



Puducherry Urban Asset Planning Programme

*testing a participatory methodology in
development studies*

IFP

Global Urban Research Centre (GURC - University of Manchester, UK)

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About GURC and the remit of the project ...

- GURC is a multidisciplinary centre focusing on urbanization, poverty, inequality and exclusion.
- *Urban Asset Planning in the Global South*, funded by Ford Foundation
- The principal objective is to carry out pilot research on Asset Planning (AP) in poor communities in southern countries and test the tools and methodology developed
 - Cartagena (Colombia): asset planning for climate change adaptation
 - Puducherry: entry points are: health and the «physical lived environment»* [‘local’ conditions: important that local understandings of hazards and risks of the environment / locality can be taken into account] – 7 months

Defining Assets (beyond the tangible)...

As RESOURCES : « The stock of financial, human, natural or social resources that can be acquired, developed, improved and transferred across generations » (Stein 2010, Ford Foundation 2004)

As CAPABILITIES : Assets are not simply resources that people use to build livelihoods. Assets give people the capability to be and act and as well to challenge and change the rules that govern the control, the use and the transformation of resources (Stein 2010; resonance with «capabilities » of A. Sen and others)

As CAPITALS : physical capital, financial capital, human capital, social capital, natural capital. (Moser 1998, 2009, Bebbington 1999, Narayan 1997)
popularized by the "livelihood framework" (Carney 1998)

Asset Planning (AP): its ambitions...

- Acc. Stein (2010) : Asset planning represents a new form of thinking planning process at the community level and of strategic planning processes in urban development
- Asset planning aims to :
 - «Improve poor community's response and negotiation capacity to address their priority problems and needs »
 - « Generate new opportunities for the poor to strengthen, accumulate, rebuild and adapt their portfolios of assets »

Open to question!

Background : AP has been developed inductively from applied studies that focused on the accumulation of the main assets of the poor and poverty reduction policies, adaptation of these assets.

- Emerged from - the 1990s debates on poverty reduction and vulnerability assessment; e.g. Caroline Moser 1999, 2004, 2009 and « Participatory Urban Appraisal » methods;
- acceptance of « Participatory Rural Appraisal » developed in the 1980s and early 1990s, (Chambers 1992, 1994)

Rationale : AP challenges various existing stereotypes in urban planning and research:

- The measurement of poverty (income, consumption) and the concepts of multi-dimensional vulnerability : the poor have skills to manage a complex « portfolio of assets »
- The fact that assets are not static, but dynamic as the assets are affected by internal and external impacts (eg, health, violence, extreme weather)
- The practice of planning based on identification of problems and needs for solutions: the poor rely on complex, intergenerational strategies to accumulate, consolidate and maximize the linkages between interdependent assets

The operational framework of AP is as follows :

Asset planning strategies : short and long term

Stages and tools

- Identification of entry points to analyse the strategies of the poor

“Diagnosis” :

- **RIA** (Rapid Institutional Appraisal) : to identify the policies and institutions, procedures which address (however effectively) levels of urban poverty
- **Community Profile** : demographic and social data—location, geographic characteristics, a brief history, population size, number of dwellings, ethnic population, predominant household structures; economic activities major income sources, access to credit, land tenure, community infrastructure and facilities such as water, electricity, sanitation, schools, and health posts
- **PAA** (Participatory Asset Appraisal) : to diagnose the resources, skills and strategies of community assets and those external institutions that contribute to the accumulation, rebuilding and adaptation of asset portfolios; qualitative data through focus groups

The program includes :

- **APW** (asset planning workshop) for bringing together focus-group participants, stakeholders; in which different strategies are to be identified in order to elaborate an AAP (Asset Action Plan)
- **AAP** (Asset Action Plan): implementation through the community, institutions, partners, etc.
- **Mainstreaming** AP process (strategic and annual operational planning)
- **Monitoring and Evaluation**, including impact assessment

Puducherry project

Main objectives :

- To evaluate and understand Asset Planning through a participatory planning process at the community level (Stein, 2010)

- i. to explore local perceptions of well-being/ill-health, especially in relation to the “physical lived environment”;
- ii. to explore the matrix of interrelationships between ill-health, local conditions and other assets/resources/capabilities
- iii. to seek potential strategies for enhancing the community’s capabilities to address needs within this domain
- iv. to assess the effectiveness of this methodology through follow-up monitoring

3. Training:

- with the students, facilitators (selected) and faculty about the methodology, tools, objectives and requirements of the project. Organisation of the work and allocation of tasks and responsibilities.

4. Field survey :

- On the field with students and facilitators (field workers, « gate-keepers » ...)
- Collect general information: about their settlement, composition of the community, socio-economic status of the families, various facilities available (or not) for the community, etc...
- Collect specific information from the infrastructure or institutions in this concerned area (departments, institutions, offices, etc...)

Steps

1. Select a site with the main criteria :

- Accessibility to the site (urban area, « slum») and the people in the settlement (poor, vulnerable, etc.)
- Ability to conduct the participatory event on site with communities and the institutions (stakeholders, partners, NGOs, etc.)

2. Select the participants for the projects :

- Students (for the RIA, Field Survey, PAA)
- Facilitators (field workers, « gatekeepers »: for the PAA and Field Survey)

5. Rapid Institutional Appraisal (RIA):

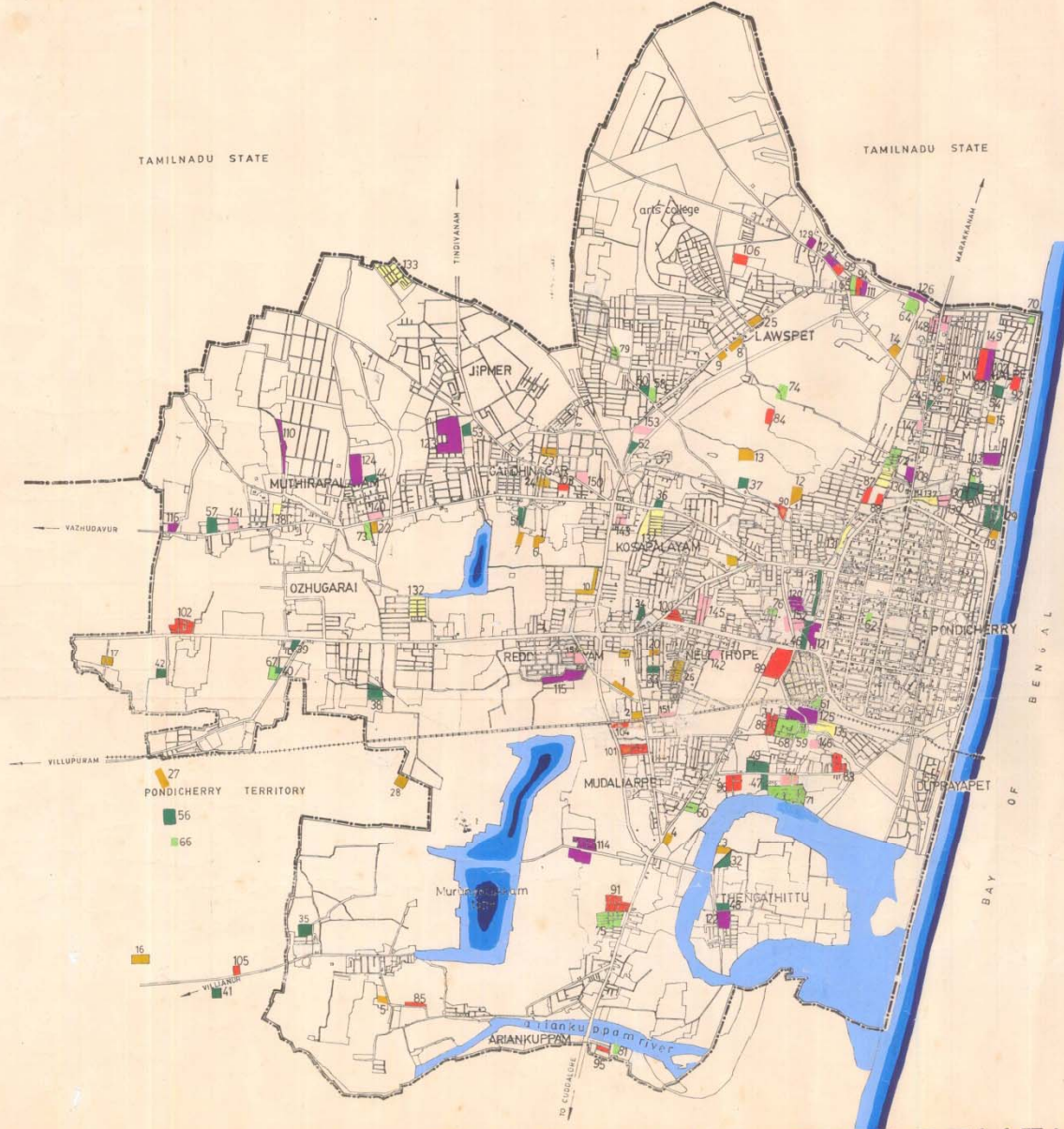
- Collect data and information on:
 - the specificity of the UT (Union Territory) and this site – historical background, political environments, relevant statistical information
 - Institutional-administrative structure (national to local) of the government interventions on health-environment issues (schemes, law, organization, etc..)
 - Identify the various stakeholders (NGOs, etc.) who intervene among/with these communities on health and environment issues

6. Participatory Appraisal Assessment (PAA)

- Training for 4-5 days with Alfredo Stein (GURC) with students, facilitators, faculty and IFP
 - > to go through in detail the different tools, their application on site,
 - the composition of focus groups (formal and informal)
 - > the work protocol: the organisation of the work on site
 - > discussion of sensitivities to local conceptions and THEIR terminologies, means of expression
- PAA event for 5 days on site; division into subgroups: 1 facilitator and 1 record keeper; 20+/- focus groups to be held over the 5 days
- Assembling and writing up of data each evening of the PAA event; adjustments for the next day
- Analysis, systematisation and presentation of PAA results for the 2 days immediately following the PAA, to prepare for the Asset Planning Workshop (APW)

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

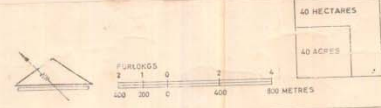
SLUMS IN PONDICHERRY URBAN AREA.



REFERENCE

- CATEGORY-I. POPULATION 1 to 150
- CATEGORY-II. 151 to 250
- CATEGORY-III. POPULATION 251 to 350
- CATEGORY-IV. 351 to 600
- CATEGORY-V. POPULATION 601 to 1000
- CATEGORY-VI. 1001 & ABOVE
- CATEGORY-VII-UN-SURVEYED AREAS.

1	Kandhi kottai	55	Kattalamon nagar (A.C.P.)	109	Kanuvet vannik st.
2	Karankuppam	56	Thandukara st.	110	Mettupalayam (Vadakkalpet)
3	Perapet (Thengathittu)	57	Iyyakkattalpet	111	Vinayagar kottai st.
4	Marsapuram	58	Saint paul st.	112	Karuvakkuppam
5	Kottakkam, Pudhu nagar	59	Indira nagar	113	D.M.G.P. nagar (A.C.P.)
6	Kuvandampalayam (Kuvandampalayam)	60	Bharathi melli thottu	114	Vakkil kuppam
7	Kuvandampalayam (Kuvandampalayam)	61	St. David's	115	Venkatapuram
8	Pudupet (Sankathittu)	62	Kulathumedu st.	116	Bharanget nagari colony
9	Pudupet (Sankathittu)	63	Kulathumedu st.	117	Kuvandampalayam
10	Elappilichavady	64	Kulathumedu st.	118	Kuvandampalayam
11	Chinnaiyandi palayam	65	Kuvandampalayam (Vadakkalpet)	119	Kuvandampalayam
12	Chinnaiyandi palayam	66	Kuvandampalayam (Vadakkalpet)	120	Kuvandampalayam
13	Mettu thoppu	67	Mariyaman kottai st. V.C.P.	121	Kuvandampalayam
14	Debesurpet (Muthalpet)	68	Moolavaram	122	Kuvandampalayam
15	Naralinga nagar (Vadakkalpet)	69	Kuvandampalayam kottai thottu	123	Kuvandampalayam
16	Mettu street (V.C.P.)	70	Sankar nagar	124	Kuvandampalayam
17	Vijayarajalakshmi palayam	71	Sankar nagar II	125	Kuvandampalayam
18	Perumal kottai thottam (Muthalpet)	72	T.V. nagar II	126	Kuvandampalayam
19	Kuvandampalayam (A.C.P.)	73	Sharmapalayam	127	Kuvandampalayam
20	Porayar thottam	74	Sharmapalayam	128	Kuvandampalayam
21	Pillai thottam	75	Madu vepet	129	Kuvandampalayam
22	Sankar thottam (Kuvandampalayam)	76	Pudhu nagar	130	Kuvandampalayam
23	Thattanchavady (Kuvandampalayam)	77	Pudhu nagar (Kuvandampalayam)	131	Kuvandampalayam
24	Vellai thoppu	78	Kennedy nagar	132	Kuvandampalayam
25	Seepur thottam	79	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	133	Kuvandampalayam
26	Periyar nagar	80	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	134	Kuvandampalayam
27	Vadakkalpet (Kuvandampalayam)	81	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	135	Kuvandampalayam
28	Aranganpet	82	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	136	Kuvandampalayam
29	Kuvandampalayam	83	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	137	Kuvandampalayam
30	Padinjai thottam	84	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	138	Kuvandampalayam
31	Govinda vada	85	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	139	Kuvandampalayam
32	Vadakkalpet (Thengathittu)	86	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	140	Kuvandampalayam
33	K.C. nagar	87	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	141	Kuvandampalayam
34	Jaithal thottam	88	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	142	Kuvandampalayam
35	Kuvandampalayam	89	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	143	Kuvandampalayam
36	Pongulam Saranam	90	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	144	Kuvandampalayam
37	Periyarpet (Sankathittu)	91	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	145	Kuvandampalayam
38	Mudalambur kottai	92	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	146	Kuvandampalayam
39	Mudalambur kottai	93	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	147	Kuvandampalayam
40	Mudalambur kottai	94	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	148	Kuvandampalayam
41	Mudalambur kottai	95	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	149	Kuvandampalayam
42	Mudalambur kottai	96	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	150	Kuvandampalayam
43	Mudalambur kottai	97	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	151	Kuvandampalayam
44	Mudalambur kottai	98	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	152	Kuvandampalayam
45	Mudalambur kottai	99	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	153	Kuvandampalayam
46	Mudalambur kottai	100	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	154	Kuvandampalayam
47	Mudalambur kottai	101	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.	155	Kuvandampalayam
48	Mudalambur kottai	102	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.		
49	Mudalambur kottai	103	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.		
50	Mudalambur kottai	104	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.		
51	Mudalambur kottai	105	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.		
52	Mudalambur kottai	106	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.		
53	Mudalambur kottai	107	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.		
54	Mudalambur kottai	108	Kuvandampalayam kottai st.		



SLUMS IN PONDICHERRY URBAN AREA.

ISSUED ON	SCALE ->	1 : 20,000
DRG. No.	DATE	

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

S. SRIDARANE ASST. PLANNER (ARCHITECT) C.V. SREENIVASAN SENIOR TOWN PLANNER