

# Cities, Communities and Homes: Is the Urban Future Livable?

## **Paper / Proposal Title:**

In a climate of change: challenges for social integration through housing in a fragmented city

## **2. Format:**

Written paper / verbal presentation

## **3. Author(s) Name:**

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## **4. University or Company Affiliation:**

University of Chile, Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism

## **5. Abstract (300 words):**

This paper concerns the response to the social-spatial segregation of cities through the implementation of housing subsidy policy in Chile “*Proyectos de Viviendas de Integración Social*” (PIS) (Social Integration through Housing program). PIS have developed through different stages from its commencement in 2007 and certain improvements can be observed, for example the initial problems regarding the quality of design and construction have been partially overcome. However, from its formulation, until 2015, apart from household income profiles, the PIS did not have measures or indicators to assess the achievement or otherwise of its main objective—social integration.

Based on a recent investigation of two key housing projects of the PIS (one in the capital city of Santiago and the other in La Serena, a city 300 kilometres to the north

of the capital) this paper discusses two aspects of socially integrated housing and the fragmentation of cities. The first concerns the design guidelines and the quality of construction that are both integral elements of the PIS. The intention here is not only to assess the level of implementation, but to understand whether this mechanism has had a significant impact on the achievement of the objective of social integration. From this understanding, additional criteria to assess social integration have been developed. The second aspect concerns the intention of the PIS and its capacity to rectify social and social segregation through such neighbourhood-scale interventions, which could be described as contrary to the idea of an integrated city. This critique is contextualised in a climate of change, reflected in Chile through the creation of two new government ministries to respond to the urban challenges of energy demands and environmental degradation. This paper concludes with a proposal for these identified challenges to be addressed within and through housing and social integration.

## **6. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

### **Beatriz Maturana**

Ph.D (U.Melb), M.Urb.Des (U.Melb), B.Arch (RMIT)

Beatriz Maturana is the Academic and International Relations Director at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, University of Chile. She teaches and leads research in the areas of sustainable residential habitat and is responsible for strategic planning of the faculty, focusing on innovation and sustainability.

Beatriz lived in Australia for 25 years, where she practiced as an architect and urban designer and as a lecturer at RMIT University, Monash University and the University of Melbourne. She worked as an architect with the Overseas Project Corporation of Victoria (Australia), Australian Volunteers International (AVI), the Ministry of Housing and the City of Darebin (Victoria). Between 1994 and 1996, she lectured as an architect at the National University of Engineering, Nicaragua and undertook assessments for Habitat for Humanity. In 2001, she visited Timor Leste to support the establishment of a planning framework for the city of Baucau. Beatriz founded Architects for Peace in 2003, a not for profit organization representing the professions of the built environment. (<http://www.architectsforpeace.org> )

Her research, practice and academic work has focused on sustainable urban development, social housing and architectural education and she has published in English and Spanish on these subjects.

### **Ralph Horne**

BSc (Hons), MSc Salford (UK), PhD SHU (UK)

Ralph Horne is the Deputy PVC, Research and Innovation for the College of Design and Social Context at RMIT University. He supports research performance through the development of new and existing research Groups and Centres, mentoring

future research leaders, and providing strategic leadership in support of research activity across the College.

Ralph Horne is also the Director of the Global Compact Cities Programme (UNGCCP). Ralph's expertise is in urban social and policy change for sustainable design and development. He has extensive experience of environmental techniques and sustainability appraisal and has a specific research interest in urban transitions, including socio-technical relations in the context of climate change and resource scarcity.

He has led over 100 urban research projects, collaborating with researchers, cities, governments, and commercial organisations across all continents and including specifically studies of housing and development in Europe, Australasia, SE Asia and Latin America. He combines research leadership and participation in research projects concerning the environmental, social and policy context of production and consumption in the urban environment.

He held the positions of Director, Green Building Council of Australia from 2010-13 and Council Member, Built Environment Industry Innovation Council, Commonwealth Government, Australia from 2008-12.

**Scarlet Romano**

Architect, University of Chile, undertaking a Master degree in Human Development/Public Policy, OAS (Organization of American States), FLACSO, Argentina.