

Webinar on Understanding Urban Vulnerability

On 17 November 2020

From 9.00am to 10.30am (Cambodia Time)



A Vulnerability Approach to
Understanding Urbanization in Cambodia

ADAM
SALTSMAN

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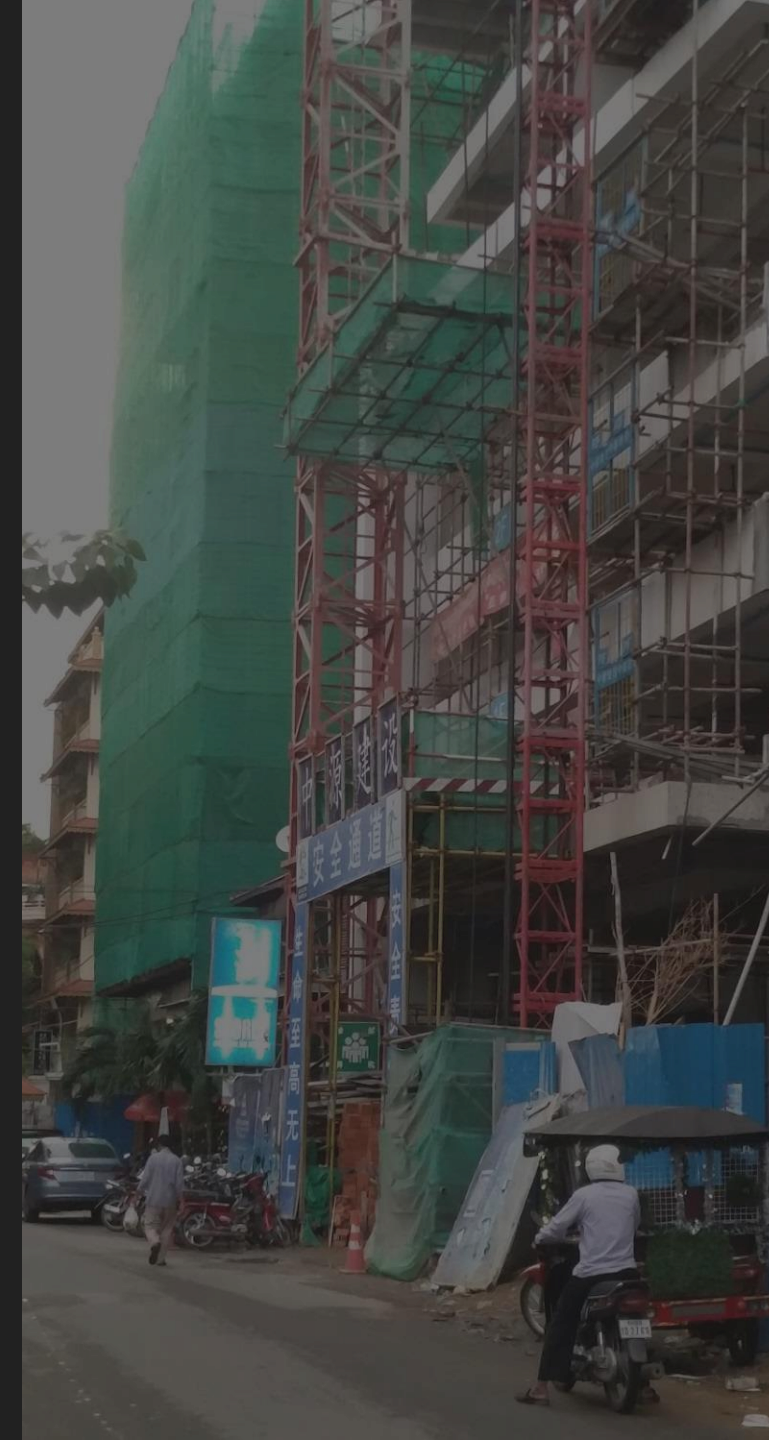
A Vulnerability Approach

What is vulnerability: looking at the overlapping factors that will result in greater harm or resilience for a population, given the geographic, ecological, economic, sociopolitical, and historical context?

FRAGILITY FACTORS	RESILIENCE FACTORS
Rapid, unregulated urbanization, income inequality, concentrated poverty, unemployment, limited access to justice, perceived insecurities, exposure to natural hazards	Income and social equality, social cohesion, social protections, economic security, provision of basic services, effective access to justice, strong community-level governance

Adapted from De Boer et al. 2016

Urban Cambodia: Climate change, local impacts of global supply chains, fragmented urban development, insecure land tenure, inequality



Economic Growth & An Evolving Focus
on Vulnerability in Cambodia

NATHAROUN NGO

Director, Center for Khmer Studies



Discussion points

- Context
 - The concept of vulnerability
 - Changing urban poverty focus
- Economic characteristics of urban systems
 - Link between growth, social development and vulnerability
 - Urban-Rural
 - Economic transformation implications
 - Covid-19



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Rural-Urban Migration to Phnom Penh

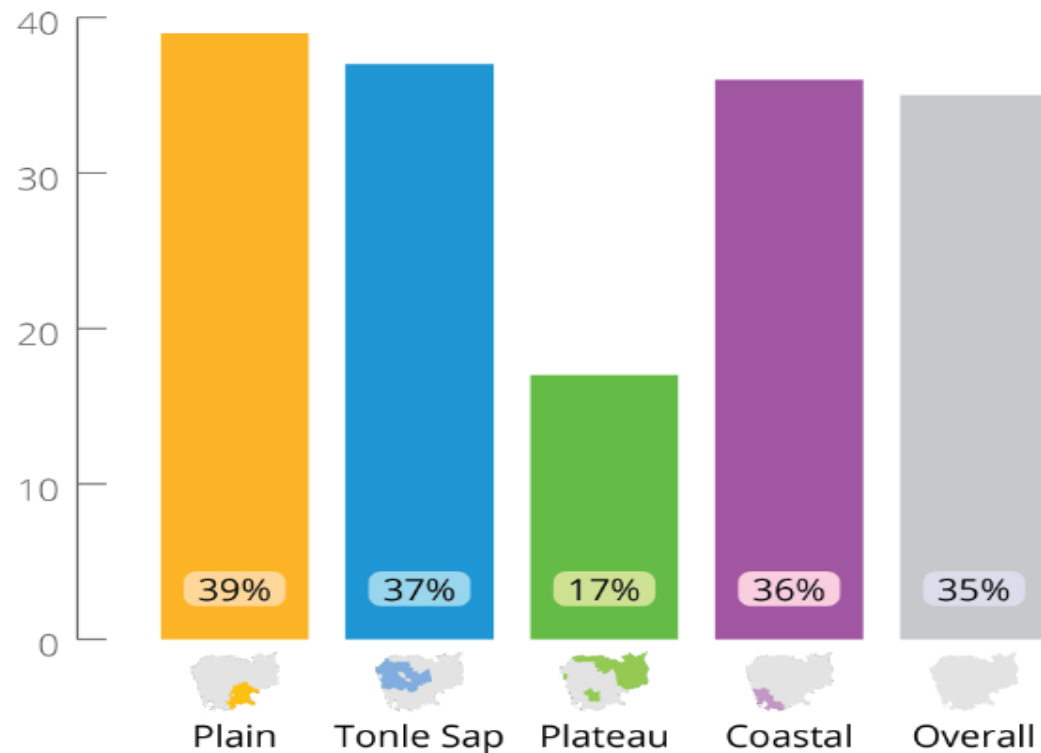
KIMCHOEUN PAK

Independent Researcher

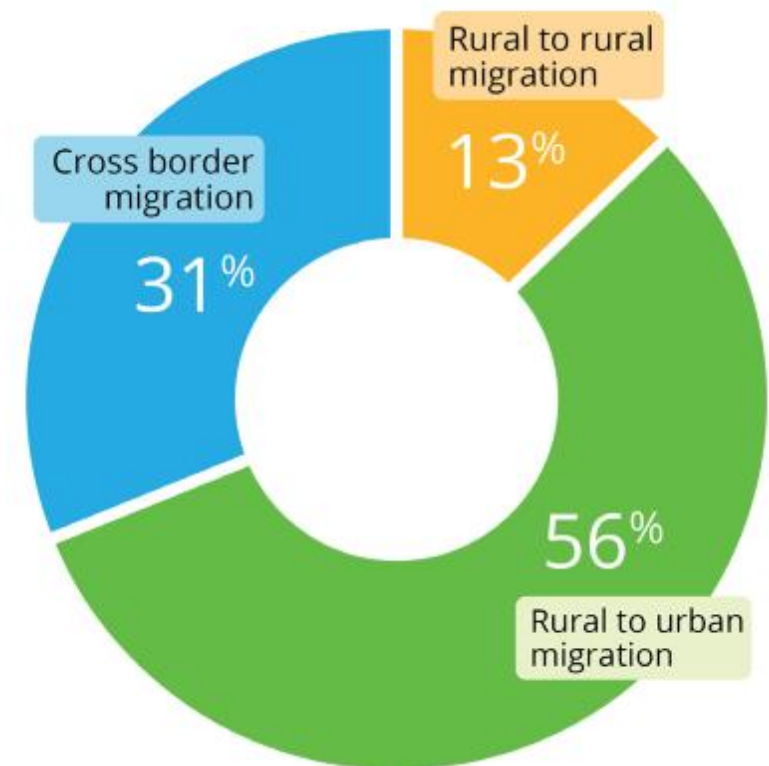


Migration trend in Cambodia

% of HHs with at least one migrant (for the period of 2010-2016)



Share of migration by destination



Source: WFP (2019) Vulnerability and migration in Cambodia

How Zoning and Urban Land Use Plans
Affect Livelihoods and Informal
Settlements

TRY THUON

Senior Research Fellow, Center for Khmer Studies





How zoning and land use planning affect people's livelihoods and informal settlers

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- **Discourse and policies around urban zoning and planning:** key foundation of urban planning to exclude, include, and exert influence over space created, people, and ethnic classification.
- **Realities for urban poor communities (UPCs):** These urban poor tend to be more productive in providing manual labor services, food productions, preservation of urban lake environment and creation services.
- **Promoting resilience through urban spatial plan:** Engaging local participation to create a better urban common space, with trusted civil society involved and the push for autonomous state institutions remain key learning process to avoid institutional traps in reducing urban vulnerability while building resilience.

Socio-Spatial and Economic Vulnerabilities
in Relation to Unrestrained Urban
Development in Boeung Cheung Ek

DOLORÈS BERTRAIS

*PhD Candidate and Teaching & Research Assistant, Environmental
Governance and Territorial Development Institute, University of
Geneva*



Boeung Choeung Ek cut in two by the north-south dike road Hun Sen Boulevard



Boeung Choeung Ek characteristics

Water area +/- 2800 ha

Two vital hydraulic functions :

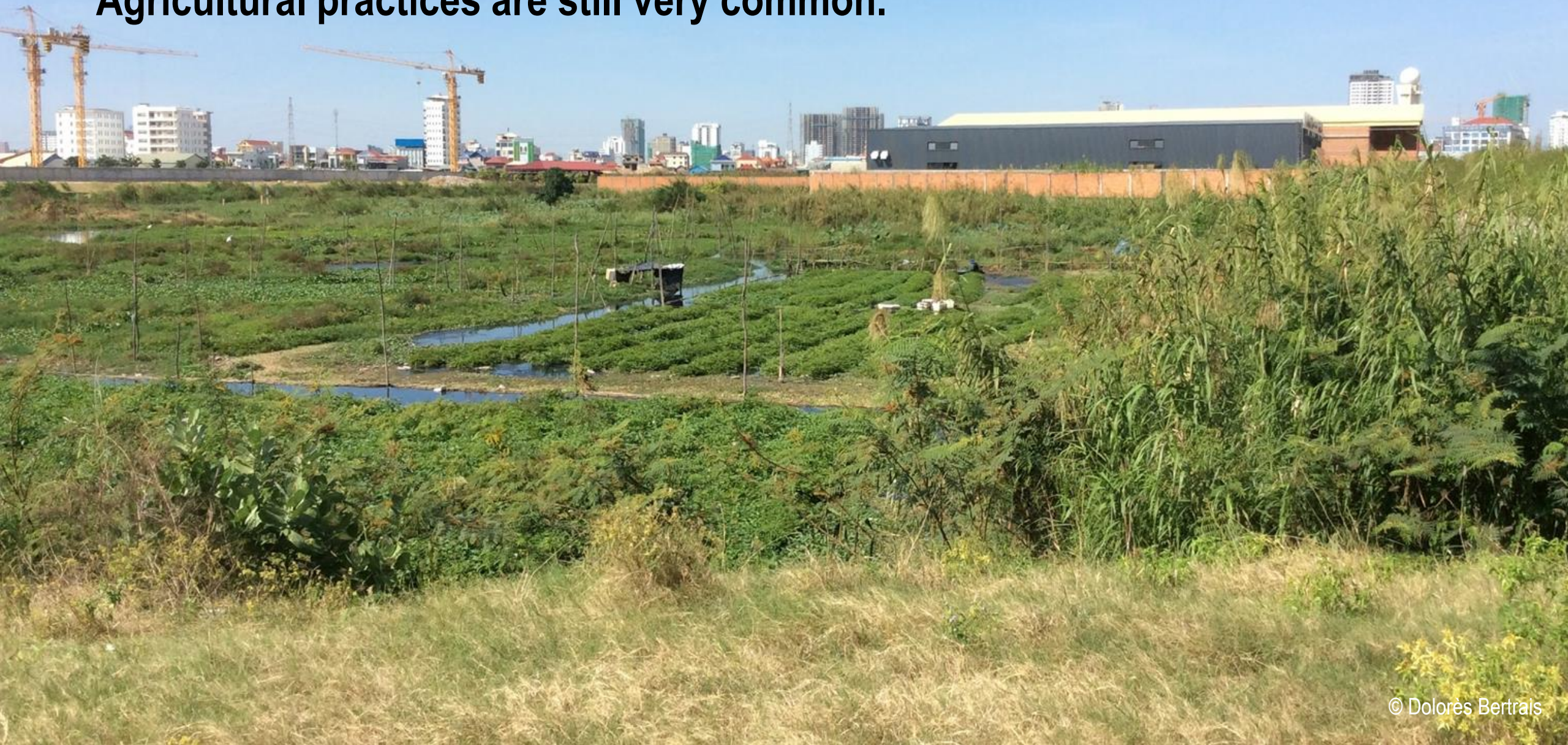
- 1 - Clean up the wastewater from the city of Phnom Penh
- 2 - Retain water during the rainy season to help protect the capital from flooding



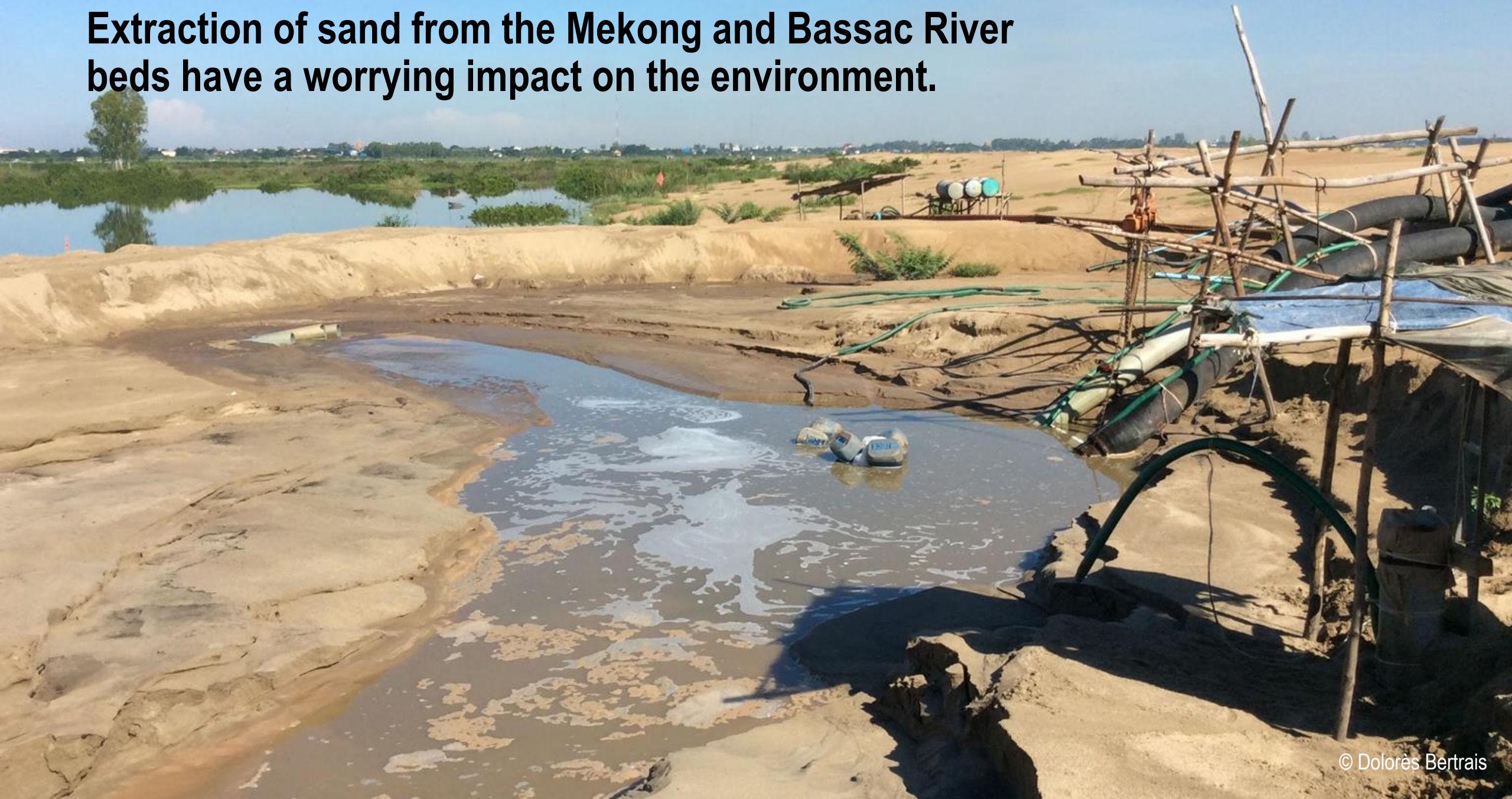
Borey Peng Huoth under construction



**Boeung Choeung Ek is not unoccupied.
Agricultural practices are still very common.**



Extraction of sand from the Mekong and Bassac River beds have a worrying impact on the environment.



Walls come to separate the future building plots.

Disadvantaged communities are the first to suffer the negative effects of these environmental changes.



Phnom Penh and Real Estate
Development: New Factors to Consider
Economic Vulnerabilities

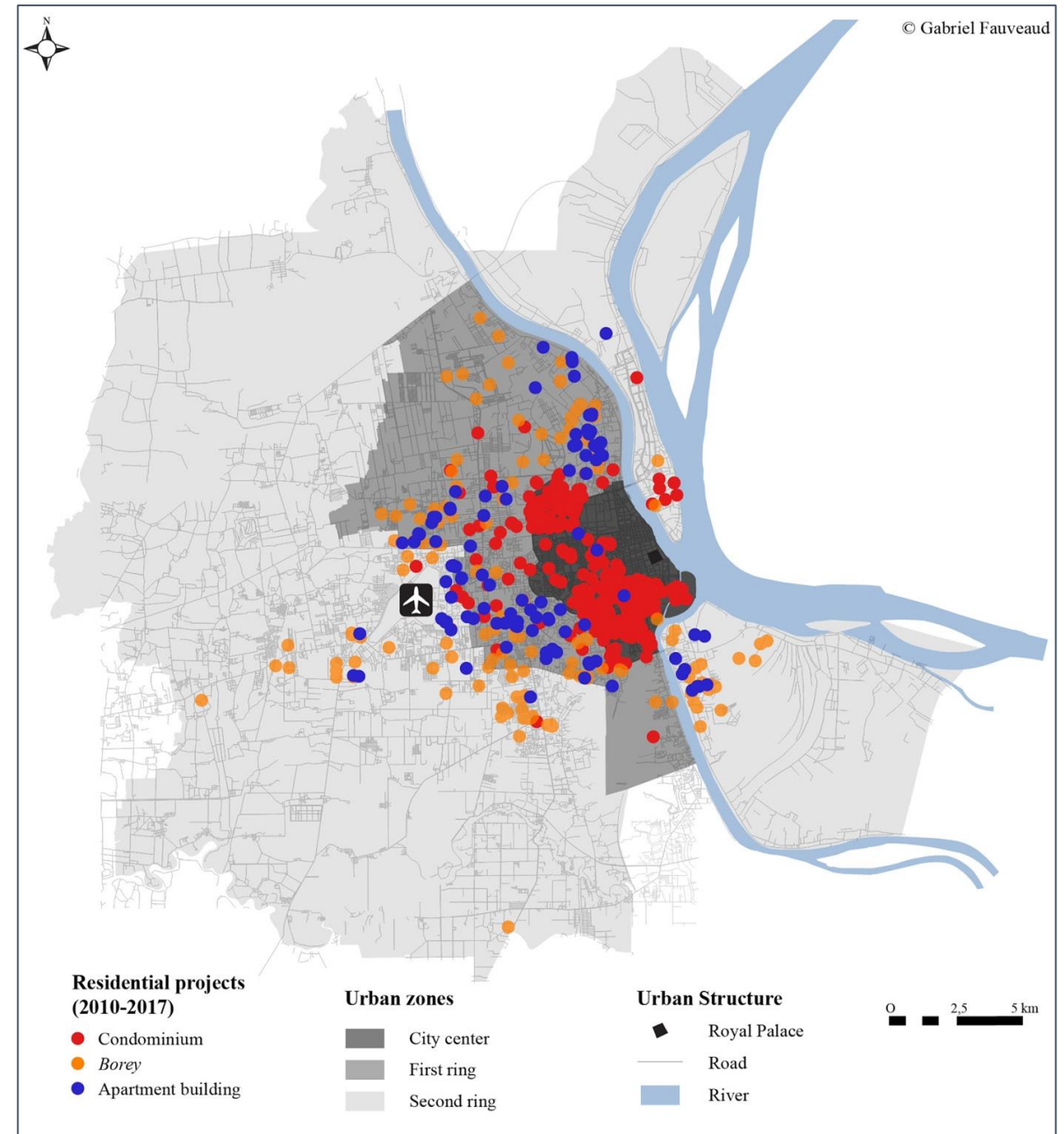
GABRIEL FAUVEAUD

*Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, University of
Montreal*



Phnom Penh's new residential projects between 2010 and 2017: the reconquest of the city center

- Growing financialization of the Cambodian economy
- Very speculative real estate markets
- Growing dependence on foreign investments
- Weak regulation of land markets, the construction industry, and financial activities



A need to control land and real estate markets to reduce socio-economic vulnerabilities

1. Building an agency that would **document and publish information and statistics** about corporate and non-corporate real estate investments made by both domestic and foreign stakeholders;
2. Limiting the growth of land and housing prices by **controlling selling prices**;
3. Preventing the most speculative practices by **limiting the rapidity of individual real estate transactions** (flipping strategies);
4. Preventing the control of real estate assets (especially land) by foreign companies in **joint venture and nominee structures**;
5. Limiting **over-indebtedness**, better controlling **access to mortgage**, and prohibiting **predatory lending practices**;
6. Supporting the **production of low-cost housing** in all parts of the city;
7. Better regulation and oversight of **working conditions** in the construction industry and its related professions.

Limits to Growth

A Vulnerability Approach to Understanding Urbanization in Cambodia

