URBAN TRANSFORMATION

“The How”: An Ongoing Discovery Project.

JESSICA SEDDON, DIRECTOR OF INTEGRATED URBAN STRATEGY, WRI ROSS CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE CITIES
Embedding resource efficiency in spatial planning to improve urban productivity

Recommendations for policymakers

1. Reducing the footprint of urban areas: Cities that are compact and dense have lower per capita carbon footprints compared to sprawling cities. The compact shape and size of urban areas can also reduce transportation costs and improve access to services and amenities.

2. Encouraging multifunctional mixed-use developments: Mixed-use developments that combine residential, commercial, and public spaces can reduce the need for long-distance travel and increase the efficiency of urban land use.

3. Investing in efficient infrastructure: Investments in efficient infrastructure such as public transportation, water systems, and waste management can reduce energy consumption and improve the sustainability of urban systems.

4. City planning ‘defaults’ must be changed: Citiscapes need to be designed for people not cars, and must allow the poor in particular to access the opportunities of the city. We recommend a radical change in default approaches to urban planning to prevent uncontrollable sprawl and 1) promote high-density, mixed-use nodes with safe and inviting streetscapes, connected by efficient and affordable mass transit systems; 2) liveable, functionally and socially mixed neighbourhoods; 3) resource-efficient smart buildings and urban energy, waste and water systems; and 4) changing values and behaviour to support this.

The Weight of Cities: Summary for Policymakers
A Bit About WRI Ross Center

We work with business, government, and civil society leaders around the world to achieve more compact, connected, resource efficient, and most of all, livable, cities.

Research & Reframing
Convening, Alignment & Coalitions
Toolkits & Technical Support
Direct Action & Pilots

Photo credits: (left) WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, (Mexico, center) Pablo Lopez Luz, (Mexico, right) Ruimc77/FlickR
Towards a More Equal City: Framing the Opportunities and Challenges

Victoria A. Beard, Anjali Mahendra, Michael I. Westphal

CITIESFORALL.ORG
Our experience suggests that when cities solve a seminal problem that touches many people’s lives, this momentum for positive change can initiate change in other areas creating a virtuous cycle.

A seminal problem is one that is sufficiently large and complex that its negative effects are felt by large segments of the urban population.

The World Resources Report will examine the potential of solutions to seminal problems to trigger broader cross-sectoral, institutional, citywide transformation through a series of 8 case studies.
Casting a Wider Net: The Ross Prize

People change cities every day: they build, they move, they connect. They create the policies and codes that shape urban evolution. Often these changes are incremental; sometimes they are transformative—creating ripple effects far beyond the places, times and purposes for which they were started.

With the support of Stephen M. Ross, WRI is launching a $250,000 prize designed to reward and celebrate projects that have changed cities for the better.

Apply now: wriroscenter.org/prize
Testing & Refining Practical Hypotheses

1. Pilots & Placement Matter
   • It’s not just what the research, data, or demonstrations show, it’s how they interact with the dynamics of the city and its larger set of influences.
2014
WRI Brasil engages stakeholders at Junção Project

2015
WRI Brasil initiates collaboration at federal level

2016
Civil work starts at Junção Project

2017
Directive no. 269/2017 is launched

The new regulations will impact the construction of 600,000 houses benefiting more than 1.8 million people

1,297 low-income families at Junção Project
1. Pilots & Placement Matter
   • It’s not just what the research, data, or demonstrations show, it’s how they interact with the dynamics of the city and its larger set of influences.

2. Engagement: shift in roles when moving from sectoral to integrated approaches
MEET THE CHALLENGE, TRANSFORM YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

132 REGISTERED HAVE YOURS

www.citizensforthecity.in
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2. Engagement: shift in roles when moving from sectoral to integrated approaches

3. Keep people, their perspectives, and their knowledge at center stage, no matter what the project metrics are.
Systematizing Participation

UCRA II: Amplifying Community Intuition & Assets
TOD DIALOGUE FACILITATION IN BELO HORIZONTE

37 participants

4 working days
During the training, the participants identified the Investment Components and the Funding Sources. For each component of the project, they found the probable funding source for the respective element.

**INVESTMENT COMPONENTS**

- PHYSICAL ASSETS
- AFFORESTATION
- LEISURE EQUIPMENT
- URBAN FURNITURE
- KIOSK
- EXPROPRIATION

**FUNDING SOURCES**

- PPP OF STREET LIGHTING
- COMMERCIAL AREAS
- ENVIRONMENTAL EXCHANGE
- PROPERTY LEASING
- TRASURY FUNDS
- CEPAC
- EMBRACE GREEN PROGRAM
- FINANCIAL COUNTER PART
- GREEN FUNDS

Lagoinha Park: one of the results of the discussion