

Towards a Need Based Programme for Improving Living Environments of Informal Settlements in Indian Cities

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National BINUCOM conference,
Informal Settlements in Indian Cities
Impulses for Innovation in Architecture and Urban Planning
Karpagam Academy of Higher Education, Coimbatore, 1-4 September 2016



Funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

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Informal Settlements Indian Cities
Impulses for Innovation in Architecture and Urban Planning

National Conference

**Informal Settlements in Indian Cities - Impulses for Innovations
in Architecture and Urban Planning Education**

1-3 September, 2016

KARPAGAM UNIVERSITY, COIMBATORE

Organised by

Danube University, Krems, Austria

School of Planning and Architecture, Vijayawada

**Towards a Need Based Programme for Improving Living Environments
of Informal Settlements in Indian cities**

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Informal Settlements in Indian Cities - Impulses for Innovations in Architecture and Urban Planning Education

- Delhi, Buenos Aires, Lagos
- Govt efforts
- Education Currently
- Needs revisited
- Possible innovations, models
- Conclusions

NEW DELHI, December 2015:

- *Demolition of Shakur Basti - occupying Railway Land in west Delhi, 1,000 homes were razed in peak winter.*
- In spite of such brutality, life went ahead: families slept under the flimsy protection of tarpaulin and plastic sheets and men went out next morning to hunt for work in the city.
- A case was filed by affected families and court admonished the railway officers in no uncertain terms.



BUENOS AIRES, ARG. December 2010

- *Oldest slums "Ciudad Oculta" -- Hidden City*
- World Cup 1978: *Hidden City*, oldest slum of Argentina, home of 13,000 residents
- December 2010 fear of another 13,000 people may join, families grabbed plots in the near by neglected football ground, the Indo-American Park
- Residents living close by torched new settlers' tents leading to violent conflicts



LAGOS, NIGERIA 26 June 2007

- *Ajegunle- “The Jungle” has 5 million residents*
- Diverse ethnic groups of Nigeria, notorious, yet represents a microcosm of Africa.
- Home of internationally acclaimed Rastafarian poet & reggae musician ***Aj Dagga Tolar***
- Residents in abject poverty, angry, without water, electricity, thriving prostitution, corruption.



[http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=10826005-Reported 2007 & 2014](http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=10826005-Reported%202007%20&202014)

Internationally- The Informal Housing scenario

- **828 million** or about One third of world's urban population live in poverty, informal settlements
- Of them, **over 90% or 745 million** are the cities of developing countries
- **Nearly 35% of India's urban population** live in slum conditions, next to Sub-Saharan 60%
- urban slums will be part of India's landscape for the next few decades or more.
- Simultaneously, the pressure on slums will be increasingly more due to rising urban land values and growing number of urban dwellers leading to increasing densities.

Magnitude of the problem

- In top 10 cities , 65% slum populations and less than 50% of these have access to basic services like toilets, taps and electricity.

- Shortage in EWS is 99.9% whereas that in HIG and MIG is very low.

Housing Shortage

	Monthly Per Capita Expenditure	Estimated Number of Households (2007)*	Housing Shortage in million (2007)	Percentage Shortage
EWS	0 - 3,300	21.81	21.78	99.9%
LIG	3,301 - 7,300	27.57	2.89	10.5%
MIG	7,301 - 14,500	16.92	0.04	0.2%
HIG	14,501 and above			
Total Shortage		66.30	24.71	37.3%

Source: Report of the Technical Group (11th Five Year Plan: 2007-12) on Estimation Of Urban Housing Shortage.

Efforts of the Government

- Under the ambit of the MoHUPA
- Urban Local Bodies- DAs/MCs
- Slum wing
- Programmes/Schemes
 - Environmental Improvement Scheme 1961 onwards
 - Indira Awas Yojana-independent scheme since 1996
 - JnNURM: Basic Services to the Urban Poor Dec 2005
 - Rajiv Awas Yojana- 2009
 - State level schemes and policies- In sync with central schemes

Different approaches- Specialized knowledge and skills

- **Pre 1970s initiatives:** shelter constructed & **provided** on a massive scale. Pre-fabricated, 'deck housing', tenements
- **Coexistence** of cities and informal settlements: economic interdependence compelled coexistence
- **Mid 1970s onwards: Major policy shift: provider to facilitator** supported by emerging knowledge, skills, innovations
 - Million Houses Programme (MHP), Sri Lanka
 - Kampung Improvement Programme (KIP), Indonesia

Different approaches- Specialized knowledge and skills

- Participatory approaches- ULBs as **facilitators** instead of **suppliers** of dwelling units.
- The incremental improvement methods-more acceptable than renewal or relocation.
- Approaches require:
 - **Beneficiaries of improvement initiatives- trained to know what improvements to seek**
 - **Acquaint TBG with rules and regulations related to formalizing.**

Street led slum upgradation

- Advocated by the UN-Habitat
- Showcases the incremental street-led development and transformation of slums
- Builds on the fundamental notion of streets being the stepping stone in improving the quality of life and living conditions in slums.
- A solid contribution of urbanisation to address the pressing needs of the slum population.



<http://unhabitat.org/street-led-city-wide-slum-upgrading-claudio-acioly-un-habitat/>

Varying Typologies of Informal Housing

- Squatters
- Slums
- Unauthorised
- Urban Villages, Delhi
- Inner City housing
- Illegal Subdivisions

Approaches have to be
different- Need Based



Role of Institutes

- Schools of Architecture and Planning - imparting training in housing, town planning and specialised areas
- Informal housing studies , slums and squatter settlements (Jhuggi-Jhompri) taken up by scholars and professionals.
- **Formal training programme on slums with the objective of their meaningful integration with the mother city is yet to be launched.**

Curriculum for Architecture & Planning

- India
 - Structured Courses (2 years)
 - Internationally
 - Structured Courses (1-2 years)
 - Diploma courses (1-3 months)
 - Tailor made courses (few weeks)
 - Refresher courses with support from LL.Ds (few weeks)
- Reach of Architecture and Planning Education is beyond

Post-Graduate Diploma Courses

- Duration - three weeks to three months approximately.
- Courses deal with **specific topics in urban studies**- provide a opportunity to **further develop knowledge in a subject** within a short period of time.
- Example of International Postgraduate Diploma Courses
 - International Course on Housing and Urban Development
 - Land Management and Informal Settlement Regularization
 - Developing Social Housing Projects
 - Local Economic Development

Course: Developing Social Housing Projects

- **Module 1**
Housing **Policy**
- **Module 2**
Key considerations, **whom to deliver for and where**
- **Module 3**
Financing social housing and cooperation with public and private partners
- **Module 4**
Technical and management aspects of social housing

Tailor-made courses

- Part of overall strategy of services and project implementation.
- Offer range of subjects, flexible duration and problem-solving orientation - solution to on-going programmes.
- Training made responsive to local problems -participatory training needs assessment often in cooperation with local organisations
- Specific training to support local policies and programmes.
- Course curriculum and programmes e fine tuned with local institutional environment.

Assumptions for new training programs

- *In two decades, **nearly half of 1.4billion** will live in India's towns and cities.*
- ***General development** in India will continue upwards, leading to reduction in poverty.*
- ***Quality of Governance** will gradually improve with increasing participation of community.*

Assumptions for new training programs

- ***Issue of informal settlements in cities will be addressed objectively, on war footing.***
- ***Collaborative learning, application of emerging concepts will be increasingly accepted among formal & non-formal models of HR development***

Challenge of effective new training programmes

“RELATIVE PARTICIPATION by CUP”

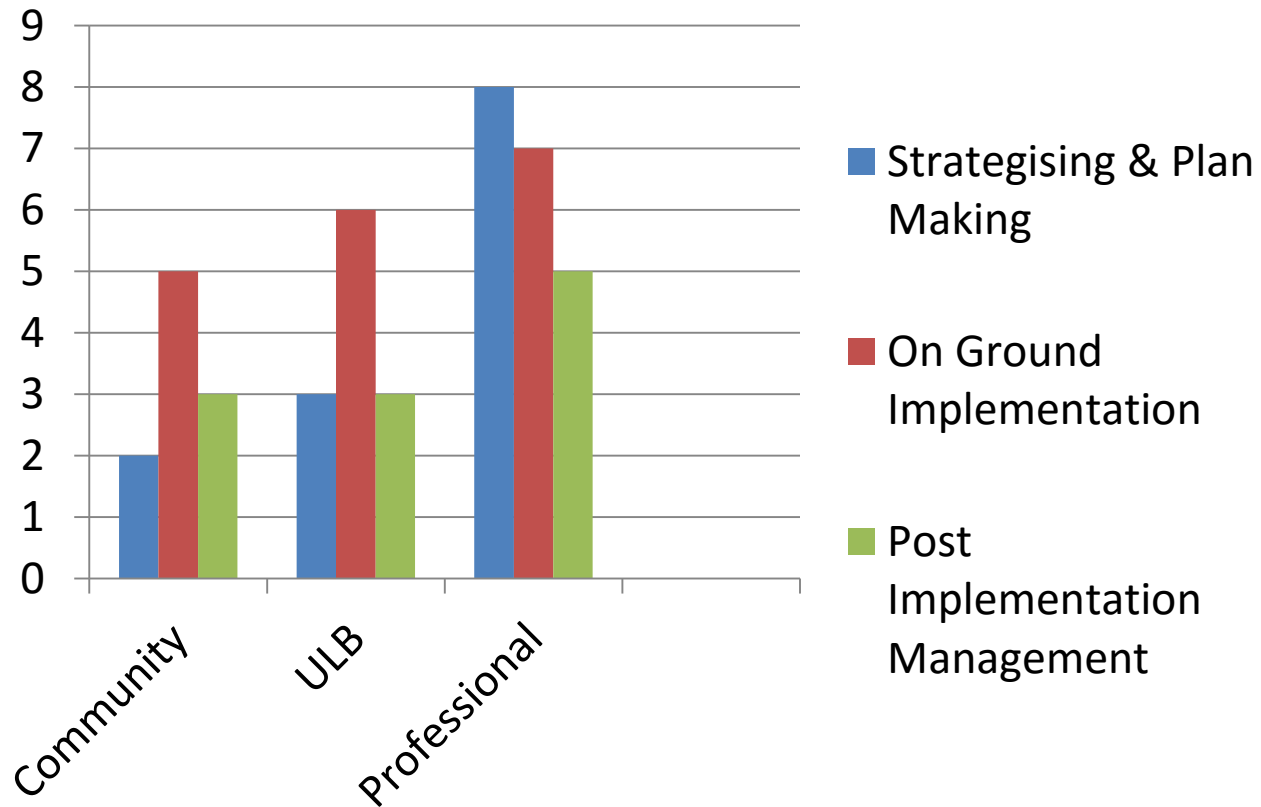
Relative intensity of participation by constituents of CUP

	Stages	Strategising & Plan making	On ground Implementation	Post Implementation Management
Target Group	Years			
Community	0-1	2	7	3
	1-2	3	8	5
	2-5	5	8	7
ULB	0-1	3	7	3
	1-2	3	5	2
	2-5	5	5	2
Professional	0-1	8	7	5
	1-2	8	5	5
	2-5	8	5	3

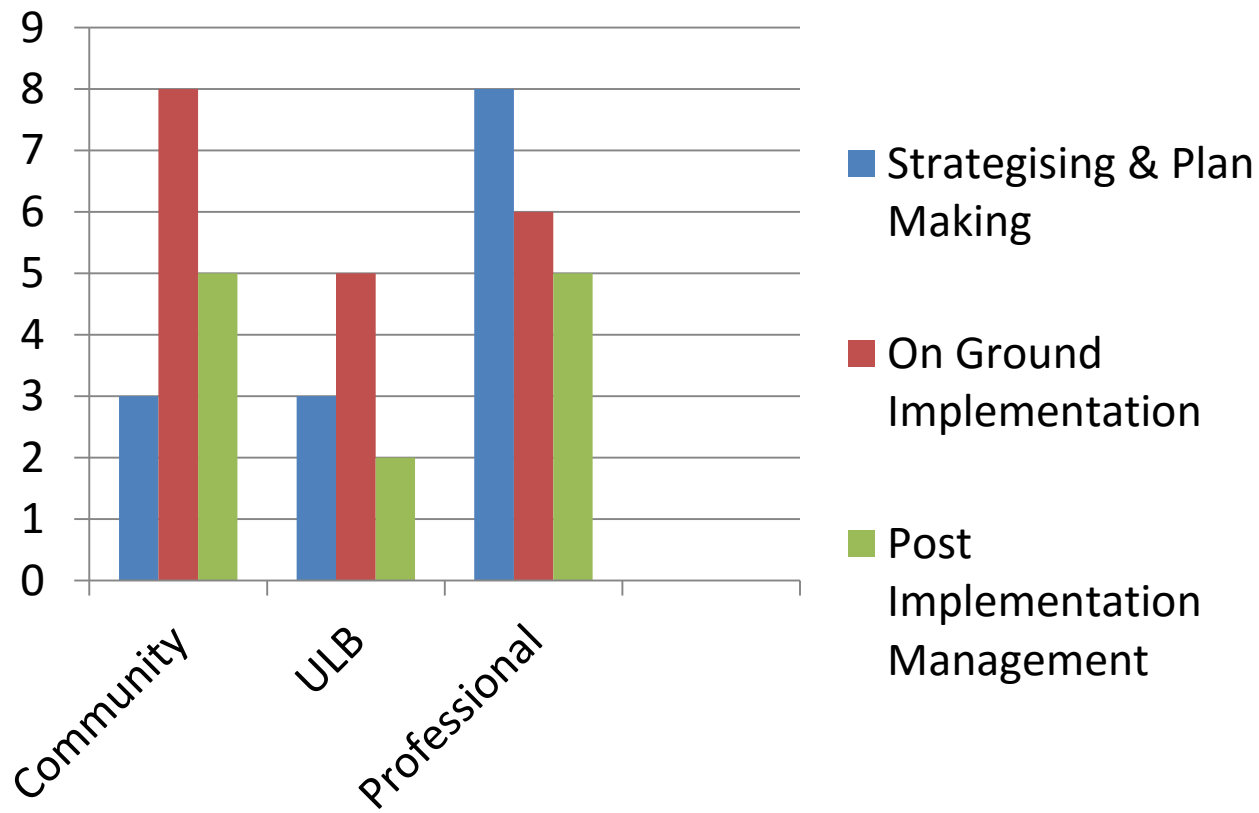
Scale of intensity 1 (low intensity) to 10 (High Intensity)

STAGEWISE RELATIVE PARTICIPATION INTENSITY , SCALE 1-10

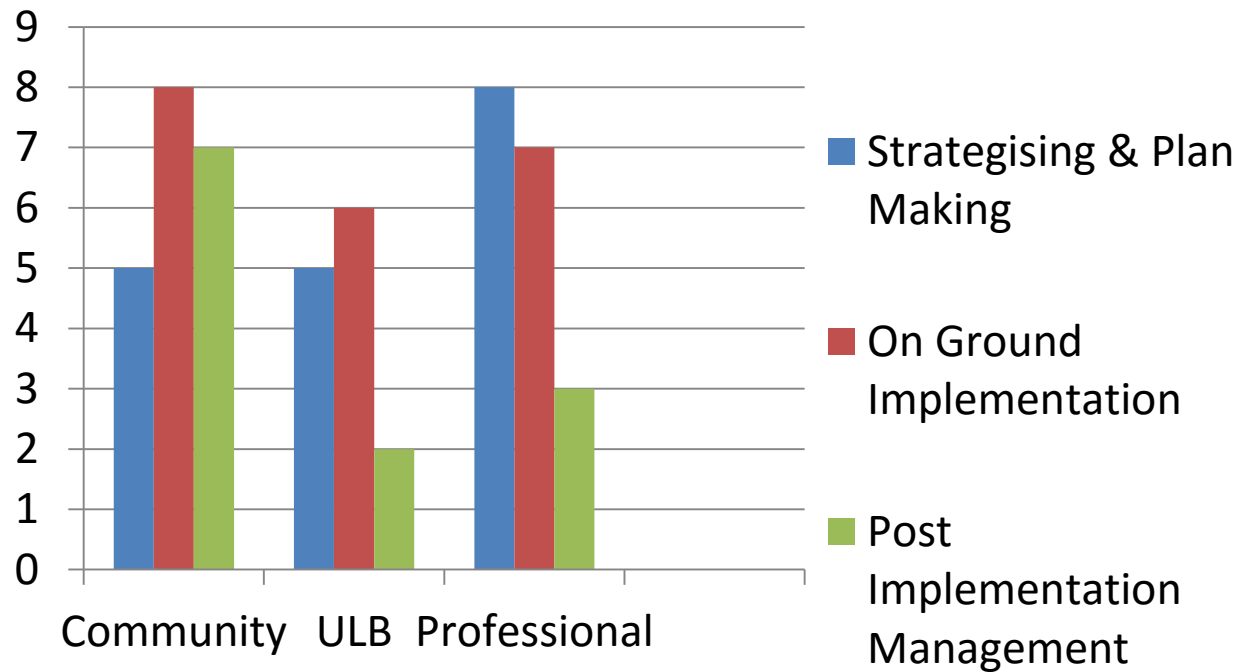
Years : 0-1



STAGEWISE RELATIVE PARTICIPATION INTENSITY , SCALE 1-10
Years : 1-2



STAGEWISE RELATIVE PARTICIPATION INTENSITY , SCALE 1-10
Years : 2-5



An overall strategy based on Assumptions

An overall strategy 1

1. Complete preparatory steps such as

- i. Identify areas of success and failure of efforts to improve informal settlements RESEARCHER*
- ii. Identify lessons from contemporary approaches to address improve informal settlements RESEARCHER*
- iii. Revisit existing informal settlements to appreciate present conditions*

An overall strategy 2

2 Select and evolve a model for improvement

PROFESSIONAL & RESEARCHER

For example, proposed model “CUP”

*Knowledge(K) and skills(S) required to be
imparted at THREE levels*

i)Community(ii) 2)ULB (U) & iii)Professional (P)

3) Evolve content, mode of imparting K& S

REPRESENTATIVES OF CUP & RESEARCHER

An overall strategy 3

4) Conduct CUP with application on ground

*5) Documentation, evaluation and feedback to 3
above*

Conclusion:

Need Based Programme for Informal Housing

- Acknowledging variety of models required
- Need wholistic solutions
- Solution driven modules
- Modules backed by Govt/ULB support, Professionals
- Training as integral part of modules- Training partners
- Skill development
- Balance between theory and practice

Thank You