

The Urban Growth Management Initiative

A Survey of the Causes and Consequences of Urban Expansion In a Global Sample of 120 Cities

Call for Local Consultants to Engage in Urban Data Collection in the Global Sample of 120 cities

1. Background and Rationale:

Important variations in urban phenomena—such as the rate of expansion of cities, levels of security of tenure in slums and squatter settlements, or the quality of urban governance—need to be monitored and compared on a global scale, so that their causes and consequences can be better understood, and so that the policy instruments that affect them can be applied in a more efficient, equitable, and sustainable manner. This is especially true in developing countries, where most urban population growth now takes place, and where good comparative data is scarce.

The data needed to monitor and compare and explain urban phenomena on a global scale must be collected in a systematic manner, using common definitions and procedures. This necessarily requires a centralized effort, to be distinguished from local or country-level data collection initiatives that can be tailored to the specific conditions and to the special needs of local stakeholders. In fact, while urban global monitoring can never be the sum total of local data-collection initiatives, it can indeed inform and guide such initiatives—both by providing comparative global norms and benchmarks, and by exploring and testing numerous urban indicators that can then be applied locally.

The underlying objective of this round of data collection—focused on a carefully-selected stratified sample of 120 cities (in some 60 countries) out of the universe of some 3,000 cities that had a population in excess of 100,000 in 2000—is to initiate the first round of global urban data collection, with the expressed aim of returning to these cities for additional waves of global urban data collection in the months and years to come. It is expected and hoped that the gradual accumulation of a rigorous global data set focusing on a global sample of urban places will shift future urban research from its myopic focus on industrialized countries—a focus that is mainly attributable to the fact that “the good data is there”—to a broader research agenda that is more attuned to where research is really needed, namely in developing countries.

This round of global data collection is financed and supported by research funds from the US National Science Foundation and the World Bank. It is administered by a research team headed by Dr. Shlomo Angel of New York University, Dr. Stephen Sheppard of Williams College, and Dr. Daniel Civco of the University of Connecticut.

2. The Urban Growth Management initiative:

The Urban Growth Management Initiative—a research project currently supported by two grants, one from the World Bank and another from the US National Science Foundation—initiated a comparative study of the causes and consequences of urban expansion in early 2004. The overall objective of the Initiative is to alert governments and international organizations to the urgent need to make minimal preparations to absorb the expected doubling of the urban population of developing-country cities—from 2 billion to 4 billion—in the next 30 years. The immediate aims of the present study are (a) to measure urban expansion, using remote sensing imagery for two time periods, a decade apart, in a global sample of 120 cities; (b) to test the

accuracy of the land use classifications obtained from satellite imagery; and (c) to explain the causes and consequences of urban expansion using econometric models based on data collected by Local Consultants in each one of the cities in the sample. The Local Consultants will be expected to collect data that will be used to test the accuracy of land use classification and to explain the causes and consequences of urban expansion.

3. Scope of Work, Duties, and Responsibilities:

The Local Consultant will gather data in one metropolitan area in his or her country, using the City Survey Protocol prepared by the research team. Data gathering will include, but not necessarily be limited to (a) obtaining documents from various government agencies; (b) conducting structured interviews with professionals in the public and private sector; and (c) taking a number of photographs in designated locations. Data collection will be done through a series of visits, each visit focused on a particular kind of respondent, either individual or institutional. There will be detailed instructions on how to gather data during each visit, and the Protocol will be pilot-tested in a number of cities before being finalized.

The consultant will be issued a short-term consulting contract by Williams College—the administrator of the NSF research grant—and will be answerable to the research team. The research team will appoint Coordinators who will arrange the contract, communicate with the consultant through the duration of the project, receive the consultant's results, provide feedback to the consultant on the result, and obtain approval from the principal investigators of the research team on the completion of the consultant's assignment.

The scope of work of the Local Consultant required approximately 7 full days of work over a 2-months period.

The work of the Local Consultants will be duly credited in a book that will be published by the Research Team when the work is completed. It is also expected that interested Local Consultants will be asked to participate in new waves of data collection in the global sample of cities in the months and years to come.

4. The Qualifications of the Local Consultant:

It is expected that Local Consultants will be early or mid-career professionals, possessing familiarity with local data sources and experience working with numerical information. Local Consultants should have the necessary persistence and tenacity to obtain the required data. They should have a strong commitment to precision and have good communication skills. Previous experience in gathering and tabulating socio-economic and demographic data, or in conducting household surveys will be preferred, but not required. An advanced degree in the social sciences, economics, geography, or urban planning will be preferred, but not required. Mastery of English will be very strongly preferred but not required. The Local Consultants will be expected to translate key legends, table headings, and legal phrases into English, French or Spanish. The Local Consultants will also be expected to have access to the Internet and to a digital camera and to communicate by email. Preference in hiring will be given to consultants residing in the city in which data is to be collected, based on their resumés, and on recommendations from people who are acquainted with their previous work.

5. Remuneration:

The total remuneration for the work will be \$1,000. The contract for the work is a lump-sum contract that requires the Local consultant's best effort to complete the data collection as specified. It is estimated that the consultant will need 7 to 14 days during a 2-month period to complete the work. Limited additional funds will be available for obtaining documents,

photography, mailing, local travel and other incidental expenses. It is expected that Local Consultants will reside in or have access to the metropolitan area where they are collecting data, as additional funds for inter-city travel, hotel and per-diem expenses will not be available.

6. The Time Frame for Data collection:

Time constraints of the research require that data collection be completed by the end of August 2005. The City Survey Protocol will be field tested in 8 pilot cities in early 2005, while Local Consultants are being recruited. Local Consultants will be contracted in March–April 2005, and will conduct their fieldwork during May–August 2005. The data will be received, checked, and tabulated in September–October 2005, and preliminary results will be available by the end of December 2005.

7. Contact Addresses:

Individuals interested in becoming Local Consultants in one of the cities in the attached global sample of 120 cities should send their resumés or curriculum vitae to:

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The Urban Growth Management Initiative: Global Sample of 120 cities

Eastern Asia		
1	Anging	China
2	Beijing	China
3	Changzhi	China
4	Guangzhou	China
5	Hong Kong	China
6	Leshan	China
7	Shanghai	China
8	Yiyang	China
9	Yulin	China
10	Zhengzhou	China
11	Ulan Bataar	Mongolia
12	Ansan	Republic of Korea
13	Chinju	Republic of Korea
14	Ch'onan	Republic of Korea
15	Pusan	Republic of Korea
16	Seoul	Republic of Korea
Europe		
1	Vienna	Austria
2	Le Mans	France
3	Paris	France
4	Leipzig	Germany
5	Thessaloniki	Greece
6	Budapest	Hungary
7	Milan	Italy
8	Palermo	Italy
9	Warsaw	Poland
10	Astrakhan	Russia
11	Moscow	Russia
12	Oktyabrsky	Russia
13	Castellon de la Plana	Spain
14	Madrid	Spain
15	London	United Kingdom
16	Sheffield	United Kingdom
Latin America and the Caribbean		
1	Buenos Aires	Argentina
2	Guaruja	Brazil
3	Ilheus	Brazil
4	Jequié	Brazil
5	Ribeirao Preto	Brazil
6	Sao Paolo	Brazil
7	Santiago	Chile
8	Valledupar	Colombia
9	San Salvador	El Salvador
10	Guatemala City	Guatemala
11	Kingston	Jamaica
12	Guadalajara	Mexico
13	Mexico City	Mexico
14	Tijuana	Mexico
15	Montevideo	Uruguay
16	Caracas	Venezuela

Northern Africa		
1	Algiers	Algeria
2	Tebessa	Algeria
3	Alexandria	Egypt
4	Aswan	Egypt
5	Cairo	Egypt
6	Casablanca	Morocco
7	Marrakech	Morocco
8	Port Sudan	Sudan
Other Developed Countries		
1	Sydney	Australia
2	St. Catharines-Niagara	Canada
3	Victoria	Canada
4	Akashi	Japan
5	Fukuoka	Japan
6	Tokyo	Japan
7	Chicago, IL	United States
8	Cincinnati, OH	United States
9	Houston, TX	United States
10	Los Angeles, CA	United States
11	Minneapolis-St. Paul	United States
12	Modesto, CA	United States
13	Philadelphia, PA	United States
14	Pittsburgh, PA	United States
15	Springfield, MA	United States
16	Tacoma, WA	United States
South and Central Asia		
1	Dhaka	Bangladesh
2	Rajshahi	Bangladesh
3	Saidpur	Bangladesh
4	Coimbatore	India
5	Hyderabad	India
6	Jaipur	India
7	Jalna	India
8	Kanpur	India
9	Kolkata (Calcutta)	India
10	Mumbai (Bombay)	India
11	Pune (Poona)	India
12	Vijayawada	India
13	Ahvaz	Iran
14	Gorgan	Iran
15	Teheran	Iran
16	Shimkent	Kazakhstan

Southeast Asia		
1	Bandung	Indonesia
2	Medan	Indonesia
3	Palembang	Indonesia
4	Ipoh	Malaysia
5	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysia
6	Bacolod	Philippines
7	Cebu	Philippines
8	Metro Manila	Philippines
9	Singapore	Singapore
10	Bangkok	Thailand
11	Songkhla	Thailand
12	Ho Chi Minh City	Vietnam
Sub-Saharan Africa		
1	Ouagadougou	Burkina Faso
2	Addis Ababa	Ethiopia
3	Banjul	Gambia
4	Accra	Ghana
5	Bamako	Mali
6	Ibadan	Nigeria
7	Kigali	Rwanda
8	Johannesburg	South Africa
9	Pretoria	South Africa
10	Kampala	Uganda
11	Ndola	Zambia
12	Harare	Zimbabwe
Western Asia		
1	Yerevan	Armenia
2	Baku	Azerbaijan
3	Zugdidi	Georgia
4	Tel Aviv-Jaffa	Israel
5	Kuwait City	Kuwait
6	Istanbul	Turkey
7	Malatya	Turkey
8	Sana'a	Yemen