IHS Online Conference (9 July 2021)
"Financing Urban Resilience through Land Value Capture"
https://www.ihs.nl/en/events/financing-urban-resilience-through-land-value-capture-2021-07-09

Master Class title:
Land Value Capture and Blue-Green Infrastructure

Organizers:
Dr. Paul Rabé (IHS), Prof. Chris Zevenbergen (IHE) and Dr. William Veerbeek (IHE)

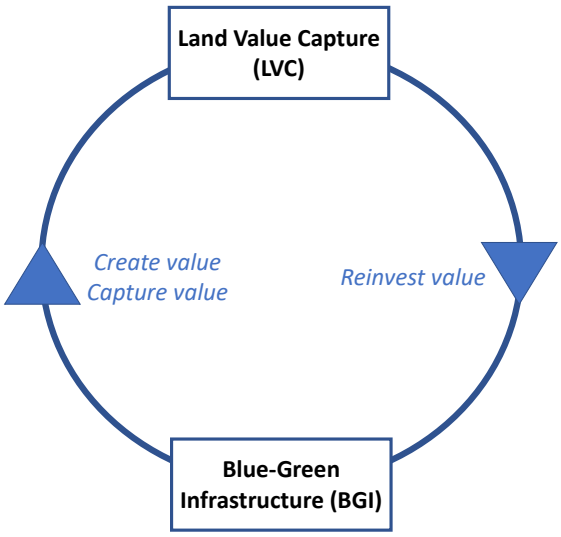
Schedule:
Master Class 1: Friday, July 9, 11:30—12:30 (Paul Rabé & William Veerbeek)
Master Class 2: Friday, July 9, 16:00—17:00 (Paul Rabé & Chris Zevenbergen)

Introduction to key concepts

In this Master Class, jointly coordinated by IHS and IHE Institute for Water Education, Delft, we examine the relationship between two core concepts: land value capture (LVC) and blue-green infrastructure (BGI).

- LVC is a policy approach that enables cities to recoup and reinvest increases in land values that result from public planning decisions and public investments, such as in infrastructure and other public amenities.

- BGI are nature-based features in built-up areas, based on vegetation (green), water (blue), or both, that are important as climate change mitigation and/or adaptation measures (Brown & Mijic, 2019). When designed well, BGI measures—as part of an ecosystem service—can have multiple benefits for people and wildlife, including ecological functions, productivity functions (more resilient infrastructure and local economic development) and also social functions (more social cohesion, for example).



We argue that LVC and BGI are connected in two important ways: LVC instruments can help to finance and enable BGI measures, and in turn, BGI measures can help to make city neighborhoods safer, more resilient and attractive, thereby leading to value increases that can help to finance more adaptation and resilience measures in future.

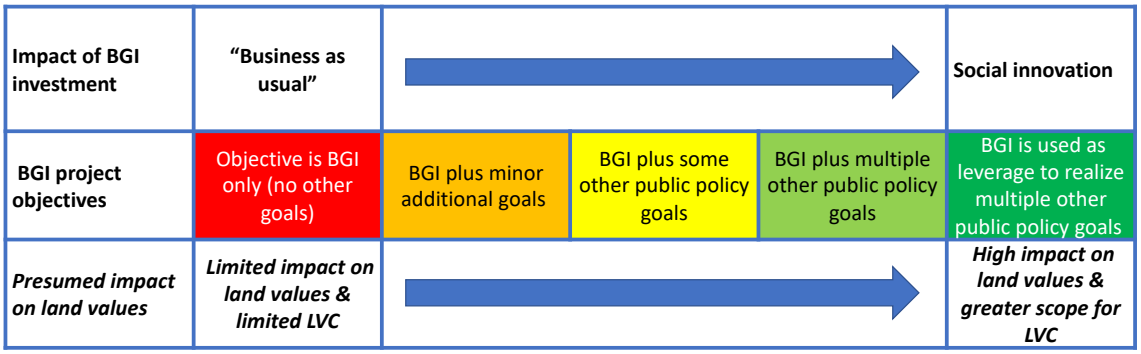
The result, in principle, is a virtuous cycle, as illustrated in the diagram on the left.

Objectives

The objectives of this Master Class are to:

1. Introduce participants to the key concepts of LVC and BGI and how they can relate and can be made to strengthen each other.
2. Point out the multiple benefits of BGI projects, including for urban land values, when these projects are designed and implemented to incorporate multiple public policy goals.
3. Stimulate participants to apply a BGI multiple benefit framework to cases from their own professional or research work, which they bring to the master class for discussion.

Objective 2 will be illustrated by means of a simple framework illustrating the potential multiple benefits of BGI projects, as follows:



Note: This framework is adapted from the EU-funded Interreg North Sea Region BEGIN project, in which IHE-Delft and Erasmus University Rotterdam are partners [1]. The Table has been adapted to add a focus on presumed impacts on land values and LVC resulting from BGI investments.

Format of the Master Class

The master class has an interactive format, involving a lecture and discussion session. The class comprises three components, corresponding to the objectives outlined above. In a 20-minute presentation, the lecturers will 1) introduce the key concepts of LVC and BGI and their interrelationships, and 2) provide examples of multiple benefits for urban areas of successful BGI projects, using the simplified framework illustrated above. During a 40-minute discussion session following the presentation, master class participants are invited to discuss their own cases and reflect on the extent to which their cases provide multiple benefits for their cities in the sense that they have multiple public policy goals, including for land value capture.

[1] The BEGIN project is an initiative where 10 cities and 6 research institutes in Northern Europe combine forces to come towards BGI solutions and gather learning experiences. For more information, visit: https://northsearegion.eu/begin/about-us/

Program and Cases

The morning Master Class (11:30-12:30) targets an audience in Asia-Pacific, Africa, MENA and Europe, and will feature a case study of BGI from East Asia. The afternoon Master Class (16:00-17:00) targets an audience in the Americas, Africa, MENA and Europe, and will feature a case study of BGI from the United States.

Readings and References

Compulsory reading for this Master Class (to be distributed before the Master Class):

- Willems, J. (2020). An overview of the Social Innovations for Blue-Green Infrastructure in the ten BEGIN-cities. INTERREG BEGIN Project (European Regional Development Fund).

Optional background reading on LVC and land use policy:

- Germán, L. and Bernstein, A.E. (2018). Land value capture: tools to finance our urban future: Policy brief. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

- Krawchenko, T. OECD (2017), The Governance of Land Use in OECD Countries: Policy Analysis and Recommendations, OECD Publishing.

Optional background reading on BGI and ecosystem services:

- Brown, K, & Mijic, A. (2019). Integrating green and blue spaces into our cities: Making it happen. *Grantham Institute*, (30), 1-10.

- Lovell, S. T., & Taylor, J. R. (2013). Supplying urban ecosystem services through multifunctional green infrastructure in the United States. *Landscape ecology*, *28*(8), 1447-1463.