



August 7, 2019

**PERRY WORLD HOUSE /PENN IUR VISITING FELLOW MAURICIO RODAS,
IMMEDIATE PAST MAYOR OF QUITO, ECUADOR TO TEACH GRADUATE CLASS ON
INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCE FOR CITIES**



As part of his upcoming visit to Perry World House and the Penn Institute for Urban Research, former Quito Mayor Rodas Espinel will be directly engaging in the curriculum. He will be co-instructing a graduate seminar with Professor Birch, Department of City and Regional Planning.

ENROLLMENT OPEN

CPLN 577 Introduction to International Development Finance for Cities (Monday, Wednesday 10:30-12:00) G-12 Meyerson Hall (Departmental permission required)

With the world's population growth exploding –2050 will see the addition of some 2 billion inhabitants, primarily in cities in low and middle income countries – decision-makers are pressed to meet basic infrastructural needs (transportation, water and sanitation, public space, electricity, social service facilities and others) while responding to such large global issues as climate change. More than 70% of the planet's total CO2 emissions take place in cities, so it is in cities where the fight against climate change and the path towards sustainable development will be defined. To address these challenges effectively, cities will need huge investments in sustainable infrastructure over the next years. Despite some progress in the availability of financing for cities, the existing mechanisms fall short of the magnitude of resources needed. Meeting the SDG's and the Paris Agreement will depend in large part on designing a new international financing architecture for cities. This course will review the history, theory, and current practice of international development finance with special attention to urban places. It will examine the challenges of the planning and financing projects, explore innovation and best practices in the field and suggest needed regulatory and governance reforms, as well as new and

disruptive financial tools for cities. Student research undertaken in the course will contribute to the “Cities Investment and Financing Initiative,” an important project being incubated at the University of Pennsylvania through Perry World House and Penn Institute for Urban Research with support from the World Economic Forum (WEF), the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, United Cities and Governments (UCLG) and C-40. Guest speakers will be invited.

Instructor Bios:



Mauricio Rodas has JD from Universidad Católica de Quito and holds two master's degrees in government administration and political science, both from the University of Pennsylvania where he received a Fulbright Scholarship. He started his professional career with the UN's Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago de Chile and Mexico City. Later he worked as a consultant in public policy for the Mexican government. In 2007, he founded and served as the Executive Director of Ethos Public Policy Lab, a think tank based in Mexico that went on to be ranked among the most influential in Latin America by the *Global Go To Think Tank Index Report*.

In 2011, Rodas returned to Ecuador and founded SUMA, a national political party. In 2013, he ran for president of Ecuador; the following year was elected as mayor of Quito from 2014 to 2019. During his period, Rodas oversaw major infrastructure improvements in the city, including construction of the nation's first metro (22 km, 15 stations). Rodas was the hosting mayor of the UN's Conference on Urban Sustainable Development – Habitat III. He also had an active leadership role in some of the most important networks of cities worldwide: two terms as world co-president of United Cities and Local Governments Organization (UCLG), member of the global boards of C-40 Cities Climate Leadership Group, the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI), and the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy. He is a young global leader and member of the Global Future Council on Cities and Urbanization of the World Economic Forum. In 2019, he was named one of the *100 Worlds' Most Influential People on Climate Action* by *Apolitical* and received the University of Pennsylvania's Institute of Urban Research *Urban Leadership Award*.



Eugénie L. Birch FAICP, FAcSS, RTPI (hon), is the Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research, Department of City and Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design. She is the founding co-director of the Penn Institute for Urban Research, co-editor, University of Pennsylvania Press's *City in the 21st Century* series. She currently serves on the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Executive Committee and the Board of the Regional Plan Association. She is a member of the World Economic Forum's Futures Council on Urbanization, and president, General Assembly of Partners (GAP) for the implementation of the UN's SDGs and the *New Urban Agenda*. Prof Birch has held many leadership positions including editor, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, chair, Planning Accreditation Board, president, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, Society for American City and Regional Planning History, and the International Planning History Society and chair, UN Habitat's World Urban Campaign. She has served as a member of the New York City Planning Commission, and on the jury to select the designers for the World Trade Centre site. She has received several awards: Lawrence C. Gerken Award in Planning History (2009), Martin Meyerson Distinguished Educator Award (2009), Jay Chatterjee Award for Distinguished Service (2006), Margarita McCoy Award (1994) from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and the President's Award from the American Planning Association (2013).

Dr Birch's most recent publications include *Slums: How the Informal Real Estate Markets Work* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016), *Implementing the New Urban Agenda in the United States: Building on a Firm Foundation*, *Informationen zur Raumentwicklung (Information on Spatial Development)*(2017) and "Metrics and the Impact of the Urban SDG," in Elqvist et al *The Urban Planet* (2018). Her current research focuses on informality, smart cities, and sustainable urban development. She currently is the co-principal investigator on Penn's Mellon Foundation sponsored Humanities, Urbanization and Design (H+U+D) initiative. Dr Birch holds a PhD and Masters degree in Urban Planning from Columbia University and an AB from Bryn Mawr College.