Learning-in-Action:
The Cartagena Practicum
Presentation and Roundtable Discussion

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
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Allies

- Client:
  - Mayor’s Office of Cartagena
  - Bazurto Market Management

- Partners:
  - Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar
  - MIT Center for Transportation and Logistics

- Sponsors:
  - Universidad Tecnológica de Bolívar Agenda Against Poverty
  - MIT Center for Transportation & Logistics
  - Latin American Center for Innovation & Logistics
  - CoLab
  - DUSP
  - Colombian MIT-Harvard Association
# Context

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Colombia</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Population growth</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Urban Population</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Rate of urbanization</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Area (km²)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Informal Sector</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Population below poverty line</strong></td>
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Alyssa Bryson – December 2009
Importance of Bazurto

- 80% of Cartagena residents buy food in Bazurto
- Prices are 35-40% lower than in supermarkets
- Source of employment: 22,000 direct, 10,000 indirect, 3,000 informal jobs

Practicum Objectives

- Study the food supply system with focus in the Bazurto Food Market, identifying key **challenges** and **opportunities**, and developing **policy recommendations**.

**Pedagogically:**

- Work with a client,
- Analyze new urban contexts,
- Carry out fieldwork (observation and information gathering),
- Build communication skills,
- Work in multi-disciplinary teams,
- Reflect on practice and fieldwork experience.
Course Content

- Challenges of food provision in Global South Cities;
- Food Markets and Development Policy;
- Food Market Modernization/Trends;
- Contradictions of food marketing in the Global South Cities;
- Democracy, Participation and Planning;
- Mobility, informality and community enterprise.