Poverty eradication and quality of the environment in urban and peri urban areas

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Développement “Reconciling poverty eradication and quality of the environment: What are the innovative solutions?” June 27&28, 2011 Maison de la Chimie Paris, France
The Alliance
Slum networks across India

National Slum Dwellers Federation
Mahila Milan

SSNS (Nirman) non-profit construction company

9 States, 70 Cities

The map shows slum networks across India with 9 States and 70 Cities included in the联盟's network.
Slum/Shack Dwellers International (SDI) now operates in 22 countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America.

Global Networks for local transformation:

- Transnational (SDI)
- National (NSDF, Mahila Milan)
- City
- Province
UNHABITAT and SDI have an exhibition in Kigiri.
Governments and cities cannot solve the housing shortages, but will they give people a chance?
Poverty Mapping
Counting the urban poor

Who counts and Who are counted?

Different agencies, Differing estimates

Complex nature of poverty

Limited aspects considered (socio-economic indicators, calorie intake)

Source: “Identifying the Poor” on Forbes India, business.in.com [Accessed Dec 24, 2010]
Sanitation for all a challenge for city and slums

• Breaking of rules and norms to demonstrate what works for the poor.
• Designing of scaling federation style.
• Training communities to drive the change process.
Poverty Mapping
Counting the urban poor

Why map poverty?

Prioritizing ‘poor’ and ‘vulnerable’ for development/financial support as part of holistic city planning

Measuring & Mapping are tools to identify slum priorities and assign city resources
The story of railway slum dwellers federation
The Alliance & Community-led Poverty Mapping

Step 03(b): Importing GPS points to ‘Bhuvan’

The Indian Government has commissioned the National Remote Sensing Centre to develop a high resolution satellite imagery program - called Bhuvan - with overlays of natural resource information, roads, geographic features. Ultimately, the slum database will also be overlayed with Bhuvan.

“remote sensing is a technique used to derive information about... objects without direct physical contact.”
The Alliance
Empowering the urban poor

How?

Creating organized community groups
Savings & Loans
Collecting & Owning Data on slums
Advocacy for rights
The Alliance & Community-led Poverty Mapping

**Step 01: GPS mapping of slum boundaries, spatial poverty**
Community-driven mapping v/s Legitimizing data collected

Cuttack, Current Status:
Slums at start of mapping: 264
Total Slums discovered during mapping: 340
Slum Boundaries mapped: 146
Slum points noted: 162 (difficult slums to map)
Slum Profiles: 250, RAY format surveys: 50
The Alliance & Community-led Poverty Mapping

Step 02: Filling out the Slum Profile, non-spatial poverty

- Simultaneously, slum profile information is filled in by Mahila Milan with help from the community leader of the settlement.

What is unique is that federation/community leaders undertake this activity and create a process of inclusion, as opposed to having technical staff do the same thing.
The Alliance & Community-led Poverty Mapping

Step 03(a): Importing GPS points to Google Earth

- The digital (GPS) location points are then imported to Google Earth by the federation members who join the points to make a complete boundary line.

- Selected Slum Profile data is entered into the properties box for each slum boundary.
Poverty Mapping
Counting the urban poor

What are we mapping?

Non-Spatial poverty

Primary Issues
- Land Ownership/Security
- Basic Services: Toilets and Sanitation
- Water and Electricity

Secondary Issues
- Education
- Healthcare
- Income Generation

Spatial poverty

Tertiary Issues
- Markets
- Transportation
- Administrative services (post office, fire, police etc)
- Public/recreational/religious spaces
Poverty Mapping
Comparing methods

**Who?**

- National Govt.
- State Governments
- Municipalities
- Technical staff
- Professionals
- NGO
- Organized Slum Communities

**How?**

1. Technical staff identify slums on satellite image through ‘pattern recognition’
2. Ground truthing for some slums
3. Slum Surveys – technical staff
4. GIS to identify slum needs

1. NGO + organized slum dwellers visit each city slum:
   - Form new organized groups
   - Awareness of upgrading options
2. Poverty Mapping by communities:
   - Slum surveys
   - GPS mapping of slum boundaries
3. GIS to identify slum needs