would be incomplete. The basic staples of our global food system (rice, wheat, corn, soybean) remain under the control of agribusiness, monocropping and export-oriented chemical-based farming with high fossil fuel inputs; as such it remains vulnerable not just to climate change but to the agendas of capital accumulation which place profit above the precautionary principle (for example, in propagating GMOs), speculate on biofuel plantations, or buy up huge tracts of land in pursuit of a new, imperialistic definition of food security. UA must therefore ally itself with a rural movement for the defence of family based and cooperative agriculture focused on mixed systems of polyculture and animal husbandry.

The question of scale is crucial, because the transition from today's UA to a system



capable of feeding the city's residents is a qualitative one. This is why the Garden City manifesto launched by Ebenezer Howard in 1898, and carried forward by Unwin et Parker, remains a living issue. In many respects, the key is vision. This is why the Transition Towns (TT) experience is so relevant, because a visioning exercise is central to it: in his day, Howard lacked the benefit of permaculture knowledge, but as the TT experience shows, the permaculture approach is applicable not just to agriculture in a strict sense, but to its place within the entire city metabolism. It is important, too, that agricultural method is not separated from the legal and institutional relationship to the land: Howard advocated common property in land, with the revenues from ground rent distributed to the citizens in the form of services. This links with the Digger philosophy of the earth as a common treasury, and looks towards common property regimes as an institutional solution for sustainable resource stewardship.

UA is intrinsically diverse, as well as forming part of a wider movement for societal change, whose diversity it also its strength. We hope that it can act as trigger for wider alliances. While remaining conscious of the risk of being co-opted, producers must continue to struggle, as many do, for UA to be inserted within urban planning agendas and supported through public resources. While continuing to develop its leisure based and social inclusion dimensions, UA can at the same time begin to initiate an economic model, still to be invented, that could become an alternative to the current one, which is in a deep crisis. In this, it will work together with radical movements. The latter should support the struggle for UA, but not try to subordinate or homogenise it: UA has the special, intrinsic dynamic which we have briefly described in this paper, which makes it a

unique contributor in embodying popular aspirations to overturn our alienation from the natural world.

Supporting Urban Agriculture in practice: ABUNDANCE

The ABUNDANCE project (Activating Blighted Urban Niches for a Daring Agricultural Network of Creativity and Endeavour), run by the DPU in partnership with Transition Town Brixton was initiated in late 2007 and concluded (in a formal sense) at the end of 2008. Its aim was to develop a new paradigm for urban agriculture in London, specifically on low-income housing estates. It formed part of UrbanBuzz, a programme for sustainable community-building and knowledge transfer in urban areas of London and Southeast England, based on partnership between Universities and a non-academic (business or community) bodies.

The focus of ABUNDANCE was South-North knowledge transfer. As such, it built upon the DPU's experience in the urban agriculture field, particularly Yves Cabannes' leading role in surveying cultivable urban space, for example in Cuba and Argentina, and his current role as Evaluator of the global programme of Resource Centres on Urban Agriculture and Food Security (RUAFA), as well as on the major research programme on the peri-urban interface (PUI, directed by Julio Dávila and Adriana Allen) which ran over several years in several cities of the developing world. The point about South-North knowledge transfer is that it reverses the more usual colonial attitude to knowledge, as well as recognising that the South is in fact in the forefront of strategies which will in the near future be required if humanity is to confront immense challenges to its food security. ABUNDANCE also drew on Robert Biel's experiments with

agricultural knowledge systems which he describes as ‘working with nature and like nature’, and which can otherwise be called permaculture, agroecology or no-till farming. This is also a South-North transfer, because it draws upon sources like studies of traditional African systems (some still surviving), archaeological evidence from the pre-colonial Americas, or the assimilation of Chinese experience by the pioneers of the modern organic movement like Sir Albert Howard.

The Transition Towns (TT) movement (beginning as recently as 2006) is one of the remarkable social movements of the current phase of history. Pioneered in Totnes, Devon by Rob Hopkins, it is about communities taking charge of their own (and therefore humanity’s) destiny, pushing development onto a fundamentally different course where skills, capacity, knowledge and innovation **increase**, and (by a reciprocal process) fossil fuel energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions **decrease**. The key principle is vision: the community conducts a visioning process about what a low-carbon, post-Peak Oil, future should be ... and then backcasts from this to the present. Local food production/consumption is central to the Transition philosophy: permaculture has implications for the way society is organised, not just food-growing itself, and the most important single educational tool has been the film ‘Power of the Community’ which shows how organic urban agriculture permitted Cuba to escape fossil fuel dependence, and create a wholly new basis for food security. Transition Town Brixton (in south London) was one of the first half-dozen to be Unleashed (in October 2008), and the first to introduce the Transition approach in an inner-city area. It was therefore extremely interesting for the DPU to be part of this from the beginning. ABUNDANCE was administered by Yves Cabannes and Robert Biel for the DPU, Duncan Law for Transition Town Brixton and Sarah Cannon as Co-ordinator.

Historically, urban agriculture in Britain could be virtually equated with the allotment movement (together with some city farms). Although allotments remain essential and must be defended, this paradigm is no longer sufficient. It must be supplemented by a whole range of new

spatial and institutional solutions to urban food production. The pattern will then be highly diverse, including not just individual-family production/consumption (as in the allotment model), but also collective food-growing linked to distribution networks, micro-scale growing, the use of non-land spaces like rooftops and balconies etc. Only on such a highly flexible basis can cities produce significant quantities of their own food, and trigger the adaptation of human society to the challenges it now confronts. Resilience requires fresh thinking, and diversity of responses.

In facing this challenge, we decided to do two things: to map available growing space (drawing upon experiences and methodologies from the developing world); and to unfold a pilot project in a low-income housing estate. Typical London estates have a number of housing blocks among green space which is intended for community use but is actually barren and unused: through food-growing, it was hypothesised, the community itself would be galvanised, as well as empowered with the ability to control their own food security and nutrition.

2008 was a year when the whole UA agenda in London decisively shifted, a process within which ABUNDANCE played a certain part. We worked closely with other projects like Sustain (the alliance for better food and farming), the Bankside Open Spaces Trust sponsored by the Tate Modern, and the Sceaux Gardens project run by DPU student Andrea Mason. In Spring 2008 a major conference at the Greater London Assembly resulted in the Mayor of London strongly backing a proposal – which has now become known as Capital Growth – to create 2012 new food-growing spaces in time for the 2012 London Olympics. This adds up to an unprecedented seismic shift in English UA. As an ‘emergent’ process (in the sense of spontaneous emergent order in systems theory), the outcome cannot wholly be predicted, but we can still try to analyse the trends.

In doing so, we employ a distinct DPU perspective. Our global experience leads us to be extremely wary of Olympics-style mega-projects, and the risk that superficial gimmicks will merely cover up a deeper marginalisation of poor communities, who

are everywhere still being sacrificed at the altar of an already-doomed globalisation. We similarly felt that the GLA conference grossly neglected the international experience, as well as failing to link or dialogue with the powerful experience of regime-based solutions which exists among English allotment activists. Our strategy is to be centrally active within the emergent movement, precisely in order to contribute critically from a DPU perspective.

The methodology of ABUNDANCE was similar to that of Participatory Action Research (PAR). A common issue in PAR is how to empower communities when coming from outside, which often raises agonising ethical issues for the researcher. Looking back at our diary, a phrase like “piloting a ghost-ship through the Sargasso Sea” attests to our sense of isolation around spring 2008. Nevertheless, it came together in the end, and in understanding why, the crucial condition may have been the existence of TT. The point about TT is that, in the preparatory phase prior to Unleashing, it discovers energies already existing in the community and, by networking them, creates a momentum where the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Hence, we were able to tap into a constituency of support, create a sense of excitement about the project, and achieve a lot in a short period of time. The Food Group of TT Brixton is now led by estate residents, notably Bonnie Hewson and Louise Jordan, which is an extraordinary success for the project.

Although ABUNDANCE formally came to an end along with the whole UrbanBuzz programme, the concept lives on, and we are currently discussing where to take it now. True to the DPU perspective, we should re-emphasise the centrality of developing countries’ experience. A fascinating question is the global relevance of the TT concept. If TT was merely a way of reducing the excessive carbon footprint of cities in the North, this would still be a major contribution to the South. But there is a strong argument that its significance goes beyond this: the notion of empowering communities with a vision of self-reliance based on energy flows is potentially of universal relevance.

MSc Mumbai UDP and ESD Fieldtrips in 2008

Fieldtrips in 2008 During May of 2008, UDP students embarked on a fourteen day fieldtrip to Mumbai, India. Organized in teams of twelve, we worked on two case studies: the first reviewed the relocation of pavement dwellers from their vulnerable locations on pavements to new housing projects in the outer fringe of the city, the second the relocation of slum dwellers living next to railway tracks under a major, donor-funded infrastructure project. The exercise targeted community-based organizations, local NGOs, the municipal and State governments and private sector actors.

Our aim was to produce a report that would provide the civil society Alliance of grassroots- and non-governmental organizations with a critical comparative evaluation of the twin processes of relocation of slum dwellers which were concurrently - yet separately - undertaken by the Alliance and by the municipality of Mumbai, highlighting the problematic aspects and the opportunities for (what in our opinion was) positive change. The project focused on understanding the transformation that the slum dwellers underwent, in terms of the impacts of relocation on livelihoods and the trade-offs between livelihoods and secure housing. We sought to identify a planning of hope; one that simultaneously understands everyday life.

On another level, the fieldtrip also explored the relationship between the planner and her/his ability to impact urban change. It stemmed from a firm belief in planning as an active mode of resistance. This innate ability wholeheartedly to change the world, coupled with the will to challenge the different imaginations of urban India, drove this project towards the empowering potential of planning. It sought to examine the role of field-based practice as a tool not only to articulate a situation better, but also to challenge and transform the planner her/himself, continuously seizing power and producing change.

The fieldtrip exercise addressed planning in its relation to the role of communities in a process of transformation. Over the past twenty years, slum dweller communities evolved social institutions, fought political battles for their right to the city, and



Focus group with children in Mankurd

“...the exercise gave us as participants an understanding of urban change, and prepared us as future planners by enhancing our critical and analytical capacities to respond to such change, always within a general framework of social justice.”

influenced the economy, politics, culture, and space of the city in innumerable ways. The exercise therefore aimed to identify the community as an active agent whose role is essential in the production of better livelihoods and its outcome.

The first phase was a baseline analysis carried out in London using secondary research. The second phase challenged our (pre)conceptions of Mumbai and mapped narratives through 14 days of fieldwork characterized by a combination of meetings with community leaders, interviews with individual women and men, girls and boys affected by relocation, and presentations by officials and stakeholders. The third and final phase of the exercise took place in London, where each team collated its findings and introduced them into a presentation and a final Report.

On a personal level, this trip was an exploration of the relationship between the planner and an unfamiliar city. It was also an investigation of the role of stories, our own and those of the people, in the representations that finally produce

schemes/solutions/recommendations. Attempting to articulate a relation between the planner's perceived role and the landscape upon which she/he intervenes, our approach sought to compile stories that accommodate the different socio-economic-spatial cycles within which Mumbai slum dwellers operate, a confrontation between, on the one hand, the city as social space with a history, and on the other, the internationally renowned 'first class' city. In this sense we constructed a story (our own) wherein the planner intervenes through a set of assumptions and aims; slum dwellers themselves are what is at stake in this investigation and their silence or absence, as users of the city, "is indeed a problem - and it is the entire problem" (Lefebvre 1991; 365).

"Seeing Mumbai, eating its food, reading its books, walking its streets and acknowledging our differences vis-à-vis it, we were able to imagine the possibility of an-other relationship between this 'unfamiliar' city and ourselves. As such, the fieldtrip set the conditions for further interactions and allowed for more stories to emerge; by highlighting the critical thinking in the process of relocation of slum dwellers, it was the start of new actions, on our part, in any city and any context. In the end, the exercise gave us as participants an understanding of urban change, and prepared us as future planners by enhancing our critical and analytical capacities to respond to such change, always within a general framework of social justice."

Abir Saksouk-Sasso, MSc UDP

“It was humbling to know how much more we need to experience as professionals, how honest we need to be in our interventions and in representing what we know, to bring anything of value to people who are in the thick of their own struggle.”

Environmental Sustainable Development fieldtrip

As we boarded the plane, Mumbai was still a place on a map, the host organisation SPARC and the Alliance still existing only on websites and annual reports, the actors still part of an elusive puzzle and the policies still thick and difficult to grasp documents in our laptops. Slowly, we got acquainted with the city. We witnessed how extreme poverty and opulence rub shoulders and use one another to sustain the dizzying balancing act of Mumbai’s daily dance. We listened and exchanged with the current managers, planners, policy-makers that are shaping the city’s future and present. We met men and women, boys and girls in the communities living the manifestation of plans and policies

academic exploration. The second aspect was more introspective and revolved around the process of us growing as individuals and professionals. As we searched for the practical solutions to sustainable relocation and inequality, we were building our opinions, finding our position and gaining insights that we will continue to refer to in the future. Our expectations were as diverse as our varied origins. Some of us had never set foot out of Europe, others came knowing what the reality of poverty smells and looks like and yet others had bombs falling near their families at home as we all discovered Mumbai in our own way. Our group of almost thirty students being from Asia, Europe, Africa, to the Americas, we also illustrated the different perspectives

of the situation. Some people benefited from the schemes, others lost out. Here we were faced again with one of the main failings of development projects: reaching the beneficiaries that need it most. But as we stood beneath the towering housing blocks that reminded us of prisons from afar, we were also faced with, and are still trying to answer, important questions: Despite the progressive and participatory nature of the scheme, what will happen to spatial inequality as more and more of these settlements are built in locations of lesser market value? Will we do any better as future decision makers and planners? How will we answer questions of sustainability while also trying to meet poor people’s basic needs? Are we committed to looking and listening for the solutions? Are we ready to think and act differently to reduce inequity and prevent an ecological crisis?

Education can be a dangerous thing. It may give you the feeling that you “know and understand”, that your opinion matters more than others, that you hold answers and that your perception is the right one. In this way, meeting SPARC reminded us of the small part we can play in development and planning. Realizing that, despite our education, the mountains of books and articles we had collectively read and the ideas we had received from visiting scholars and professors, we were only scratching the surface, is an invaluable lesson that will hopefully allow us to find some answers. We were exposed to the Alliance’s transformative edge, its ability to remain integral to itself and to never compromise on its core philosophies. It was refreshing to meet an organisation that through self-reflection, commitment, time, trial and error, has come to know what its strengths and frailties are. It was humbling to know how much more we need to experience as professionals, how honest we need to be in our interventions and in representing what we know, to bring anything of value to people who are in the thick of their own struggle. The experience served to build us, nourish us and show us that we are not essential, simply a part of a conversation and that our aim should not be to save anyone, it’s just to attempt to contribute something valuable. No more, no less.

Isabelle Lemaire, ESD



Informal settlement in Mumbai

related to our case studies, each with a different story, each with a different future. And in this way, we began the process of connecting thought to image, concept to reality.

The trip was twofold. On the one hand, all of us were looking at the relocation and rehabilitation of people living either by the side of railways, roads or living on the pavement and the Alliance’s role in these projects. The complexity and heterogeneity of beneficiaries, contexts, tenement design, implementation methods, level of participation of various actors (notably civil society and communities) made for an incredibly complex and rich

between planners and environmentalists, North and South, male and female. As we made connections in the field, begun to ask the better questions, found some humility in the face of our ignorance, we learned, fumbled and explored our own limitations as well as the limitations of the projects we were assigned. Not only were the cases we were examining rich, our group was also a source of inspiration, creative tension and support.

Despite the fact that our time in Mumbai was limited, we did understand that there wasn’t a clear one-size fits all solution and there wasn’t enough time for us to grasp the depth, scope and complexity

Chevening Fellowship Course: Gender Social Justice and Citizenship

2009 marked the end of a five year programme of short courses at the DPU, run by **Caren Levy, Nadia Taher** and **Julian Walker** of the Gender Policy and Planning Programme. This series of five three months courses was part of the Chevening Fellowships Programme, an initiative from the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), in cooperation with the British Council, which is a scholarship scheme aimed at mid-career professionals. Initially this programme ran under the title of 'The Participation of Women' but after two years we changed the title to on 'Gender, Social Justice and Citizenship', which we felt better reflected its scope and content.

The overall objective of the course was to explore the factors that influence how women and men in the global South exercise their right to participate in decision making structures and processes of governance, in the context of gender and other social relations. As well as ensuring exposure to research and academic debates, the course was also grounded in practice, with the aim, by the end of each course, to support participants in developing action plans to promote gender equality and social justice in their own field of work.

The course participants were women and men from a range of professional backgrounds, including politicians,

journalists, government officials, civil society activists and development professionals. They came from places as diverse as Chechenya, Uzbekistan, Turkey, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia, Cameroon, Kenya, Pakistan, Ecuador, Mexico and Kiribati, to name just a few of the countries represented. This diversity led to a lively and engaging atmosphere of learning and exchange of experience, and many of the participants commented on how important it had been for them to be exposed to so many new and different points of view both from the DPU team and guest lecturers, and from their fellow course participants. The DPU team are happy to hear that most of the past course participants are still in touch with each other and actively maintaining the networks that they have formed through e-mail and even visits to each others' countries.

Orzala Nemat Ashraf (Chevening Course Participant from 2005 and MSC SDP Graduate 2007) remembers her time on the Chevening Course:

'If you leave the organization, it will collapse immediately!' This was the response of my colleagues at the organization I was leading between 1999-2007 (Humanitarian Assistance for the Women and Children of Afghanistan, or HAWCA) when they heard that I was leaving to study in the UK. But something very special had happened. I had received a Chevening Fellowship.

Later I got a one year scholarship to study at DPU (MSc in SDP). This has changed not only my life, but my organization's too! My time in DPU equipped me with means to return back and create a sustainable system for HAWCA, a women led Afghan NGO which, like many other NGOs, was dependant on its leader. I first attended the Chevening Course on 'Participation of Women' for three months (2005). Caren Levy's 'Web of Institutionalization' which I was introduced to on this course has been a great instrument for me to create a framework for analysis of every and each institution I have so far worked for, not only to institutionalize gender but governance and human rights too! HAWCA (www.hawca.org) is now led by a strong team, in place since 2007, and I only remain as a board member of it. I have started a wider level of advocacy for legal reform and human rights at the national and international level, and am now using my expertise helping many other Afghan organizations in their leadership and advocacy skills. Because, during my post-DPU experiences I have learnt that to deal with challenges in the policy level, for instance ensuring that Afghan women have laws that are securing their lives; they have presences as well as voice in the policy and decision-making positions; and that Afghan people from the bottom can see their daily challenges are met throughout the governance system, it is necessary to focus on a much larger level of national and international advocacy. I have been selected this year as Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum for which I am very keen to carry on the advocacy for women's rights and human rights as well as for a participatory governance in the international level, while I also work with leading local initiatives of the Afghan women's movement for peace, justice and reconciliation. If it was not for my period with DPU, I would have still remained in responding to day-to-day emergencies which in a country in war and conflict is considered so normal. The challenges in war and conflict affected countries like mine are enormous, and they require a very long term commitment, dedication as well as means to contribute into a healthy and sustainable development, but thanks to DPU, I have had a tremendous



Final Chevening Course group in front of the DPU, 2009

opportunity to learn from its distinguished professors and their lectures; to learn from my classmates coming from all different parts of the world with amazing stories and profound experiences; to have a wonderful opportunity to do a joint project with my classmates in Africa (somewhere I always wished to visit) and work with the street children of Arusha, Tanzania. I have learnt a lot of lessons from DPU and no matter where I reach, I will consider it as a turning point in my life.

HBA Prize in memory of Laszlo Huszar (1932-2007)

In September 2008, the DPU awarded the first HBA Prize in memory of Laszlo Huszar to **Abir Saksouk-Sasso**, a student on the MSc Urban Development Planning, for her essay on “*Who am I, the Planner?*” The Essay Prize of £250 was donated by **Michael Brummah of Huszar Brummah and Associates**, Urban and Regional Planning Consultants (HBA) “to be awarded annually at a DPU students who might in some way aspire to the high ideals represented in the life and work of Laszlo Huszar.” (See DPU News No 50 for Pat Wakely’s tribute to Laszlo Huszar and the announcement of the Essay Prize.)



The three runners up were **Claire O’Meara** (MSc Social Development Practice) for her essay entitled “*PRSPs are fundamentally the same as SAPs*”; **Maricar Paz Garde** (MSc Development Administration and Planning) for her essay entitled “*Some Lesson from Water Privatisation in Manila and Jakarta*”; and

Sarah Swalheim (MSc Environment and Sustainable Development) for her essay entitled “*Analysis of Informal Regulation as an Institutional Mechanism for Environmental Change*”.

Dialogues in Development

The DPU has continued to provide a forum to discuss cutting edge development issues through our Dialogues in Development lecture series.

Lectures so far in 2009 have covered a range of issues related to human settlements development and good governance. Bob Annibale (Global Director of Microfinance for Citigroup) discussed Citigroup’s experience with micro-finance, highlighting some ways in which the private sector can work with the poor. Former DPU student and staff member Anna Soave reflected on some challenges faced in her work as a planner (with the Aga Khan Foundation) in post-conflict Afghanistan. The DPU also collaborated with Somali Focus (UK) to bring together a panel including DPU’s **Michael Walls**, **Roda Ibrahim** (Development worker), **Rashid Ghadweyne** (Sociologist), chaired by Sally Healy of Chatham House to discuss the lessons that can be learnt from the Indigenous Approach to State-Building that has characterized the peace process in Somaliland. David Westendorf (Managing Partner of urbanchina partners, LLC, Shanghai) gave a presentation on the impact of the rapid changes in China’s economy on the Right to Adequate Housing. Dr. Hans Skotte, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) spoke on The Good, the Bad and the Ugly of post disaster housing reconstruction

In 2008 the Dialogues in Development lectures included: Market-oriented value enhancement (MOVE) from piloting to scaling up and institutionalization, by Dr Sangeetha Purushothaman (Best Practices Foundation, India); “Land for urban infrastructure? Land for the urban poor? Experiences of relocation and rehabilitation in Mumbai, India” Sundar Burra (SPARC, India); A Joint Institute of Global Health

and DPU Lecture on “Urban Sanitation and the ‘Taj Mahal’: the politics of toilets in Mumbai and Puna, India” by Sundar Burra (SPARC, India). ‘Dialogues’ presented by DPU’s own staff (in some cases jointly with the series Cities & Change run by PhD students) have included **Prof Yves Cabannes** on Innovative municipal policy for social inclusion, and also on Urban Agriculture: a challenge for planning cities of the future; **Adriana Allen** on Water provision for and by the peri-urban poor: Public-community partnerships or citizens co-production?; **Michael Walls** on State formation in Somaliland; and **Julio Dávila** on Being a mayor in Colombia: Challenges of municipal governance.

Bridging the financing gap for slum and settlement upgrading

This is the title of the new two week training programme developed by the DPU in collaboration with Homeless International and Happold Consulting, which will run from the 7th – 18th September, 2009, at the Development Planning Unit, London.

This course aims to provide a clear conceptual understanding of the financial services and products that are required to address the complexities of urban settlement development and to provide a set of practical tools for use by practitioners who have the responsibility for financially packaging and implementing home improvement programmes and settlement upgrading projects.

The course has been designed for practitioners working on housing, settlement and slum upgrading programmes and projects in local authorities, as well as NGOs, donor agencies, Micro Finance Institutions, banks and other financial institutions. The programme will be anchored in a number of case studies and exercises that will be used to explore the continuum of financing for slum and settlement upgrading, and to apply a comprehensive range of financial analysis, planning and monitoring tools.

Contact dpu@ucl.ac.uk for further information.

Images in Development

The new DPU building is an ideal space for photographic exhibitions. Some of you may recall that **Reza Masoudi Nejad** set the pace with the first exhibition in our old building (see DPU News, No 50, p 10). This exhibition was so impressive and stimulating, that we asked Reza to launch a more formal and permanent ‘project’ entitled “*Images in Development*”, a series of photographic exhibitions based on the work of DPU staff and students. Reza’s photographs, which he titled “*The Rite of Urban Passage*” after

his successful PhD, graced the walls of our new building from November 2008 to February 2009. In March 2009 a new exhibition went up, entitled “*Desires for Change from Marginal Brazil*”: these are photographs by Brazilian photographer, Gustavo Pellizan, working with DPU staff member, Alex Apsan Frediani, on a UNDP, Brazil, research project which is presented in this issue. Please contact Caren Levy if you would like to make a proposal for coming photographic exhibitions.



Current activities

How People Face Evictions

Yves Cabannes and **Cassidy Johnson** of the DPU will be working with **Silvia Guimarães Yafai** (BHSF) on this research project funded by the Building and Social Housing Foundation (BHSF).

Forced evictions have been dramatically growing worldwide. Nonetheless, some people-based initiatives have successfully resisted this trend. A key lesson from the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions to the Executive Director of UN Habitat, is that people-led movements are a fundamental ingredient for successful solutions to forced evictions. Research documenting actual practices and strategies is quite limited, usually conducted by NGOs and advisory groups, but rarely giving voice to people active on the ground. In addition, existing people-led networks communicate very little among themselves worldwide.

What we know so far is that the different networks develop various strategies, sometimes mixed together, and often changing over time, such as: (i) Negotiation with public authorities, for instance for relocation, but accepting the fact of being displaced; (ii) Ocupar – Resistir – Morar (Occupy, resist, live) is another strategy developed by the MNLM from Brazil, part of the NO VOX network; (iii) Legal channels and court cases; (iv) Open struggle and politically-oriented resistance, in which struggle for housing and against evictions appears as a means to gain political strength for societal change; (v) Building rights and policies - despite rampant demolition and very violent and forced evictions, the Urban People's Network in Dominican Republic, closely linked with the International Alliance of Inhabitants, has always been active on the ground, struggling for pragmatic solutions, but at the same with a perspective of policy change. (vi) In some regions, such as the Arab world and particularly Palestine, innovative campaigning approaches have attained some impact and slowed down evictions.

The research objectives of this project are (i) to learn from people, and appreciate their vision on how they face evictions and (ii) to promote the exchange and mutual learning between groups and networks, strengthening their links through an exchange seminar. The methods and tools used are based on action research and the

lessons learned through collective work and exchange aim to allow each of the groups, and any potential reader, to improve its action. Once the exchange seminar has taken place, a book will be put together assembling the various contributions. This final report is envisaged as a source of inspiration for all those interested in social justice in the housing field.

Peri-urban agriculture in Lisbon and London: Generating social inclusion and biodiversity

Yves Cabannes will be working on this research project which has recently been approved for funding under the Treaty of Windsor programme for 2009/2010. The research is a cooperation with the Technical Lisbon University, Faculty of Architecture, CIAUD, Centro de Investigação em Arquitectura, Urbanismo e Design. The objective is to understand the relationship between recent immigrant populations and urban farming practices. A comparative analysis between London and Lisbon and a cross interpretation exercise by the Lisbon team on the Brixton ABUNDANCE case (see Focus On) and of the London team on the Lisbon case (of Cape Verde islanders settled in Lisbon) should be extremely rich in generating research findings. This scoping research will involve PHD and master students from both universities, research seminars in Lisbon and London and a joint research paper in 2010.

Governance for local development in small urban centres in Mexico: addressing the challenges and opportunities of increasing migration and mobility

Yves Cabannes has been making inputs into an IIED-coordinated, DANIDA-funded, research project which brings together a small number of researchers and practitioners from China, India, the Philippines, Pakistan, Western Africa and Latin America. Increasing migration, both internal and international, attracts growing interest in policy debates. While there are many potential benefits linked to mobility, these remain purely theoretical unless associated with governance that is inclusive, accountable and effective. The DPU contribution focuses on Mexico, and primarily on migrants' collective remittances

and their impact on local development and governance through programmes such as the 3x1 Programme which matches collective remittances and served to finance nearly 8000 projects during 2002-2007.

Climate Change and Sustainable Development

Le-Yin Zhang has been her developing research focus on climate change in recent years. During 2007-2008, she was commissioned by the Department for Economic and Social Affairs, UN, to prepare an analytical paper on the linkage between climate change and sustainable development. The draft paper was presented to the Expert Group Meeting on Integrating Climate Change into National Sustainable Development Strategies (NSDS) and the Financial and Economic Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations, in New York.

The principal findings of the paper are as follows: 1) Climate change makes it harder and more essential to achieve some of the Millennium Development Goals. 2) Climate change does not require economic development in developing countries to slow down. On the contrary, growing faster and smarter is the only way to achieve both sustainable development and climate change policy goals. 3) The most sustainable solution is to combine economic development (including poverty reduction) with decarbonisation. 4) Both developed and developing countries have important roles to play in mitigation. Developing countries should concentrate on making their production more energy and material efficient, while developed countries should lead the search for low-carbon energy sources and technologies, and for more sustainable consumption patterns. Finally, adaptation in developing countries should include efforts to exploit the emerging global carbon market and the Clean Development Mechanism.

Built-in resilience: Learning from urban grassroots coping strategies to climate variability

This project is an exchange between BRAC University, Bangladesh and DPU on the subject of adaptation to climate change in cities. Running from 2008 to 2010, it is funded by the UK- Bangladesh Higher

Networks and Meetings

Education Link Programme, and includes DPU graduate **Huraera Jabeen** now from BRAC University, and DPU staff **Cassidy Johnson** and **Adriana Allen**.

In a general sense, the project's purpose is two-fold: to consolidate and build knowledge on how cities, communities and the built environment in Bangladesh can adapt to what are now devastating impacts from climate change; and to sensitize and expand the capacity of built environment and planning professionals about the realities of climate change and how to respond to these challenges through urban policy, design and community development.

Activities in the first year have focused on exploring local coping strategies observable in the built environment, that is, how people have adapted their houses, living spaces, streets, open spaces and infrastructure to cope with existing environmental hazards. Conceptually and methodologically, the research comes from the disaster management perspective, drawing on a background of vulnerability and resilience literature and published case studies about coping mechanisms in urban areas and/or coping mechanisms for the built environment. Empirically, the work draws on primary data collected by BRAC University staff and students in Karail area - the largest slum settlement in the Gulshan Thana of Dhaka city in Bangladesh - and observes household and collective adaptation strategies for existing environmental hazards such as flooding and heat. Results of this work were presented at the Third International Conference on Community-Based Adaptation to Climate Change workshop in Dhaka in February and also at the World Bank 5th Urban Research Symposium on Cities and Climate Change in Marseille in June 2009.

IDPR 30th Anniversary Meeting.

Caren Levy presented a paper entitled "*Gender Justice in a Diversity Approach to Development? The Challenge for Development Planning*" at the Anniversary Symposium celebrating thirty years of the International Development Planning Review journal. The Symposium, entitled "IDPR after thirty years - what has changed in Development Planning", was held in Liverpool on the 7-8th April 2009. Keynote speakers were Professor John Friedmann on "*Encounters with Development Planning*" and **Dr Arif Hasan** on "*Demographic Change and its Socio-economic repercussions: the case of Karachi, Pakistan*".

Launch of the Bloomsbury Gender

Network: International Women's Day 2009 was celebrated in a special way in Bloomsbury this year. At a colloquium on 9th March 2009, a group of colleagues across the Bloomsbury universities launched the new Bloomsbury Gender Network (BGN), a network of staff and students working on gender who are interested in sharing seminars, research and resources. **Caren Levy** represents the DPU and UCL on the Steering Committee, along with colleagues from the Institute of Education, the School of Oriental and African Studies and Birkbeck College.

The theme of the colloquium was "*Gender: Theory and Action*". A high level discussion and debate followed the two challenging keynote addresses by Professor Deniz Kandiyoti (SOAS) on "*From Feminism to Gender Studies: Where is the radical agenda?*", and Professor Maxine Molyneux (Institute for the Study of the Americas) on "*Difference, Development and Feminism's Other Others: Latin American Perspectives*". The diverse range of participants indicated a wide interest in the new network.

Yves Cabannes has been working with a number of international networks on issues related to urban development and social justice. These include acting as: Chairperson of the UN Advisory Group on Forced Evictions; Advisor to the Municipality of Porto Alegre for the program Inter-Municipal Training System for Participatory Planning and Budgeting; Member of the scientific commission of the French-funded

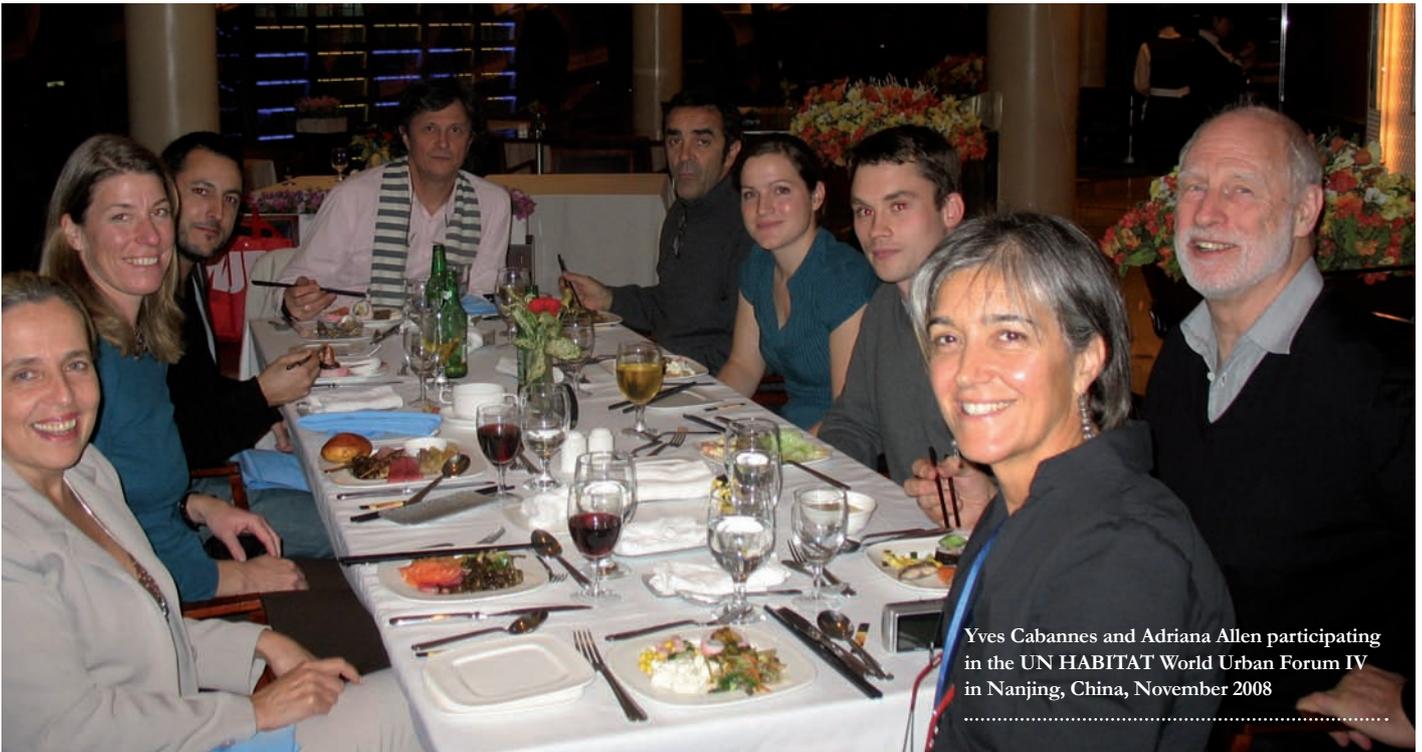
Urban Research for Development Program; member of the UNESCO Technical Committee on a social and human approach for sustainable revitalization, "*Historic Districts for all*"; and as a member of the World Habitat Awards Advisory Group.

Symposium on Climate Change

Adaptation: This symposium on "*Climate Change Adaptation: The Science, the Political Process and some Preliminary Findings and Costings*" was held by the DPU and the UCL Environment Institute on March 17th 2009. It assembled leading experts on climate change, some of whom had participated in the elaboration of the last reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Moderated by **David Satterthwaite** (DPU and International Institute for Environment and Development - IIED), the first session was a discussion between Saleemul Huq (IIED) and Robert Nicholls (Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research) on the political and technical processes of the elaboration of the IPCC reports and the climate change negotiations in general. In the second session, Robert Nicholls, David Dodman (IIED) and Sari Kovats (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine) examined the different areas of risk, in which adaptation is required to tackle existing and future consequences of climate change, such as coastal areas, urban centres and health systems. A lively discussion ensued. Held as a session of the module Urban Environmental Planning and Management in Development (ES2), the symposium was open to the public and more than 80 attended.

Gender and post conflict reconstruction:

UN HABITAT Expert Group Meeting in Geneva: **Caren Levy** was invited by UN-HABITAT's Disaster Management Programme to participate as a panel member in an Expert Group Meeting held on 13-14 March 2008 to review the second volume of the Practitioner's Handbook Series, entitled "*A Practitioner's Handbook on Gender and Governance in Post-crisis situations*". Directed at field staff and other practitioners, the handbook introduces a gendered account of how to integrate relief efforts with sustainable reconstruction and development.



Yves Cabannes and Adriana Allen participating in the UN HABITAT World Urban Forum IV in Nanjing, China, November 2008

Development from Disaster:

an Owner-Driven Reconstruction

Conference in London: On 19th and 20th March 2009, DPU staff participated in a two day conference hosted in London South Bank University, co-organised by Practical Action and the International Federation of Red Cross under the challenging title of *"Development from Disasters: Scaling Up Owner Driven Reconstruction"*.

Through comparative analysis of cases from India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Turkey, Pakistan, Peru and Colombia, the conference brought together various donors, practitioners and academics to debate the limitations and potentials of effective people-centred approaches to post-disaster reconstruction. Presentations and working groups drew upon the rich experience of over a hundred participants, enriched by well-known discussants.

A central theme was the recently coined and hotly debated term, "owner-driven reconstruction". This is not a cohesive and unified concept, rather an idea encompassing a range of meanings with profound impact on housing reconstruction practice, which include many interpretations of participation, decentralisation and effective decision-making by women as well as men. The debate, grounded in the owner-driven approach's application in different field realities, challenges the dominant approach in which, all too often, post-disaster reconstruction and housing

reconstruction in particular, is conceived as a mono-dimensional and standardised physical artefact, constructed as a reactive, top-down, technology-driven and 'end state' product. Interventions at the conference by **Caren Levy** (DPU Director), **Pat Wakely** (DPU Associate), **Camillo Boano** and **Eleni Kyrou** (DPU) build on a long history of DPU work in the arena of disaster risk reduction and post-disaster reconstruction, whereby we introduce developmental and spatial perspectives into the debate.

World Urban Forum. In November 2008 **Yves Cabannes** and **Adriana Allen** participated in the UN HABITAT World Urban Forum IV in Nanjing on *Harmonious Urbanization: The Challenge of Balanced Territorial Development*. The DPU team made contributions on Urban Agriculture and food security, the Zero Evictions Campaign, Participatory Budgeting and Sustainable Development.

Global academic collaboration.

Julio D Dávila was awarded a UCL-Abbey grant to support an academic exchange with the School of Urban and Regional Planning (SURP) at the National University of Colombia, Medellín campus. This involved academic advice aimed in setting up a PhD programme on urban and regional planning, the first specialised doctoral programme in this field in Colombia. This was complemented with follow-up work on research on 'Housing and land for the urban

poor. Case studies of Bogotá-Soacha and Medellín, Colombia', a project for the Colombian government funded by World Bank-Cities Alliance in 2005-6, for which Julio led a team staffed by researchers from SURP and the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá.

In April 2008 Julio D Dávila was a keynote speaker at an international conference on *'Poverty reduction and building capacity through public-private partnerships'* organised by Kyung Hee University in Seoul, South Korea. He also presented a paper on *'Private foundations and urban poverty reduction: Lessons from Cali, Colombia'* and was kindly invited by former DPU student **Jun-Yeup Kim** (PhD 2002) to lecture to his post-graduate students at the Graduate School of Pan-Pacific International Studies of Kyung Hee University.

In July 2008 **Nabeel Hamdi** and **Julio D Dávila** concluded their three-year collaboration with the University of Cape Town (UCT), South Africa, which involved teaching an intensive one-week module on 'community development and urban infrastructure' as part of an MPhil/MSc programme run by UCT, as well as public lectures and close interaction with local government departments and consultants working in the field of infrastructure and housing in low-income urban settlements. **Caren Levy** and **Eleni Kyrou** will continue this collaboration on behalf of the DPU in July 2009.

Publications

Yves Cabannes 2007 – 2008. Urbanization and Municipalization in Mozambique.

Research chapter on governance and Planning and coordination of the research. Development Planning Unit, University College London. Funding: DANIDA (Danish Aid), World Bank, UN Habitat, SDC (Swiss Development Corporation), GTZ and Austrian Aid.

The overall objective of this study was to provide policy makers and municipal authorities in Mozambique with an analysis of the challenges and opportunities for municipal development in Mozambique, based on the first 10 years of experience.

This research specifically focused on: (a) planning and coordination for municipal services and (b) urban governance. Its specific objectives were to present an overview of the municipal governance and planning constraints and achievements of the municipalities of Mozambique by analyzing both (i) the engagement of the community in the planning process and the coordination with the public sector for local service delivery, and (ii) the relationship between municipal citizens and the local government in terms of voice, transparency, accountability, equity, participation in planning, implementation and monitoring, including the relationship with the private sector and civil society. On the basis of the analysis, the study identifies key challenges in municipal governance and planning and points out a number of areas that must be addressed both at the municipal and the national levels in order to increase the capacity of municipalities to face the challenges of urbanization.

New Book for publication in 2010: Rebuilding after disaster: from emergency to sustainability. Editors, Gonzalo Lizarralde, Cassidy Johnson and Colin Davidson. London: Spon Press, pp 304.

Sadly, we can be fairly assured that - in the next few years - a disaster will occur in somewhere like the Andean region of Latin America, the Pacific coast of Central America, Europe, Southern Asia in Central Africa. The majority will occur in cities of low and middle income nations. Houses, community centres, infrastructure and public facilities will probably have to be built quickly and in a state of emergency, in a weakened environment and with limited resources. Hopefully, they will be built in a way which will provide

sustainable conditions for this and future generations. This is a major challenge for the professionals of the building industry. Through contributions by twelve leading experts, this book addresses this challenge, focusing particularly on post-disaster interventions in developing countries. Camillo Boano (DPU staff) is one contributor.

Johnson, Cassidy (2008). Strategies for the Reuse of Temporary Housing. In *Urban Transformation*, Ilka and Andreas Ruby (Eds.). Ruby Press: Berlin. Paper first presented at the Holcim Forum 2007 - "Urban_Trans_Formation" in Shanghai.

Providing sustainable temporary housing, notably in the disaster/crisis situation, depends on the ability to reuse units in a 'second life' since 1) units are often still in good condition after the few months or few years they are needed to house affected families; 2) on the whole, large investments in temporary housing make it very expensive in relation to its lifespan; 3) there is generally a scarcity of building resources in developing countries and disaster affected areas. Case studies in Turkey after the 1999 earthquakes show that there are several patterns for temporary housing projects, i.e., rental housing, refurbishment/storage, recycling whole/part into new buildings/uses. The research reveals living patterns and design considerations for reuse of temporary housing, which can be integrated into strategic planning.

Johnson, Cassidy and Dignard-Bailey, Lisa (2008). Implementation Strategies for Solar Communities: Prospects for Canada. Open House International, special issue on Zero Carbon Housing Solutions, 33 (3): 26-37.

Work on the design and implementation for solar homes has been expanded to the community scale in several international projects. If low-carbon emission housing is to make an impact on citywide consumption of energy, we must move towards community-scale implementation of solar technologies, both in new housing developments and in existing ones. This requires new policies to promote innovation in the building industry, for energy subsidies, and community-scale design guidelines. The research surveys selected solar community projects in Netherlands, United States and Canada, and identifies five main actor groups.

Cabannes Yves, 2009, 72 Preguntas Frecuentes sobre Orçamento Participativo, (72 Frequently asked questions on Participatory Budgeting), In Loco, Equal, CES/University of Coimbra, UN Habitat Program, Lisbon. Portugal.

Cabannes Yves, 2009, Che cosa è e come si fa un bilancio Partecipativo? 72 Risposte a domande frequenti sui Bilanci Partecipativi a livello Comunale, (72 Frequently asked questions on Participatory Budgeting), Regione Lazio, Provincia de Milano, UN Habitat Program, Rome, Italy.

Cabannes Yves, 2009, Green Mapping, manual for urban agriculture, DPU, Urban Buzz Research Project, 2009.

Cabannes Yves and Pasquini, M., 2009, Cities Farming for the Future, Mid Term Review Report. RUA Foundation and ETC for IDRC and DGIS.

Cabannes, Y, 2009, Instruments and Mechanisms Linking Physical Planning and Participatory Budgeting . A synthesis based on the experiences of Ariccia (Italia), Belo Horizonte and Guarulhos (Brazil), Bella Vista (Argentina) and Cordoba (Spain). CIGU, URB-AL. Final Research Paper. (available in 3 languages). www.pbh.gov.br/noticias/redeurbal9/produtos.htm

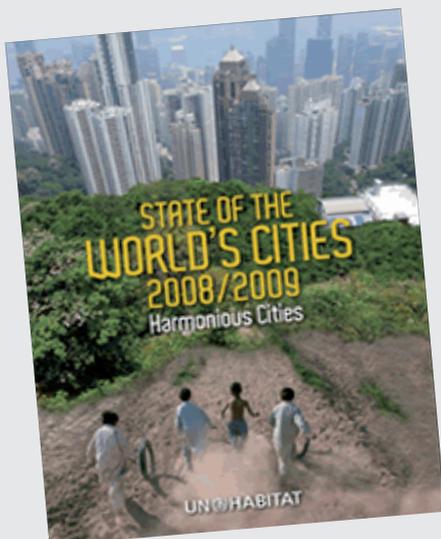
Dávila, Julio D, 2009, "Being a mayor: The view from four Colombian cities", Environment and Urbanization, Vol. 21, No. 2, pp. 37-57.

Dávila, Julio D, 2008, "Poverty reduction and capacity building: Challenges for public-private partnerships", Proceedings of the International Conference on Poverty reduction and building capacity through public-private partnerships, Kyung Hee University, Seoul, South Korea, pp. 3-14.

Dávila, Julio D, 2008, "Private foundations and urban poverty reduction: Lessons from Cali, Colombia", Proceedings of the International Conference on Poverty reduction and building capacity through public-private partnerships, Kyung Hee University, Seoul, South Korea, pp. 38-59.

Le-yin Zhang, 2008 "Changing Lanes in China: Foreign Direct Investment, Local Governments, and Auto Sector Developments" (a book review), The China Journal, No.60, pp. 182-183.

Le-yin Zhang, 2008, "Formation of FDI Clustering – A new path to local economic development?" (with Kim, J), *Regional Studies*, Vol. 42, No.2, pp. 265-280.



UN-HABITAT Report State of the World's Cities 2008/2009: Harmonious Cities, Earthscan, London (ISBN 9781844076963).

Section 4.4 on 'Addressing Rural-Urban Disparities for Harmonious Regional Development' is based on a special report prepared by **Adriana Allen** in collaboration with **Pascale Hofmann** and **Hannah Griffiths**. This report was the result of a three-month desk study commissioned by the Urban Poverty and Environment Programme (UPE), International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the UN-Habitat Global Urban Observatory (GUO). The report examines the potential role of reciprocal rural-urban linkages as a means to reduce poverty in both rural and urban areas whilst promoting more balanced and inclusive regional development.

For more information visit:
www.unhabitat.org/pmss/getPage.asp?page=bookView&book=2562

Adriana Allen, Pascal Hofmann and Hannah Griffiths (2008) "Moving down the ladder: governance and sanitation that works for the urban poor". International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC), Delft. (Accessible at: www.irc.nl/page/42652).

This paper was commissioned by the International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC) with the purpose of mapping out the current debate on the governance of urban sanitation for the poor and to stimulate discussion at the IRC Symposium on Urban Sanitation held in Delft, The Netherlands, 19-21 November 2008. The essay contrasts a so-called 'rationalist perspective' dominated by the public-private controversy with an 'empirical perspective' concerned with gaining a better grasp of the multiple – and often neglected – practices and arrangements by which the urban poor effectively access sanitation on the ground. The discussion examines how to 'move down the sanitation ladder' in order to acknowledge and to support the actual options by which the urban poor effectively access sanitation.

Staff News

Michael Whitbread, an urban economist, joined the DPU in 2008 to teach the UE1 module on the MSc Urban Economic Development. As well as teaching at the DPU, Michael works widely as a consultant. He is currently completing the cost-benefit analysis (CBA) for an air quality strategy study, commissioned by the Government's Environmental Protection Department in 2007 (working with Ove Arup consultants), with the objective of using a WHO air quality objectives framework to compare strategies for air pollution reduction. Examples include conversion of power stations to Liquid Natural Gas, hybrid vehicles in place of conventional petrol and diesel engines, and promotion of cycling. The cost benefit analysis is designed to answer the question "Is the additional cost of the policy action worth it?" By far the most important benefit is improved health and hence lower costs of illness and reduced risks of premature death.

Pushpa Arabindoo, an urban geographer, has recently joined UCL, working with the UCL Urban Laboratory and the DPU in a teaching and research capacity. In the DPU she was part of the team to run the joint MSc's workshop at Windsor in the first term, and she made teaching inputs into the BUDD course. She will also develop joint urban research projects in the future. Pushpa has a background in architecture and urban development, and undertook her doctoral research into the social justice of access to water resources in the city of Chennai, India.

Alexandre Frediani, was appointed as the PGTA for the Development Administration and Planning (DAP) course in 2008, and over the last year has also contributed to the development of research and teaching on various MSC programmes and capacity building abroad.

Camillo Boano took over the Directorship of the MSc Building and Urban Design in Developing Countries whilst Cassidy Johnson was on maternity leave. He also teaches on the MSc Urban Development Planning.

All Change for PGTAs. Hannah Griffiths will be leaving the DPU after working as the PGTA for ESD for a number of years, to enrol on a PhD course in Singapore. Sonia Roitman, after completing her PhD at the DPU has gone to work on a research project at the Bartlett School of Planning, and is no longer PGTA for the Urban Development planning (UDP) and Social Development Practice (SDP) courses – she has been replaced by Elena Bessusi (UDP) and Saba Hussain (SDP) respectively. Gabby Grajales has returned home to Mexico to complete her PhD and has been replaced by Rosalina Babourkova as the PGTA for UED.

Population explosion! A new generation of the DPU network has been appearing over the past year. In spring 2009 **Sara Feys** had a baby son, Simon, and during her maternity leave her work as the PGTA for the Building and Urban Design in Developing Countries (BUDD) MSc is being covered by former BUDD graduate **Isis Nunez Ferrera**. **Cassidy Johnson**, Course Director for BUDD, will return to the DPU after maternity leave for her new baby James. **Pascale Hoffman** is back as co-director of the Environmentally Sustainable Development MSc after taking maternity leave for new baby Jonathon,

Congratulations to **Pascale Hoffman** for her marriage to Thomas, to **Sharon Cooney** for her marriage to Liam and to **Hannah Griffiths** who will marry Ben in July.

Training and Advisory Services

Yves Cabannes is working on a range of projects relating to urban agriculture. In July 2009 Yves, with the assistance of Rita Perez (MSc Development Administration and Planning, 2006/2007) will deliver a workshop in Beijing on Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture to Face the Urban Food Crisis, with the RUAF Foundation and China Academy of Social Sciences. This workshop will be one of 45 workshops of delivered through the China-Europa Forum, a long-term, innovative dialogue process between European and Chinese societies.

During 2008, Yves conducted the mid term review of RUAF's "cities farming for the future" programme. This required travel to different continents and assembling and processing a huge range of data. This evaluation will be of historic importance, given the immense contribution required from urban agriculture to help humanity face its ecological crisis, and the fact that serious analytical work has so far lagged behind this challenge.

Yves has also pursued his contribution as a world leading authority on Participatory Budgeting, including inputs to the National Seminar Training on Participatory Budgeting in Stockholm, Sweden in 2008 and to a Francophone African Regional Workshop on Strengthening Budget Transparency, Participation, and Independent Oversight: From Decentralizations Policy Reforms to Local Governance Innovations, in Saly, Senegal, organised by ENDA Tiers Monde, also in 2008.

Partnership in the Development of an Integrated Curriculum for the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS).

The DPU/UCL, led by **Yves Cabannes** and **Caren Levy**, will assist the Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS) with curriculum development and related educational initiatives, focusing on the development of master's and doctoral-level instruction.

The IIHPG (Indian Institute for Habitat

Planning and Governance) is a significant and ambitious attempt at addressing two key challenges of contemporary India: transforming urban areas and regions over the next two generations, and responding to the exploding demand for practitioners dealing with human settlements. This could help substantially improve the living and working conditions of 500 million new urban dwellers, the condition of hundreds of thousands of villages and possibly mitigate potential disruption to India's future economic growth, governance and environmental sustainability.

Its primary vehicle will be a broad interdisciplinary curriculum bridging the design, technology, management, social science and governance disciplines, through a close engagement with praxis, practitioners and real-life situations. It is expected to reach out to over 1,000 residential students, 25,000 engaged in distance learning and 10,000 participants of continuing education programmes.

State-Building and Presidential Elections in Somaliland

While Somalia continues to make headlines for its humanitarian crisis associated with years of violence (and today, piracy), the north-western territory of Somaliland is grappling with the process of consolidating a functioning system of government. Since the collapse of the Siyaad Barre regime in 1991 and Somaliland's unilateral declaration of independence, the internationally unrecognised country has taken a series of notable steps towards establishment of a system of government based on popular democracy.

That system is gradually being fashioned through debate and dispute, and is founded on a series of some 39 conflict-resolving and peace-building meetings and conferences held throughout the territory between 1991 and 1997. A joint DPU/Somaliland Focus (UK) meeting held on 3 March at UCL presented a 45 minute documentary on the period. The film was made to accompany a research project undertaken by the Hargeisa-based Academy for Research and Development, in which DPU's **Michael Walls** was one of three researchers. The film and research focused particularly on three phases within those

seven years: the first began at the end of 1990, as the Siyaad Barre government lost control of the northern areas bounded by the borders of the former British Protectorate of Somaliland. A series of meetings concluded with a national conference in May 1991 in the town of Burao, at which agreement was reached on ceasefire and the formation of an interim government led by the victorious Somali National Movement (SNM). The second phase followed this, and saw the outbreak of fighting amongst groups who had previously been allies in the SNM. The conflict was resolved with a successful mediation process, culminating in another national conference in Borama in 1993. While this phase was itself followed by an outbreak of fighting, it nonetheless laid the foundation for the sustained peace that eventually followed.

The third phase occurred in parallel to the first two, and took place in Sanaag, the largest and eastern-most region in the old British protectorate. Involving a finely balanced distribution of power between four dominant sub-clans, two of whom had been identified with the SNM, while the other two had been associated with the Siyaad Barre regime, peace-building assumed



Top: Rural voters face particular challenges.

Bottom: Women are often excluded from public decision making forums

a dynamic of its own. Nevertheless, a similar pattern is discernible to the extent that issues were first dealt with at a community level, before higher level problems were tackled, with the process culminating in a large and inclusive conference in the town of Erigavo.

The research identified a number of features of these peace-building efforts that were considered to be of particular interest. Amongst these was the use and often flexibility of traditional institutions, including the application of principles which guided negotiation and settlement. One such principle was the conception that many of the most complex tangles of grievance between groups should be set aside and 'forgotten' rather than dissected in the manner of a truth commission. The role played by women in both conflict and peace was also a focus, although the researchers did not always feel they were able to gain the depth of insight available through much of the rest of the programme.

The documentary was followed with a panel discussion, chaired by Sally Healy of Chatham House, and involving Rashid Gadhweyne and Rhoda Ibrahim, who were both involved in the processes being

researched, plus Michael Walls.

Michael's work in Somaliland, and that of DPU, continues today with his role as one of three Coordinators (two in London; one in Hargeisa) of the International Election Observers to the presidential elections which are scheduled for the end of September, 2009. DPU is working as a partner with the NGO Progressio on the observer coordination. Having worked as part of a similar team on observation for the 2005 elections to the Somaliland House of Representatives, as well as visiting the country in different capacities on a number of occasions, Michael is aware of the challenges likely to lie ahead. Significant political decisions must be made before the real logistical preparation can take place. Somaliland has held elections for the presidency, as well as the House of Representatives and local councils before, so the experience is not new. However, the scheduled presidential election is pivotal if progress in designing and implementing a partially indigenously-based popular democracy is to continue. The Somaliland Constitution is silent on a number of key issues, and the political situation at the moment is tense. In an

effort to assess the effect this is likely to have on election observation, Michael spent a week in Hargeisa over Easter, talking to the key stakeholders and gaining a better understanding of the differing perspectives of each.

Somaliland has made remarkable progress in the past 18 years, and there is hope that it will continue to consolidate a just peace in the years to come. There are nevertheless a great many challenges ahead. It is a moot point whether those challenges will be easier or more difficult to address while the international spotlight remains fixated on securing external interests and alleviating a disastrous humanitarian situation created in part by precisely those international interests in the south. There can be little doubt though, that the external community needs to learn a great deal about Somali culture and aspirations if it is to avoid the monumental mistakes of the past. While far from the perfect solution to the Somali state-building dilemma, Somaliland unquestionably offers a great many valuable insights, while Somalilanders themselves have shown a tenacity and patience in pursuit of their peace that deserves cautious, informed and constructive engagement.

In November 2008 **Alexandre Frediani** was contracted by the UNDP – Brazil to undertake research in the 10 municipalities with lowest human development indices in Brazil. The objective was to contribute to the identification of the topic for the forthcoming Brazilian Human Development Report by hearing the opinions of those living in the most deprived area of those 10 municipalities.

The question posed by the UNDP was: What needs to change in Brazil to improve your life? To address this question, we developed a semi-structured questionnaire and a focus group activity which also aimed at supporting the mobilization capacity of communities visited. The photographer Gustavo Pellizzan joined the 35 day trip to generate visual material to complement the information gathered.

Inadequate access to basic infrastructure was the first issue that people normally raised in most of the locations; namely access to water to drink and for irrigation. Even in Traipu municipality in the state of Alagoas, in the northeast of Brazil, located



Alexandre Frediani in Brazil

alongside the river São Francisco, the residents complained that there is no water connection and they waste hours every day collecting water by the river bank. In Santana do Maranhão, also in the northeast, people told us that, due to lack of access to electricity, the day lasts as long as there is natural light. In Lagoa Grande, also in the state of Maranhão, in the rainy season

rural villages become totally isolated due to the poor condition of their streets and lack of bridges. Residents argued that poor communications restrict children's access to schools.

Another topic frequently addressed was the exploitative working conditions which were accepted due to lack of alternatives. Without equipment and irrigation facilities, agriculture is an uncertain and unsustainable source of income. In the municipality of Caraúbas (Piauí, northeast Brazil), we met a group of workers collecting the leaves of the Carnauba, a local palm tree. The work looked exhausting, and the payment extremely low. But workers argued that this was the only source of secure and immediate income during the three months of the year in which the leaves are collected. In Araiões, in the state of Maranhão, we visited the mangrove forest where crab-pickers overcome the adversities of the rough environment to sustain their livelihoods. The same crabs sold there for US\$ 0,25, are sold for up to US\$ 3,00 in the fancy beach bars of the large cities in the

northeast coast of Brazil, such as Fortaleza and Recife, less than 24 hours after being bought in Araioses.

Even in such conditions, we were surprised by the level of critical awareness of the people we met, who find ways to overcome these processes of exclusion. In the municipality of Jordão, of the state of Acre, in the Amazon region, we met indigent populations politicised by the struggle for the preservation of the rain forest, and seeking ways to live sustainably there. We saw collective mechanisms to strengthen local potentials, such as in the village of Uruçu in Traipu, where women exchange days of work with each other to peel their manioc together. That is the reason why, in localities thousands of kilometres apart, we heard the same Brazilian popular saying: "One daffodil alone does not make a summer".

Capacity for Environmental Planning in Vietnam

Hannah Griffiths (ESD PGTA) and **Rosalina Babourkova** (UED PGTA) both completed internships with the Urban Environmental Planning Programme in Vietnam (UEPP-VN) between June 2008 and January 2009. As part of the Capacity Building and Training component, they assisted with the development of and implementation of undergraduate taught modules on the Urban Planning degree course at the Ho Chi Minh City University of Architecture (HCMUARC) Department of Urban Planning. This is part of a larger EC-funded programme implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Construction of Vietnam. The main purpose of the UEPP-VN is to provide conditions for stakeholders in provincial cities in the Mekong Delta Region (MDR) to plan and manage their environment in a more sustainable way. Link to UEPP-VN website: <http://www.uepp.org>

In spring 2009 **Zeremariam Fre** acted as senior consultant on food security and governance for an Eritrean Ministry of Agriculture project to be financed by the European Development Fund (EDF). Zeremariam worked with a team of two other consultants to hold a series of stakeholder workshops, undertake document review and field visits to regional officials and beneficiary communities, and meetings with the EC Delegation in Eritrea and visit-

ing official from EC in Brussels, in order to produce a formulation report so that this project can be initiated. Over two million needy people, 30% of which will be women headed households, will benefit from the programme over the next six years.

In spring 2008 **Julian Walker** worked on a Social Impact Assessment for the upgrading of an oil refinery for the Egyptian Refinery Company in Mostorod, a peri-urban district in North-West of Cairo, with former DPU Chevening Course participant **Arwa El Boraie**. The project, which is now under construction, should have significant benefits, including impacts on airbourne pollution in Cairo (by reducing SO₂ emissions from the use of the low grade fuel that is currently produced), local employment opportunities, and reduced dependence of the Egyptian economy on imported high grade fuels. However undertaking an SIA for the project was not a straightforward process. The expansion of Cairo since the original refinery was built in the 1960s means that the site is now surrounded by dense, low income housing, which is unusual for industrial infrastructure of this type and means that the potential and perceived social impacts of the project were unusually great. In addition, the fact that the IFC Social and Environmental policies applied by the project are relatively new and unfamiliar in Egypt, and the impact of the government's security measures on the possibilities for normal public consultation processes, meant that this was a challenging piece of work, highlighting many of the hurdles to be faced in working with the private sector to ensure that their projects do not have a negative impact on the urban poor.

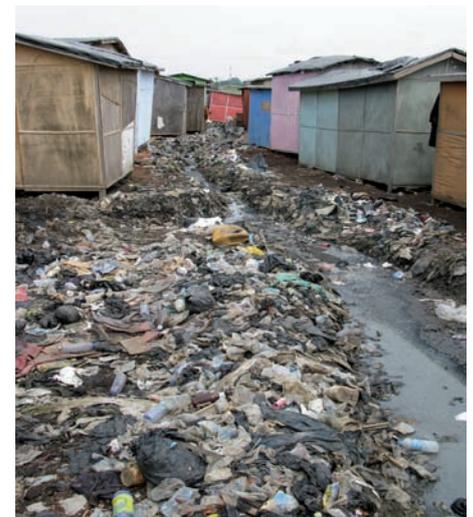
Mozambique urban poverty project.

Julio D Dávila and **Eleni Kyrou** were part of a DPU-led international research team on a project entitled 'Urbanisation and Municipaldevelopment in Mozambique: Urban poverty and rural-urban linkages'. The project sought to examine the extent to which the urban and peri-urban poor have benefited from the economic growth the country has seen in recent years, while documenting the capacity of municipal authorities to contribute to poverty reduction in the context of their new responsibilities following a decentralisation process. This was part of a broader donor-funded effort initiated by the World Bank and

coordinated by Yves Cabannes to examine urban poverty in the context of decentralisation in Mozambique. A summary of the project reports will be published by the World Bank in 2009.

Ghana capacity building.

The Commonwealth Secretariat funded a one-week training programme on 'Local governance and water & sanitation services: Challenges and lessons in rapidly urbanising countries' in Accra, Ghana, in June 2008. This was attended by 32 national and local government officials from 15 Commonwealth countries in Africa and Asia. The training was jointly delivered by **Julio D Dávila** and **Alex Frediani** from the DPU in collaboration with colleagues from the Centre for African Wetlands, University of Ghana (Legon), and included a day visit to the Old Fadama slum in central Accra, as well as to Accra's largest water treatment plant.



Old Fadama slum in central Accra, Ghana

The past year has been a period of extraordinarily rich achievement in terms of the number, and quality, of successfully completed PhDs. Together, these constitute an immense contribution to development research, and a credit to the DPU's traditions. The DPU warmly congratulates the following.

Ali Haidar AHMAD March 2008
Private Housing Development: Refining Rational Choice

Nasser YASSIN April 2008
The role that the 'urbanization process' and 'urban space' played in triggering the communal conflict in Lebanon

Karen S. BUCHANAN April 2008
Contested Copper Mining and Biodiversity Conservation

Hieu NGUYUYEN NGOC April 2008
The performance of housing development control in political and economic transition: the case of Hanoi, Vietnam

Sonia ROITMAN November 2008
Urban social group segregation: a gated community in Mendoza, Argentina

Karen R. LEVY December 2008
Ethnicity matters: Ethnic identity and economic inequality in Lamu town

Soumaya IBRAHIM February 2009
Gender and Class in Welfare Sector Organizations: The Case of Egyptian Private Voluntary Organizations

Reza MASOUDI NEJAD March 2009
The Rite of Urban Passage: the Spatial Transformation of Ashura Ritual in Iranian Cities during Iranian Modernisation

Guowu ZHANG March 2009
An Examination of Changes in Housing Submarkets: The Case of Shanghai, 1994-2005

Mayra Ruiz April 2009:
Empowerment and Gender in the Workplace: Experiences in Accounting and IT Firms in Mexico

OTTO KOENIGSBERGER CENTENARY

Reflections on his Influence and Impact

On the centenary of his birth, the life and work of Otto Koenigsberger, the founder of the DPU, was celebrated by the Unit on 6 October 2008 (World Habitat Day).

Otto Koenigsberger was a polymath, whose contributions to urban development and planning ranged from building physics and design in tropical climates to the formulation of self-help policies for the improvement of urban slums; from the planning and building of new towns to the development of national urban policies in the context of rapid growth and change; from advising on professional and technical training to the establishment of university institutions.

Otto was one of the founders of modern urban development planning in the rapidly growing cities of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. He played a major part in the establishment of the United Nations Centre for Planning, Building and Housing, which later became the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) and the first UN Conference on Human Settlements (Vancouver 1976). He started the School of Tropical Architecture at the Architectural Association (1954) and later the Development Planning Unit UCL (1971) where he was the first Professor of Development Planning.

The celebration opened with short presentations by Caren Levy, Director of DPU and Yves Cabannes, Professor of Development Planning, and two of Otto's colleagues, Professor Patrick Wakely (DPU Director 1989-2003), and Michael Safier (DPU staff 1971-2006). These were followed by contributions from an audience of colleagues and friends of Otto, including Renate Koenigsberger, together with current DPU and other UCL staff and students, who related fond memories of Otto and explored his ideas in the light of current development and planning debates. The discussion was followed by a special gathering of his colleagues and friends at the DPU. It was an evening filled with warmth, good stories and many happy reminiscences.



Le-Yin Zhang and Nigel Harris at the celebration event

News from former DPU Students and friends

Stefan Feuerstein (DAP 2006-2007) is Deputy Director of NGO Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH, <http://www.nph.org/>), based in Honduras and responsible for the everyday activities that serve 550 orphaned and abandoned children as well as many poor and excluded people in the nearby rural areas. He writes: "We produce most of our own food (having a dairy farm, pigs, and a large chicken farm as well as vegetable gardens), have two clinics (one for the kids and one that serves thousands of people in the surrounding region every year), our own school, a social work department and a small old people's home, as well as another home in the city for severely handicapped kids. It's pretty crazy, but altogether I am responsible for about 180 employees and around 25 volunteers."

Ayman I.K. El-Hefnawi (UDP 1997-1998), having completed a long consultancy with UN Habitat in Southern Egypt, has joined Egypt's General Organization for Physical Planning (GOPP) as its vice chairman.

Claudia Schneider (UDP 2001-2002) works in post-disaster reconstruction for SKAT, the Swiss Centre for Appropriate Technology (www.skat.ch). She has recently compiled "After the Tsunami - Sustainable building guidelines for South-East Asia" (downloadable from the website).

Eric Lampertz (DAP 2007) and Mariana Infante (UED 2007) got married in Bogota in December last year. They're now in Cambodia, where Eric has a two-year renewable contract with UNDP to work on governance issues; he's currently assessing two projects, one on decentralisation within urban communes/districts and another at a regional scale.

Frederick Wamalwa (DAP 2006-2007) has been working since his graduation as research associate at the African Centre for Economic Growth in Nairobi (www.aceg.org/).

Franklin Obeng-Odoom (UED 2006-7) is currently studying for a PhD in Political Economy at the University of Sydney and has had paper accepted by the Journal of Housing and the Built Environment. He writes to Ley-yin Zhang, "I have benefitted fully from my MSc Urban Economic

Development especially the training to be 'critical' and 'analytical'".

Hieu Nguyen Ngoc (PhD 2009) is now working for the National Academy of Public Administration in Hanoi.

Diana Giambiagi (UDP 2000-2001), has just returned to Buenos Aires with her husband and two children, to take up a post with consultancy firm Halcrows.

Maha Abusamra (DAP 2002-2003) is now working for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as project manager for their project on capacity building for the Personnel General Council of the Palestinian Authority.

Hizrah Muchtar (BUDD 2002-2003) has since graduation been working for UN HABITAT Indonesia. She writes: "everything I got from my DPU year is very useful".

Igor Nemghirov (DAP 1998-1999) currently works as Development and Construction Management Director for an Austrian development corporation in Russia.

Joedi Brown (DAP 2006-2007) has taken up a post as product manager with a US company working on construction projects in emerging markets.

Guayana Páez (ESD 2003-2004) has completed a consultancy for UNESCO's South-south Cooperation and Sustainable Development Program, and presented a paper at the Human Development and Capability Association Conference in New York, addressing the concern of how developmental/environmental projects implementers may better respond to the challenges of bringing together sustainable and human development through their strategies.

Pablo López (UED 2002-2003), worked for four years at the Ministry of Federal Planning, Argentina, on the formulation of the Territorial Strategic Plan. He writes: "It was a very good experience and we ended up the job with an important book which was presented by the Argentinean President last March. There are many expectation about the future of the plan as it is the main planning experience in Argentina after 50 years." He recently moved to a new post

at the Corporación Andina de Fomento (CAF), a financial corporation aimed at improving the development and integration of Latin American countries.

Katherine Quinteros (SDP 2002-2003), as part of her post with the UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has recently assumed responsibilities for EU and international trade, and specifically as UK representative on the WTO's Sanitary and Phytosanitary Committee.

Siri Mittet (ESD 2002-2003) is working at the University of Oslo, as Project Coordinator for a four-year Climate Change research project (PLAN), focusing on the potentials and limits of adaptation.

Suchitra Muangnil (ESD 2006-2007) has taken up a post with the International Organisation Department (Development Affairs Division) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, dealing with Thai policy on international agreements such as the Convention on biodiversity, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and Chemical safety Protocol.

Victoria Forster-Jones (DAP 2003-2004) has left her post with Sunseed Tanzania Trust to join the African Union in Ethiopia as a policy officer.

Christoph Woiwode (PHD 2007) has taken up a post as lecturer at the University in Dortmund, teaching in the international MSc. Programme SPRING (Spatial Planning for Regions in Growing Economies), a two year course jointly organized by Dortmund University and four partner Universities in Chile, Ghana, Tanzania and the Philippines (www.raumplanung.uni-dortmund.de/geo/typo3/index.php?id=24)

Obituary

Nathaniel Lichfield (1916-2009)

By Patrick Wakely

It is with great regret that DPUNews records the death of **Professor Nathaniel Lichfield** at the age of 92 on 27 February 2009.

Nat Lichfield, Professor of the Economics of Environmental Planning at UCL (1966-78), had an important role in the negotiations that led to the establishment of the DPU in UCL in 1971 and remained a close friend of the Unit ever since, last visiting in October 2008 for the Otto Koenigsberger Centenary celebrations.

Nat was the 'originator' of cost-benefit analysis as a generic set of planning tools that stemmed from research published in his first book 'The Economics of Planned Development' (1956) and subsequently developed the concept of Community Impact Evaluation that continues to have currency internationally. But he was not only an academic and researcher. He was employed as an economist and planner in local and national government (the Ministry of Housing and Local Government) in

the 1950s. In 1962 he set up the firm of Nathaniel Lichfield and Associates (now NLP) and in 1992, a new practice, Lichfield Planning, which he established in partnership with his wife Dalia. He was elected President of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) in 1966 and has held several other national appointments.

To many the most important of Nat Lichfield's many contributions to planning was his role in bringing the economic and social sciences into urban planning, which until the early 1960s had been the domain of architects, engineers and surveyors; to others it will be his contributions to the economics of regional development; to the DPU it is both.

Cho Padamsee & Bob Satin (1932-2009)

As we go to press, DPUNews is sad to hear of the passing away of two former members of DPU staff.

Cho Padamsee was Deputy Head of the Unit from 1965-73. He then joined the Institute of Housing and Urban Development Studies (HIS) Rotterdam as Director of Studies. He worked with the United Nations in the run-up to the 1976 Habitat Conference in Vancouver and was for many years Head of the Hull School of Architecture in the UK before joining the Bartlett where he was Dean of the Faculty.

Bob Satin was a senior lecturer at the DPU from 1976-79 when he joined the World Bank as a senior urban advisor.

A fuller appreciation of their lives will appear in the next issue of DPUNews.

DPUNews is published by the Development Planning Unit, UCL.

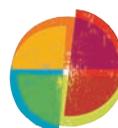
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