

PERIURBAN TYPOLOGY DEFINED

The Typology

The Problem

While the term periurban is used frequently in the literature and in policy discussions, the definitions employed are situational and case specific. They provide little basis for a unified understanding of what constitutes periurban. Our goal is to provide both theoretical clarity and practical utility.

Relevance of the Issue

- Confusion in the definition leads to poor policy design and implementation and inaccurate policy/program evaluation.
- Urban and periurban agriculture are increasingly understood as key to guaranteeing food security, especially for the most vulnerable (e.g., women and children).

Our Approach

- Seven assumptions underlie our work. (See below.)
- We construct a conceptual periurban typology or thinking framework.
- The typology is composed of five periurban *ideal types*.
- The five elements are explicitly embedded within the broader rural-urban dynamic.
- The typology derives from underlying socio-demographic processes, especially migration.
- Transformative linkages between the elements are organized along the dimensions of migration and time.
- Because migration is a key defining feature the elements of the typology remain connected in the form of organic two-way migrant exchange networks.

The Assumptions

- *Rural*, *Periurban*, and *Urban* form a linked system (R/PU/U)—an uneven or *lumpy*, multidimensional continuum.
 - In terms of migration and urbanization periurban environments play a mediating role between rural and urban.
 - PU environments are places of *social compression* and dynamic social change.
 - The potential for food production and its relationship to food security must be evaluated across the entire R/PU/U system.
 - Understanding the nature and operation of the system requires a focus on the underlying dynamic processes rather than the *fixed states*.
 - Effective policy interventions rest on interdisciplinary understanding, which incorporates physical, biological and socio-cultural paradigms.
 - The "*social footprint*" of urbanization manifests differently in the urban, periurban and rural context but is only understandable when addressed in view of a linked system (R/PU/U).
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FROM: "Defining Periurban: Understanding Rural-Urban Linkages and Their Connection to Institutional Contexts," David L. Iaquina and Axel W. Drescher; presented at the Tenth World Congress, IRSA, Rio, August 1, 2000.

The Periurban Types

➤ *Village Periurban (VPU)*

- Non-proximate to the city either geographically or in travel time
- Derives from sojourning, circulation and migration
- Embodies a **Network Induced IC** wherein change is effected through diffusion or induction while institutions remain traditional in orientation and stable.

➤ *Diffuse Periurban (DPU)*

- Geographically urban fringe
- Derives from multiple-source point in-migration
- Embodies an **Amalgamated IC** where there is a high demand for negotiating novel institutional forms to address conflicting traditions and worldviews.

➤ *Chain Periurban (CPU)*

- Geographically urban fringe
- Derives primarily from chain migration
- Embodies a **Reconstituted IC** wherein links to the donor area remain strong and traditions and institutions are transplanted with some modification from the donor area and take on a slightly defensive character.

➤ *In-place Periurban (IPU)*

- Geographically close to the city; urban fringe
- Derives from in-place urbanization, natural increase and some migration
- Embodies a **Traditional IC** with long-term stable institutions evidencing strong defensive insulation.

➤ *Absorbed Periurban (APU)*

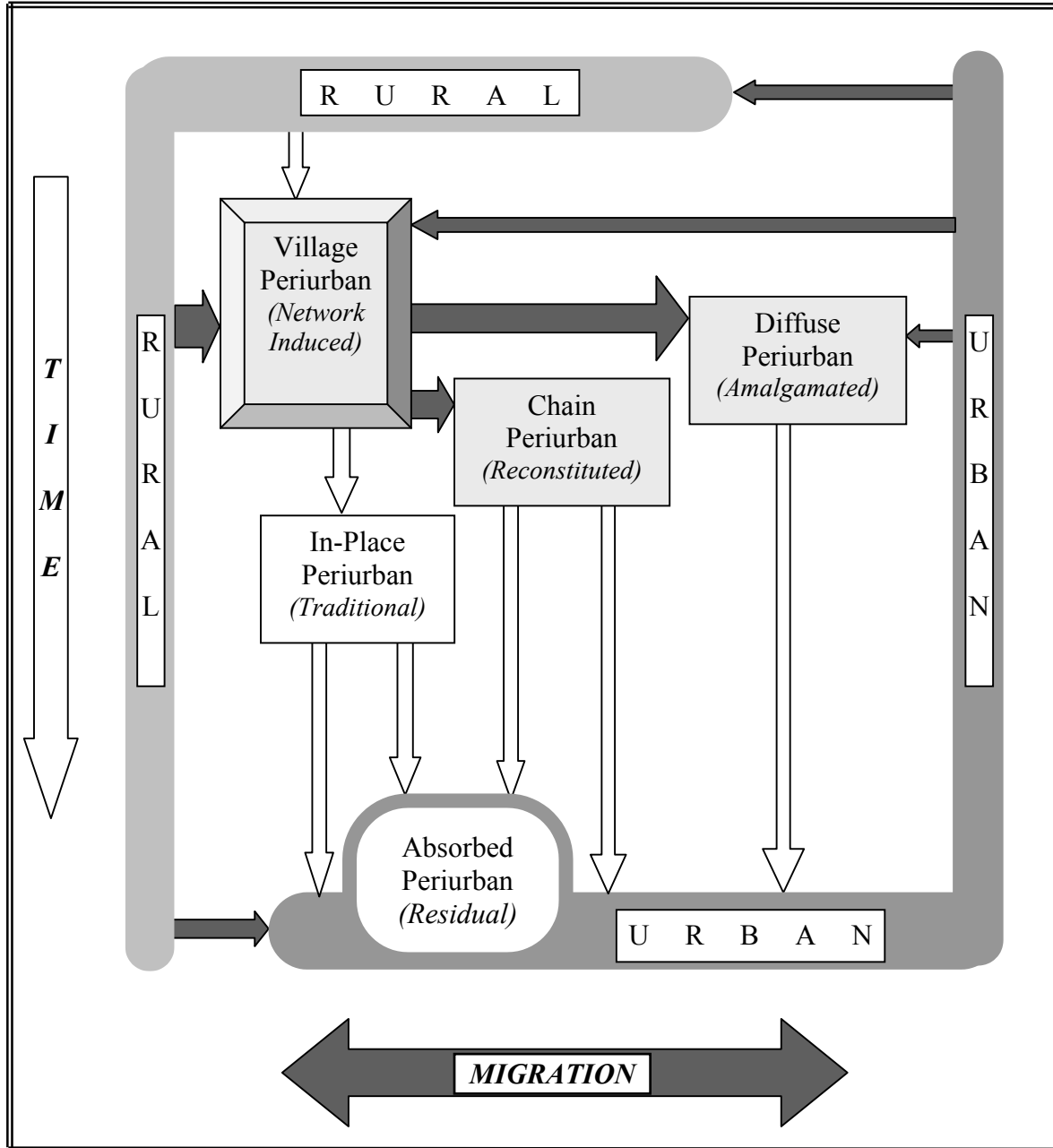
- Geographically within the city, having been absorbed
- Derives from succession/displacement and traditionalism (ritualism)
- Embodies a **Residual IC** wherein the roots of social arrangements lie in the traditions of a previously resident culture group and are now maintained through ritualism

NOTE: IC = Institutional Context

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Periurban Synthesis (Typology) With Institutional Contexts



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Characteristics of Institutional Contexts by Periurban Type

INSTITUTIONAL-CONTEXT CHARACTERISTIC	PERIURBAN TYPE				
	LINKED ACROSS SPACE		LINKED ACROSS SPACE AND/OR OVER TIME*	LINKED OVER TIME	
	Village PU	Diffuse PU	Chain PU	In-Place PU	Absorbed PU
Name of Institutional-Context "Type"	<i>Network Induced</i> (tradition oriented)	<i>Amalgamated</i>	<i>Reconstituted</i>	<i>Traditional</i>	<i>Residual (Traditionalism)</i>
Creation Process	Out-migration with networking; Circulation	Diffuse migration	Chain (point source) migration	Annexation; In-migration	Succession-displacement
Proximity to Urban Center	Non-proximate	Proximate	Proximate	Proximate	Absorbed**
Organizing Principle	Integrative maintenance of traditional links	Survival and collective formation	Defensive reconstruction of cultural identity	Defensive maintenance of tradition	Maladaptive adherence to tradition
Primary stimulus for change	Emigrant influences (remittances, circulation, participation)	Compositional heterogeneity; Interface with urban formal structures;	Interface with urban formal institutions	Urban in-migrants; Interface with urban formal institutions	Interface with urban formal institutions; Loss of traditionalist legitimacy
Primary mechanism limiting or effecting change	Traditional (i.e., existing) structures	Negotiation among residents; Emergent/novel structures	Reconstituted structures organized along traditional lines	Traditional (i.e., existing) structures	Ritualized structures
Need for Change	Low	High	High	Moderate	High
Resistance to Change	High	Low	Moderate	High	High
Pace of Adaptation	Slow	Fast	Moderate	Slow	Very slow
Likelihood for Disruptive Conflict	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High	High
Characteristics of Change	Existential and tradition oriented (maintenance of ideal culture via redefinition of adaptation)	Experimental; democratic or consensus based; function oriented	Tradition oriented incorporating some urban components	Polarized between traditional and modern sectors	At best external compliance only
Most Likely Types of Adaptations	Novel solutions which maintain the appearance of tradition and meet modern sector needs	Novel solutions which meet modern sector needs and create a new basis for legitimacy	Solutions which make inefficient use of the formal sector	Solutions which make inefficient use of the formal sector due to slow pace of change in high need situation	Solutions imposed from the outside formal sector
Impact on Stratification Systems	Greater individual access with formal maintenance of system	More opportunity for egalitarianism; Erosion of system	Maintenance of system, possibly in new forms	Heightened conflict over system; Increased oppression	Strong support for maintenance of system

* *Chain periurban* is linked across space as a receiving area for migrants coming from rural and *village periurban* areas. It is linked through time to *Absorbed periurban* areas insofar as succession/displacement produces ritualism in institutional maintenance.

**Formally speaking, *Absorbed Periurban* types lie within the city. Its roots lie in the periurban zone with *in-place periurban* and *village periurban*. Thus, we include it as a form of periurban to underscore this temporal linkage.

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