

IIUD

INSTITUTE FOR INTERNATIONAL
URBAN DEVELOPMENT



MISSION

The institute for international urban development is committed to promoting sustainable urban and regional development through community-based planning initiatives and research. We operate at the policy, program and project levels with teams that include regional experts and members of our network of local affiliates.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

April & May 2009

Upgrading disadvantaged townships, Emfuleni, South Africa

Mona Serageldin, Christa Lee-Chuvala and Alejandra Mortarini traveled to South Africa at the beginning of April to join our partners, Kv3 Engineering, in beginning our work with Emfuleni Local Municipality in Gauteng Province, South Africa. During the trip we visited the four formerly disadvantaged townships for which we will be developing urban design frameworks. We also met with Municipal leaders and representatives from community organizations to assess the current development issues in the townships.

Global City Conference, Abu Dhabi

In April, Mona Serageldin presented at the Global City Conference in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, a forum bringing together city leaders, mayors, political leaders and academics to share strategies and techniques for promoting urban sustainability. Mona made two presentations, the first on “Academic approaches to the globalization of the world sustainable cities” and the second, “Sustainable Urbanization trends in the Middle East”, moderated by our Spanish affiliate, Pablo Vaggione.

Christa Lee-Chuvala

May 26th 2009

Irish President Visit IIUD

Irish President Mary McAleese, her husband Dr. Martin McAleese, and a team of delegates visited with IIUD staff, affiliates and board members at Chairman of the Board Ted Raymond's office in Boston on Tuesday, May 26, 2009. Board members in attendance were [John Ciardullo](#), President, John Ciardullo Associates, New York; [Roger Kallman](#), Consulting Partner, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, London; [Neil St. John Raymond](#), President, Raymond Cattle Company, Boston; [John Sanger](#), President, Sanger and Olson, San Francisco; [Clemens Sels](#), President, CTL Group, Toronto, Canada; [Cathy Simon](#), Principal, Perkins and Will. Also in attendance were Ian Chodikoff, Editor, Canadian Architect; Kevin Maguire, Building Initiatives LLC, Boston; Mohamed Sherif Lotfi, Royal Bank of Scotland, New York; Nick Retsinas, Director, Joint Center for Housing Studies, Harvard University, and a member of the ICLRD Advisory Board; Maria Vella, IIUD Supporter; and Gary Haney, Partner, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, New York.

John Driscoll spoke about the International Centre for Local and Regional Development's current and future work, while Frank Vigier detailed the history of the organization's founding and his hope's for exporting the Irish reconciliation model to other conflict areas. President McAleese talked about the impacts of the border, physical and mental, on the different communities on the island of Ireland and thanked IIUD for its continuing work and role in starting ICLRD. Driscoll, Vigier and McAleese all thanked the board for its support during IIUD's early years working on the island of Ireland.

Over the past eight years, IIUD has been actively promoting cross-border cooperation on the Island of Ireland as part of the reconciliation process that followed the Good Friday Agreement. It is a founding partner of the International Center for Local and Regional Development (ICLRD) based in Armagh (Northern Ireland), a joint venture between the Institute, the National Institute for Regional and Spatial Analysis at the University of Ireland (Maynooth), the Built Environment Research Institute at the University of Ulster, the Athlone Institute of Technology and the Center for Cross Border Studies in Armagh.

[Article on the visit in the Boston Globe](#)

Africamap at Harvard

Frank Vigier, Mary Shia and Erick Guerra attended a demonstration of Africamap on May 7, 2009. Africamap (<http://africamap.harvard.edu>) was launched in November and brings together the best mapping data resources for the continent of Africa within an online GIS framework. The Institute was invited to attend the demonstration based on our work in Africa and urban planning and research experience. Phase I of the project provides a base map for multiple time periods that is more detailed than anything which currently exists in digital form. Phase II will provide an opportunity for users to contribute data to the project and develop tools for user collaboration.

Mixed Communities Housing Study

ICLRD has completed six case studies on mixed housing in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. These are currently being circulated for consultation to officials, academics, elected representatives and community organizers prior to their publication next month. Erick Guerra is in the process of writing a synthesis report which compares and contrasts the different case studies, which will be used in [ICLRD's training courses](#) and distributed to policy makers, housing officials and community groups.

Erick Guerra

Editor:

Mary Shia
