REINVIGORATE, OPERATIONALIZE!

BUILDING NEW PLANNERS AND POLICY MAKERS

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OUTLINE

Capacity development from the perspective of spatial data

• The city we need
• The people we need
• The Information we need
• The Capacity Development we need

"Like I said son, survival is all about location, location, location!"
THE IMPORTANCE OF INFORMATION

Because sustainable development involves the complex interaction between the social, economic and environmental dimensions, for cities to achieve sustainable development they must be multi-disciplinary when creating development plans and policies. However, environmental considerations, for instance, cannot be appreciated if there is lack of relevant and timely information, knowledge, tools and skill.
THE CITY WE NEED IS

- Well planned → interdisciplinary geo-education
- Safe → Disaster management, crime
- Healthy → Community green mapping
- Managed at metropolitan level → SDI, Gov
- Has a singular identity and sense of place → Local knowledge and culture

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POLICY BENEFITS FROM GOOD DATA

Without reliable information on what happens when and where:

• There is no accurate baseline for policy formulation

• Decisions can only be made on short term

• Policy cannot be operationalized
Good Data Requires Capacity

Sustainable spatial data infrastructure to incorporate all dimensions

- Social, economic and environmental data are usually held at different institutions.
- Data exists in different formats and under different standards.
- Data sharing and open data protocols are often alien (ailing) subjects.

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• Multi disciplinarity is not new. It only requires effort to convince people of its merits → **REINVIGORATE**

• Plans and policies are made by the dozen, effective implementation is a problem → **OPERATIONALIZE** through the incorporation of good (spatial) data infrastructure.
REINVIGORATE

• Life long learning – show people new developments and technology

• Expose people to different thoughts – let economists and environmentalists discuss food security scenarios developed with the same spatial dataset, show impact of local knowledge and culture
OPERATIONALIZE

• Make politicians and managers understand what technicians do: force context discussion: translate

A government data standard is a "socket", a software application is a "plug", and an API is the "international converter"
Capacity development of technical subjects must become multi-level and life-long.

• Go beyond "technician courses" and actively promote the participation of policy and decision-makers.

• Go beyond "office training" and make the full hierarchy of a department participate.

• Let Mayors remember they are citizens

• Make citizens act as decision-makers

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Spatial Data Infrastructure will enable a sustainable multi-disciplinary and multi-level environment to turn policy into effective action. Invest in spatial data infrastructure in order to operationalize planning. Reinvigorate planners and policy makers by taking them back to school in multi-disciplinary courses.
QUESTIONS?

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