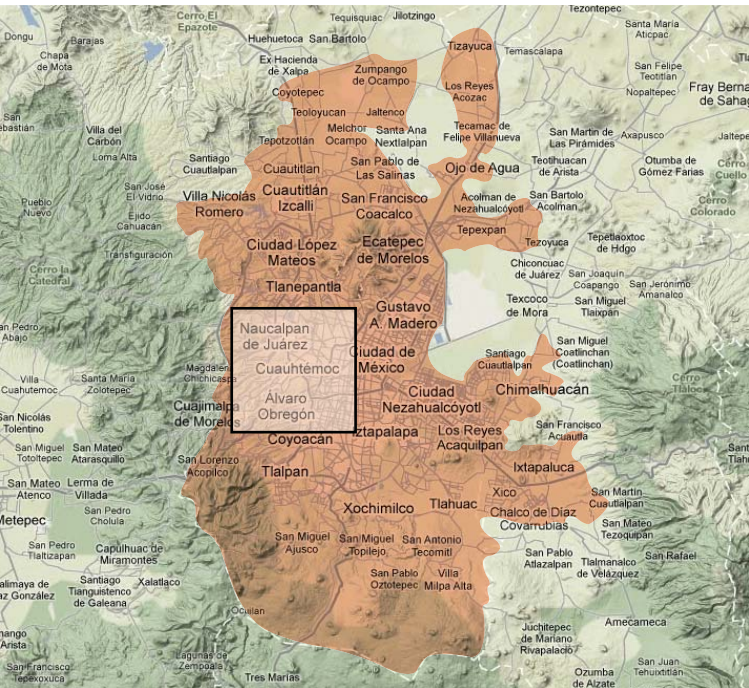
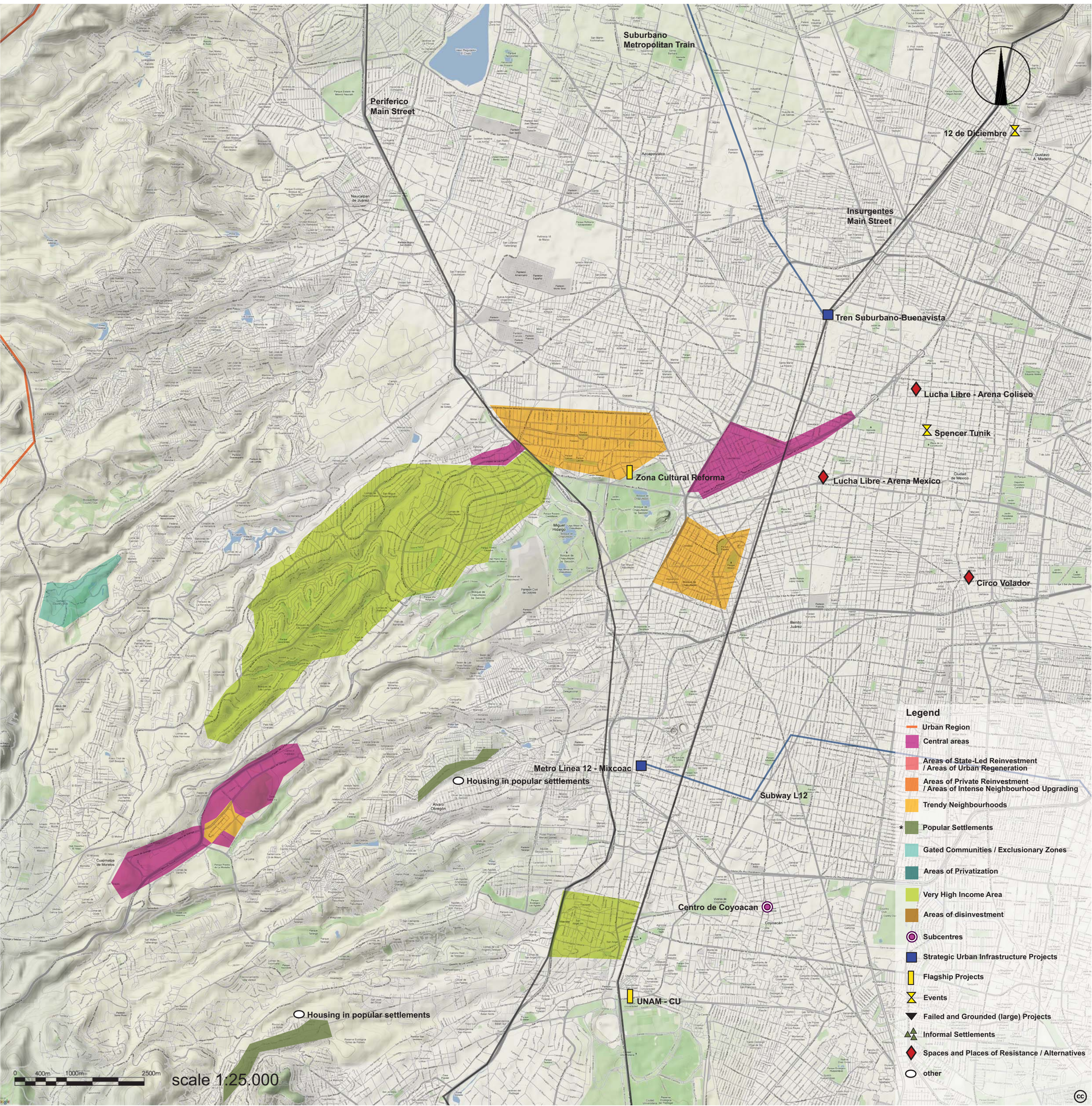


# Mexico City, Mexico



Mexico	1'972'550 km2	* Inhabitants	110 Mio.
Urban Region		* Inhabitants	20 Mio.





# Mexico City - MEXICO

## Flagship Project



### INVESTORS:

Federal and local government

### ARCHITECTS:

Arcadio Artis Espriu, Orso Núñez Ruiz-Velasco and engineer and architects team and Teodoro González de León

## UNAM Free Higher Education & cultural offer for the city

### PURPOSE:

The National University of Mexico (UNAM) located in the south of the city, comprises a set of buildings and spaces in a 700 ha plot of land. The main research in the country is carried out here and it has an average of 120,000 students. It is a key educational institute in Latin America and one of the world's top universities.

The University Cultural Center was built between 1976 & 1980 to provide cultural access to the south of Mexico City.

Some of the main buildings in it are:

- National Library and Newspaper National Library.
- Sala Nezahualcoyotl (Music Hall). The symbiosis between the polygonal structure and the volcanic environment outside is remarkable.
- Contemporary Art University Museum (MUAC). Open in 2008. Holds the UNAM's contemporary art collection. The building is 13, 947m and 3, 300m are exhibition rooms.
- Juan Ruiz de Alarcón's Theater, Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz's Theater and Foro del Centro Universitario de Teatro (CUT).
- Dancing room Miguel Covarrubias.
- Sala Carlos Chávez (chamber music hall).
- Movie theaters José Revueltas y Julio Bracho.
- Bookshop and restaurant.

## Central Areas CBD



Michael Calderwood



Michael Calderwood

## Santa Fe From city dump to CBD

### PURPOSE:

In the west site of Mexico City, in an area of 10 square km that had first contained various sand mines and subsequently huge city dumps. Santa Fe was reconfigured, and from 1989 onwards was transformed into an urban mega-project which includes: various corporate towers where multinational corporations have set up their offices; large-scale commercial malls; Skyscrapers; 3 private universities (13,500 students from which 90% arrive by own car); and up-market housing. Part of the Real State development rest over dumps, which have not being covered completely, that brought negative consequences such as subsoil, water and air pollution; as well as drainage problems. The urbanization road system is designed for cars only.

### INVESTORS:

National: TELEvisa, Real State Corporations, Private Universities.  
INTERNATIONAL: SOROS FUND MANAGEMENT, HEWLETT PACKARD, MERCEDES BENZ.

## Other



Michael Calderwood



Michael Calderwood

## Failed Housing Policy "Privatization of Social Housing"

It is more of a financial business than a housing solution

### PURPOSE:

Adaptations to the implementation of housing policy reflect the interests of the business sector in the construction sector and political clientelism, rather than meeting the population's housing needs. It also shows the impact of the guidelines of the multilateral organizations which, during the 1990s, were expressed in financial deregulation and the privatization of ejido lands. These arrangements enable the consolidation of housing development groups whose intervention expands the periphery of Mexican cities by buying up large expanses of land and building enormous housing complexes to sell. They include thousands of small houses measuring an average of 40 square meters that fail to offer their inhabitants either proper transport or urban services. However, they provide sufficient financial profits for the international banking sector.

## Event Project



Michael Calderwood

## Contradiction and/or tradition

### SEEING IS BELIEVING...

### PURPOSE:

December 12 marks the celebration of the "appearance of the brown-skinned Virgin," used during the colonial era to "convert" the conquered to the new faith. It is a popular fiesta that attracts over three million persons, during which ancient practices of syncretism are observed, popular music is played and a vast traveling market is set up. This event was ... by the Catholic Church during Pope John Paul II's visit in 1979 to confirm its conservative presence in Latin America.

### INVESTORS:

The government invest per year in a security, equipment and infrastructure plan.

### ARCHITECTS:

Based on a project coordinated by Pedro Ramírez Vázquez, the new Basílica building was constructed between 1974 and 1976.

### AVANT-GARDE

### PURPOSE:

Spencer Tunik photograph in the Zócalo

### DIMENSIONS:

In May 2007, 18,000 persons gathered in the Zócalo of Mexico City, a civic square where most of the country's socio-cultural and political demonstrations are held, to be photographed by artist Spencer Tunik.



## Alternative Project



## Faro de Oriente

### PURPOSE:

Faro de Oriente (Eastern Lighthouse) located in the borough of Iztapalapa, one of the poorest and most conflictive zones in Mexico City (1,771,000 inhabitants, 87% of which live in poverty) provides cultural events and training in artistic and craft disciplines to the population that is physically, economically and symbolically marginalized from conventional cultural circuits. It combines a school of arts and trades with a gallery, library, toy library and bookshop. El Faro seeks to become a model of cultural promotion for the population that lacks access to art and culture. However, its scope is still limited in relation to the city's needs. Every year, 87 workshops are given and 2,756 students enrolled.

### ARCHITEC:

Alberto Kalach

### INVESTORS:

Mexico City Government Cultural Secretariat



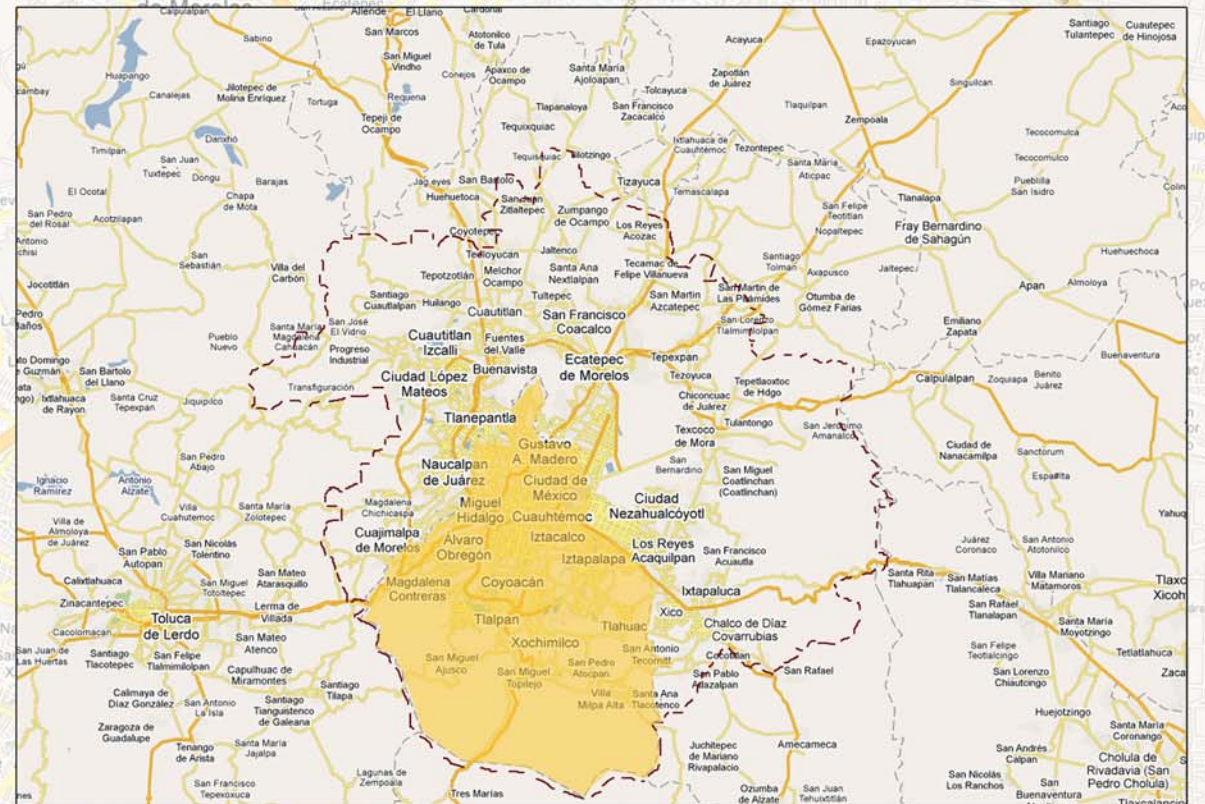
# Mexico City - MEXICO

No harmony is possible where extremes reign: the new adapts to the old in unforeseeable ways until chaos emerge in order, always unstable. Carlos Monsivais

In the late 1980s, federal and local governments promoted international investment in Mexico City through a careful international campaign orchestrated by federal government. Projects such as Santa Fe were undertaken. The Mexico City festival was instituted with the participation of private groups and international support. The assassination of the presidential campaign in 1993, the economic crisis of 1994 and the failed government of the democratic transition, however, held this process back.

In 1997, a mayor was elected for the Federal District and since then, the center-left party has governed continuously, and invested in creating the image of a global city. Public transport, infrastructure, free exhibitions, popular concerts, artificial beaches in the summer, ice rinks in winter, the restoration of the historic centers, museums, theaters and auditoriums...

These actions have not been supported by federal government or by the media, which are controlled by the right-wing party. The country's international image has deteriorated due to problems of law and order and lack of agreement between the various governments. Moreover, the effects of the 2008 crisis have slowed down projects despite the fact that several works have been planned for 2010 to celebrate the Independence Bicentennial and the Revolution Centennial.

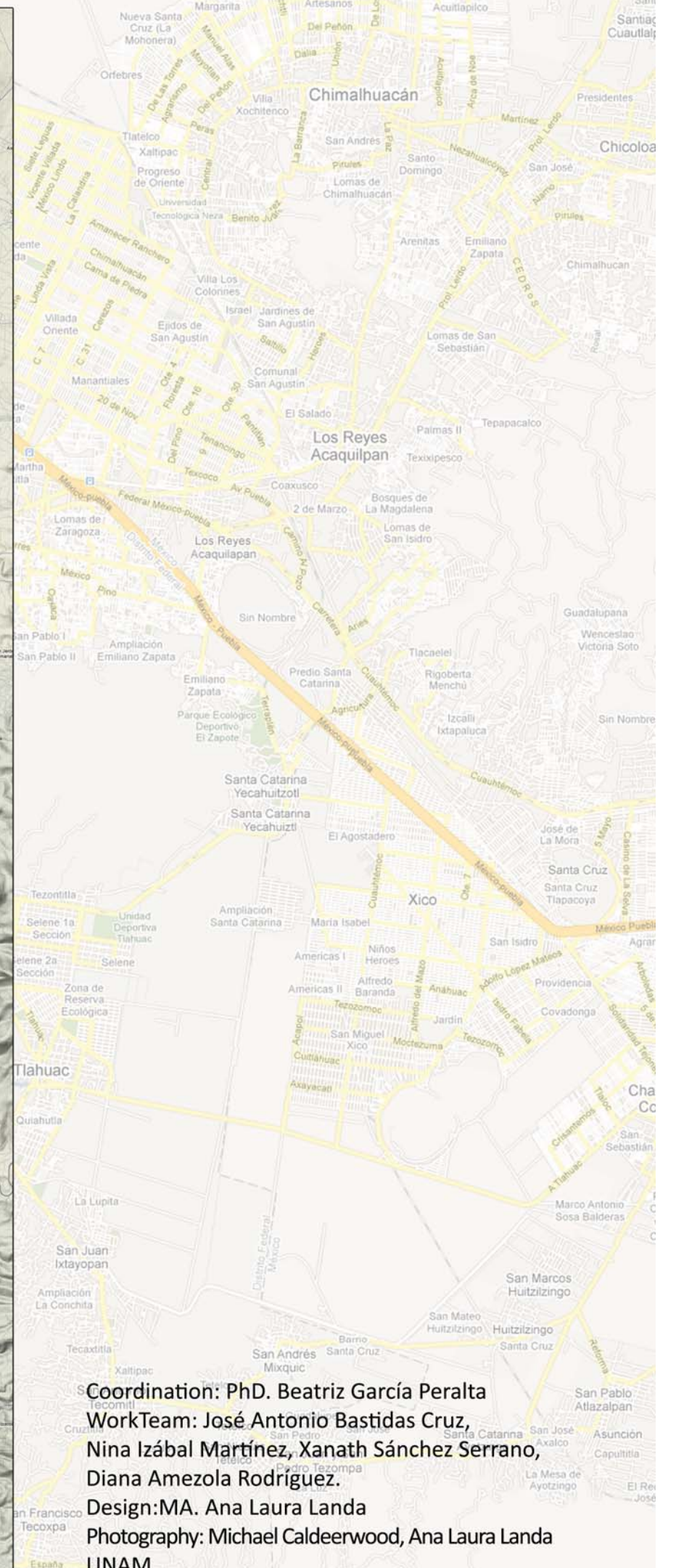
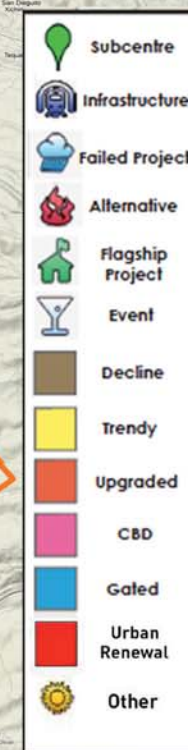
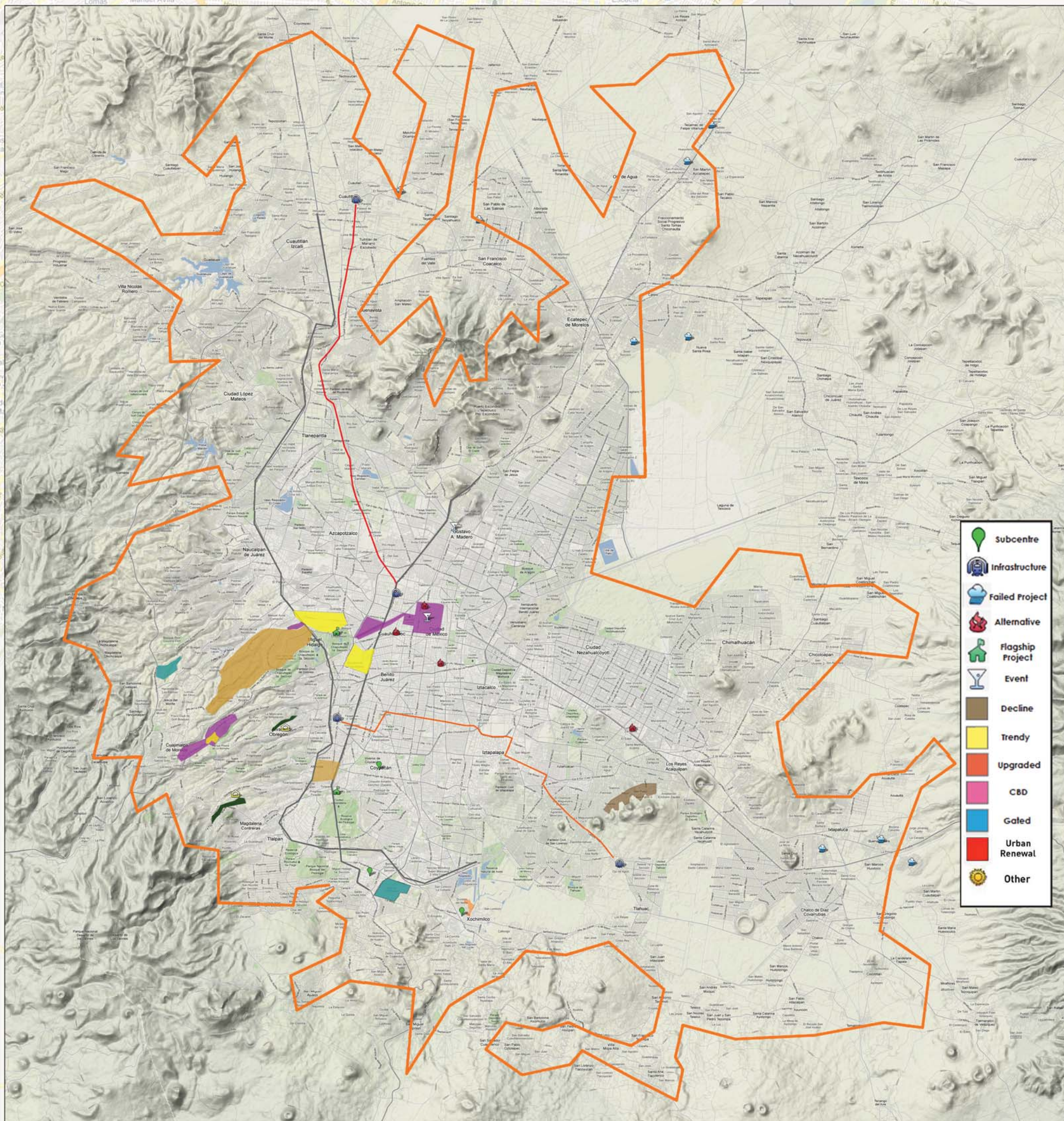


Mexico City map, Federal district (yellow) Suburban Area (dotted)

Federal District: 8'720,916 inhabitants (52.24% of total population)  
148,500 ha / 1,485 km<sup>2</sup> 5.8 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup> average density.

Immediate Suburban Areas:  
HUIXQUILUCAN, NAUCALPAN, TLALNEPANTLA, TULTITLAN, COACALCO, ECATEPEC, NEZAHUALCOYOTL, LA PAZ, VALLE DE CHALCO, CHALCO, IXTAPALUCA, TECAMAC CUAUTITLAN, CUATITLAN IZCALLI, CHIMALHUACAN.

7'972,478 inhabitants (47.74% of total population)  
1,600 km<sup>2</sup> / 160,000 ha. 10 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup> average density.  
Population Federal District + Suburban area = 16'693,394 inhabitants  
Mexico City Total Population: 19' 239,210 inhabitants.



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