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In this issue:

Reflections on Diversity, Social Complexity and Planned Intervention

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Focus on

Reflections from the Diversity, Social Complexity and Planned Intervention Research Cluster: Highlights from DPU60

By Alexandre Apsan Frediani

Throughout 2014, the DPU conducted a series of activities celebrating 60 years of engaging with development planning (**http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/dpu60**). Part of the celebrations included thinking about the themes associated with our research clusters. Here are some of my personal reflections about the *Diversity, Social Complexity and Planned Intervention* cluster, drawing on the debates that have taken place throughout the anniversary activities, as well as recent research activities, and publications by other members of the cluster.

A good place to start is **Caren Levy's** article entitled, *'Travel Choice Reframed: 'Deep distribution' and gender in urban transport'* (in *Environment and Urbanization*, 2013). In this publication, Caren reflects on debates around urban transport and articulates the concept of 'deep distribution' as a way of thinking about urban inequalities more generally. In doing so, she emphasises that development planning has not been able to address the growing urban social inequalities affecting our cities, and that there is an urgent need to interrogate the structural conditions that shape distribution in cities:

An approach that recognizes 'deep distribution' builds the foundations for an understanding of transport based on the articulation of power relations in public and private space at the level of the household, community and society that generate the structural inequality and dominant relations

under which decisions about 'travel choice' are negotiated and made (Levy, 2013: 52).

To some extent, everyday lives are proposed here as a device to examine not only localised practices, but wider societal norms structuring inequalities in cities. Much of the current work at the DPU has been working precisely in this direction, interrogating micro-realities as a means of exploring wider relations of power which condition the negotiation of multiple social identities, produced through acts of conflicts and cooperation.

Left: Personal diaries investigating reciprocity in informal settlements.(Kamna Patel)

Another example of this approach, is **Andrea Rigon's** article, *'Building Local Governance: Participation and Elite Capture in Slum-upgrading in Kenya'*, (in *Development and Change*, 2014), which engages in a micro-level analysis of the social relations produced in a particular informal settlement in Nairobi in order to understand their implications for a slum-

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DPU Research Clusters:

The DPU has four Research Clusters, each with sub-clusters which reflect the development of different strands of their work. The Clusters operate as hubs for interdisciplinary discussion and thinking between different staff members and research students. They also offer platforms for the development of collaborative research ideas, methodologies and activities, which contribute towards our broader research strategy.

Environmental Justice, Urbanisation and Resilience
https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/research/research-clusters/ejur-cluster

Urban Transformations
https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/research/research-clusters/urban-transformation

Diversity, Social Complexity and Planned Intervention
https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/research/research-clusters/diversity

State and Market: Governance and Policy for Development
https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/research/research-clusters/state-market

upgrading programme. The article provides an insightful ethnographic account exploring how so-called participatory processes have led to the institutionalisation of existing inequalities (Rigon, 2014).

Similarly, **Kamna Patel's** forthcoming chapter on reciprocity in informal settlements in Durban, South Africa interrogates acts of reciprocity as symbols of social relationships and inter-personal power relations. Here, micro-realities are studied through the narratives of the 24 respondents recorded in personal diaries every time a gift was exchanged (Patel, forthcoming).

Such an approach - engaging with micro-realities - is also present in the research I have been conducting about the practice of occupying vacant buildings in inner city São Paulo together with colleagues from University of Sheffield and Universidade Federal do ABC in Brazil. We have been documenting personal life trajectories of residents of buildings occupied by social movements as a means to understand the role these occupations play in the struggles over substantive citizenship in São Paulo (De Carli et al., 2015).

Cutting across these research activities is an understanding of the diversity of local experiences, avoiding the romanticisation of the concept of 'community', and revealing contradictions and complexities, while at the same time focusing on how social diversity can be recognised more productively in policy and planning initiatives.

This interest of the Cluster, the institutionalisation of social diversity in policy and planning, was discussed in some detail at the DPU-Bloomsbury Gender Network event, *Gender in Policy and Planning: Mainstreamed? Manipulated? Or Sidelined?*, organised by Caren Levy in March 2014. The event brought together a series of speakers and guests that have been involved with the DPU's Gender Policy and Planning Programme, which has been advancing knowledge and expertise, taking a critical approach to mainstreaming a gender perspective in development policy, planning and research, as well as exploring gender relations in democratic governance, since its inception 30 years ago.

Drawing on discussions between **Prof Caroline Moser**, Prof Elaine Unterhalter (UCL Institute of Education) and Rosalind Eyben (Institute of Development Studies), and others, there was a general concern that, since the 1990s, there has been an increasing deterioration of the conditions needed to bring about gender empowerment. As

Above: Participatory Mapping activity in São Paulo, Brazil (Beatrice De Carli)

Right: Caren Levy at the Gender Policy and Planning Programme's 30th Anniversary event. (DPU)
....

Elaine argued: *"The massive emergence of the private sector since then, transformed feminism into a tune that the market plays, without the empowerment content present in the earlier initiatives of gender planning."*

Nevertheless, Rosalind Eyben emphasised the role of the margins as a site to bring about the institutionalisation of transformative change. She talked about the space between - being inside as well as outside - linking activism with the production of new norms and procedures inside institutions. Similarly, in her round up comments, Caren articulated the need to continue talking, producing and mainstreaming methodologies:

I could spend the whole day talking about methodologies, as methodologies have been central to what we have done. And it is not

an accident because when you introduce a new way of looking at something and you are committed to wanting to change practices around that, you have to talk methodologies, you have to show people, at least present to them an option. It is about moving from the

'why' - to the 'what' and 'how'. To be able to do that, you have got to have methodologies.

From a DPU perspective, and in line with feminist research traditions, such methodology aims at working not 'about' but 'with' communities, where knowledge production is embedded in local realties and contestations, as well as focusing on reflexivity and action.

In this vein, the session at the DPU60 conference in July 2014 entitled, *Gender, Intersectionality and Socially Just Futures: Planning in an era of social polarization*, particularly addressed the question of what types of planning, thinking and practice are needed to bring about gender empowerment in current times.

Drawing on the work conducted through our engagement in Kisumu, Kenya, in collaboration with the NGO Practical Action on the role of Neighbourhood Planning Associations in bringing about substantive citizenship, **Julian Walker** outlined three key areas for further work in the field of gender planning:

1. Beyond emphasising and expanding the agency of women and men, and girls and boys, gender planning should also recognise the positive contributions of relations of care, and therefore acknowledge that inter-dependencies do not have to be a problem per se.

This opens up a series of debates around reciprocity and solidarities across difference that needs further investigation and analysis in processes of empowerment.

2. Gender planning has been more productive in revealing oppressive social relations (adverse inclusion) than the denial of specific social identities (outright exclusion). There is a need to address that gap.

3. It is important to build on the work around gender interests and needs and focus also on the realm of aspirations.

Referring to the work of Appadurai on the capacity to aspire, Julian argued, "It is in these wider aspirations that many subaltern groups' claims are reduced and narrowed, by reinforcing the hegemonic exclusions of these groups."

In the same session of the conference, Gautam Bhan from the Indian Institute of Human Settlements, drawing on his own engagement with queer politics in India, stressed the importance of a greater focus from planning on the practice of solidarities and aspirational thinking. Gautam articulated the potential for political spaces to enable uneasy, uncertain and unexpected solidarities. And in his own words during the conference:

The question that 'queer politics' asks of planning is to say, how were these uneasy alliances created? And, is it possible for the city to support multiple solidarities that encompass a range of identities? That belonging to the city, that claim, that act of producing and performing your urban citizenship can be a claim that crosses more traditional political subjectivities as those of worker, of those of national citizen. This is the promise that the new literature on urban citizenship offered. What would it mean to insert solidarity building into planning? If planning is not just a technical exercise but a political one. This must be its politics. This must be one of the tasks it tasks itself. The frame of our interventions must be to think about how one creates new spaces where things can become possible, you cannot create solidarities, but you can create foundations that create kinds of solidarities. One part of the theoretical work needed is to be attentive to the fact that configurations of inequality take particular forms and particular times and particular spaces, and each of those configurations of inequality require a new solidarity as effective resistance.

The reflections emerging from these discussions and conversations over the DPU

anniversary year bring to the forefront the need of our Research Cluster to think and act beyond the following boundaries:

Firstly, the work on deep distribution and micro realities outlines the need for our work to cross boundaries of scale, from every day practices to the production of societal norms;

Secondly, the debates from our seminar on gender mainstreaming call for the crossing of the boundaries of the inside and outside, where a third space, the marginal, the liminal, emerges as a potential locus for the production of alternative and transformative politics;

Thirdly, the reflections from the DPU conference identify the need to cross boundaries of identities and subjectivities, as a means of building deeper bonds, while not losing sight of the uneasy nature of some of the solidarities that underlay those bonds;

And *fourthly*, drawing on the work of bell hooks, our thinking on solidarities needs to cross boundaries of time, reflecting not only on the histories of oppression and resistance, but also on the possible alliances for what is yet to come, and on the articulation of more just visions of the future.

In terms of potential spaces to advance some of these questions, many members of the cluster are involved in two large research projects where we will have the opportunity to investigate more specific questions in relation to these wider debates. One is the five-year, ongoing research project, *Well-being of Urban Citizens* in Nigeria, funded by DFID. The other is the 3-year project establishing the *Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre (SLURC)*, focused on building capacities and knowledge for improving the well-being of slum dwellers in Freetown. This project is funded by Comic Relief and DFID was launched in September 2015. (More information will be provided in the next DPU News.)

The issues emerging from the discussions during this year will also be explored in a cross-cluster research project which focuses on revisiting **Michael** **Safier's** concept of *Cosmopolitan Planning*, exploring the relationship between post conflict reconstruction and planning in divided societies.

The year's celebration of DPU's 60th anniversary was both exciting and stimulating and we look forward to sharing and building the reflections emerging from these and other projects in the future.

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Below: Make-shift roofing in Freetown, Sierra Leone. (Andrea Rigon)

Head on

DPUsummerLab Publication and Series

The *DPU summerLab 2014* series was once again a success and a 56-page tabloid publication is available online. Edited by **Camillo Boano** and **Giorgio Talocci**, *dpusummerLab 2014* edition features works and reflections from workshops in Medellín, Beirut, and London. **Catalina Ortiz**, **Dalia Chabarek** (UDP 2011-12) and Alberto Duman reflect on their cities' contested grand narratives and emergent urbanisms, while **Caroline Newton**, Giorgio Talocci and Camillo Boano build on the participants' works to question the current discipline and praxis of urban and architectural design.

Each section of the tabloid is also enriched by reflective pieces produced by the workshops' participants (in 2014 there were 44 participants across the three sites), and a special contribution by people that are (or have been) actively involved in the transformation of the environments where this year's *summerLab* series has taken place: Rubyselen Ortiz Sanchez from Comuna 8 in Medellín; Diala Lteif and Vrouyr Joubanian from the Académie Libanaise des Beaux-Arts in Beirut, along with Sue Brownill and Tamsin Omond in dialogue on the past, present and future of the Royal Docks in London.

This edition features a special insert, *Depoliticising Verticality,* a contribution by Josue Robles Caraballo, and projects by the students of the USF School of Architecture and Community Design (Tampa Florida), who have enthusiastically taken part in the last two editions of the London *summerLab* and worked in their design studio in Florida on the same themes.

The *summerLab* is a unique platform for one-week workshops in urban contested spaces, in partnership with local actors whose agenda is strongly grounded in processes of socio-spatial transformation.

After 2014's very successful experiences, *summerLab* 2015 visited Beirut and London again, as well as adding Santiago de Chile, Chicago and Mostar to the map.

Further details are available at **http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/ programmes/summerlab** or by writing to **dpusummerlab@ucl.ac.uk**.

Caren Levy Receives Student Choice Award for Outstanding Teaching

In June 2015, **Caren Levy** received the award for Outstanding Teaching at the UCL Student Choice Teaching Awards. Nominees were chosen by current students across UCL, for the way that their teaching inspires and motivates students in their chosen subject area. Caren is the Co-director of MSc Urban Development Planning (UDP) programme and Co-founder of the MSc Gender Policy and Planning programme.

Also from the DPU, **Robert Biel**, **Prof Antonio Estache**, **Liza Griffin,** and **Julian Walker** were nominated in the Outstanding Teaching Category, and **Christopher Yap** was nominated in the Outstanding Support for Teaching Category. All nominees were placed on the University College London Union 2015 Roll of Honour. Our congratulations to Caren and to all nominees!

For more information please visit: **http:// uclu.org/representation/student-choice- teaching-awards**.

Dialogues in Development

In November 2014, as part of the DPU's 60th Anniversary celebration, **Prof Nigel Harris** and **Le-Yin Zhang** were joined by Billy Cobbett, Director of the Cities Alliance, for a discussion entitled, '*Cities as Engines of Economic Growth*' Revisited, chaired by **Prof Julio D Dávila**. The well-attended session revisited some of Nigel Harris' ideas about the economic significance of urbanisation, and the rise of City Development Strategies.

In December 2014 the DPU held the final event in its 60th Anniversary series entitled, *Challenges in DPU's Next Decade: Closing DPU60.* The event invited members of each of the DPU's research clusters to reflect on the theme, *Thinking Across Boundaries*, and to draw attention to the issues that they hope will be debated for the next five years. **Alexandre Apsan Frediani** represented the Diversity, Social Complexity and Planned Intervention cluster, **Cassidy Johnson** represented the Environmental Justice, Urbanisation and Resilience Cluster, **Barbara Lipietz** represented the Urban Transformations Cluster, and **Michael Walls** represented the State and Market: Governance and Policy for Development cluster. The session was chaired by **Prof Julio D Dávila**, and we welcomed Prof David Simon, Professor of Development Geography at Royal Holloway, University of London, as discussant. The evening generated a lively debate and was a fitting close to the DPU's 60th Anniversary Year.

MSc Development Administration and Planning Fieldtrip and a Tragedy in Kathmandu, Nepal.

By Kamna Patel

On Saturday 25th April 2014, we in London were waking to the news that a powerful earthquake had struck Nepal. Seven days later 35 students on the Development Administration and Planning programme (DAP) were expected to board a plane to Kathmandu for a fieldtrip. That they never boarded the plane warrants relief and great sadness; relief at not being caught up in the tragedy of a powerful earthquake, and sadness at the scale of loss in Kathmandu.

News of the first powerful earthquake was followed shortly after by news of another. The numbers of people who had died, were lost or were forced to leave their homes, continued to rise in the following weeks. Images of ancient places students were to visit as part of a city orientation now show rubble and dust. When tragic events happen in distant places it can be difficult to translate every statistic in a death toll to a real person and every crumbled building to a home.

For our Nepali friends and fieldtrip partners, life changed in an instant. In those early days, when phone lines and internet connections returned, hasty messages confirmed they were alive and unhurt. The messages also revealed people slowly coming to terms with the challenges before them. All of our fieldtrip partners are engaged in the development sector either as scholars or practitioners. For them, a priority equal to securing their heath was returning to work to assist some of the poorest and most disadvantaged people in Kathmandu, people who are disproportionately affected by the consequences of an earthquake. We have tried to support their efforts to rebuild Kathmandu with some financial help. Overwhelmingly however, we have reinforced our distance from tragedy by cancelling the trip. Nonetheless, we are inspired and humbled by the commitment of our friends and partners in coping with the inescapable realities of this calamity.

Above: Community Mapping in Davao. (Laura Hirst)

DPU Junior Professional/DPU Alumni Programme, Southeast Asia

As part of a long-standing partnership between the Asian Coalition of Housing Rights (ACHR), the Community Architects Network (CAN) and the DPU, the *Junior Professional/DPU Alumni programme* aims to offer experience and on-the-job-training for junior development professionals in Southeast Asia. The partnership is envisaged as a collective learning process with the aim of encouraging knowledge-sharing and innovation development, grounded in the partner organisations' collaborative tactical interventions and local experience.

The second wave of the six-month programme kicked off in January 2015 with three DPU alumni placed in the regional offices of the Philippine Alliance, a partnership of five organisations working with the urban poor across the country to achieve secure tenure and sustainable, affordable housing solutions. Assigned to Metro Manila (**Mariangela Veronesi**, ESD 2011-12), Mandaue (**Jessica Mamo**, BUDD 2013-14), and Davao (**Laura Hirst**, SDP 2011-13), each of the Junior Professionals has been involved in a wide variety of projects and activities.

In Metro Manila, the main focus of

Mariangela's work has been community mapping two areas of the region; in Muntinlupa as part of the World Bank Citywide Development Approach, and in Intramuros as part of a revitalisation plan for the area. In addition she co-coordinated the third CAN workshop in June 2015, which brought together 150 participants from 15 countries, to take forward work in Intramuros and Muntinlupa. Culminating in public fora, the workshop acted as an important catalyst in both sites, opening up new partnerships, activities and generating energy amongst stakeholders.

Jessica's work in Mandaue City has been as part of the TAMPEI-Cebu team providing technical assistance to urban poor communities. Her work has included project development for sanitation facilities at a relocation site, as well as bridging information and awareness gaps between communities and local institutions.

In Davao City, Laura has been working closely on a community mapping and planning process with a coastal settlement in the first stage of a wider **barangay** (ward) level planning process for informal settlers. Both Jessica and Laura have also been supporting city-wide settlement

profiling as part of the Slum/Shack Dwellers International (SDI) *Know Your City* campaign.

A closing workshop in Manila in August brought together alliance colleagues and representatives from CAN, ACHR, and DPU to provide a space for reflection on the time spent in the Philippines, as well as an opportunity to communicate collective learning in different contexts, and provide inputs for the next phase of the programme. For more information about the work of the Philippine Alliance please visit the DPU blog: **https://blogs.ucl.ac.uk/dpublog/2015/03/17/ philippine-alliance-collaboration-for- planning-design/**.

DPU Lectures and Seminars

In December 2014 the DPU welcomed Syrian architect, planner and development consultant, Roudina Al Khani, for a lecture entitled, *Meeting Development and Sustainability Challenges in North Europe and the Middle East*. The lecture highlighted the advantages of pilot projects and innovative and flexible solutions, and noted how experiences in different cultures can inspire each other.

In January 2015 Clara Irazábal, Latin Lab Director and Assistant Professor of Urban Planning in the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation at Columbia University, New York City, delivered a presentation entitled, *Transbordering Latin Americas: Liminal Places, Cultures, and Power (T)Here.* Speaking across the 'spatial sciences' – architecture, urban design, urban planning, and geography – as well as sociology, anthropology, history, and economics, the presentation explored the transbordering practices of place making and community

building across cultural and nation-state borders.

In February, the DPU welcomed Prof Ricky Burdett, Professor of Urban Studies and Director of LSE Cities and the *Urban Age Programme* for a lecture entitled, *Understanding Cities in an Urban Age*, exploring the interactions between space and society in some of the world's most rapidly changing cities. Ricky was joined by discussant, **Jorge Fiori**.

In March, Mwanakombo M. Mkanga, urban social development specialist with Community Centre Initiatives (CCI) in Dar es Salaam, and Husna Seif Shechonge, a community savings scheme leader from Keko Machungwa, Dar es Salaam, joined **Ruth McLeod** for a discussion entitled, *Pro-poor City-wide Sanitation: Reflections from Dar es Salaam*, chaired by **Pascale Hofmann**.

Later in March, Urban Planner and Political Geographer, Jonathan Rokem, joined **Camilo Boano** for a presentation entitled, *Contested Urbanism – Learning from London, Stockholm and Jerusalem*, which examined the wellbeing of immigrants and minority groups in East London. Also in March, Professor Madhav Badami from the School of Urban Planning and the McGill School of Environment at McGill University, delivered a lecture entitled, *Bridging the Gap between Urban Transport Needs and Policy in India.*

And in June, Shriya Anand, visiting researcher from the Indian Institute for Human Settlements gave a lecture entitled, *States of Development: Does Infrastructure Planning Reinforce Trajectories of Inequality?* The presentation explored the historical evolution of the planning and provisioning of particular types of industrial infrastructure in post-independence India.

Research

Urban Africa Risk Knowledge: Investigating Urbanisation, Poverty and Disaster Risk in Sub-Saharan Africa

DPU is a key part of a research consortium that has been awarded £3.3 million from the UK's Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and Department for International Development (DFID) Poverty Alleviation programme. *Urban Africa Risk Knowledge (Urban ARK)* is a 3-year programme that seeks to better understand the nature and scale of disaster risks in urban centres. By studying the interaction of environmental hazards - such as earthquakes and temperature extremes - in areas with poor housing and marginalised communities, the research aims to break the cycles by which vulnerability and the incapacity to cope with hazards accrue in society.

One of the real challenges in many parts of sub-Saharan Africa is a lack of available data and knowledge on risk. The *Urban ARK* project will build on established risk information methods such as *Vulnerability and Capacity Assessment* and *DesInventar*, and on the existing work of the African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC) – one of the key consortium partners – in order to refine a methodology for generating and sharing information. Urban ARK will work in Dakar (Senegal), Ibadan (Nigeria), Karonga (Malawi), Mombasa and Nairobi (Kenya) and Niamey (Niger).

Led by **Cassidy Johnson**, the DPU team comprises, **Prof Adriana Allen, Caren Levy, Barbara Lipietz, Rita Lambert**, and **Donald Brown**. The DPU-led work package employs £450,000 of the overall budget and will be undertaken with inputs from ARUP International Development.

Urban ARK is led by King's College London and is by its nature a highly collaborative project, bringing together researchers from Africa (African Population and Health Research Centre, University of Ibadan, Mzuzu University, Université Abdou Moumouni and University of Cape Town) with practitioners (ARUP, International Alert, Save the Children and UN-HABITAT) and international research partners.

Disrupting Urban Risk Traps: Bridging Finance and Knowledge for Climate Resilient Infrastructural Planning in Lima

Also known as *cLIMAsinRiesgo,* this 20-month action-research project began in February 2015 and is funded by the *Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)*. The project is led by **Prof Adriana Allen** from the DPU, with **Rita Lambert, Rossana Poblet** and **Teresa Belkow**, and is being undertaken with various collaborators in Lima, Peru: Silvia de

Below: Learning Lima interns, local partners and MSc Environment and Sustainable Development (ESD)' staff and students ready to start work in Lima. (Adriana Allen)

los Rios, CIDAP; Carlos Estrada Escalante, CENCA; Liliana Miranda, Foro Ciudades Para La Vida; Linda Zilbert and Marco Kamiya, UN-HABITAT (Kenya). The project will also see contributions from Prof Muki Haklay at the Department for Civil, Environmental and Geomatic Engineering, UCL, and Prof Andy Hudson-Smith at Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis, UCL.

The research focuses on understanding everyday risks by looking at episodic and repetitive environmental hazards. Gaining little attention and often going unrecorded due to their relatively small scale, these everyday risks are poorly understood and addressed in policy-making circles. In particular, the project seeks to gain a better understanding of the production of 'risk traps', whereby the accumulation of everyday risks in certain localities tends to grow exponentially thereby threatening and undermining the multiple efforts and investments made by the urban poor and state agencies to either cope with or mitigate risk.

The project builds upon DPU's continued engagement with local groups and organisations in Lima since 2012 through the *Learning Lima* platform (**www.learninglima. net**). Two marginalised areas were chosen as case studies: the ever-growing informal settlements occupying steep slopes and fragile ecosystems on the city's fringes; and the historic centre which concentrates dysfunctional infrastructure, deteriorating buildings, and vulnerable tenants.

Adopting a participatory action research approach, local communities and state agencies are brought together to deepen spatial knowledge, assess ongoing investments and efforts to mitigate and reduce risk, and ultimately to look for potential ways to disrupt cycles of risk through coordinated actions and investments.

Twelve young Peruvian professionals were also selected as interns to join *Learning Lima*. Led by Prof Adriana Allen and Rita Lambert in collaboration with **Zeremariam Fre**, **Liza Griffin**, Rossana Poblet, **Diana Salazar** and **Étienne von Bertrab**, the interns worked side-by-side with local partners and fifty students from the DPU MSc Environment and Sustainable Development (ESD) on the quest to understand the environmental risks experienced by ordinary women and men in Metropolitan Lima. Their work focused on the areas of Barrios Altos, Jose Carlos Mariátegui, El Agustino, Costa Verde, Pachacamac and Chuquitanta. To find out more visit the website: **http:// www.climasinriesgo.net**.

Above: Watjust reports now available.

WatJust – Translocal Learning for Water Justice: Peri-urban Pathways in India, Tanzania and Bolivia.

This translocal learning alliance led by **Prof Adriana Allen** was launched in September 2014 with a seed grand from the International Social Sciences Council (ISSC). During the six months of the project, the team documented and analysed alternative water management arrangements, focusing on those undertaken for and by the peri-urban poor, in Kolkata (India), Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), and Cochabamba (Bolivia). This led to the production of a number of outputs, including water justice city profiles and a series of videos. The entire project team met in Dar es Salaam in February 2015 to discuss how to take the research forward. The aim is to explore in more detail the extent to which co-produced service arrangements can not only meet people's basic needs but also activate citizens' rights and enhance water justice. This is particularly key in a context where unmet needs are growing fast, and where conventional, centralised networks are unlikely to become the norm in the future. For more information and to view the project outputs visit the project website **http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/water-justice**.

Mapping to Interrupt Unjust Urban Trajectories in Lima- Experiences from 'Mapping Beyond the Palimpsest'

The research project, *Mapping beyond the Palimpsest*, also known as *ReMap Lima*, concluded in mid-2015 after an intensive 18 months of experimentation. Funded by the Bartlett Materialisation Grant, and led by DPU (with **Prof Adriana Allen** and

Rita Lambert as Principal Investigators), it was established as a collaboration between the Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis (CASA), UCL (Andrew Hudson-Smith and Flora Roumpani), three organisations in Peru (CENCA, CIDAP, Foro Ciudades Para la Vida), in partnership with local communities from two contested settlements in Lima. Drone Adventures (Alexandre Habersaat and Emanuele Lubrano), the makers of senseFly eBee drones, also collaborated by donating their time as well as the drone images produced for the project.

The research sought to explore the political agency and capacity of mapping to reframe the understanding of, and action upon two highly contested territories in Lima. The mapping process involved two simultaneous modes for capturing and interrogating otherwise 'invisible' processes of change: mapping from the sky using drones, and mapping from the ground, undertaken together with local communities.

In Barrios Altos the transect walks and 2D and 3D images brought light to the processes of slow eviction, illegal land use changes occurring behind both conserved and deteriorating facades. In Jose Carlos Mariátegui, in the periphery of Lima, the mapping enabled the apprehension of the steep ravines as an interconnected system of settlements, the vicious cycles of risk, and

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Opposite page: Preparing for the transect walk together with community mappers. (Rita Lambert)

Below: 3D mapping of the terrain in Lima.

the practices of land traffickers.

Many of the project's outputs, which include a video documentary of the process, photographs, 2D and 3D drone images, printed models using Makerbot Replicators and projections of the various variables collected were exhibited in July 2015 in London, and in Lima in October 2015.

For more information visit the project website: https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/mapping-beyond-the-palimpsest and the blog: http://remaplima.blogspot.co.uk/.

Participation in ESRC-Funded Research on Partnership and Development

Alexandre Apsan Frediani, Julian Walker, and PhD student Stephanie Butcher are part of an ESRC-funded research seminar series on *Rethinking Research Partnerships: Evidence and Politics of Partnership in Academic/ INGO Research Partnerships*, led by Jude Fransman (Open University) and Kate Newman (Christian Aid). The research interrogates the politics of the relationship between UK academic institutions and the INGOs involved through examination of a series of case studies as well as wider reflection on the productive tensions inherent in this form of collaboration. The DPU team will present a case study based on their work with the NGO Practical Action on their *People's Plans into Practice Project (PPP)* in Kisumu, Kenya, which has been conducted through multiple avenues, including institutional level conceptual engagement and methodological

engagement on well-being and diversity, student fieldwork-based research, and TAS (Training and Advisory Services) inputs, which include the final evaluation of the project.

Political Settlement in Somaliland: a gendered perspective

This ESRC-DFID funded research project kicked off in July 2015, with the aim of developing a better understanding of the gender dynamics in Somaliland's political settlement. Literature on political settlements has attracted considerable attention in recent years, though there remains considerable ground to cover in deepening and specifying the parameters of the concept. Notably little work has been undertaken to date that specifically examines gender differences in both the process of arriving at a settlement or in the experiences of women and men in living with that settlement. This project will aim to explore both the ideas of political settlement and their intersection with gender roles and experiences, and their value in helping us understand the Somaliland case.

The UK-based project team is led by Principal Investigator **Michael Walls**, working in partnership with Co-Investigator Malou Schueller from Progressio, with support from Research Assistant and DPU graduate **Amina-Bahja Ekman** (née Dubad) (DAP 2012-13). The team spent five weeks in July and August 2015 in Hargeisa, establishing a project office and recruiting a Somaliland research team. They were delighted to be able to bring a number of experienced and less experienced Hargeisa-based researchers on-board. The full group of researchers ran a series of local workshops, before starting the process of data collection, using a mixed methodology. Most data will be qualitative, with key informant interviews, focus groups and group discussion-based interviews predominating. The project is scheduled to run over 18 months, with the UK research team next returning to Somaliland for several weeks in January 2016.

Pathways Out of Urban Water Poverty

A range of studies have shown a considerable gap in service provision in peri-urban areas and small towns, with the inhabitants of those areas experiencing some of the worst levels of water service provision, and Nigeria is no exception. Over the last 50 years, the country has been experiencing increasing urban expansion and the emergence of new urban centres. However, since 1990, access to improved

Above: A community operated borehole in Kombo, Dar es Salaam. (Adriana Allen)

Right: Mapping trajectories in and out of urban water poverty. (Adriana Allen)

sanitation and the provision of water piped into premises in urban Nigeria has been declining.

Within the DFID-funded, *Urbanisation Research Nigeria (URN) programme*, a new research project coordinated by **Pascale Hofmann** focuses on providing a better understanding of urban water poverty in Nigeria and Tanzania, particularly for those living in the peripheries of large cities, and exploring sustainable pathways out of it. The research team includes **Prof Adriana Allen**, Taibat Lawanson at the Department for Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Lagos, and the Centre for Community Initiatives (CCI) in Dar es Salaam.

The project will benefit from DPU's ongoing research on urban water poverty in Tanzania, particularly through the development and application of innovative methodologies to capture pathways out of water poverty across Lagos and Dar es Salaam. This investigation aims to; 1) explore and map different institutionalised approaches to reduce urban water poverty; 2) evaluate which interventions work most effectively in getting people out of water

poverty in different urban contexts and why; 3) explore the conditions under which improved access to water and sanitation services translates into long-lasting, adequate access; and 4) identify the specific conditions that explain when, how and why some households are able to achieve long-lasting adequate access to water and sanitation services while others are not. The study will therefore provide an in-depth exploration of the specific trajectories experienced in and out of urban water poverty by peri-urban households lacking access to networked systems under different spatial and socio-economic conditions.

Connections

Helen Jane Hobson (SDP 1998-99), Senior Social Development Adviser Department for International Development was awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the 2015 Queen's Honours list, for Services to Women in Developing Countries (Combating Female Genital Mutilation).

Three DPU alumni, **Riccardo Conti** (BUDD 2013-14), **Joana Dabaj** (BUDD 2013-14), and **Laura Antona** (BUDD 2013-14), founded *CatalyticAction*; a not-for-profit design studio working to better the lives of marginalised and disadvantaged groups. They are currently working to implement a playground for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. For more information take a look at their website: **http://www.catalyticaction.org/become-a-volunteer/**; and Facebook page: **https://www.facebook.com/CatalyticAction**.

Alberto Piccioli (BUDD 2013-14) is currently doing an internship as development architect at C-re-a.i.d, a non-profit organization based in Moshi, Tanzania, which conducts research and practice on the role of architecture in the challenge of poverty alleviation and community empowerment in Northern Tanzania. It does so through fieldwork, organising design and construction, empowering local craftsmen and receiving students to carry out material changes that can reduce families' vulnerability and trigger long term improvements.

Above: Alberto Picciolo in conversation with community members in Moshi, Tanzania.

Emanuele Fois (BUDD 2013-14) joined the Urban Research and Capacity Development Branch of UN-Habitat in Nairobi as an Intern. He is working, under the supervision of Claudio Acioly, in the Capacity Development Unit (CDU), which seeks to improve knowledge on urban issues and to build capacity in dealing with urbanisation at local, national, and global levels.

In April 2015, **Guida Ramos** (BUDD 2009-10) was involved in the organisation of *Archikidz* in Lisbon. *Archikidz* is an international workshop that aims to teach children about architecture and the importance of the built space that surrounds them and in which they live in. For more information please visit **http://ppl.com.pt/pt/prj/archikidz-lisboa-2015**.

Sophie Ayling (DAP 2010-12) is now working as a Research Associate at Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) in Lima, Peru, and has also recently taken on a consultancy role with the World Bank. She met DPU staff Prof Adriana Allen, Rita Lambert and Étienne von Bertrab during the MSc Environment and Sustainable Development fieldtrip to Lima in April-May 2015, where possible research synergies were discussed between her work at IPA and DPU's research project *cLIMAsinRiesgo*.

Justina Adlyte (DAP 2012-13) now holds a permanent position in the Global Corporate Responsibility team at Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu. The team is responsible for internal promotion and coordination of Deloitte's global activities in support of sustainability and social responsibility objectives. Justina plays an active role in helping to shape the consultancy's commitment in those areas.

Kayo Takahashi (DAP 2010-11) is now working as a National Coordination Officer of Joint Regional Programmes at UN Women in Cambodia, based in Phnom Penh. Prior to that she spent just under two years as a consultant with the Embassy of Japan in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, where she gained a wide range of experience on development-focused issues. Kayo reports that life in Phnom Penh and work with the UN is so far treating her well, and marks a significant change from her time in Ethiopia.

Amina-Bahja Ekman (née Dubad) (DAP 2012-13) joined the ESRC-DFID-funded research project *Political Settlement in Somaliland: a gendered perspective* in July 2015 as Research Assistant. The research itself is outlined above, with Amina's role being to provide support to the London-based research team, and to help facilitate communication between researchers in Somaliland and in the UK.

James Boyle (ESD 2014-15) is now working as Outreach and Campaigns Officer at The Climate Coalition (see **http://www.theclimatecoalition.org**). He recently contacted DPU to discuss future collaborations and shared fond memories of his fieldwork in Lima: "Our trip out there with ESD was incredible, especially when you look back on it, and the perfect culmination of an amazing year. The course has been really useful for me, opened loads of doors and also gave me some genuine lifelong friends, which I wasn't expecting - so thanks!"

Santa Pedone (ESD 2009-10) has been working at the London Gypsy and Traveller Unit as a Planning Policy Intern and more recently started to work with the Just Space Network as a co-ordinator of a group of UCL students working with community groups on BAME community assets. She writes: "My task will be to monitor planning policy requirements for the allocation of sites to travellers and map alternative housing provision in London. In the last two years I have worked for different organisations working on neighbourhood forums, which commissioned me with some GIS and interactive maps. I am very grateful that the ESD course introduced me to mapping because I developed these skills and now I am very good at it."

Nick Anim (ESD 2012-13) started his doctoral research at the DPU in September 2014, focusing on *Transition Cities: Exploring the Viability Of Community-Based Initiatives Towards the Transition to Low-Carbon Just and Sustainable Cities*, working under the supervision of Liza Griffin and Vanesa Castán Broto. Since February 2015, Nick has been supporting the Environmental Justice Urbanisation and Resilience (EJUR) research cluster and is coordinating its recently launched Reading Group. Nick can be contacted at **nick.anim.12@ucl.ac.uk**.

Hands on

Building the Evidence Base for Humanitarian Response in Cities

The DPU has released a major literature review examining the current evidence base on humanitarian response and development in urban areas, commissioned by DFID's Humanitarian Policy and Partnership Group, CHASE. The review, produced by **Donald Brown**, **Camillo Boano**, **Cassidy Johnson**, Janani Vivekananda, and **Julian Walker**, takes a unique looks at humanitarian response in urban areas from the perspective of 'urban development', rather than from the more traditional perspective of 'urban response'.

The focus of the review is on the response phase of disaster recovery; the early part of post-disaster response, which comes during and immediately after the disaster, and generally before reconstruction happens. It draws on published academic literature and humanitarian agency reports, and was informed by a series of workshops involving INGOs, practitioners, academics and global partners.

The review responds to the fact that crises, such as disasters, forced migration, conflict and violence are occurring in urban areas with increasing frequency and intensity. The impacts of climate change may increase crises in future. However, humanitarian actors are finding that responding to crises in urban areas presents a new set of challenges. In bringing together literature from the areas of humanitarian response and urban development planning, the review identifies important knowledge gaps. It aims to provide guidance for DFID and others operating in the area to inform their future work by illustrating where more evidence is needed.

The review is structured around the themes of: *complex and diverse communities; infrastructure systems; markets;* and *local governance structures and capacities.* The publication is available to download from: **https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/ publications/dpu-report-1**.

Water Privatisation in Mexico

In response to moves by the Mexican government to deepen the privatisation of water services, **Étienne von Bertrab** has produced a short film in which renowned scholars and activists from around the world give their views on Mexico's dangerous pathway. Contributors include **Prof Adriana Allen**, **Prof David Satterthwaite**, and Prof Esteban Castro from Newcastle University and Secretary of the water network, *WATERLAT*.

Following two decades of building a neoliberal water governance model, the Mexican government has recently sought to pass a new water law that would deepen the privatisation of water services but also strengthen the reconfiguration of water resources management in a way that privileges economic actors over the rights of communities and indigenous peoples.

The *Ley General de Aguas* (LGA) has been heavily criticised by Mexican scholars, activists and grassroots organisations who, over the last year, have articulated and proposed an alternative law based on principles of human rights, social justice and environmental sustainability. Etienne's video has been made in support of the nation-wide struggle to block the LGA in order to open up public deliberation of the water law Mexico needs. The mobilisation forced legislators behind the LGA to back off, although only for some months: it is feared that a second attempt to pass this law will be attempted.

The film (in Spanish) can be viewed at **https://vimeo.com/122928025**.

ASF-UK Change by Design London and Cape Town Workshops

Architecture Sans Frontières (ASF)-UK's *Change by Design* programme, supported by the DPU and focusing on participatory design, has conducted two workshops on inclusive regeneration. In September 2014, **Alexandre Apsan Frediani** and colleagues from ASF-UK, in partnership with CitizensUK, School of Architecture

Top: Dwelling exercise in Cape Town workshop. (ASF-UK)

Below: Final workshop in Euston. (ASF-UK)

at University of Sheffield, and UCL Urban Laboratory ran a workshop aimed at developing community-designed scenarios seeking to bring about positive outcomes of the proposed High Speed Two (HS2) rail link in the Euston area for local residents. The work contributed to the ongoing engagement of the Camden chapter of Citizens UK by supporting the formulation of their HS2 Citizens Charter. The Charter aims to represent local aspirations and enhance residents' bargaining power when advocating for benefits from the HS2 scheme to the local community.

Then in April 2015, the team ran a workshop in Cape Town partnering with the Development Action Group focusing on supporting the process of re-imagining regeneration in the suburb of Woodstock. Through a series of design-based activities,

the workshop brought together a variety of civil society, governmental and private sector actors to think about regeneration as a means of addressing rather than reinforcing the spatial inequalities in the city of Cape Town. Both initiatives applied the participatory design methodology developed through previous workshops in Brazil, Kenya and Ecuador, which explored the ways in which such methodologies can be applied in processes of contested inner-city change.

For more information on the Euston workshop, see report: **http://issuu.com/asf-uk/docs/cbd_london_report_/1**. And for the Cape Town experience, see the description of activities at the ASF-UK Blog: **https://**

changebydesigncapetown.wordpress.com/.

DPU Joins Habitat International Coalition Prior to Habitat III

The DPU is engaging with the Habitat III process by generating a series of initiatives aimed at stimulating the debate around the content of the new agenda as well as the process through which it is taking shape. This engagement, coordinated by **Alexandre Apsan Frediani** and **Barbara Lipietz**, with **Rafaella Simas Lima**, has brought together DPU partners from civil society to support their engagement in the ongoing debates. With this objective in mind, the DPU joined the Habitat International Coalition Habitat III Working Group, which seeks a *New Habitat Agenda* – not merely an 'urban' agenda – for the 21st Century. According to the aims of the Working Group, this *"new Habitat agenda recognises the ever-changing*

Above: Sharing findings of research in Tunisia during Habitat International Coalition (HIC) AGM. (HIC)

....

dynamics and continuity of human civilization and the built environment, respecting the urban-rural continuum, and forefronts greater autonomy, meaningful participation and responsible citizenship at the local level". DPU's engagement with this agenda so far has focused on applying the concept of the Right to the City to analyse key national reporting processes leading up to Habitat III conference. The analysis acts as groundwork for strategic engagement by HIC and its partners in the Habitat III process. The

findings of this research were shared during sessions at the World Social Forum in Tunisia in March 2015, a round table discussion organised in partnership with the Building Social Housing Foundation at the DPU in April 2015, and in a side event during the second session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Nairobi entitled, Civil society and local government's expectations for Habitat III. For more information and to download the report please visit: **https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/habitat-III**.

More on Habitat III: DPU Selected to Lead Unit 7 (Urban Economic Development)

After being nominated for the role by DFID, DPU has been selected to lead Unit 7 (Urban Economic Development Strategies); one of ten policy units set up to inform the Habitat III process. DPU is represented by Prof **Julio D Dávila** and **Le-Yin Zhang**. (More information on this process and DPU's involvement will be included in the next DPU News.)

Exploring the Role of Partnerships for Local Participatory Development with Chilean Municipal Councillors and Mayors

Alexandre Apsan Frediani, and current MSc Social Development Practice (SDP) student, **Maria Paz Sagredo**, delivered two seminars to a group of Municipal Councillors and Mayors from four of the poorest municipalities from the south of Chile, organised by the Embassy of Chile in the UK. The Councillors and Mayors were visiting London in the context of a tour to learn about different experiences of local development in Europe.

The main topic of the meetings was the relevance of networks in processes of participatory local development. Drawing on experiences of the DPU in London, Kenya and Ecuador, the group discussed the role that universities can play in local development.

The experience in Kisumu, Kenya, contributed to an understanding of how the network between DPU, the NGO Practical Action and neighbourhood associations has promoted the recognition of the needs of the most vulnerable groups. In the case of London, the group analysed how the partnership between the DPU, London Citizens, ASF-UK, Camden Council and local community groups has promoted the sustainability of a network that seeks to ensure the distribution of benefits of the

expansion of the HS2 train in Euston for local residents. Finally, the group learned how the network between ASF-UK, local universities, neighbourhood associations and local government has contributed to the replicability of participatory mechanisms in informal settlement upgrading in Quito, Ecuador.

Councillors and Mayors also examined how networks have promoted collaboration and coordination between different actors, community involvement, generation of knowledge and new opportunities in their municipalities. The reflections focused on a series of insights on how some of the experiences discussed could benefit the participants' own work in Chile.

DPUsummerLab in Florida and Latin Lab in New York

Camillo Boano was invited to give a lecture and to participate in a crit session at the School of Architecture and Community Design in University of South Florida (USF) in Tampa, Florida, by Robert McLeod and alumni **Josue Robles Caraballo** (BUDD 2010-11) who now leads an urban studio at USF. The crit session focused on the project, *Politicising Verticality,* based on work developed in the last two years of the *DPUsummerLab*. USF students used the London-based week to develop their work and to expand their design strategies. After

Tampa, Camillo travelled to Miami to meet the head of the undergraduate programme at the Faculty of Architecture, University of Miami, Carie Penabad. They discussed possible collaborations and shared some experiences around studio pedagogies. The US tour ended in New York where Camillo talked at the Latin Lab at Columbia University, in a seminar entitled, *Design Authorship and Grassroots Participation*; part of an International Development concentration at GSAPP, Columbia University.

Cities Institute Universidade Federal de São Paulo – Partnership with DPU

In November 2014 **Camillo Boano** was invited to a workshop organised by UNIFESP titled *Political Pedagogical Project of the Cities Institute Universidade Federal de São Paulo* to represent DPU and to sign a memorandum of understanding for future collaboration. The workshop was a consultative one to evaluate and reflect on the *Pedagogical Project* which involves both UNIFESP itself, and local social movements in developing a new campus east zone. As well as DPU, participants will come from: La Plata Faculty of Architecture, Argentina; the Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bangalore, India; The Graduate Center - City University of New York CUNY, New York; the London School of Economics (LSE) Cities Program; Les Grands Ateliers

- Innovation, Architecture, Ingénierie, Art, Isle d'Abeau, Lyon; and others. The Instituto das Cidades is a truly innovative project and DPU shared experiences with action-oriented pedagogy, design research and trans-disciplinary engagement and design pedagogies in light of the 'public' nature of the educational plan and the direct involvement in and with the urban territory. The location of the campus in the east zone is a very positive decision and likely to prove a great asset for the Institute as they develop their 'liberating pedagogy'. The location will ensure the Institute is at the centre of São Paulo's vibrant urban scene, as they seek to "became an important field of popular mobilisation for the democratisation of the city and society".

Networks and Meetings

DPU in Santiago: Encuentros ChileGlobal, Universidad de Chile, Universidad Central and alumni get-together

Encuentros ChileGlobal is an international and multidisciplinary conference covering a diverse range of topics, from *Astrophysics* to *Urbanism*. For the 2014 event, held in Santiago in December 2014, **Prof Julio D Dávila** and **Camillo Boano** participated in a theme convened by DPU PhD candidate, **Francisco Vergara**, entitled *Democratic Cities*. On the basis of that presentation, TV channel Canal 13 Cable then broadcast a documentary presenting Julio, Camillo and Francisco's views on urban development in Santiago.

At the invitation of DPU alumnus, **Ernesto Lopez-Morales**, Julio and Camillo also presented at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of Universidad de Chile, where they participated in Ernesto's *Contested Cities* Seminar Series.

In addition, Francisco Vergara interviewed both Julio and Camillo for the Universidad Central School of Architecture. That interview was published in December 2015 as part of an edition of the journal, *Revista de Diseño Urbano y Paisaje*.

Finally, Julio's and Camillo's presence offered a perfect opportunity for an alumni gathering in Santiago. Eduardo Martinez offered his house and a great time was had by all for a Chilean barbecue.

Street Trading in the Global South

In March 2015, the DPU held an Exchange Seminar, Street Trading in the Global South: *Practical and Theoretical Challenges*. The event, organised by **Prof Yves Cabannes** and PhD student, **Lila Orchiard**, brought together researchers and practitioners from around the world to contribute critically to the conceptualisation of street trading in cities.

Street trading, a widespread practice in global South cities, is a growing phenomenon. City authorities are confronted with practical difficulties due to the contradictions that street trading generates in the context of 'modernising' cities. Theoretical constructs are important to build a deeper and more integrated understanding so as to design suitable and adapted interventions.

Indefensible Spaces

In March 2015, the DPU hosted a half-day colloquium as part of the on going research project, *Indefensible Spaces*, exploring the relationships between water and sanitation and gender-based violence in Mumbai, India. Led by **Caren Levy** and David Osrin (UCL Institute for Global Health) and under the auspices of the UCL Institute for Global Health (IGH), the project is partnering with the Society for Nutrition, Education and Health Action (SNEHA) in Mumbai.

The aim of this UCL IGH/DPU event is to highlight the problems and strategies related to gender-based violence faced by women in slums because of lack of secure and dignified access to toilets, focusing on the experience of communities in Dharavi in Mumbai, India.

The objectives of the project are twofold: to raise awareness amongst community leaders, health care providers, law enforcement officials, engineers, urban planners and designers of the experience and perceived threats of violence faced by women because of lack of secure and dignified access to toilets in slums; and to explore community-led strategies in place to address the experienced and perceived threat of violence faced by women because of lack of secure and dignified access to toilets in slums.

One of the key outputs of the project is a participatory film made with communities in the informal settlement of Dharavi in Mumbai. This colloquium saw the first London screening of the film, *Indefensible Space*, which had premiered in the Dharavi Biennale, an art festival that took place in Dharavi in February and March, 2015. The Project is funded by the UCL Grand Challenges.

For further thoughts on this issue, see the DPU blog at http://blogs.ucl.ac.uk/dpublog/2015/03/11/gender-sanitation-hidden-issue-gender-based-violence/.

Workshop on Urban Transport and Well-being

In June 2015, DPU organised and hosted a workshop on urban transport and well-being, with participation from **Prof Julio Dávila**, **Caren Levy** and **Daniel Orviedo**.

DPU at COP20

In December 2014, **Prof Adriana Allen** and PhD student, **Monica Bernal** were at COP20, where *Learning Lima* ran a stand in collaboration with Foro Ciudades para la Vida, CENCA and CIDAP to share the work of the platform and community partners. Throughout the event, local communities from Barrios Altos, Jose Carlos Mariátegui and several other parts of Lima shared their experiences of living with and responding to the everyday risks exacerbated by climate change.

Visit from Delegation from Tianjin, China

In May 2015, DPU welcomed a high-profile delegation from the Chinese city of Tianjin. Amongst the guests was the Deputy Mayor of the city, Wang Hong-Jian. Discussion centred on how to enhance 'liveability' and economic value in Tianjin, one of China's major cities.

Southern Urban Planning Theory Panel

In June 2015, **Prof Adriana Allen** and **Barbara Lipietz** joined a lively debate on *Southern Urban Planning Theory* as panellists. Organised by the UCL Human Geography Seminar Series, this event featured a keynote presentation by Prof Vanessa Watson of the African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town. The event included the screening of an introductory video produced for the DPU 60th Anniversary Video, *Thinking Across Boundaries: Planning Dilemmas in the Urban Global South*, which includes contributions from colleagues across the global South and at UCL. To watch the whole series of videos produced by DPU visit **https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/dpu/dpu60/tab**.

Urban Service Delivery: The Technical is Political. Roundtable at ODI

In January 2015, **Prof Adriana Allen** and **Prof David Satterthwaite**, together with Prof Diana Mitlin, kicked-off a discussion on the challenge of improving urban service delivery across the Global South. Organised by ODI, this roundtable brought together researchers, policy makers and practitioners working on issues of urban service delivery and governance to consider how different approaches can complement and inform collective work on urbanisation.

Development Studies Association Study Group on Urbanisation and Development

It is well known that over 50% of the world's population now lives in urban areas. This involves not only ongoing rapid urbanisation in certain regions of the Global South but also the growth of new and well-established challenges and opportunities in urban change across Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean and the Middle East. A focus on human development points to the importance of engaging with pressing issues including urbanisation, demographic change and population growth; economic growth or stagnation and the implications for livelihoods;

environmental challenges including climate change, hazards and disasters; basic services; shelter and housing; conflict and security; and governance and planning processes and responses.

The Development Studies Association (DSA) *Urbanisation and Development* study group seeks to explore these issues, with a particular focus on how they affect low-income urban residents, and their gender dimensions, from both scholarly and practitioner perspectives. The group's formation also reflects the interest among participants of engaging with current and emerging policy priorities, including the presence of an 'urban' goal in the SDGs and the upcoming Habitat III summit in 2016. A core aim for the group is therefore to facilitate a network in support of influencing current and emerging policy agendas, drawing on existing links to academic, NGO, government and private sector communities in these fields in the global South, in support of an inclusive and collaborative approach.

If you wish to join the group, please contact one of the convenors: **Prof Adriana Allen**, DPU, UCL **a.allen@ucl. ac.uk**, Tom Goodfellow, University of Sheffield **t.goodfellow@sheffield.ac.uk**, Melanie Lombard, University of Manchester **melanie.lombard@manchester.ac.uk** and Anna Walnycki, IIED **anna.walnycki@iied. org.**

DPU Research Cluster in Environmental Justice, Urbanisation and Resilience (EJUR) Launches Online Reading Group

The EJUR Reading Group provides an online platform to share reviews of articles and books related to the cluster's central organising themes of:

- Rural-urban linkages and metabolisms in the Peri-Urban Interface
- Food security, sovereignty and urban agriculture
- Vulnerability and risk production, reproduction, and reduction
- Institutional paths in service and infrastructure production
- Planning and insurgent practices for socio-environmental transformations.

As well as the cluster's existing membership, we invite all-comers whose interests and projects fall under the overarching umbrella of environmental justice, urbanisation and resilience, to contribute to the knowledge network and evolution of the EJUR Reading Group. Reviews will be published periodically on the DPU's EJUR web page and as an added incentive, the four most prolific contributors will each receive a £50 book token. Please contact **Nick Anim** for further information (**nick.anim.12@ucl.ac.uk**).

PhD Programme

PhDs Awarded

Warm congratulations to **Piyapong Boossabong, Chloe Fevre, Lila Oriard Colin, Raphaëlle Bisiaux, Alix Valenti** and **Farnaz Arefian,** each of whom successfully completed their doctorates in 2015!

Piyapong's research focused on *The Role of Local Governance and Social Capital in Agri-Environmental Policy in Thailand*, while Chloe's thesis offered a gender analysis of the role of development institutions in *Preventing and Mitigating Urban Violence in Latin America.* Lila examined *Street vending and its ability to produce space* in the Tepito market area of downtown Mexico City.

Raphaëlle's research was on *Understanding livelihood strategies and the dynamics of urban poverty traps using insights from behavioural theories – The case of slum areas in Kathmandu, Nepal*, while Alix's examined the role of international organisations in East Timor in *Planning for post-conflict reconstruction.*

Finally, for her doctorate, Farnaz looked at *Organising Reconstruction Programmes within the Context of Post Disaster Multidimensional Recovery* in Iran.

PhD Research Activities

In October 2015, **Farnaz Arefian** built on her doctoral research by organising a one-day, DPU-hosted workshop exploring contemporary urban issues in the cities of the historic Silk Roads. The workshop was a collaboration between Farnaz' own *Silk Cities Platform*, DPU, and the UCL Institute for Sustainable Urban Heritage (ISH). The aim of the workshop was to connect researchers and practitioners working on urban issues in the Silk Road areas, and it is to Farnaz' credit that she was able to gain active participation from universities in China, Austria, Italy and Switzerland and UK as well as a range of practitioners. For further information on the Silk Cities Platform, see **https://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/ dpu/silk-cities/silk-cities-platform.**

Also in October, the DPU MPhil/ PhD programme hosted a discussion with Anant Maringati from Hyderabad Urban Labs. Anant has been experimenting with innovative social/urban research methods, as well as exploring particularly innovative research methodologies in the context of the urban global south. More on Anant's work can be found at **http://hydlab.in/about-hul/people/executive-director/.**

New MPhil/PhD Candidates in 2015

DPU welcomed nine new candidates to the MPhil programme in September 2015, including DPU graduate Donald Brown (Canada) (UDP 2011-12), recipient of this year's DPU60 Scholarship, as well as fellow DPU graduates Asimina Paraskevopoulou (Greece) (UDP 2013-14), Maria Eva Filippi (Argentina) (ESD 2013-14), Vincente Burgos (Chile) (DAP 2012-13), and Ricardo Marten (BUDD 2009-10). We also welcome Bruno Chichizola (Peru), Franny Froehlich (Austria), Hatice Ikizler Fearnley (Turkey), and Veronica Saud Casanova (Chile). Welcome to all!

Staff News

Yves Cabannes, UCL Professor Emeritus

Prof Yves Cabannes retired from UCL in 2015 after nearly nine years as Professor of Development Planning based at the DPU. Yves came to the DPU from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. Prior to Harvard, he had a long international experience in a range of positions such as Regional Coordinator of the UN-Habitat/UNDP's Urban Management Program (UMP) for Latin America and the Caribbean, and as and founder and director of the French appropriate technology think-tank Groupe de Recherche et Echanges Technologiques (GRET). With a degree in urban and regional development planning from Essec (France) and a PhD from Sorbonne University in Paris, he had also worked for ten years in Northeast Brazil and had been actively involved with various NGOs, supporting grassroots and local governments on low- income housing, income-generating activities and slum improvement in poor urban communities in Africa, Asia and the Middle East.

Yves' advocacy work on behalf of low-income communities has been recognised in a number of international awards, such as the UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour which he received on behalf of the Comunidades Programme in Northeast Brazil in 1995, and the Tokyo and Dubai Awards of Excellence for Improving the Living Environment (also known the United Nations Best Practice Award) in 1996.

At the DPU, Yves' research and advocacy work focused on management innovations at the city level, forced housing and land evictions, and urban agriculture. He is widely considered as one of the foremost scholars in the understanding and dissemination of participatory budgeting, a tool through which citizens can decide on part or the totality of public investment in a municipality. He has argued that this tool contributes not only to participatory governance, but also more importantly to participatory democracy, thus strengthening local institutional capacity to improve social justice and reduce poverty.

Yves was active in teaching at both the Master's and PhD level, as well as in a range of research and consultancy projects, including projects on decentralisation in Mozambique and support for the creation of the Indian Institute of Human Settlements in Bangalore. He was also DPU coordinator of the EU-funded Urban Knowledge Network Asia (UKNA), a platform for the mobility of scholars in Europe, China and India, the brains behind a number of research and knowledge-sharing projects in China, and a range of UCL-wide initiatives.

Upon retirement, Yves moved to the warmer clime of Lisbon, from where he continues to write and travel, occasionally flagging UCL's name in international forums as Professor Emeritus in Development Planning. I shall miss his boundless energy, his creativity, and his passion for teaching, as well as his impressive set of international contacts.

Prof Julio D Dávila, DPU Director

The DPU welcomes **Catalina Ortiz** who joined DPU as a full-time lecturer, primarily with the MSc Building and Urban Design in Development team, from April 2015.

We also welcome **Rafaella Simas Lima** (UDP 2013-14), who replaces **Christopher Yap** as the Graduate Teaching Assistant on the Urban Development Planning programme. Christopher leaves the DPU to start his PhD studies at the Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience at Coventry University.

Welcome to **Kay Pallaris** as the Graduate Teaching Assistant for the MSc Building and Urban Design in Development. And farewell to **Henry Mathes** who leaves his position as Graduate Teaching Assistant for the MSc Development Administration and Planning programme for a position in the UK Home Office. We welcome **Lilian Schofield** as Henry's successor in the DAP GTA role.

Welcome also to **Rossana Poblet** and **Teresa Belkow** (ESD 2010-11) who join the DPU as Research Assistants, working on *cLIMAsinRiesgo*. Rossana is a Peruvian architect and urban planner with previous work experience in Peru, South Africa, Kosovo and Germany. In the last few years she has been engaged in different projects concerned with ecological infrastructure, water sensitive urban planning and design, informal settlements upgrading, land tenure and land administration and participative planning methods.

Since graduating from the DPU Teresa's work has focused on the urban environment supporting local initiatives and promoting active and inclusive citizenship in Lima where she currently lives. Her area of interest and inquiry is to look at urban challenges through participatory approaches to development and meaningful collective action in the Latin American context. Welcome to both!

In March 2014 **Michael Casey-Gillman** commenced work as the DPU's Research Administrator, taking over from **Steve Ridge**, who has taken up a position in the Bartlett Faculty.

Finally after seven years as Editor of the DPU News, **Julian Walker** has stepped down from his position, to be replaced by **Michael Walls**. Many thanks, Julian, for all the years of work!

It is with great sadness that we note the passing of **Catalina Gandelsonas**. Catalina taught for several years on the MSc Building and Urban Design in Development (BUDD) programme programme, when Babar Mumtaz was the programme's director (until 2005). She then joined the Eastern Mediterranean University in Famagusta, before returning to Westminster University, where she worked closely with Tony Lloyd-Jones and Michael Mutter. Catalina originally trained as an architect in her native Argentina. She was a lovely, caring person who will be missed greatly.

Publications
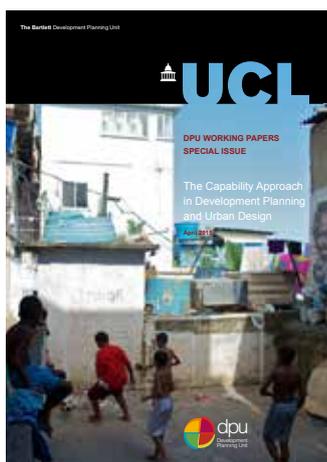
Frediani, A. A. and Hansen, J. (eds.) (2015) **The Capability Approach in Development Planning and Urban Design**. Development Planning Unit Working Paper Special Issue. London: DPU, UCL.

This special issue of the DPU Working Papers, edited by Alexandre Apsan Frediani and Julia Hansen, explores the linkages between the literature on Amartya Sen's Capability Approach and development planning and urban design. The collection of work by students and staff hopes to question, complement or propose new ways of thinking about capabilities and explores how the capability approach can be applied for the purpose of development planning and urban design. The contributions in this special issue emphasise the need for the capability approach to be applied in a *contextualised* manner, relating to issues of structuring processes and institutional analysis; building on concepts of *collective capabilities* and *power relations*; and fostering dynamic and *projective thinking*.

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Astolfo. G., Talocci, G., Boano, C., (2015). **A six-fold mandate for an engaged urban design research education**, Urban Pamphleteer 5: 43-45.

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Frediani, A. A. (2015). **Space and Capabilities: Approaching Informal Settlement Upgrading through a Capability Perspective**, in Lemanski, C. and Marx, C. (Eds). Chapter 3: 64-84 in The City in Urban Poverty. London: Palgrave.

Frediani, A. A. and Lima, R.S. (2015). **Habitat III National Reporting Processes: Locating the Right to the City and the Role of Civil Society**. Report by Development Planning Unit, London: DPU, UCL (in collaboration with Habitat International Coalition).

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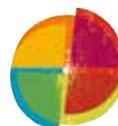
Planning for socially just and sustainable development in the global south