# Adapting to Urban Climate Risk in Coastal Brazil

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### **Natural Disasters Hotspots**



Global analysis assessing the risks of mortality and economic losses Combined hazard exposure and historical vulnerability











THE WORLD BANK

"A growing chorus of expert voices warn that either we fight for 'impossible' solutions to the increasingly entangled crises of urban poverty and climate change, or become ourselves complicit in a *de facto* triage of humanity."

Mike Davis. 2010. Who will build the ark? *New Left Review* 61: 29-46.

If the ark is built, who will be the passengers?

# 'Urban Hazardscapes' to 'Climate Resilient Cities'

Vulnerability, resistance & resilience of interacting human & non-human systems

Consequences of Urbanization Pathways for Sustainability

- Ecological Integrity
- Human Health/Quality of life/Livability
- Economic Well-being
- Social Equity and Justice

Spatial heterogeneity & socio-spatial inequalities

# Climate-related Hazards & Governance in Coastal Brazilian Cities

- Urban Exposure to Natural & Unnatural Hazards
- Analysis of Urban Vulnerability to Climate Variability & Climate Change
- Impacts of Extreme Climate Events
- Adaptation Decisions & Strategies
- Hazard Mitigation Options

# Multi-scale approach to support planning & action

Individual/household	Behaviors; decision-making; PPGIS & VGI
Local/neighborhood	Local risk assessments; community-based risk reduction & disaster
	response
City-region	Early-warning systems; evacuations plans; disease prevention;
	infrastructure & services (water supply, drainage, sanitation, transport)
Subnational	Weather forecasting capacity; coordination of rescue & relief operations
National	Climate change policies, plans, strategies
Regional	Regional-scale climate monitoring and modeling
Global	Global environmental change; global human population dynamics; atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases; global climate financing mechanisms

Spatial Data Infrastructures to facilitate data collection/integration & democratic knowledge production

### **Global urbanization trends**

### Increasing percentage urban



Source: Montgomery, M.R. 2008. The urban transformation of the developing world. Science 319: 761–764.

#### Ojima & Hogan (2009: 285)

Figure 1 – Urban population (%), Brazil (1940-2000)



Source: IBGE, Demographic censuses 1940-2000.

### Florianópolis Santa Catarina State, Brazil

# **Spatial distribution of urban populations in Brazil**



- Areas displayed in yellow indicate urban extents (night-time lights).
- Polygons are municipal boundaries.





Gridded Population of the World, version 3 (GPWv3) Global Rural-Urban Mapping Project (GRUMP) http://sedac.ciesin.columbia.edu/gpw/

### **Collaborative Research**

# Mapping the Risks of Climate Change in Developing Countries

 Deborah Balk & Megan Todd, Baruch School of Public Affairs, CUNY Institute for Demographic Research (CIDR);

- Mark Montgomery, Stony Brook University & Population Council;
- Gordon McGranahan, International Institute for Environment & Development;
- Donghwan Kim, Stony Brook University
- Thomas Buettner, UN Population Division;
- Christopher Small, Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University;

 S. Chandrasekhar, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai;

• Valentina Mara & Susana Adamo, CIESIN.

#### Mapping Urban Exposure & Vulnerability to Climate Variability & Change



Global Rural-Urban Mapping Project (GRUMP)

### **Urban Extents & Low-Elevation Coastal Zone in S & SE Brazil**



# Itajaí River Valley

### Santa Catarina State

# Florianópolis

Landsat 7 Path 220, Row 079 March 29, 2003

Source: http://glovis.usgs.gov/



Browse by Topic Fires Severe Storms Dust, Smoke, and Haze Floods Volcanoes and Earthquakes Crops and Drought Unique Imagery Floods in Santa Catarina, Brazil



Image taken 11:50 a.m. local time (13:30 UTC) on November 22, 2008 Source: http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=36035

Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) satellite TRMM is a joint mission between NASA and the Japanese space agency, JAXA.

### Santa Catarina State Extreme rainfall event Began on Nov. 22, 2008

Nov. 22-23, 2008 Balneário Camboriú: 455 mm Itajaí: 403 mm São José: 254 mm Florianópolis: 216 mm

> *Nov. 22-26, 2008* Blumenau: 600+ mm

Landsat 7 Path 220, Row 079 March 29, 2003

Source: http://glovis.usgs.gov/

### Extreme rainfall event in the Itajaí River Valley November 2008

Affected an estimated 1.5 million people in the region. Death toll of 135, mostly from landslides. 85 municipalities declared a state of emergency. 242 confirmed cases of leptospirosis.



#### Itajaí, Santa Catarina, Brazil on 24 Nov. 2008



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Narrative and statistical source: Reuters. *Brazil Troops Quell Looting After Landslides*. 26 Nov., 2008. Data sources: UNCS, GAUL. Map created 28 Nov., 2008

*Source:* http://reliefweb.int

Itajaí é um dos municípios mais seriamente atingidos pelas chuvas - Itajaí, 24/11/2008 -Foto: Neiva Daltrozo / Secretaria de Comunicação - Gov. Santa Catarina http://www.flickr.com/photos/capitanio/sets/72157610162907768/

# Exposure, vulnerability, impacts, & responses at the local and household levels

Residents of Florianópolis were impacted by the same heavy rainfall event



23 Nov. 2008

27 Nov. 2008

28 Nov. 2008



## Coastal low-lying lands Rio de Janeiro State



### Extreme rainfall event in Rio de Janeiro State

Began on April 5, 2010. Impacts: flooding, landslides, & storm surge. 288 mm (11.3 in) in 24 hours

#### Metro Rio de Janeiro



#### Morro do Bumba, Niterói, RJ



Sarasofa Journal

Friday, Jan. 14, 1966-9

# **Rio Disaster Death Toll** At 355 As Rain Slacks

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil reira. "Many had broken spines tery officials to walve burial (AP) — The death toll in the Rio de Janeiro disaster climbed to 355 today and many more bodies were believed burled in the mud and debris left in the wake of the worst rains in the city's 400-year history,

A total of 185 deaths were confirmed in the city and another 170 in Rio de Janiero state, including 100 in the mountain resort of Petropolis, 26 miles north of the city.

Many more were feared dead in isolated areas.

Doctors and attendants at the brought in.

"Most were suffocated in

and legs."

"The children were the hardest hit. The little ones drowned In as little as a few centimeters of water. Others were unable to withstand even minor slides and were dragged away."

Most of the dead came from the Favela shantytowns on Rio's hillsides. They were brought in by the truckload. Hampered by frequent power failures, doctors performed autopsies on each body.

Many families did not have city morgue worked around the the money to buy coffins or pay clock trying to identify bodies for burial, Radio and television ing the night, stations broadcast frequent appeals to undertakers for dona- paign was under way to prevent landslides," said Dr. Ivan Fer- tions of coffins and asked ceme- epidemics.

fees for the poor.

Authorities estimated at least 4,000 were homeless in the city and another 10,000 in the state.

An undetermined number of persons was killed Thursday when a huge mud slide roared off a hillside in Rio, buried two houses, two trucks and four floors of a seven-story apartment house.

Eight bodies were recovered. but many more were believed buried.

The rains, which started Monday, tapered off to a drizzle dur-

A massive inoculation cam-

### Extreme rainfall event in 1966:

- Fatalities mostly caused by landslides.
- Most of the deaths occurred in *favelas*.
- At least 4,000 left homeless in Rio city; 10,000 left homeless in Rio state.

•Efforts to prevent disease epidemics following the event.

# What needs to happen for coastal Brazilian cities to adapt to existing climate variability & expected climate change?

(1) **Build 'the ark' for all!** C.C. adaptation & development should be integrated in ways that reduce rather than exacerbate extreme socioeconomic inequalities.

- extend & improve basic urban infrastructure & services
- provide safe, affordable, low-carbon (low-impact) **housing** for population currently living in high risk areas

- build, upgrade, prepare **multifunctional facilities** (i.e., health centers, schools, recreational centers) that can serve as hospitals & safe shelters

### (2) Enforcement of land-use restrictions, zoning regulations & building codes.

(3) Strengthen institutions & partnerships that promote good governance.governance systems need to be inclusive of the urban poor

(4) Improve **systematic documentation & communication** of events, impacts & responses at multiple spatial scales; make data& information publicly accessible.

(5) Advance **Spatial Data Infrastructures** to communicate knowledge & interactively shape behaviors & action; take advantage of social networking tools & services.

# Thank you!

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