



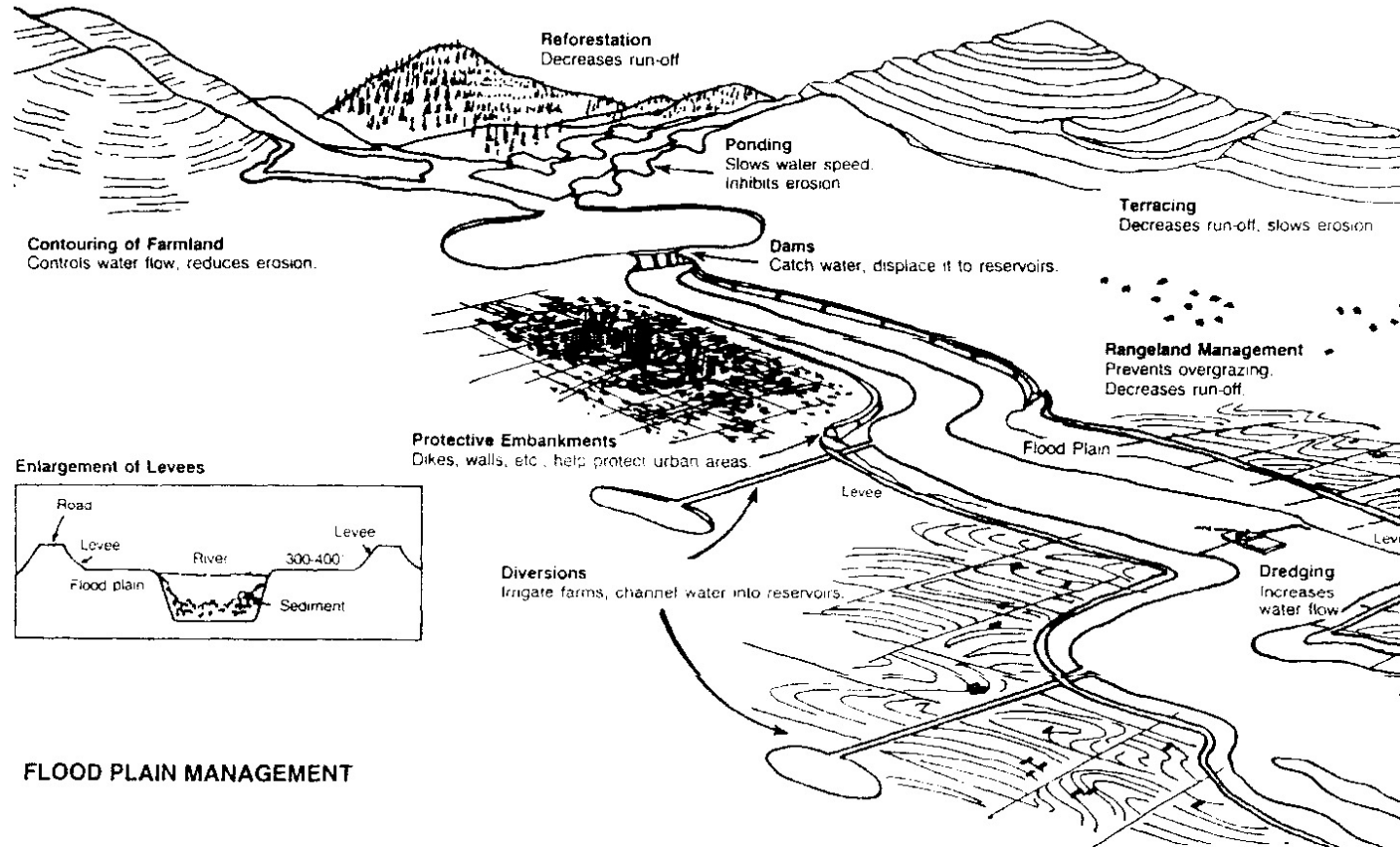
Climate Change Adaptation in Informal Settings :
Understanding and Reinforcing Bottom-Up Initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean

Disasters Have Never Been Modern: The Challenges of Climate
Change Mitigation in Latin America

Department of Anthropology and Sociology
University of New Orleans



Modern Disaster Risk Management



September 2013

Hurricanes Ingrid and Manuel
Coincide over the Mexican
national territory during
Independence Day Festivities



Impacts

- The storms interact with human land use practices and social inequities, triggering landslides and floods in the states of Guerrero, Veracruz and Oaxaca
- 200 fatalities
- 60,000 displaced people
- 50,120 homes destroyed
- 4.65 billion USD in damages



Debates Over Anthropogenic Climate Change

- 2012 National Law of Climate Change
- National Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources
 - Ingrid and Manuel are phenomena associated with anthropogenic climate change
 - Attributes disaster to warming oceanic waters
- Development decisions by local government in Acapulco



Policy as Simulation?

- Felipe Calderón promotes the passing of the National Law of Climate Change and the creation of the

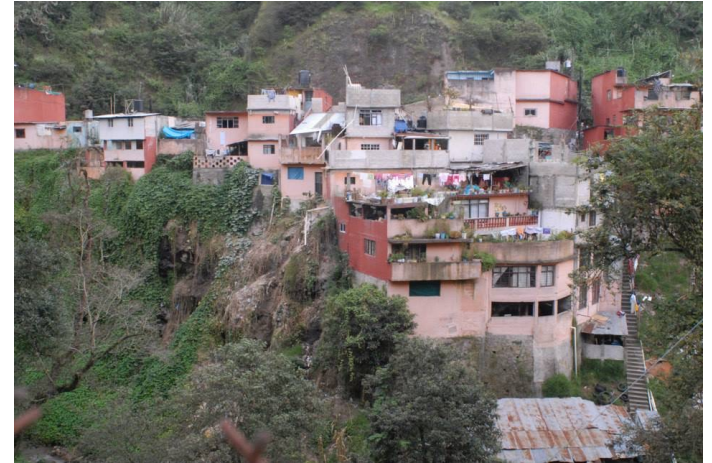


Policy as Simulation?

Enrique Peña Nieto assures the Mexican public every hillside in Mexico will be evaluated for landslide risk



Teziutlán, Puebla



1999 Landslide

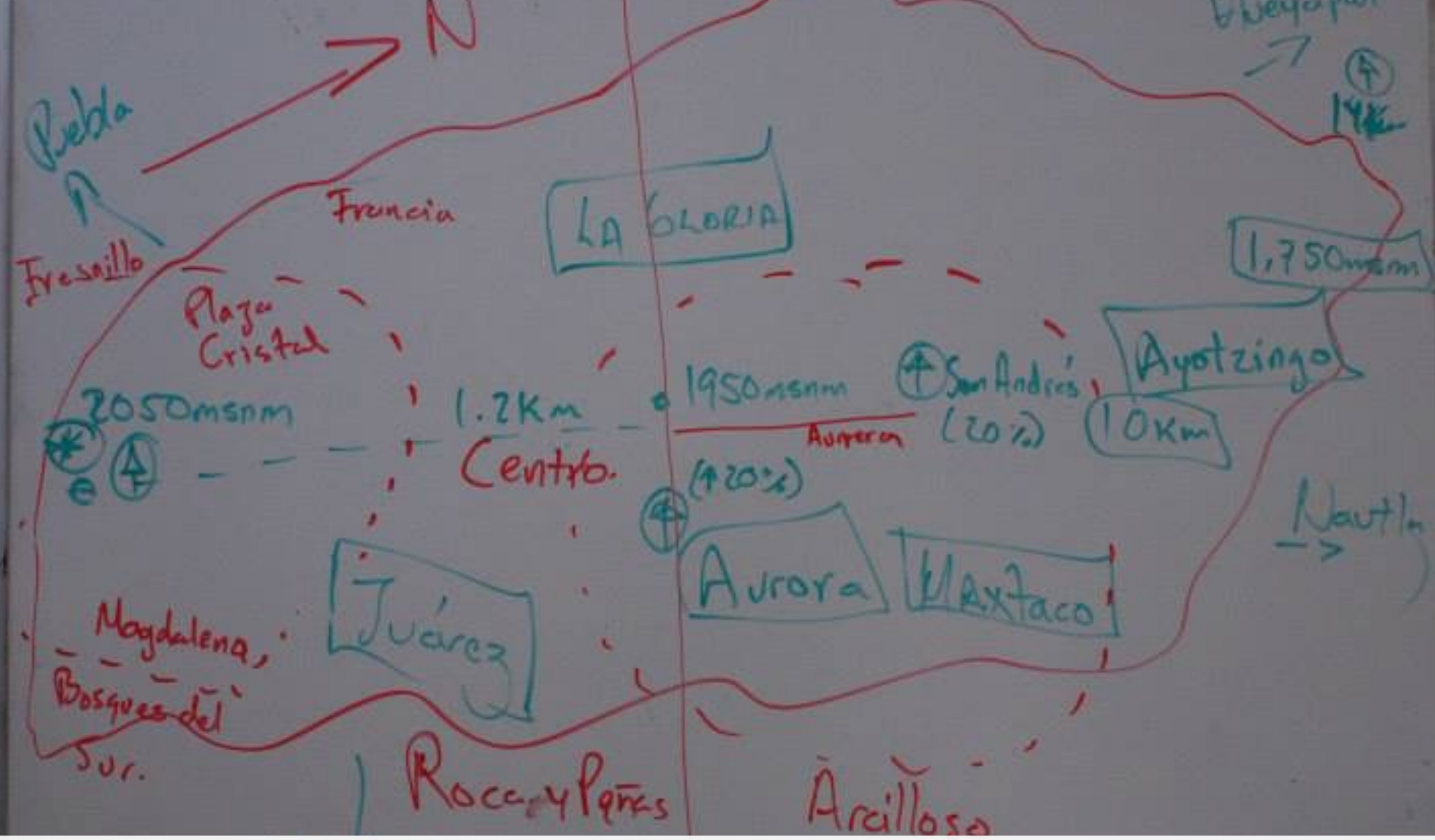
- Nearly 200 casualties
- Relocation program did not address conditions of economic precarity







Political Culture and Disaster: El año de Hidalgo



Policy, Risk Maps, and Simulation



Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas: Risk and Judgement





Disaster,
Politics, and
Violence:
Bogotá,
Colombia

San Juan de Grijalva, Chiapas: The Importance of Bottom-Up Initiatives





Affect, Ecology, and Relocation

Disasters Have Never Been Modern

- Disasters take shape and magnitude at the connecting points between politics, quotidian practice, land use, socially produced differentiation (i.e. class, race, gender, ethnicity)
- Disasters defy the neat separations of modernist governance and knowledge-making
- Disaster risk reduction strategies must be as non-modern as disasters themselves
 - Recognize the political ontology of many disasters
 - Foreground inequity reduction as disaster risk reduction
 - Wrestle with the affective dimensions of disaster risk and mitigation