

2.3.3

SERIES 2

Understanding
Vulnerability & Risk



Mapping City Development Trends

Activity 2.3.3

Different aspects of a problem often come to light when the problem is represented in a different way. In this exercise, you will draw many of the trends you have been discussing on maps. If, by moving from words to spatial/ visual representation of trends, you find yourself highlighting or emphasizing different aspects of city growth or vulnerability, add these to your earlier tables.

IN THIS ACTIVITY YOU WILL:

- ✓ Map your city's development trends over the past few decades;
- ✓ Map the informal settlement growth in your city over the past few decades; and
- ✓ Map how the coverage of services – drinking water, electricity, sewage, and solid waste management – has changed over the past few decades.

ACTIVITY 2.3.3: MAPPING CITY DEVELOPMENT PLANS

INSTRUCTIONS: Begin by either drawing a map of your area of interest or using an existing map that you are comfortable drawing on. Outline the main urban boundary for the time periods you evaluated in Activity 2.3.1. Use a different color for each time period.

Using the same colors for the same time periods, draw in slum or informal settlements and zones of major economic focus. As you work, consider:

- How are the city boundaries changing? Has the city expanded in ways that will put it more at risk or less at risk of climate hazards?
- Are the slum or informal settlement areas changing over time? Are there areas that were slums or informal settlements in the past, but have been converted to other uses? Note where those people are now living.
- Are the economic zones growing? Are new economic zones in different parts of the city being created?

Now, map how the coverage of services has changed over your time periods. Again, use different colors for each time period.

- Do slums and informal settlements receive services now? Did they in the past? How has this affected, or not affected the vulnerability of the inhabitants?
- Are services spreading? If so, how is this impacting transportation and development? How does this affect urban land use and density?

Discuss, first in your small group and then in plenary, what you have mapped and what the implications are for current and future vulnerability. Is there anything else that should be added to these maps to help convey those vulnerabilities?