

Villes en développement



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N°13

Urban economy

This issue of «Villes en développement» takes on particular interest for the economist - indeed, it features a detailed and disturbing statement putting forward the method and the conclusions of work accomplished recently by Jean-Marie Cour at the World Bank.

This work will disturb the statisticians by substantially reassessing the GNP of African countries and bringing about a change in the method of calculation. This method in fact takes the premise opposite to the approach used in industrialized countries, being based on the income of households to calculate national production.

This work will also disturb the politicians : primarily because the reassessment of production levels in these economies has consequences on their classification in the international categories which governs the volume and quality of aid allocated.

It will also disturb the economists, by bringing a new vision of the contribution of the urban productive sector to economic growth, calling for closer study of the interest and dynamics of domestic markets.

It will disturb the developers by the integrated view it implies of relations between town and country, also by showing how the country needs urban growth for its own development. Readers will note that the article in this issue devoted to peri-urban agriculture again confirms the importance of interpenetration between these two worlds, only too often analysed separately. Finally, it will disturb the demographers. At a time when a vast conference is being held in Paris devoted to population and population policies, it is obviously useful to take into account in this debate the conclusions



Group of shops - Cap Haïtien

from Jean-Marie Cour's work and perhaps to relativize the alarmist talk about excess population of the black continent.

In short, the reflexions presented in this issue, outstanding by the breadth of the consequences they will bear on the bases of economic policy in Africa south of the Sahara, should lead us to a thorough reassessment of the advice we give to our

partners and the policies which African states implement in their countries.

Jean Michel Severino
Head of the Department of
Geographical,
Economic and Financial coordination
Ministry of Cooperation and
Development

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The demo-economic model

Over a long period, first in his advice to project teams, then in his communications to ADP or his articles, Michel Arnaud endeavoured to set out a simple message to us. «Urbanisation equals development». By this, he meant that an increase in agricultural productivity, and therefore in farmers' income, could only be achieved under the impetus of growth in the market of food products, therefore through urbanization. For some years now, Jean Marie Cour has in turn become torchbearer with this message, developing this theory by concentrating all his activity on analysis using complex modelling of these links between the urbanization process and economic growth in Sub-Sahara Africa.

With the initial hypothesis that it is the dynamics of populating and settlement, that is to say the growth and spatial redistribution of the population, which determines the economic progress of these countries, Jean Marie Cour has been led to set up a framework of economic analysis which he has called the «demo-economic model». This model is rather different from the one underlying the classical macro-economic analysis. In this approach Jean Marie Cour endeavours to define a global view of what he calls «the real economic», that is all the activities and transactions which contribute to the life of households, institutions and companies, whatever form taken by these activities and transactions : monetized or non-monetized, modern or traditional, official or non-official, avowable or not. The authorities responsible for public finances have long been concerned with bringing into their figures a measure of «non-monetized economy» often termed as «consumption by the producer», but they make no mention of the contribution from the monetized economy whose movement is not recorded and which is sometimes called «underground», «parallel» or «marginal». Now, all those who visit African countries know the importance of these movements without which, we can well ask ourselves, how would most of the inhabitants of these countries live.

Instead of determining total production by adding together the production of different branches as the national finance departments do, Jean Marie Cour proposes to approach the real economy from the starting point of analysis of final expenditure. This is

essentially the act of households and it particularly determines the production of goods and services «non-exchangeable with the rest of the world». This in fact constitutes the major part of production in a developing country ; it is generally under-estimated in the classical accountancy systems. This final demand is made by individuals or institutions, well distinguishable as belonging to a certain type and relatively easy to count. It can be easily estimated and modelled from budget-consumption inquiries by surveys, completed by measuring visible signs of living standards such as housing or consumption of certain rare goods and services.

In Sub-Sahara African countries which are undergoing rapid population increase and urbanization, the total expenditure per inhabitant, or rather the monetary equivalent of this expenditure can vary from 1 to 1000 according to the place of residence and social categories, from the peasant in a rural area remote from any market (level 1) up to the hyper-elite in the capital copying their life style from foreign models in the richest countries (level 1000).

The major part of private expenditure is devoted to «essential» needs such as food, domestic fuel, clothing and housing, but the corresponding costs are closely dependent on the place of residence and the social status of the individual. On the other hand, it is noted that in each category of household, expenditure per inhabitant is relatively stable over time and all things considered, varies little from one African country to another. Using a good typology of households and an attentive study of settlement dynamics, a correct assessment can be made of the economic total called «private expenditure». It is thereby possible to follow its development over time. Since the population of Sub-Sahara African countries is very mobile geographically and socially, the variations in this total over the long term depend much more on changes in the distribution of population between the different categories of households than on the development in the structure of expenditure per capita in each of these categories.

So the primary instrument used for analysis and projections in the demo-economic model is the **Population and Settlement Matrix** in which the total population of the country

at a given date is distributed between different residential locations (urban, rural, large-small cities etc) and six social-professional categories :

1. Primary population mostly living from agriculture,
2. Mixed population who, although essentially agricultural, carry out other activities such as trading or crafts,
3. population of the «informal sector» who draw the major part of their incomes from «traditional», commercial or artisan activities,
4. «administrative sector» population made up of employees in central and local government departments,
5. «modern private sector» population with incomes from salaries and profits from running registered «capitalistic» companies,
6. Upper layers of society, small in number, themselves divided into «elite» and «hyper-elite» who play an important role in the running of business and the structure of expenditure.

The total expenditure of households is obtained by adding together the expenditure of various categories identified in this Settlement Matrix. It is localized on the same basis as population. Balance is established for each category with the incomes drawn either from gains from production factor or various transfers, most of which fall in the non-registered economy sector. To the movement of expenditure and incomes of households are added consumption and income of other institutions, which include government departments. An important part of income and expenditure of this type is also non-registered, especially those sums which are drawn from a multitude of «contributions» and other «informal taxes».

The general equilibrium between supply and demand is established in a Goods and Services Account which takes into consideration intermediate consumption and external exchange and measures the demand to be met by the activities, be they registered or not. To balance their «sale» in the Goods and Services Account, these activities must cover their consumption and remunerate the production factors. Apart from the traditional factors (capital and labour) Jean Marie Cour introduces a third factor «the tribute», a levy paid by certain activities to the holders of various offices, for example for access to

inputs or issuing of permits. All these accounts are presented in the framework of a matrix of finances called "Community Accountancy Matrix" where incomes from the various accounts are tabled horizontally and the corresponding expenditure vertically. The real of effective Gross Domestic Product is the sum of all the payments made to the production factors by the activities.

This CAM matrix of the effective economy retraces all transactions between those involved, the identified accounts and external elements. It can be related to a region, which means for example that a CAM can identify transactions internal to the urban medium, separating them from exchanges between this urban medium and the rural sector, or from other regions or the rest of the world. We can consider the CAM of real economy as being formed by

superimposing three interdependent levels: the first constitutes the «non-monetized economy» where production and exchange involve only very short circuits; the second level made up of «registered economy» corresponds to the activities and transactions which are set down in accounts or should be if the statistics were carefully kept; the third level obtained for the main part by adjustment of the CAM, constitutes the «non-registered economy» which leads to unofficial monetized transactions. The opportunities offered to economic participants by each of these levels and their respective constraints and rules are very different. According to circumstances, individuals, private companies or government departments have the possibility of moving from one level to another or of participating at one and the same time in the activities of the three levels.

Beyond the provisions for setting up the CAM, it is the juxtaposition and the interpenetration of the three levels which expresses, in a new and realistic way, the complexity of the economy of countries with developing populations. And it is this complexity, not considered in the classical models, which confers on these economic systems considerable flexibility and a strong capacity to adapt to changes in environment. It explains the «homeostasis» of African economies, that is to say the capacity they have to maintain the variation of their main social-economic characteristics in relatively narrow limits, in spite of broad changes which affect their climate, their external economic environment and national policies

Jean Louis Vénard

Non-registered economy - The example of Zaïre

The «demo-economic» model and the setting up of a «Community Accountancy Matrix» have offered the possibility of assessing the relative weight of the non-registered economy in the «effective economy» of Zaïre. This reveals that in 1987 the effective GNP of Zaïre was in fact distributed between 24% of non-monetized added value, 52% registerable added value (even this quite official part of the economy is very unsatisfactorily defined by the statistics and national figures) and 24% of non-registrable added value. In view of the extent of transfer, the «parallel» economy represented no less than 41% of the effective expenditure of households.

The «demo-economic» model raises strong questioning about the overall picture of the economy of countries such as it is reflected by the official national figures. So it is that in the case of Zaïre and for the year 1987 the effective G.N.P. is shown to be three times higher than the official G.N.P., a global consumption by households five times higher and an added value of manufacturing industries multiplied by twenty!

The effective exchange between Zaïre and its African partners would be ten times higher than indicated in official statistics. Non-registered activities, certain of which imply long-distance exchanges (Saudi Arabia, Taiwan, etc...) are organized with perfectly defined «parallel» exchange rates, informal tribunals, «subscription» systems for smugglers accustomed to certain routes, etc...

Their regular salary represents less than one tenth of the income of civil servants who spend their time «looking for money». The various non-registered levies taken by government departments (for example the tax known as «it's my turn») are several times higher than the recorded levies. However, when related to the real economy, all these «tributes», registered or not, represent a percentage of mobilization of real resources lower than indicated in official accounts. In Zaïre, as in all the other countries where it has been possible to undertake such an analysis, the activities directly linked to local needs and internal or transfrontier markets are of relatively greater importance than is usually thought. Whereas in the official figures, internal activities and related incomes and expenditure only represent 40% of the total activity of the country, in fact their effective part is near to 85%.

Faced with the conjunctural shocks and political changes advocated by partners external to the country, the real economy of Zaïre has little chance of behaving as forecast in the classical macro-economic models. So it is that the demo-economic model suggests that in 1987 a reduction by half of the part of salaries in current expenditure of all the government departments, would only have caused a fall of 4.7% in the income per inhabitant of the civil servant category, whilst bringing about an increase of 9.3% in non-registered levies, thereby a fall of 2.7% in effective G.N.P. This results from the relative inelasticity of expenditure of certain categories of households who have the power to adjust these levies - principally to the detriment of medium and informal urban sectors.

Jean Marie Cour

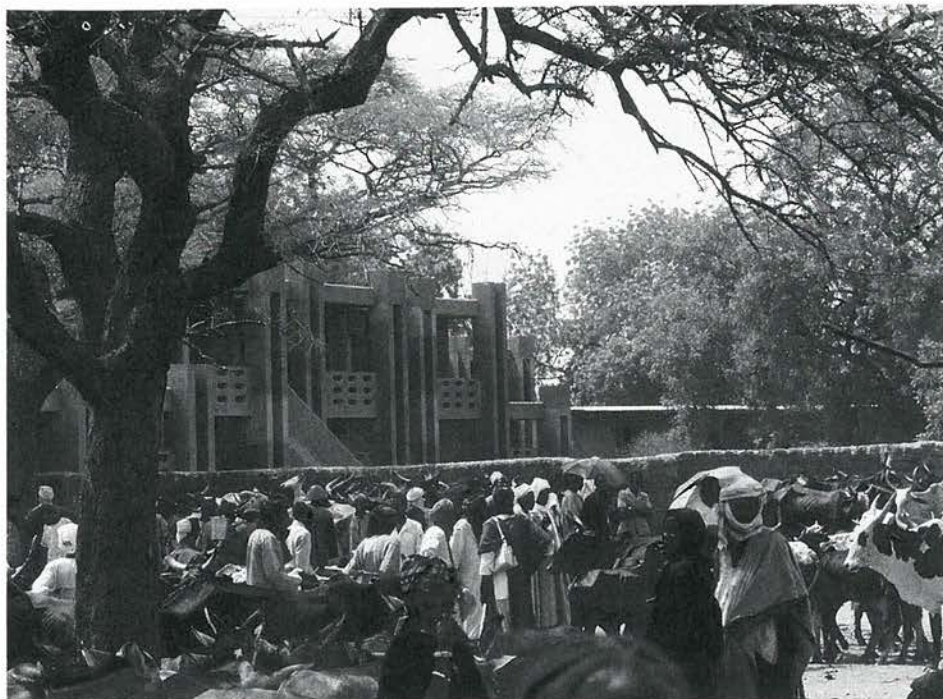
Migrants are a source of wealth for urban communities

The most outstanding characteristic of the geographical redistribution of population over Africa is the marked urbanization : between 1930 and 2030 the urban population of Sub-Saharan Africa will have been multiplied by a factor over 100. Is such a process of urbanization really reasonable ? Is it possible to assess the cost-benefit balance ?

First of all, it is clear that urbanization is not only one of the forms but also one of the driving forces in the redistribution of population. The history of population the American Far West shows that the colonization of virgin territory was organized from urban poles. This argument is interesting in a very long term perspective but would be insufficient if it were not also possible to demonstrate that this redistribution of population is effective from the economic point of view. To quantify certain elements in the cost-benefit balance of this complex process of urbanization, we can base this study on the demo-economic model which describes the real economy and the exchanges between the urban and rural media.

It is moreover shown elsewhere how urbanization is a condition necessary for development of an external market for agricultural products offering real perspectives of productivity and income to farmers and how the choice of location for this urbanization polarizes the development of agriculture. But the demo-economic model also helps to understand how the continued process of urbanization contributes to increasing the productivity of migrants and why the continuous arrival of these migrants, who form the majority of urban poor, does not however impoverish the urban economy, on the contrary.

The individual who makes the free choice of leaving his village, located in a rural area relatively isolated from the market, and who finds himself in the informal urban sector, very quickly sees his need for total expenditure (including consumption of his own production) double, and his need for monetized expenditure multiplied by four. To face these increased demands, he first draws on the savings of his family and close relatives. During a certain lapse of time he can count on this solidarity with the advantages of free lodging, loans and transfers through services rendered in compensation. But sooner or later, he is forced,



Ayorou market - Niger

source : X. Crepin

for survival's sake, either to increase his income and therefore his productivity, or to return to his village. Similar pressurizing phenomena lie behind the «migration» of urban population climbing up the scale of social categories corresponding to new needs considered as being essential very differently from one social category to another.

So the process of urbanization is seen as the main driving force in the growth and diversification of the need for personal expenditure by the individual. The average expenditure per inhabitant is indeed two-three times greater in the urban medium than in rural environment - the monetized expenditure is three-four times greater. Now, what is expenditure for the new migrants is income for others, providing advantages especially for former immigrants. Although the tendency to import is much higher in urban environment than in rural areas, most of the private urban expenditure goes to purchasing goods and services produced locally by rural or urban activities.

So, in spite of the non-regligible role played by transfers, it is the change in households' needs to spend which motivates the setting up of companies and brings about increase

in production, in productivity and therefore in the income of urban households. The launching of a micro company in the informal sector is much more probable in the urban medium than in the rural area. Productivity is also higher there because the urban environment offers a market of sufficient size, the needs felt by urban operators are more pressing, the urban market is competitive and the city facilitates access to input and to those services necessary for production.

The demo-economic model shows that the acceleration of rate of migration heightens tensions and increases the costs of insertion, but also fosters urban development, whereas durable deceleration of these rates of migration reduces the tensions but is very costly for urban economy. Just like a bicycle, cities are more stable when they move forward and reversing is no easy matter. Any drying up in the stream of migration leads to the ruin of fragile pre-existing activities.

Jean Marie Cour,
Washington July 22nd 1991

The opinions expressed are the sole responsibility of their authors. They are not policy statements of the World bank or the French Cooperation authorities

Peri-urban agriculture - The agricultural edge

Opposing town to country is artificial and obsolete

In the 1980's certain diversions in the objectives of «self-centred development», «food self-sufficiency», «peasant» strategy, certain interpretations of the crisis in urban communities were sometimes expressed in statements where town and country were artificially opposed.

The city was considered responsible for the rural exodus. This exodus, presented in the extreme as exclusion from «paradise lost», was not always analysed as an unescapable phenomenon which did not, even so, suppress growth in rural population for one or two decades and more in durable periods of difficult conjuncture.

There must be cities growing quicker than normal growth to accommodate this population. The development of employment in the secondary sector and in services is another problem and a difficult one which cannot be opposed to this purely demographic phenomenon.

An interesting approach could consist of implementing a town/country policy which would direct urban growth to cities where the cost to the community would be minimized and where the probability of insertion into the economy would be more likely.

So it is a question of deliberately working towards a process where the city draws advantage from agricultural development and where agriculture progresses under the influence of the city.

City/agriculture exchanges - correlation between agricultural income and urban income

A simplified model is based on the following principles :

- agricultural income (monetary) is drawn essentially from the sale of farm produce to the urban population (and to exportation which is operated by urban services and can in no way develop at the same rate as the demographic growth in the coming twenty years),

- agricultural income is used - apart from savings (amount carried forward) and real estate investment - to acquire consumption goods, equipment, inputs, services which

are essentially produced or processed by the urban population.

Such a model would show the obvious aspects of the following consequences :

- all things equal elsewhere, agricultural monetary income is directly proportional to the ratio of the urban population to the farming population,

- the part of urban activity which is linked directly or in an induced way to agricultural, is considerable ; it is proportional to agricultural incomes and therefore as a consequence of the preceding relation, to town/country exchanges.

The peri-urban policy must therefore be conceived first and foremost as a strategy of agricultural development more than as a way of settling conflicts on the use and equipment of space. It is indeed in these interface areas that the «virtuous» circle of agricultural income, exchanges and urban activity can more easily be started up. If the change in these interface zones is more or less imposed upon farmers and the authorities around some large cities where acute conflicts can mask the beneficial nature of mingling, there should perhaps be an endeavour to organize them and make them occur around medium and small cities so as to impart direction on the rural exodus and confer upon these cities a role of agricultural capital in their territory.

Farms organized to produce and sell a marketable surplus

In the present situation, such a trend is hampered because most of the production is consumed by the rural population which produces it ; the supply of basic farm products (particularly cereals) for the urban population has to be largely brought in by importation.

Rapid urban growth can only considerably emphasize these offsets in urban supplies. According to local conditions the objectives of self-sufficiency for food on a national scale would imply doubling the average productivity per farm in 15, 20, 25 years, in any case a very short time hence. The level of average productivity to be reached imposes for certain farms a system of production devoid of any common measure with the present level

At the present time, rural areas on the whole lack structure and variety. Investment per farm is almost everywhere very low and there are very few poles of trading in farm produce. These areas are usually enclaved due to low density of the urban fabric and the infrastructure network and a dearth of activity in the urban market.

The generally accepted theory founded on this initial situation was centred on the option of mass development, refusing any idea of development of an agricultural sector of the capitalized type consequently working principally for the market.

There is now a slow acceptance of the fact that this scenario of insignificant differentiation, implying generalized growth of about 4% per annum (1) is not plausible. All the manipulations of orders of magnitude lead to encouraging and promoting the formation of a generation of modern farmers drawn from the upper stratum of present farmers and urban investors. Their increase in productivity should, in all scenarios, be pronounced, if not exceptional. It seems that such an «emergence» will be easier to encourage in areas of high intensity and density of services, infrastructures and... initiatives.

The city - pole of agricultural development

This is a commonplace statement, backed by history and experience and it is difficult to see why it has been contested in Africa. At comparable potentiality it is obvious that it is in the environment of cities that there will be the possibility of setting off an agricultural revolution implying rates of growth from 5 to 10%, then diffuse it through the fabric of cities and transport infrastructures.

The passage from self-sufficiency to a market economy for agriculture implies thorough reform of rural economy. This is not conceivable without an integration of animal food distribution channels and very pronounced growth of secondary and tertiary activities upstream and downstream of primary activity. This means a strong urban impetus and densification of the urban fabric. Moreover, the environment and the sociological, cultural and real estate constraints will progress in a more favora-

ble way in all areas influenced by the city. At the same time as the total urban population of the whole country increases, the number of medium and small sized cities will considerably grow in the coming years. The city will be much closer - most of these cities have a vocation to become centres of modernization and intensification of agriculture since they provide at one and the same time a prime market, inputs and the necessary incitements, but also a different cultural and social model, capable of fostering the progress necessary in ways of thinking.

Private initiative and professional organization

Such an orientation is radically different from a search for the homogeneous and regular raising of the level of productivity for the general mass of peasants without disparities and which would constitute :

- an **unrealistic** objective, since it fails to take into account the progress in the social and economic environment and the emergence of dynamic farmers,
- a **very costly** project since it implies a considerable mass of public investment yielding mediocre returns and a very weak recourse to private initiative.

Such an option would be an «earthing» of the rural medium, that is keeping it in a situation where it is dominated by the city in a state of generalized underdevelopment. Development centred on major equipment and urban centres of all sizes in no way means generalized recourse to large food producing plants involving heavy capital investment. Nor does it imply abandoning traditional farming. But it does call for acknowledging the role to be given to a new type of private farm, resolutely turned towards the market, capable of saving and investing, consuming goods and services and thus maintaining close relationships with the sectors of urban activity.

Such a strategy is firmly based on private initiative which has to be unearthed, organized and given appropriate backing

Local associations of farmers freely involved will join together to compare their projects, confront their results, cooperate in their applications for technical assistance : technical and financing files for banks, investment programmes, management consultancy, technical backing... These local associations centred on a city will moreover become the partners for local authorities in the organization of city/country relationships and study of the peri-urban

problems mentioned at the beginning of this report.

Regional federations will constitute an embryo of professional organizations and will be able to progress towards setting up centres offering technical and managerial expertise. Numerous graduates with agricultural training who will no longer find employment in the civil service will then be offered opportunities as "modern farmers" and/or engineers in these professional organizations.

This network must be encouraged in the first stage at the national level by training programmes, also technical and managerial courses. It is clear that these needs must be met using methods and means where concern for technical, financial and managerial aspects will be integrated.

There can be no question of implementing this action by the classical and pyramidal procedures of sectorial popularization.

**Jacques Durousseau-Dugontier
BDPB - SCETAGRI**

*(1) Annual report 1990 World Bank
«Agriculture will be the principal driving force of growth, production of food must increase 4% per annum (instead of 2% as at present) if Sub-Sahara Africa is to feed its population».*

Devoting this issue of our «Villes en développement» bulletin to the work of Jean-Marie Cour provides the opportunity to surrender to the temptation of looking back over a little history. We have covered some distance between the first presentations of the vague statistical relation linking the degree of urbanization and the level of economy expressed as $G.N.P./inhabitant = k.U/R$. (nevertheless already better than the nonsensical search for a correlation between the percentage of town dwellers and income per capita) to the Community Accountancy Matrix such as Jean-Marie Cour presents it here. There have been several stages in the progression of fifteen years of work.

There came first the understanding of the fact that the ratio of urban population to rural population U/R measures the number of town dwellers which a country dweller is called upon to «feed» and consequently as a first approximation, the internal agricultural market and the potential income of the rural community.

Subsequently, the need to explicitly take into account the importance in consumption of the very well-to-do minority of the countries involved, because it is far from being negligible on the quantitative level and still less on the qualitative level, and the concern to better take into consideration a very unequal-opportunity social structure, have led economists to introduce categories described as «elite» and hyperelite» which undoubtedly exist in all communities, but do not elsewhere exert the same impact on the workings of national economy.

The practical result, indirect but fundamental, of this endeavour for modelling socio-economic reality is criticism of the data and models used up to now, preferring the approach by overall measurement of an economy based on the consumption of households and other operators and economic institutions.

Jean-Marie Cour's Community Accountancy Matrix explicitly states the triple nature - spatial, social, economic - of development. And his manipulation stresses that the difficulties of intervening effectively in these economies, using models elaborated to manage more transparent systems having already reached very dissimilar stages or organization, lie essentially in the fact that at present African economies and communities are at the stage of implementing a type of populating and settlement to fit into a system based on exchange thereby ensuring their insertion into the international economic order.

Michel Arnaud

Cooperation News

■ INTERURBA

Officially set up as a CNRS research group, INTERURBA aims at :

- improving the coordination between research, training and practice for questions of urban and regional planning in developing countries ;

- ensuring a better diffusion of research results and urban studies between the research teams and French and European networks, on one hand, between these teams and networks and those of South regions on the other.

The Scientific Secretariat of the group is at present run by Alain Durand-Lasserve (Laboratoire Tiers-monde Afrique/Paris VII/CNRS), Emile Le Bris (ORSTOM), Gustave Massiah (AITEC).

The booklet «Presentation of teams members of the INTERURBA Research Group» June 1991 aims at making known to all producers and users of information and data in third world cities, the scope of member associations, their statutes, fields of study, research topics, the documentation available, publications, scientific events organized, teaching and training courses provided.

Contact : INTERURBA c/o AITEC

14, rue de Nanteuil - 75015 Paris-France,
Tél. (33.1) 45.31.18.08

■ The GESTUAL FILE (Urban Management and local administration)

The Institut International d'Administration Publique (the international institute of public administration) is proceeding with the updating of the GESTUAL computerized data base covering the French agencies and experts working with developing countries in the field of urban management and local administration, Experts interested in registration are requested to contact :

M. Gérard Guillaumin ou

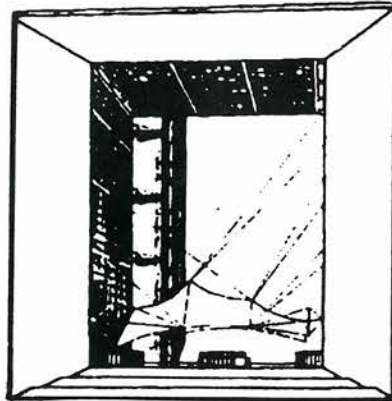
M. Gaston Mananjara

IIAP, 2 avenue de l'Observatoire

75006 Paris-France

Tel. (33.1.) 43.26.49.00 poste 430/431

Fax. (33.1.) 46.33.26.38



Information - Documentation

The ISTED «Villes en développement» Information and documentation centre holds a stock of more than 20000 documents, available to users ; publications, reports, but also maps and charts, videos and slides, covering the topics of urban development and housing in emerging countries.

If you wish to make known your studies, research or projects to ISTED readers, the centre is at your disposal to study the best means to undertake this and proposes a list of documents for exchange purposes.

Contact : ISTED «Villes en développement» Arche de la Défense - 92055 Paris la Défense Cedex 04-France, Tél. (33.1) 40.81.21.22

■ ADP

The Association des Professionnels «Développement Urbain et Coopération» (association of urban development and cooperation experts) has a new Board of Directors: Xavier Crepin, Chairman, Joseph Berthet, Secretary, Daniel Niro, Treasurer, C. Jamati, F. Noisette, P. Roumeguere.

The Board meets on the first Monday of each month at the «Villes en développement» Information and Documentation Centre, Arche de la Défense - 92055 Paris la Défense Cedex 04-France, Tél. (33.1) 40.81.21.22. The meetings are open to all members of the ADP.

■ Young Professionals Programme (YPP) - World Bank 1992

The deadline for submitting candidatures is december 21 st 1991. Application forms are available on written request only.

The aim of the YPP is to recruit members for the permanent staff of the Bank from amongst young graduates with advanced degrees (DEA or Ph D in economics and finance) under the age of 32, fluent in English. The selection by means of admission files and oral examinations is very severe (25 posts for about 3000 candidates).

Contact : Service du recrutement du bureau Européen de la Banque mondiale - 66 avenue d'Iéna, 75008 Paris-France

■ Ministry of Cooperation and development

A draft decree, fixing the conditions of employment of civil person for cultural, scientific and technical cooperation serving in the so-called «field» states, managed by the Ministry of Cooperation and development, is nearing finalization. It will cover the following provisions :

- the contracts concerning an assignment of over six months,

- a letter of assignment will precisely state the general framework of the operator's activity and the provisions for exercising this activity,

- the duration of assignment is not to exceed six years,

- training periods before departure or during the assignment are not to exceed three months,

- a specialization training course may be followed with the contractual understanding of accomplishing a period of assignment at least equal to five times the duration of the training course,

- clear definitions are given concerning the conditions of assignment, early resiliation of contract, compensation, remuneration, vacations and leave of absence,

- temporary provisions are set out for operators already under contract.

Contact : Department of administration and technical personnel (DAG/CAT) MCD, 57 bd des Invalides, 75007 Paris-France, Tel. (33.1) 47.83.17.54

EVENTS

November 27-29 1991 Toulouse - France

Pluridisciplinary meeting : "Big cities of Africa and Latin America : urban facilities and cultural practices". Workshops : organizations and services concerned with urban culture, urban utilization of cultural products, urban facilities and urban cultures, culture and institutional management of urban environment.

Contact : Claude Bataillon, responsable scientifique, Marie Christine Lacoste, information-diffusion Réseau Amérique Latine (DGR 26-CNRS)

Université Toulouse le Mirail, 5 allée Antonio Machao - 31058 Toulouse cedex - France

December 9-12 1991 Ouagadougou - Burkina-Faso

SITRASS 2 - International Seminar on Transport Systems in Sub-Sahara Africa organized by the CEDRE (Ouagadougou University) with the cooperation of the CODATU on the topic of «Organization of urban transport systems, the operators, the methods»

Contact : Secrétariat Scientifique - Danièle Bloy

Laboratoire d'Economie des Transports - Maison Rhône-Alpes des Sciences de l'Homme 14, av Berthelot, 69363 Lyon cedex 07 - France

Tél. : (33) 16.72.72.64.03. - Fax : (33) 16.72.72.64.72

April 7-10 1992 Marseille - France

HYDROTOP 92. International conference and exhibition on water and cities

Contact : SAFIM Organisation - Parc Chanot - BP 2

13266 Marseille cedex 08 - France - Tel. (33) 91 76 16 00 - Fax : (33) 91 22 16 45

BOOKS

Politique urbaine et développement économique : un agenda pour les années 1990. - Washington, World bank 1991, 87p. (Urban policy and economic development: an agenda for the 1990's).

This report analyses the links between urban economic activities and the principal results. It proposes a framework and a strategy to face the urban challenge in developing countries : increase urban productivity, lighten the burden of urban poverty, develop effective responses to the growing crisis in urban environment.

Banque mondiale : 66 av. d'Iéna, 75116 Paris - France

Price: 49 FF.

Politique d'aménagement du territoire au Maroc par Nicolas Brejon de Lavergnée.- Paris : L'Harmattan 1991, 271 p.

A professor's appraisal of his investigation assignment, this analysis of the economics of community services in the north-west area of Morocco is a book humanistic in tone and quantitative in presentation with numerous estimations of the incidence of equipment and policies. The author adds the «social» to the «spatial» distances. A way of imparting a qualitative dimension to the questions of health and transport.

L'Harmattan : 7 rue de l'Ecole Polytechnique, 75005 Paris - France

Price: 180 FF.

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