“The shaping of land for human use ought to be based on an understanding of natural processes.” – Ian McHarg (1920 – 2001)

Understanding Landscapes

Shaped by Natural Forces

Machu Pichu, The Lost City of Incas, PERU

Sabkha / Sand dunes, Abu Dhabi UAE

In 40 years more than 60% has disappeared

Human impact : Death of Aral

Expanding Las Vegas
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

A method to visualize, manipulate, analyze, and display spatial data
Planning work at Auroville – local & regional

Auroville – extended bioregion
DEM – Regional Context


Auroville – extended bioregion
Pondicherry region – terrain

Overview – General terrain along Coromandel coast
Pondicherry Town Area - Water

Change in Green Cover – 1977 to 1991

SOURCE: Global Land Cover Facility, University of Maryland / NASA
(http://glcf.umiacs.umd.edu/index.shtml)
Change in Green Cover – 1977 to 1991

1977

SOURCE: Global Land Cover Facility, University of Maryland / NASA
(http://glcf.umiacs.umd.edu/index.shtml)

Green Cover – 2003

1977

SOURCE: Global Land Cover Facility, University of Maryland / NASA
(http://glcf.umiacs.umd.edu/index.shtml)
Pondicherry – Possible green areas

SOURCE: Pacific Disaster Center, Hawaii / DigitalGlobe

Pondicherry – Urban Expansion

1977 2003

SOURCE: Global Land Cover Facility, University of Maryland / NASA (http://glcf.umiacs.umd.edu/index.shtml)
Drainage Channels – current state / possibilities

Auroville Master Plan -1968 (architect -Roger Anger)
Aspect – where are the slopes facing
City Area – extracted waterflow/streams

Streams - surface water flow
Watershed

City Area – current situation
City Area – high percolation areas

SOURCE: Auroville Water Harvest

Galaxy Concept