

Habitat Program and Transition Resilient Communities

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Subtitle: Actions Without Borders promotes resilient communities

Abstract:

Cities (social-technological-ecological systems) evolve as adaptive self-organized complex systems. Consequently, sustainable development of urban systems is based on their degree of adaptability and transformability to systemic change. These capacities are called resilience thinking and promote navigating through the transition process or creative destruction. We will compare several case studies in the South and North contexts, and how the new methodology *Resilient Habitat Program* from ASF-Int facilitates local processes of communities' ecological transitions and local capacity building and to present how research and teaching that exemplifies new « North-South » relationships favoring transdisciplinary work and promoting local actions for sustainable development.

Paper:

The Habitat Program¹² was launched in 2021 by the Action Without Borders Group (Architecture Without Frontiers International, ASF-Int). This is a collaborative initiative for rethinking communities that uses transdisciplinary tools such as opinion, negotiation, and strategic vision to ensure sustainable transitions based on local capacity building and social innovation, as well as multi-level governance and codesign. This initiative is an updated version of the “Neighborhood Plan” that was implemented between 2010-19 by the UIA Action Without Borders Work Group, ASF-Catalunya & ASF-Andalucía in different neighborhoods and communities across the world such as the Vallcarca neighborhood in Barcelona³, or Puntales in Cádiz, Spain, the Salsipuedes community in the Dominican Republic, The Bacalan community in Bordeaux, France, the Milagro de Dios community in Ibagué, Colombia, and PROFAM community in Arequipa, El Perú. On the African continent it has also been carried out in countries such as Costa de Marfil or the Saharhi refugee camps in Algeria

¹ 2021 UIA Congress Rio, ASF-Int, Ligia Nunes, Jordi Balari, Rafael Balanzó, Pedro Lorenzo, *Habitat Program: From “Plano Barrio” to “Programa Habitat”*

² Balanzó, R. et al. “We all make up the city. The city reflect us”. Union of International Architects, UIA 2017 Seoul Congress. http://www.uia2017seoul.org/P/papers/Full_paper/Paper/Oral/PS3-42/O-0530.pdf

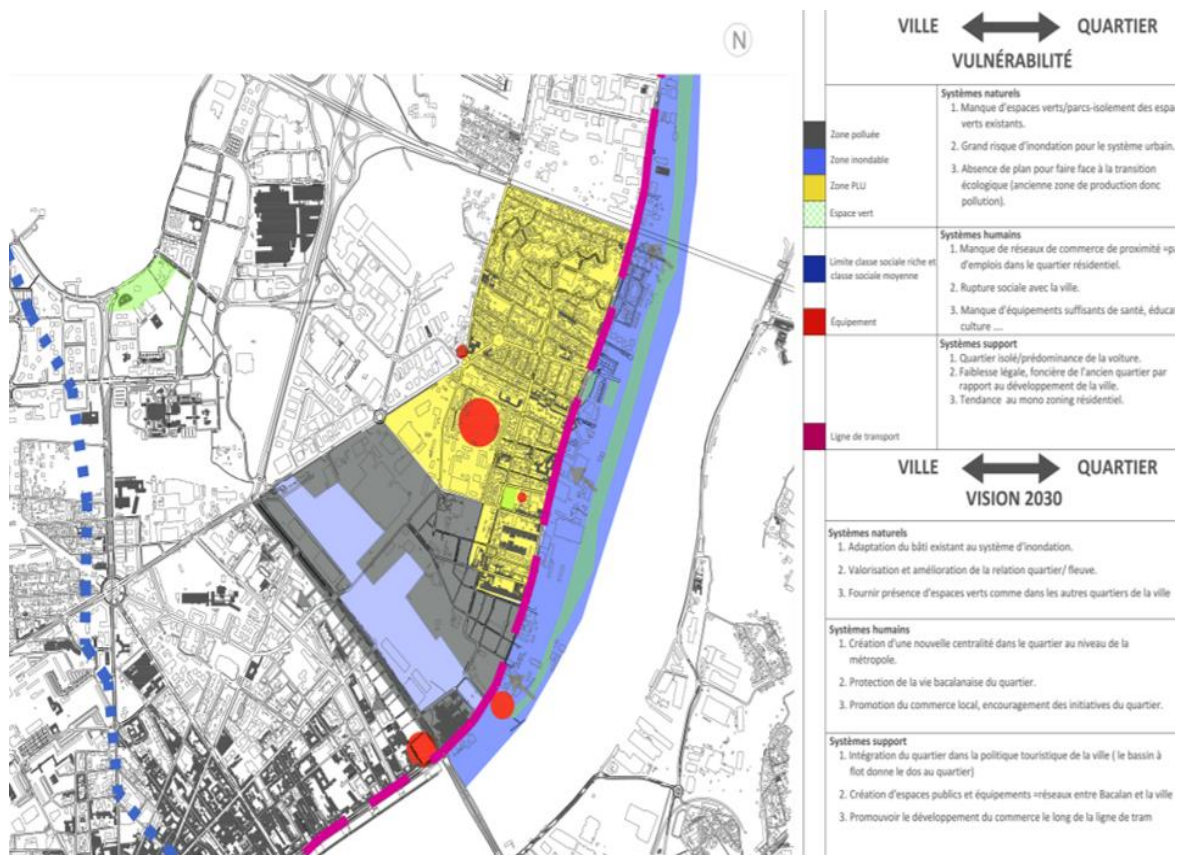
³ Balanzó, R. & Nunes, L. (2018) “Plano de Acção de Metodologia de Diagnóstico de Resiliência Urbana: O caso de estudo do Bairro de Vallcarca.” PNUM2018 Congress: A Produção do Território: Formas, Processos, Desígnios. Porto, Portugal. https://pnum.arg.up.pt/wp-content/uploads/docs/PNUM2018_LIVRO_DE_RESUMOS_v1.0.pdf

“The PLAN BARRIO (NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN) is a methodology for analyzing the housing situation of a specific neighborhood or place, proposing the possible process for its improvement. It is an instrument of opinion and negotiation, usable by the various agents involved in neighborhood improvement, especially the citizens”⁴..

The general objective is based on creating local networks that promote sustainable transition processes through three key phases: diagnosis; implementation; and observation and communication.

Bacalan Habitat Program Case Study: Diagnosis by workshops

Following the guidelines of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 2030) and specifically objective 11—Resilient and Sustainable Cities—the Habitat Program promotes “Resilient Rethinking” workshops that aim to consolidate a methodology that analyzes and identifies tipping points for urban evolutionary dynamics and at the same time predicts future processes.



⁴ Lorenzo Gálligo, P.; López Mena, G. Procesos de gestión social para la mejora barrial: la experiencia de la metodología PLAN BARRIO. "QRU: Quaderns de Recerca en Urbanisme", 2020, núm. 10, p. 156-187



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their degree of adaptability and transformability to systemic change. These capacities are called resilience thinking and promote navigating through the transition process or creative destruction. We will compare several case studies in the South and North contexts, and how the new methodology *Resilient Habitat Program*⁵ from ASF-Int facilitates local processes of communities' ecological transitions and local capacity building and to present how research and teaching that exemplifies new « North-South » relationships favoring transdisciplinary work and promoting local actions for sustainable development. This diagnostic approach uses sustainability and action research so the participants can learn about urban participatory processes along with the set of tools that resilience rethinking provides to analyze how communities respond to global social and economic crises and tensions. The workshop design principles are based on technical documents for the local communities, which allow for the analysis, understanding and creation of a vision that anticipates future systemic changes such as climate change, the urban housing market, social justice issues, and pandemics.



⁵ Balanzó, R. y Espinosa, M., (2021) UIA Congress Rio, *Habitat Resilient Thinking Design Program (pH Resiliente): Milagro de Dios, informal city case study, Ibagué, Colombia.*

Documentary: <https://youtu.be/3tLhKTsfu9g>

Webpage: <http://localprojectchallenge.org/actions-against-displacement-and-austerity/>

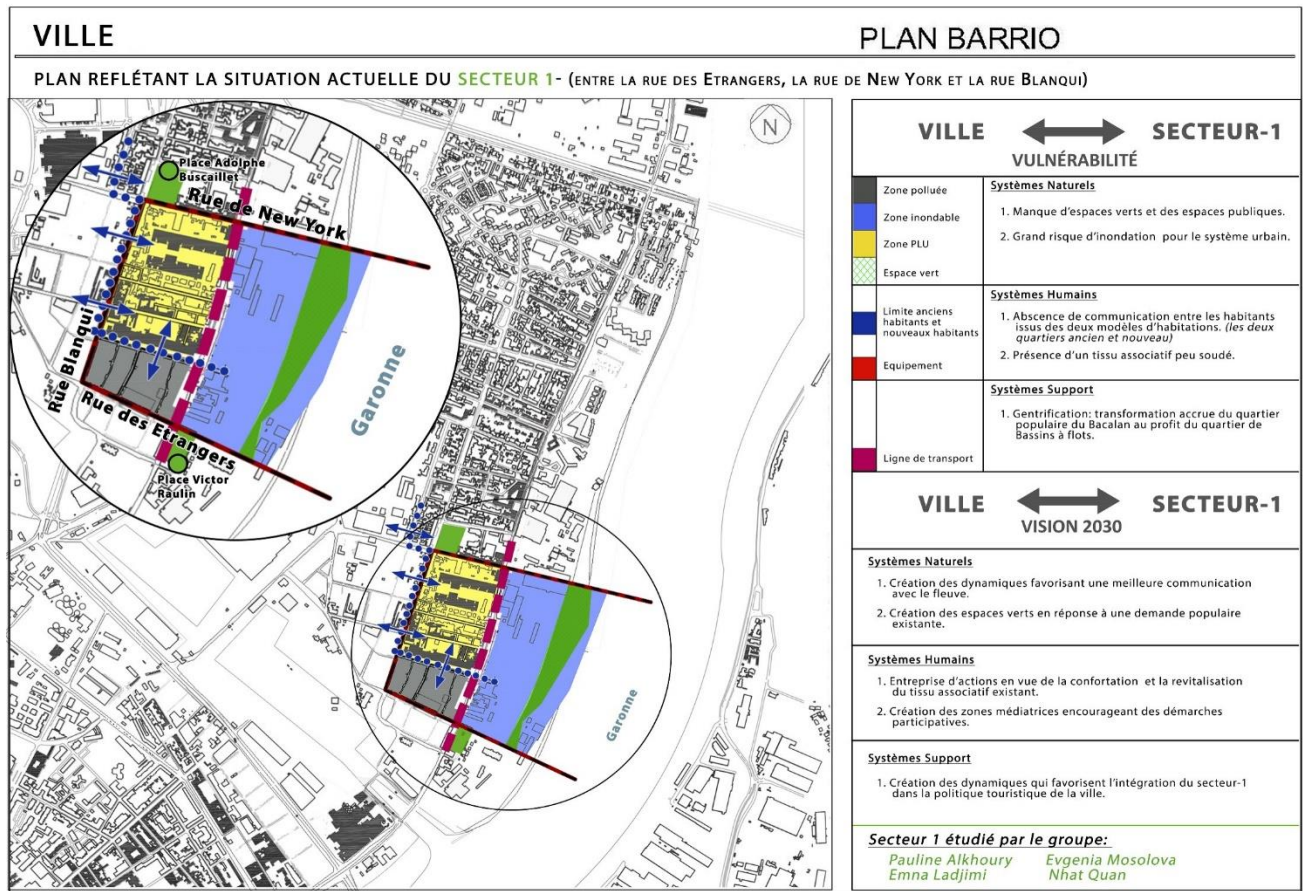
<https://www.acsa-arch.org/proceedings/International%20Proceedings/ACSA.Intl.2021/ACSA.Intl.2021.118.pdf>

There are three the phases of the workshops:

1. Mapping documents related to the quantitative and qualitative risks analysis and visioning process such the Habitat Program Mapping.
2. Identify resilient thinking indicators for the transition of social, technological, and ecological systems.
3. Apply the resilience thinking approach in terms of adaptive cycle concepts

The different workshops that were carried out made it possible to diagnose the weaknesses and advance proposals that can add value to the city and safeguard its memory by establishing a new balance between the neighborhood and the city. For example, in the Bacalan Community in Bordeaux, the participatory vision process promotes building skills for the community such as a Garage Moderne community-based leadership program and the establishment of a union, which empowers the people to dialogue with the local government about food transition vision, and as related to local neighbors' displacements due to gentrification.

QUARTIER	PLAN BARRIO		
PLAN D'OBJECTIFS, DE STRATÉGIE ET D'ACTIONS POUR LE SECTEUR 1- (ENTRE LA RUE DES ÉTRANGERS, LA RUE DE NEW YORK ET LA RUE BLANQUI)			
	SECTEUR-1		
	OBJECTIFS	1- Souder la rupture sociale issue de la rupture urbaine. 2- Tirer profit du réseau associatif	
	STRATEGIE	Sensibiliser, informer, éduquer au jardinage tout en développant une économie solidaire	
	PLAN D'ACTIONS	ODD DE L'ONU	INDICATEURS
	Création d'un prototype dans une zone médiatrice qui présente un intérêt commun existant pour tous les habitants.	- Objectif 11: Villes et communautés durables - Objectif 17: Partenariats pour la réalisation des objectifs	- Nombre de jardins potagés (m2 /hab) - Nombre de zones vides
Confortation du jardin potager collectif	- Objectif 8: Travail Décent et croissance économique - Objectif 11: Villes et communautés durables	- Production (%) ou (kg/hab./année) - Consommation (%) ou (kg/hab./jour) - Nombre des chercheurs d'emploi	
Détermination des zones à usage flexible	- Objectif 12: Consommation et Production responsables - Objectif 17: Partenariats pour la réalisation des objectifs	- Nombre de post d'emploi - Nombre de zones vides	
Création des ateliers éducatifs intergénérationnels	- Objectif 4: Education de Qualité - Objectif 17: Partenariats pour la réalisation des objectifs	- Nombre des personnes à éduquer (nbre/année) - Nbre de personnes âgées < 15 - Nbre de personnes âgées entre 25 et 60 - Nbre de personnes âgées > 60 - Nombre de nouveaux partenariats tissés - Nombre des formations spécifiques	



Observation and communication

Habitat program implementation by community self-management

The Habitat Program focuses on exploring how communities rethink spaces and rebuild themselves through resilient urban initiatives. The implementation phase promotes the transformation of vacant lots, buildings, and urban spaces through creative actions and serve as a catalyst to explore new methodologies and new roles for networks that contribute to the development of neighborhoods.

The Bacalan workshop was instrumental in contributing new visions for a food transition urban renewal that included the reuse of the abandoned building and the public space surrounding it, the maintenance of the community garden, and the creation of a land trust housing cooperative that dealt with neighborhood areas that could be transformed into useful green areas as well as entrepreneurial and housing programs.

The conclusions drawn from each case study—the experiences and actions combined with the analysis of other cases or realities—embody an increasingly structured knowledge base, which can be disseminated in diverse ways such as community activities, publications, exhibitions, symposiums, and continuing education courses. The fundamental objectives are to contextualize the mechanisms of community development; present theoretical, political, and technical concepts that can improve living conditions; as well as exchange knowledge through case studies and collaborative actions with communities in different parts of the world.

The Bacalan experience is a good example of this. Developed within the Postmaster Rebuilding the world, developed in the School of Architecture, of the National School of Architecture and Landscape of Bordeaux. A Peruvian student of the postmaster, in 2020-2021 course, had the initiative to start a process of improvement of one of the urban settlements that are being developed in the city of Arequipa, Peru. Settlements that were the object of his investigation within the post-master itself. With the help of the group ASF-Andalucía, where he did his post-master internship, he identified and formulated a project to carry out the Barrio Plan in the PROFAM sector of Arequipa, financed by the University of Seville. This was successfully carried out during August 2021 realized with the help of the local collective Ciudades, which includes urban planners from the University of Arequipa, and the participation of students from this who also participated as volunteers. The experience, in addition to making the methodology known in the area, has managed to start a process to improve this sector, which can serve as a model for other communities in the same situation.

This sector of study is within the area known as Cono Norte. This had its origin, growth and later consolidation because it is the access road that connects the city of communicates the city of Arequipa with the traditional town of Yura and the cities of the south of the country such as Puno and Cusco, the latter being affected by terrorism in the 90s. migrating a large part of its rural population to safer cities. Their economic means did not allow them to buy or rent housing, so they formed groups for the same interest and settled in squatter settlements near the Arequipa-Yura Road. Arequipa-Yura Road on the northern outskirts of the city.

The difficult economic situation of the inhabitants, most of whom live on casual labor, was aggravated by the pandemic caused by COVID19. This situation was partly solved thanks to the solidarity between neighbors, supported by the local administration, which allowed them to create the community pots program.

SECTOR PROFAM MUNICIPIO DE YURA. AREQUIPA. PERÚ

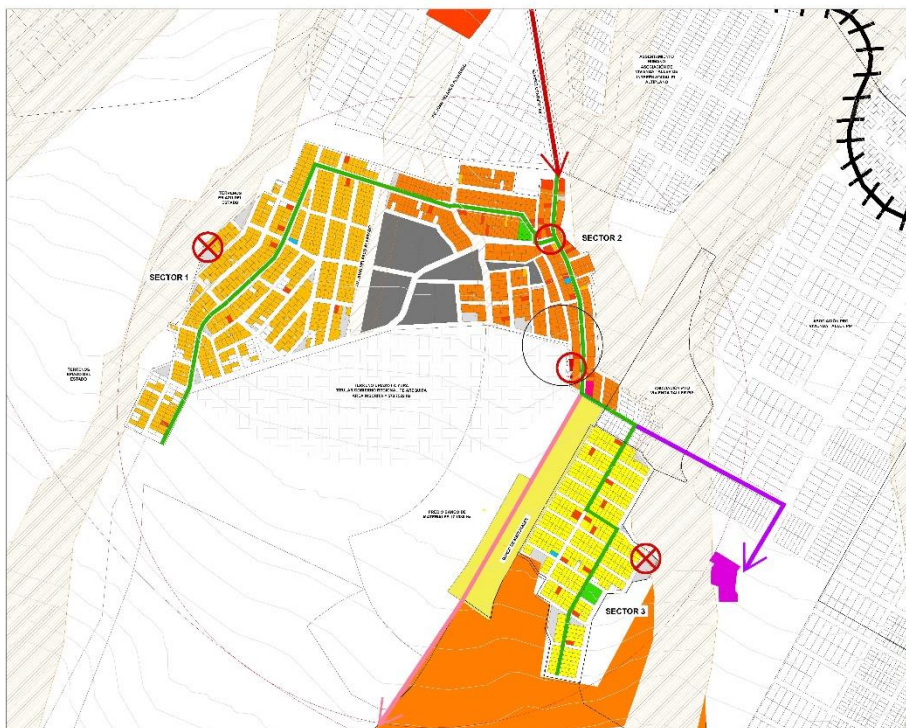
AGOSTO DE 2021



PLAN BARRIO

PLANO EN EL QUE SE REFLEJA LA SITUACIÓN ACTUAL DEL BARRIO

ESCALA 1:7.500



SITUACIÓN ACTUAL / ANÁLISIS PROGRAMAS / PROYECTOS REALIZADOS	SITUACIÓN DESEADA / PROPIUESTA PRIORIDADES 1, 2, 3 PROGRAMAS / PROYECTOS FUTUROS
<p>SITUACIÓN SOCIAL / ECONOMÍA CULTURAL LOCAL</p> <p>El barrio es un proceso de consolidación. Hay límites de pertenencia y respeto a él. No se encuentra en proceso de expansión violenta ni proceso de contracción.</p> <p>Como alternativa se plantea: Darle un carácter de barrio urbano de la zona y en proceso de consolidación.</p> <p>Crear un programa de mejoramiento de barrios (mejoramiento) para dar un carácter urbano y darle un carácter de barrio urbano.</p>	<p>11. Mejorar la calidad social mediante la creación de espacios públicos, en donde se genere un espacio urbano que permita mejorar la calidad de vida de los habitantes.</p>
<p>INFRAESTRUCTURA</p> <p>Alcance de alcantarillado: Parcial</p> <p>Red de agua: No hay</p> <p>Red de gas: No hay</p> <p>Red de electricidad: No hay</p> <p>Red de telecomunicaciones: No hay</p> <p>Red de saneamiento: No hay</p> <p>Red de drenaje: No hay</p> <p>Red de transporte: No hay</p> <p>Red de servicios: No hay</p>	<p>12. Mejorar la calidad social mediante la creación de espacios públicos, en donde se genere un espacio urbano que permita mejorar la calidad de vida de los habitantes.</p> <p>13. Mejorar la calidad social mediante la creación de espacios públicos, en donde se genere un espacio urbano que permita mejorar la calidad de vida de los habitantes.</p> <p>14. Mejorar la calidad social mediante la creación de espacios públicos, en donde se genere un espacio urbano que permita mejorar la calidad de vida de los habitantes.</p>
<p>USOS Y ACTIVIDADES</p> <p>Uso residencial: No hay</p> <p>Uso comercial: No hay</p> <p>Uso industrial: No hay</p> <p>Uso institucional: No hay</p> <p>Uso recreativo: No hay</p> <p>Uso religioso: No hay</p> <p>Uso educativo: No hay</p> <p>Uso cultural: No hay</p> <p>Uso deportivo: No hay</p> <p>Uso social: No hay</p>	<p>15. Mejorar la calidad social mediante la creación de espacios públicos, en donde se genere un espacio urbano que permita mejorar la calidad de vida de los habitantes.</p>
<p>MEJORAMIENTO Y CREACIÓN DE PROYECTOS</p> <p>Mejoramiento: No hay</p> <p>Creación de proyectos: No hay</p>	<p>16. Mejorar la calidad social mediante la creación de espacios públicos, en donde se genere un espacio urbano que permita mejorar la calidad de vida de los habitantes.</p>

The workshop had the following results:

- Preliminary study of the neighborhood from different aspects, environmental, social and economic or communication and accessibility with the city.
- Updated maps of the area and its surroundings
- The “Plan Barrio” for the PROFAM sector in Yura

The plan highlighted the shortcomings that the sector currently has in terms of communication with the city and accessibility, and primary health care or school places. Due to the dynamics that in this part of the Atacama desert is generating environmental problems caused by urban growth, the problems generated in this situation related to food security were indicated in the plan, and a series of strategic projects were indicated to correct these problems. The workshop and the results obtained were selected as experiences of good urban practices in the fourth forum “Ciudades como Vamos” in Lima, where the experience and the results obtained were presented. Currently, thanks to the Ciudades collective, funding has been obtained from the University of Arequipa to start the improvement process.

Conclusion:

The experience of carrying out a practical workshop with the Plan Barrio and Plan Habitat methodology within the programming of a master's or post-master course, as in the case of Bacalan within the RBW post-master, in addition to contributing to the training and the knowledge of urban planners in terms of sustainable development and providing them with practical tools, can contribute directly to starting development processes in the communities where they work. Putting into practice the methodology of learning by doing.

