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Seminar Notes
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Lecture 4 Prof. Christopher Silver
Habitat: Water, Places, and Resources

Dr. Jocelyn Widmer
Ideas for Collecting Data Using Different Field Methodologies

Prof. Christopher Silver

What I wanted to do today was to reflect on what I saw and what you saw in the project itself concerning a 'Web of Water, Space & Life.' These issues were evident in the projects we saw yesterday and the presentations from Pak Abimanyu and Pak Herr Suryantono. (See website). What I thought was important was to reflect on what we saw the other day. Water is the issue that brings all the other issues to the fore, including flooding and a disaster response approach. It is not just the issue of flooding, but fitting the whole package together. Setu Rawa Besar is an interesting example of land, habitat, water and life. The best example is the UI Campus lakes which show the interface of the three issues in a more thoughtful system to manage water and to improve the quality of water downstream. For Setu Babakan, the cultural significance is evident, plus the effort to create a water-focused society emphasizing the relationship between the land as habitat, space, water and life.

By coincidence, I received a gift of a World Bank publication entitled "City Risk Diagrams for Urban Resilience". It is not on the World Bank website as yet. It is a fabulous model to deal with the response to the project areas. There is a need to link land development with disaster management and also the community development element. There are six Indonesian cities (Palembang, a river city and a water city, Semarang, Yogyakarta, with its fascinating river in the center, Balikpapan, Makassar, etc.) It is an excellent framework for building urban resiliency. There are three parts which discuss building resilience.

1. Identify risk scenarios for building development and address land management. What happens to people when it is not a sustainable situation.
2. Identify through analysis land use change, but also identify where infrastructure needs to be introduced as a model.
3. Manage work with local stakeholders to maintain the ecosystem.

The research concerns not only just fixing the infrastructure, but also bringing the place back to life again. From 1950's aerial photography, the rural areas outside Jakarta were documented. With a rapid rise in population, the ecosystem and its tributaries were in the way of providing space for new development. Now the pace of development is much slower. Efforts are trying to restore the ecological foundations, not just going back to focus on past ecosystems, but to understand and revive current ecosystems.

One case study focuses on Yogyakarta. Issues include informal housing built on government-owned flood plains, high density and water quality. The Winongo Riverwalk strategy aims at returning the river in the center of Yogyakarta to recreational areas. Yogyakarta competes with Bali for domestic economic development aspects. The Winongo Riverwalk creates a 'kampung walk' and works with community groups along the river to help create water quality through education. The total project is estimated to be in the region of US\$94-150 Million. However, given the magnitude of expenditure, the economic returns greatly exceed the cost with anticipated income from tourists coming to the site and the increase in the overall quality of life.

As you approach your project, "Think Outside the Box." It is too difficult to understand the governance and regional system all at once. There are governance issues related to all three sites. I offer this talk as a kind of perspective between the places you have seen and the notion of urban resilience.

Question

Why would you use the 1950's data, when you have the opposite opportunity to plan for the future?

Answer

Using the 1950's data we can determine what is the natural ecological system for the lake itself. This is how it happens with the landfill that has been going on for the past 65 years. The only way to move forward is to get the baseline data.

Dr. Jocelyn Widmer

My talk considers conducting fieldwork in a short amount of time with different technologies, using a photograph survey method. My philosophy is about working together with stakeholders and then analyzing the data when you get back from the field work.

Data collection includes field observations (field notes), photography, film, videos, sketches and conceptual diagrams, spatial information for data mining (GIS, Google Maps, GPS, Historical maps), literature searches, social media exploration, policy review, surveys, categorical systematic information, interviews with focus groups, stakeholders and on site mapping. Individual tools include tablets, smart phones, GPS devices to connect places, etc.

The only photo in this presentation from the October UI UF CU workshop is the people shown in floating boats on the lake and there are no fish! Methods as artifacts for data collection include connecting the dots and then looking at a system of data collection as part of the system itself. There is a rhythm to data collection, comparing the old versus the new.

The research questions are numerous and varied. What is historic? What are the issues? What are the cultural heritage practices? What are the causes, for example, debris (*sampah*), a dead rat, etc. What are the solutions for waste removal? What is static about the communities? What is dynamic? How are people moving? Think about speed and time. Think about meaning. Here is a banner with a UI Logo, hung upside down. It had some meaning at one time and now is being used in another way. What is familiar to you as students? What is unfamiliar? What is familiar to the place and its

context? What is a familiar activity, such as boating? What are the regulations? Often there is a government sign, "Do not throw trash here. There is a Rp. 500,000.- fine." Then, right next store there is a mountain of trash. What is the reality? Is there another rhythm in the community? Is the trash condition the result of inaction or is it closer to the reality of life on the ground? What is the reality of people living in these places from an insider's perspective? As planners, are we future facilitators?

Think about the continuum of water in a context related to public health implications. What is the life cycle of water? These photographs document doing the laundry, domestic cleaning, commercial laundries, washing plastic Aqua water bottles, etc. On the consumer side, water in plastic bottles is imported by truck as drinking water. What is the price of water? This sign indicates that Aqua is Rp 15,700.-/bottle refill. How does this price resonate with the consumption of water. Sachets of dry juice are sold, which raises health issues about the addition of potable water. Many of the children we saw were seemingly overweight, which maybe indicative of malnutrition due to second or third degree consequences related to the lack of agricultural land.

In terms of waste, think about what is happening in the packaging and recycling chain. Also consider the reality of space. In this photo on one side is a channel carrying waste water and on the other side is a tap (*kran*) attached to the house with a washing bucket below (*bak mandi*). The reality expresses the adjacency of clean and dirty water, not the unsanitary implication of mixing the water supply and the waste water. It is the proximity that is problematic. Also consider: What is the impact of trash on rhw local community? Where do children play? Look across all peoples when thinking of social issues and remeber to have fun!

Related Sources

The World Bank, (2012). "Building Urban Resilience – International Recovery Platform, See Chapter 3, Jakarta.

http://www.recoveryplatform.org/assets/publication/EAP_Tools_for_Building_Urban_Resilience_2012.pdf