

APPENDIX THREE

THE URBAN ECONOMICS SEMINAR SERIES

FALL 2015

"Building the foundation for productive cities: three pronged approach to urbanization"

Speaker: Marco Kamiya

Institution: UN - Habitat

Marco Kamiya is a Unit Leader of the Urban Economy and City Finance at UN HABITAT headquarters Nairobi.

Abstract:

UN-HABITAT is promoting the Three Pronged Approach (3PA) as a strategy for good urbanization. good urban planning, efficient financial and legal framework. Resting upon quantitative evidence, this study aims to discuss that: i. Well-planned cities have higher urban productivity in the long run, ii. Financial are key for a successful implementation of plans and for creating an urban ecosystem with steady and resilient value creation patterns, iii. Legal framework is essential to link finance and planning.

The study present evidence that each element of the 3PA is a necessary condition for good urbanization, though there are more elements and context local governments need to integrated the three elements to achieve sustainable urbanization.

"Where is the money? Strengthening the role of municipal finance in urban development"

Speaker: Marco Kamiya

Abstract:

Municipal finance is the base for healthy and sustainable local governments. Most of the small and medium municipalities in developing countries have permanent deficits and very few have access to external financing or are ready to design Public Private Partnerships. This policy paper is one of the inputs for HABITAT III and provides elements to discuss sources of

financing and governance for municipalities to provide local governments with a more stable flow of endogenous and exogenous revenues. Policies and instruments are discussed.

"Urbanization and Structural Change in Africa: An Empirical Analysis"

Speaker: Gulelat Kebede

Institution: UN - Habitat

Gulelat Kebede is a Director of UN-Habitat Urban Economy Branch and lecturer at The New School.

Abstract:

We propose a discussion on productivity and growth in the Sub-Saharan African context. Most African cities do not conform to a standard model of urbanization since rapid growth has been accompanied by increasing poverty and inequality, while the expected job growth has not occurred. This paper discusses elements of productivity and structural change in African cities and the impact on urbanization.

"Managing Urban Expansion: From Global Monitoring to Stakes on the Ground"

Speaker: Shlomo Angel

Institution: New York University (NYU)

Shlomo Angel is an Adjunct professor at NYU and senior research scholar at the NYU Stern Urbanization Project, where he leads the Urban Expansion Program

Abstract:

This presentation reports on current progress in estimating the dimensions and attributes of global urban expansion. Monitoring global urban expansion is undertaken by a partnership between the NYU Urban Expansion Program, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN Habitat), and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. Results are expected

in time for Habitat III, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, now scheduled for October 2016. The monitoring effort focuses on a global stratified sample of 200 cities, selected from a universe of 4,245 cities that had 100,000 people or more in 2010. It consists of a four-phase research project. Phase I focuses on the mapping and measurement of global urban expansion in the sample of cities, 1990 - 2014, using Landsat satellite imagery; Phase II on the mapping and measurement of urban layouts in the sample, 2014-2015, using high-resolution satellite imagery; Phase III on a land and housing survey focused on the regulatory regimes and on land and housing affordability using city-based researchers in the global sample of cities; and Phase IV, to be completed later, on the mapping and estimation of urban extent in the entire universe of cities to 2045.

"Urbanization and Urban Policies: Navigating between two extremes"

Speaker: Gilles Duranton

Institution: Wharton University of Pennsylvania
Gilles Duranton is a Professor of Real Estate. Dean's Chair in Real Estate Professor; Chair, Real Estate Department; Co-editor of the Journal of Urban Economics; Fellow, Centre for Economic Policy Research; Fellow, Spatial Economics Research Centre; Fellow, Rimini Centre for Economic Analysis; Member of the Urban Economics Association; Faculty Fellow, Penn Institute for Urban Research.

Abstract:

This presentation examines the effects of urbanization on development and growth. It begins with a labor market perspective and emphasizes the importance of agglomeration economies, both static and dynamic. It then argues that more productive jobs in cities do not exist in a void and underscores the importance of job and firm dynamics. In turn, these dynamics are shaped by the broader characteristics of urban systems. A number of conclusions are drawn. First, agglomeration effects are quantitatively important and pervasive. Second, the productive advantage

of large cities is constantly eroded and must be sustained by new job creation and innovation. Third, this process of creative destruction in cities, which is fundamental for aggregate growth, is determined in part by the characteristics of urban systems and broader institutional features. We highlight important differences between developing countries and more advanced economies. A major challenge for developing countries is to reinforce the role of their urban systems as drivers of economic growth.

"Jobless Growth in India"

Speaker: Sheba Tejani

Institution: Milano School of International Affairs, Management and Urban Policy - The New School
Sheba Tejani is a PhD in Economics from NCSR and Assistant Professor of International Affairs and Milano School for Public Engagement .

Abstract:

"This presentation investigates the relationship between output growth and employment growth in India for the period 1978–2010 at the aggregate and sectoral levels. Using a Kaldorian framework of endogenous productivity growth, we find that Kaldor–Verdoorn effects in the economy have become more predominant over time, especially in the post-reform (1994–2010) period. Our estimated Kaldor–Verdoorn coefficients, measured as the employment elasticity of output growth, for both formal sector and total employment have dropped dramatically over time, suggesting that India has leapfrogged into a high-productivity regime without the broad-based expansion of labour-intensive production that has been characteristic of fast-growing economies in East Asia. We examine some explanations for why these Kaldor–Verdoorn effects have become pronounced over time and are not convinced that wage pressure has been one of the reasons. A shift in the composition of demand towards higher-productivity sectors, however, does appear to be an important part of the explanation. We also find mixed evidence that forces of international competition have

generated pressures to adopt more capital-intensive techniques of production.

"Productivity and the Urban Economy"

Speaker: Michael Cohen

Institution: Milano School of International Affairs, Management and Urban Policy - The New School
Michael Cohen is a Professor of International Affairs at Milano School of International Affairs at The New School

Abstract:

This presentation focuses on the growing urban economic challenges facing both developing and industrialized countries. Cities are clearly the engines of growth for most national economies. The paper identifies the dynamic conditions of urban economies and suggests areas deserving policy attention and increased research. It focuses on three foundational components of the urban economy: employment, productivity, and urban finance and emphasizes the need for studies of the economic structure of cities in order to identify priority sectors for development. It also highlights the tradeoffs which exist between employment and productivity and the need to develop a broader definition of urban productivity which is multi-scalar and which relates to sustainability. This broader perspective suggests that the productivity of the urban economy might be considered as a public good in terms of its essential attributes which will ultimately determine the sustainability of specific urban areas. This contrasts sharply to the narrower notion of maximizing the competitiveness of firms and cities as a strategy for urban economic development. The paper further suggests the need for a broader analytic and multi-level perspective on these issues which includes the macro-economy, the city, the neighborhood, the firm, and the household. Part I frames the challenges, while Part II proposes components of an analytic framework for the urban economy. Part III suggests a policy agenda for the urban economy. Part IV identifies questions for further research and some possible work program activities which might be undertaken by UN Habitat.

SPRING 2016

"Recent Advances in Urban Data"

Speaker: Victor Vergara

Institution: Metro Lab - World Bank

Victor Vergara is a Manager, at the Metro Lab, The World Bank. A Mexican architect and urban economist, has worked at the World Bank on urban issues in developing countries for almost 20 years.

Abstract:

The presentation focuses on MetroLab's use of urban economic data for innovative approaches to urban management and development. The World Bank's MetroLab provides a platform for cities across the globe to share knowledge, facilitate capacity building and peer learning, foster networks of practitioners, and help one another through a virtual network as well as a series of "Living Laboratories" — thematic meetings hosted by one of the participating cities. Participating cities include Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Mexico City, Guadalajara, Panama, Cairo, Addis Ababa, Nairobi, Accra, Dar es Salaam, Kigali, Mumbai, Karachi, Kathmandu, Colombo, Barcelona, New York, and Seoul.

"Taxation in Pakistan"

Speaker: Fahd Ali

Institution: New School for Social Research - The New School

Fahd Ali's research on taxation in Pakistan demonstrates the importance of political settlements in determining who pays what kinds of taxes in Pakistan.

Abstract:

Pakistan's tax collection (as a share of GDP) is quite poor despite several efforts to reform it in the past. At 9% it is the lowest in the region and one of the worst among economies of its size. This dissertation argues that the societies where it is successful effective taxation is an outcome of a political settlement between the state and the various factions of the elite. A stable political settlement creates the space in which necessary economic and legal institutions can be created to collect taxes effectively. In a multi-ethnic federal state like Pakistan the

state has to arrive at a political settlement that is acceptable to all major ethnic factions of the capitalist and the landed bourgeoisie. I argue that one way to explain Pakistan's poor tax collection is the absence of such a political settlement that is both favourable to the state and acceptable to various ethnic and political elite.

"Large-Scale Urban Projects and their relationship with their cities: the cases of Puerto Madero (Buenos Aires) and Puerto Norte (Rosario) in Argentina"

Speaker: Daniel Kozak

Institution: Centre of Urban and Regional Studies (CEUR-CONICET)

Daniel Kozak, Architect (University of Buenos Aires) graduated with Diploma of Honor and CPAU Medal (summa cum laude), and PhD in Built Environment (Oxford Brookes University). CONICET Researcher at the Center for Urban and Regional Studies, FADU Professor of Urban Theory at the University of Buenos Aires, Affiliate Associate Professor at Washington University in St. Louis, and Guest Professor at Torcuato Di Tella University. Currently, he is a Visiting Scholar at the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation (GSAPP), Columbia University.

Abstract:

Large-Scale Urban Projects (LSUP) are one of the favorite instruments of contemporary urban planning. They are generally the result of the refurbishment of former industrial sites, or areas that for different reasons have lost their main historical uses and have become relegated. LSUP are both precious occasions for local governments that often transform troubled areas into bright new centralities, and also extraordinary opportunities for the multiplication of capital. Consequently, they are a preferred destination for private investment, and particularly real estate foreign direct investment. A common critique in contemporary urban studies points to the relationship established between LSUP and the cities that host them: the imputation of LSUP as cases of urban fragmentation. However, despite this being a usual observation, there are few studies that engage in a thorough examination and take it

as a central problématique. In this presentation we will discuss this question using two LSUP in Argentina, Puerto Madero and Puerto Norte, as case studies.

"Sustainable Development Goals"

Speaker: Eduardo López-Moreno

Institution: UN-HABITAT

Eduardo López Moreno is the Director of Research and Capacity Development at UNHABITAT, the United Nations Human Settlements Programme headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya. He has over 25 years of academic and professional experience in housing and urban development policies, institutional analysis, global monitoring, and equity and urban poverty issues. His qualifications include a Ph.D. in urban geography from the University of Paris III-Sorbonne in France and a master degree in urban sociology in the same University. He also has a BA in Architecture from the University of Guadalajara, Mexico.

Abstract:

Highly unequal income or consumption patterns in cities in the developing world point to institutional and structural failures, as well as to broader economic problems such as imbalanced labour markets or a lack of pro-poor policies. The more unequal the distribution of income or consumption in urban areas, the higher the risk that economic disparities will result in social and political tension. Eradicating hunger will require multiple interventions, and not only those related to food availability. Use of safe water, improved sanitation and durable housing materials, combined with provision of sufficient living areas to ease overcrowding, will improve the chances of better health outcomes and life conditions for slum dwellers. What will be the guiding principles to accomplish these improved life conditions?

"New Frontiers in Municipal Finance"

Speaker: Catherine Farvacque-Vitkovic

Institution: The World Bank

Ms. Farvacque-Vitkovic has more than 25 years of World Bank experience in many regions of the world and has worked in almost 30 countries. As a Lead Urban Development Specialist, she has led the

preparation and implementation of a large number of urban development and municipal management projects around the world and has been the recipient of numerous awards for excellence. She has a keen interest in translating lessons from experience and cutting-edge know-how into practical knowledge products and is currently leading the development and worldwide delivery of an e-learning curriculum on land management, urban planning and municipal finances.

Abstract:

Through a discussion based on her book “Municipal Finances, A Handbook for Local Governments”, Ms. Farvacque-Vitkovic will present the main issues concerning municipal finance. From Detroit to Lahore, most cities around the world are facing financing challenges. Bankruptcy, budget deficits, unmaintained infrastructure, declining quality of services and increasing urban poverty are unfortunately too common headlines. At the same time, the world is becoming more complex and municipal officials are not only dealing with the day to day business which comes with running a city but, they also have to increasingly address issues of social inclusion, local economic development, job creation, crime and violence, climate change, floods, natural and man-made disasters as well as an increasing number of urban dwellers. Against this backdrop, there is both a sense of urgency and a huge opportunity for change.

"Revisiting the housing gap and current solutions: A new framework with evidence from Kenya and India"

Speaker: Sumila Gulyani

Institution: The World Bank

Dr. Gulyani received her Ph.D. in Economic Development and Urban Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She is author of the book “Innovating with Infrastructure” (Palgrave Macmillan, 2001) which was awarded the Barclay Jones Prize. Her publications include academic articles on water (2001a, 2005), electricity (1999, 2001b), transport (2001c), and slum upgrading (forthcoming 2007) in journals such as World Development, Urban Studies, and Environment and Planning.

Abstract:

Our understanding of settlement conditions

and the nature of poverty across urban slums is limited. While slum residents in cities share the challenge of monetary poverty, their experiences diverge significantly relative to employment levels, education, and living conditions. Nairobi’s relatively well-educated and employed residents suffer from poorer living conditions—as measured by access to infrastructure and urban services, housing quality and crime—than residents of other cities, who report much lower levels of educational attainment and paid employment. The presentation focuses on research findings that challenge conventional development theory—particularly notions that education and jobs will translate into lower poverty and improved living conditions.

"Making Land Fly: Land Quota Markets in Chinese Urbanization"

Speaker: Yuan Xiao

Institution: Columbia University

Yuan Xiao is an assistant professor of Urban Planning at Columbia University’s Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation. For 2014-2015, she was a postdoctoral research scholar at the Center for Global Legal Transformation of Columbia Law School, where she researched property rights changes in the context of rapid urbanization. In 2015, she also taught at New York University’s Wagner School of Public Service.

Abstract:

In this paper I investigate China’s land quota markets, a recent land policy innovation that virtually transfers urbanization permission from the countryside to cities. Local governments have created new land quotas by demolishing sparsely located farmhouses, and resettling peasants into high-density apartments. These quotas are then sold in new land quota markets to real estate developers. I find that China’s land quota markets alter the traditional calculus of location and land use theory: the rural hinterlands have suddenly become valuable to urban land markets. These dramatic changes are the result of reconstructing property rights in land. The quotas traded on the market are a right to convert land use from rural to urban, separate from development rights to invest in specific properties. These institutional

changes were initiated by recalibration of intergovernmental relationships: the Central Government delegates more autonomy to local governments and the municipality centralizes control over land by subordinating district and county governments. The implications of the new land quota markets are profound and many. They further draw land resources away from rural areas to urban areas, and reinforce the imbalances between big and small cities. The impact on peasants is rather mixed, and depends on the locations of the resettled peasants.

URBAN TALKS - SPRING 2016

"Gender, Assets, and Just Cities"

Speaker: Caroline Moser

Institution: University of Manchester, UK
Caroline Moser is a British anthropologist who has worked on urban and gender issues in developing countries for many years. She worked at the Development Planning Unit in London, the London School of Economics, The World Bank, and founded the Global Urban Research Center at the University of Manchester. She is presenting her recently published work which was supported by the Ford Foundation

This event was a book launch at Ford Foundation.

"Empowering young women for community transformation in Kibera, Nairobi"

Speaker: Jane Anyongo

Institution: PolyCom
Jane Anyongo is the director of PolyCom. PolyCom Development Project presented their model of using crowd data sourcing to map sexual harassment in public spaces within Kibera, Nairobi

Abstract:

Polycom was started in response to the sexual violence and exploitation faced by young girls in Kibera informal settlement in Nairobi. There was a particular case when a 39 year old man had a sexual relationship with an 11 year old girl that spurred the organisation's founder, Jane Anyongo, into action. She wanted to help girls to understand that they need to take care of

their bodies until they are ready. She started by educating girls to understand themselves and make informed decisions concerning their lives, particularly their bodies. The organization was later registered as Polycom Development Project (PDP).

"Community Finance: The Key to City-wide Community Driven Upgrading for Inclusive and Sustainable City development"

Speaker: Somsook Boonyabancha

Institution: Asian Coalition on Housing Rights, Bangkok, Thailand

Founder and secretary general of the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights. Somsook was director of the Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI) in Thailand from 2003 to 2009 and prior to that director of the Urban Community Development Office. She began working on housing and land issues through supporting land-sharing schemes in Bangkok in the early 1980s.

Abstract:

The Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR) is a network of community organisations in Asia working on issues related to urban poverty, slums and slum upgrading. It supports local organisations through professional exchanges and grants/loans from a fund called ACCA (Asian Coalition for Community Action). It has close ties with the Slum Dwellers International movement.

"Working together to empower America's legacy cities"

Speaker: Nicholas Hamilton

Institution: Columbia University
Nicholas Hamilton directs the urban policy work of The American Assembly at Columbia University where he leads the Legacy Cities Partnership, a national coalition working to revitalize America's legacy cities. His work focuses on economic development, governance, and civic engagement. Mr. Hamilton's architectural and urban design work for the firm Davis Brody Bond included the master planning and design of US diplomatic facilities abroad as well as laboratory and teaching facilities for Columbia and Princeton Universities.

Abstract:

The talk will focus on the concept of legacy cities, older industrial cities across the US that have lost a substantial share of jobs and population. He will describe some of the spatial and economic characteristics common in the legacy cities context and will also share some of the strategies being deployed to improve conditions and outcomes in legacy cities. He will also discuss examples of both place-based policies and planning, as well as some issue-based approaches that bridge across local geographies, such as the work of the Legacy Cities Partnership, WE Global Network, and Preservation Rightsizing Network.

URBAN TALKS - FALL 2016

"Livable cities for all"

Speaker: Aniruddha Dasgupta

Institution: WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities
Aniruddha Dasgupta is the Global Director of WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, WRI's program that galvanizes action to help cities grow more sustainably and improve quality of life in developing countries around the world. Ani guides WRI Sustainable Cities in developing environmentally, socially, and financially sustainable solutions to improve people's quality of life in developing cities. Ani leads the program's team of global experts in sustainable transport, urban development and building efficiency, as well as its engagement across low-carbon energy, governance, water risk, and associated areas as well as serves as a member of WRI's global management team, helping to shape the institute's overall strategy and growth..

Abstract:

The Sustainable and Livable Cities Initiative is a series of projects of the Center that address climate, energy, transport and water issues in China, India and Brazil. The Initiative projects created better access to transit for the disabled in Brazil, made bus operators in India better-equipped to manage efficient and sustainable bus systems and introduced best practices on increasing water supply and improving air quality with decision-makers in China. Cities worldwide are also able to calculate their carbon dioxide emissions consistently.

This pioneering Initiative tackled challenges and opportunities in cities, disseminated solutions to policy-makers and showed that making cities more sustainable improves life for the people who live in them. Now more than ever, cities are central to sustainable development, climate change and economic growth, with city dwellers' needs and solutions taking center stage.

"Local Authorities Acting Globally for Sustainable Development: The Situation and Perspective Post Habitat III"

Speaker: Ulrich Graute

Dr Ulrich Graute is a former senior adviser for UN DESA in New York. Today, he works as an independent expert in international cooperation and development. He has also worked for the United Nations Secretariat, UN-Habitat, the European Union, the Governing Mayor of Berlin and the Berlin Senate Department for Urban Development and the Environment, the Institute of Ecological Urban and Regional Development, Cities Alliance, GIZ, and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations. Ulrich is fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences of the United Kingdom and the international Regional Studies Association.

Abstract:

Local authorities acting globally for sustainable development, Regional Studies. Member states adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015 and aimed to adopt a New Urban Agenda during Habitat III in 2016. Related intergovernmental processes aim for a substantial benefit to impact sustainable development at the local level. Despite the high relevance of both processes for local development, local authorities and other Major Groups of stakeholders will only act as observers. This paper analyses why the United Nations acknowledges the relevance of cities while not changing the observer status. The presentation focuses on the paper's claim that the approach may have a negative impact on the realization of objectives. It is suggested to strengthen further the voice of local authorities to increase the problem-solving capacity of multilevel governance of the SDG implementation.