

Oventic, Mexico: A Sustainable Community

Beth Cleghorn,
Regional and Urban Planning Program
Department of Geography and Planning,
University of Saskatchewan



Photo by Fernando Lino

Presentation Outline

- Oventic: Location and history
- Problems leading to civil war
- Response: Zapatista Movement
- Achievements
- Conclusion/Questions
- References

Location and History

- Mayan descendants
- Spanish colonization
- Subsistence farming
- 'Ejido' land rights



Oventic, Chiapas

www.newswise.com



Problem of Land Rights

- Large-scale agriculture, mining, hydroelectricity
- Loss of 'Ejido' land rights in 1993
- Displacement of Indigenous people

www.luxuriousmexico.com



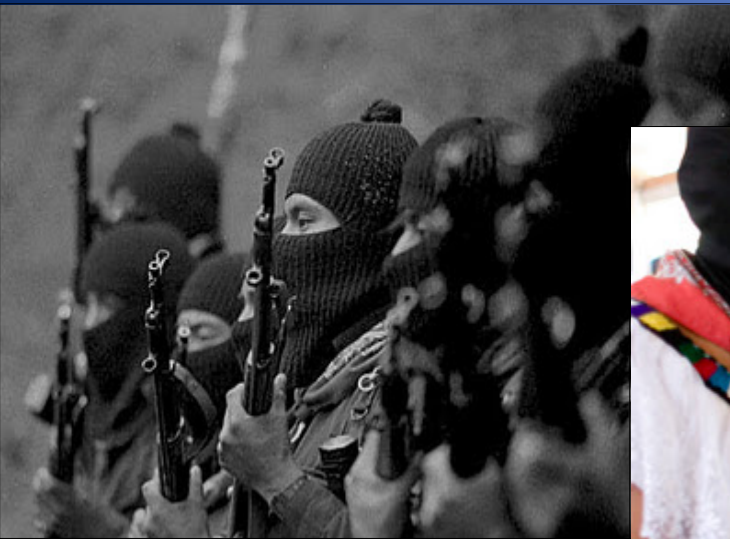
Indigenous Response

- Zapatista Movement- opposed free trade
- Civil War, 1994
- Military takeover of San Cristobal
- Rights as citizens lost

Beaverstatepermaculture.com



Vkb.isvg.org



solidaridadconchiapasvzla



gmeyerphotography



Achievements

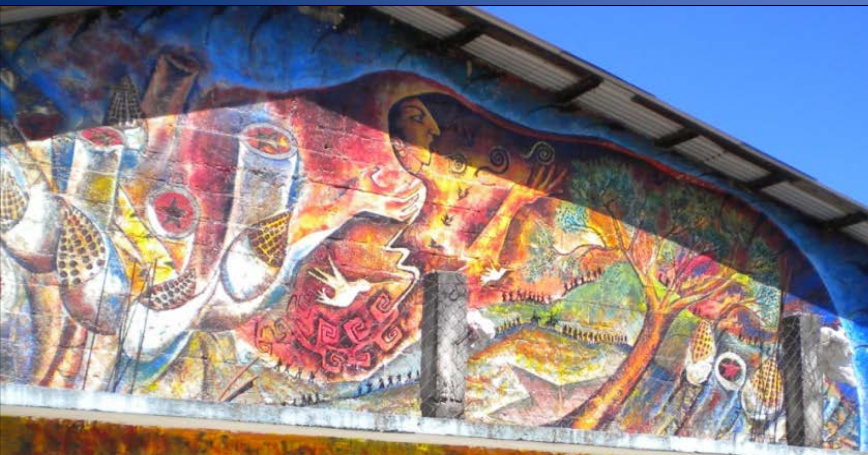
- 28 Independent municipalities
- Self-government
- Military headquarters

Traumwerk.stanford.edu



Sense of Place and Community

- Artistic Murals
- Folk heroes
- Cultural diversity



Social Achievements

- Independent health care
- Traditional and modern medicine
- Education based on culture and Zapatista philosophy

www.schoolschiapas.org



www.schoolschiapas.org



Social Achievements

z.communications.org

- Women's Movement for equality
- 'Women for Dignity' handicraft co-operative



Economic Achievements

- Organic coffee co-operatives
- Local food production
- Low carbon footprint

<http://anarca-bolo.ca>



Coffeeresearch.org



Conclusion

- Land rights secured
- Protected land-use
- Social inclusion
- Cultural identity protected

Questions

What lessons can planners take from this model of Indigenous planning? Can a similar model work for Canada's Indigenous people?



Thank you!



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