URBAN THINKERS CAMPUS

Architects' response in reshaping cities that are resilient in pandemic situations

*Presentation notes by Cid Blanco*

World population – 7.7 billion people
Informal settlement population – 1.6 billion people
12% of world population
Homeless – 150 million people
2030 – 60% of the world will be urban – but is this world urbanized?
3 countries in the Americas (USA, Brazil and Mexico) represents 46% of COVID cases in the world
26% in LAC

What have we done in LAC in the past few years?
- market oriented policies
- economic crisis to survive
- massive housing production
- access to housing credit

Slum upgrading, when have we stopped to talk about it?
- need of massive investments in basic infrastructure, but also in housing improvements – reduce density, better ventilation and natural lighting: better health conditions!

Rocinha has the highest number of tuberculosis cases in LAC

We must guarantee access to urbanized land for social housing and slum upgrading resettlement (for those who are living in risky and environmental protected areas) to improve health and living conditions.

We must plan our cities with mixed use neighborhoods for mixed income families.

Provide clean water to wash hands, food and masks won’t protect people from COVID when they share a room with other 10 people and have sewage going through the streets that give access to their houses.

We must rethink how to include those families into our urbanized world, which is different from the urban world from the statistics.