# LAND LAUNDERING: CAPTURING THE MULTIPLE LAND TENURE MUTATIONS IN PERU



DSA conference: Panel 17- Wednesday 6th July 2022
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#### **URBANISATION THROUGH AUTO-CONSTRUCTION**

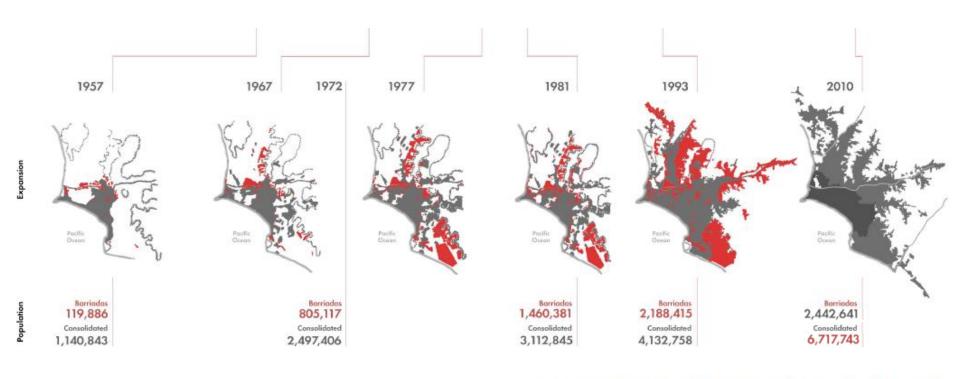
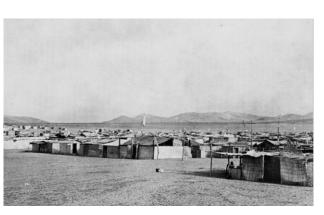


Figure 4.1: Timeline capturing changes in government, population and urban growth since 1940s. Source: own elaboration using data from INEI, Matos Mar (2010), Collier (1975), Riofrio (1990).





- •Different types of formation:
  - -Organised invasion
  - -Progressive Development
  - -Government allocation
  - -Land trafficking

Various cycles of tolerance, encouragement, prohibition, clearance.

# **URBANISATION OF THE DESERT** 30 % of Lima's population = 2.8 Million lives on steep slopes deemed as 'high risk' by city authorities. Land trafficking main process



 $\hbox{'intangible, indivisible and imprescriptible}^{{\bf I}}$ 

# Private Land



'intangible, indivisible and imprescriptible



Privatised by landtraffickers by buying from peasant community leaders or falsifying documents



Subdivided & sold as small plots to urban poor

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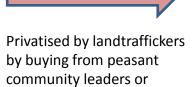


Inhabitants face difficulty to get services so ask government to expropriate land to enter dedicated municipal process

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falsifying documents



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## Government land

Process of physical and legal regularisation to acquire services and enter land titling processes

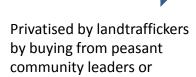


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# Private Land

land titling of individual plots

## Government land

Process of physical and legal regularisation



Inhabitants face difficulty to get services so ask government to expropriate land to enter dedicated municipal process

#### **KEY POINTS**

- Framing land trafficking through state failure and illegality creates analytical blind spots. It reinforces its conceptualization as a process located outside laws that regulate space, and as tangential to the state.
- Need to pay attention to how legalised corruption works- instances that create a rhetorical semblance of conforming with the spirit of the law, while intending to violate it. The illegal, illicit and criminal become entwined by overlapping regulating spaces, and both land traffickers and state actors move in and out of legality
- Need to pay attention to non-linear and iterative movements that occur between illegality and legality, as well as from one tenure type to another.
- Longitudinal methodologies needed to fully appreciate the mutations that takes place over time.

