



From Tucson to Uruguay and Back: Securities and Inequalities in Water Infrastructure

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Table 1. Planned and operating hydroelectric dams in the Uruguay River Basin

| Hydropower | Phase | Height | Power | Country/River |
|-----------------|-----------|--------|-------|-----------------------------------|
| | | (m) | (MW) | |
| Passo da Cadeia | Planned | 940 | 1,680 | Brazil (Pelotas River) |
| Pai-Querê* | Planned | 762 | 290 | Brazil (Pelotas River) |
| Barra Grande | Operating | 647 | 690 | Brazil (Pelotas River) |
| Machadinho | Operating | 440 | 1,140 | Brazil (Pelotas River) |
| Itá | Operating | 370 | 1.450 | Brazil (Uruguay River) |
| Foz do Chapecó | Planned | 265 | 855 | Brazil (Uruguay River) |
| Itapiranga | Planned | 193 | 724 | Brazil (Uruguay River) |
| Panambí | Planned | 130 | 1,048 | Argentina-Brazil (Uruguay River) |
| Garabí | Planned | 89 | 1,152 | Argentina-Brazil (Uruguay River) |
| Salto Grande | Operating | 35 | 1,890 | Argentina-Uruguay (Uruguay River) |

*Environmental license denied by IBAMA Source: *Banco de Informação de Geração (BIG-ANEEL)* and EBISA (2010).

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Green Infrastructure or **blue-green infrastructure** is a network providing the "ingredients" for solving urban and climatic challenges by building with nature.^[1] The main components of this approach include stormwater management, climate adaptation, less heat stress, more biodiversity, food production, better air quality, sustainable energy production, clean water and healthy soils, as well as the more anthropocentric functions such as increased quality of life through recreation and providing shade and shelter in and around towns and cities.^[2] Green infrastructure also serves to provide an ecological framework for social, economic and environmental health of the surroundings.^[3]

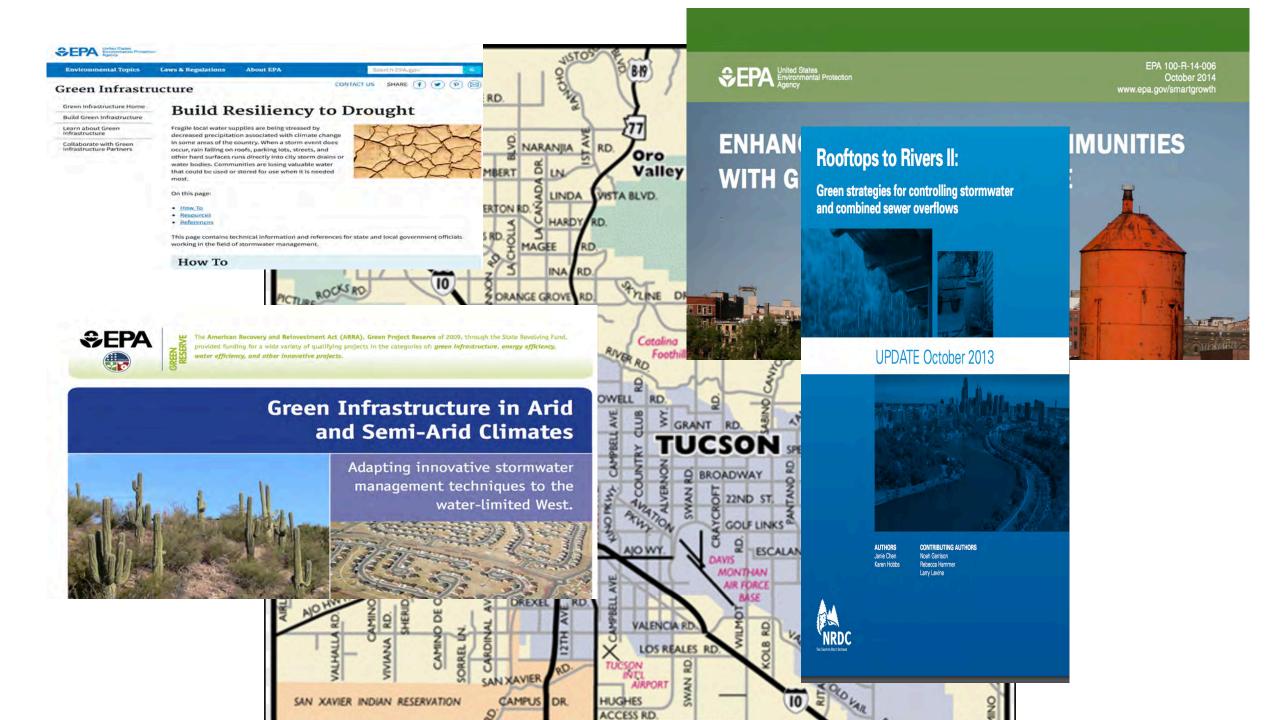
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Street-side swale and adjacent pervious Concrete sidewalk in Seattle, US. Stormwater is infiltrated through these features into soil, thereby reducing levels of urban runoff to city storm sewers.

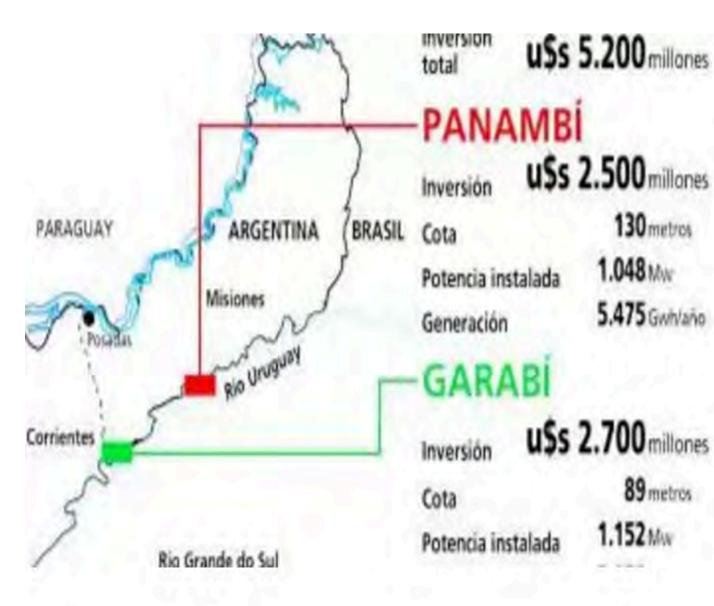


Infrastructure and security

Who and what is being secured?

• Water resources are being secured for human consumption and to enhance resilience

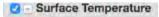
Narrative in the Uruguay River Basin: nested in regional economic development & regional politics Narrative in Tucson, Arizona: alternative to "waste" & nested in larger state and national politics

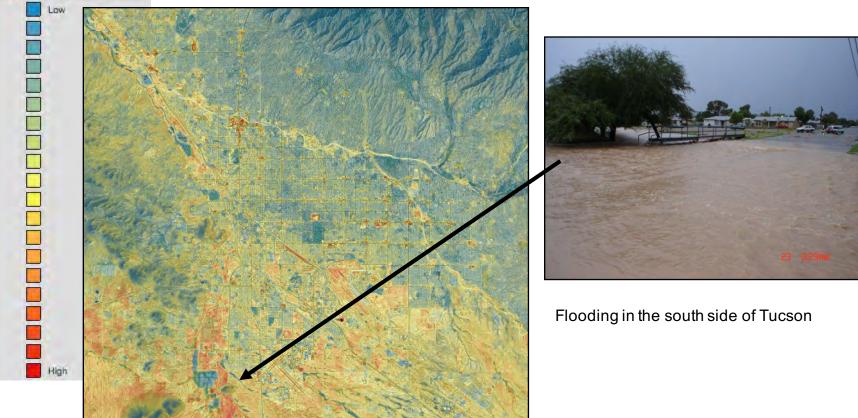


Garabí-Panambí binational hydroelectrical project

- complex of two dams along the Uruguay River on border of Argentina & Brazil
- environmental, social and ecological impacts
 - resettlement of local populations
 - flooding of native forests and grasslands

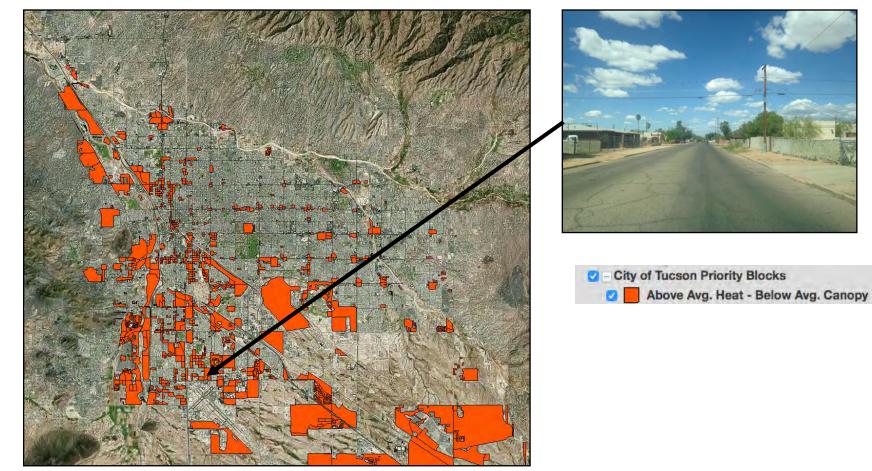
The south side of Tucson is vulnerable to flooding and extreme heat





Surface temperature in Tucson, AZ (data from PAG)

Tree campaign priorities focus on areas that have above average heat and below average tree canopy



Priority blocks in Tucson, AZ (data from PAG)

Inequality and security

Is inequality being deepened? How are inequalities being experienced?

- Distributional and procedural injustices/inequities
- Earth System Governance New Science Plan: economic, social and cultural equality
- Multiple insecurities
- Inequalities are exacerbated by new institutional mechanisms of resilience
- Can perpetuate conflicts and divisions

How do you engage policy to reconsider benefits and burdens as a means for redress?





Tucson verde para todos

Engaging communities for an equitable and greener Tucson

Water security and inequality/justice/equity?

- Inequality as context to challenge narrow views of security
 - Inequality lens offers multiple intersecting dimensions that drive and shape the ability of human societies to address global environmental change in fundamental and complex ways
- How best to consider scale, power and justice in water security?
 - Cycles and spirals of justice
 - Marian J. Patrick (2014). The Cycles and Spirals of Justice in water-allocation decision making, *Water International* 39(1): 63-80.
 - Integrative approaches to water security
 - Mark Zeitoun et al. (2016). Reductionist and integrative research approaches to complex water security policy challenges. *Global Environmental Change* 39: 143–154.
 - Capabilities and water security
 - Wendy Jepson et al. (2017). Advancing human capabilities for water security: A relational approach. *Water Security* 1: 46–52.