

DESIGN FOR EXISTENCE OR FOR DEVELOPMENT?

A Critique of Urban Intervention at the Quebrada Verde town center

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INTRODUCTION

Quebrada Verde is a town center located in Pachacamac, Peru. This town is next to a coastal desert ecosystem called Lomas de Lucumo that maintain incredible biodiversity among plant and animal species, making them one of the most important and vulnerable green valleys in Lima.

QUEBRADA VERDE 2002 → QUEBRADA VERDE 2025

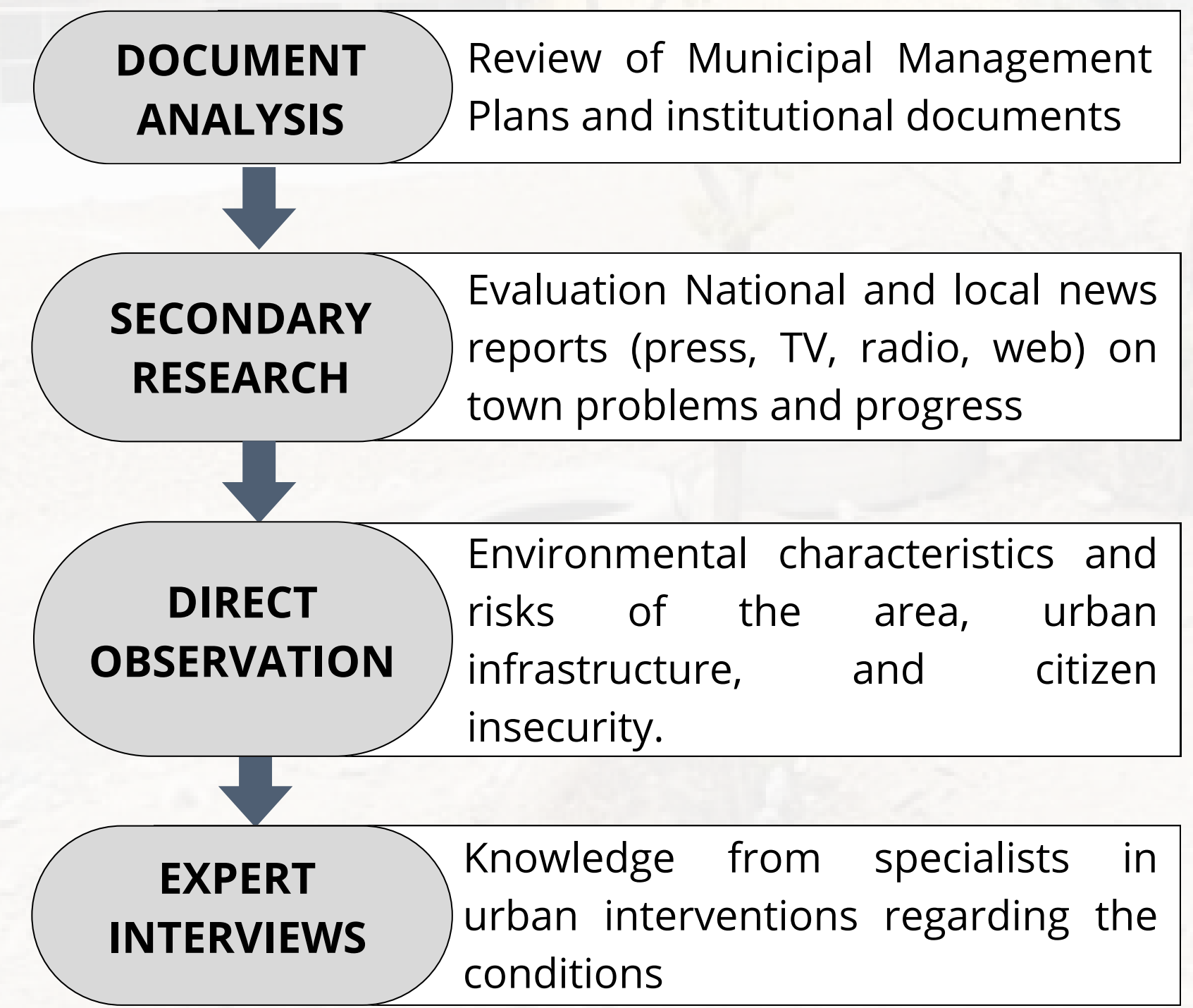


Quebrada Verde, as the town of this ecosystem and due to population growth, suffers from visible socio-environmental deterioration: lack of infrastructure, insecurity, and loss of functional public spaces.

RESEARCH QUESTION

What are the guidelines for the growth of Quebrada Verde in relation to a landscape with the fragile ecosystem of Lomas de Lucumo for its conservation?

METHODS



RESULTS

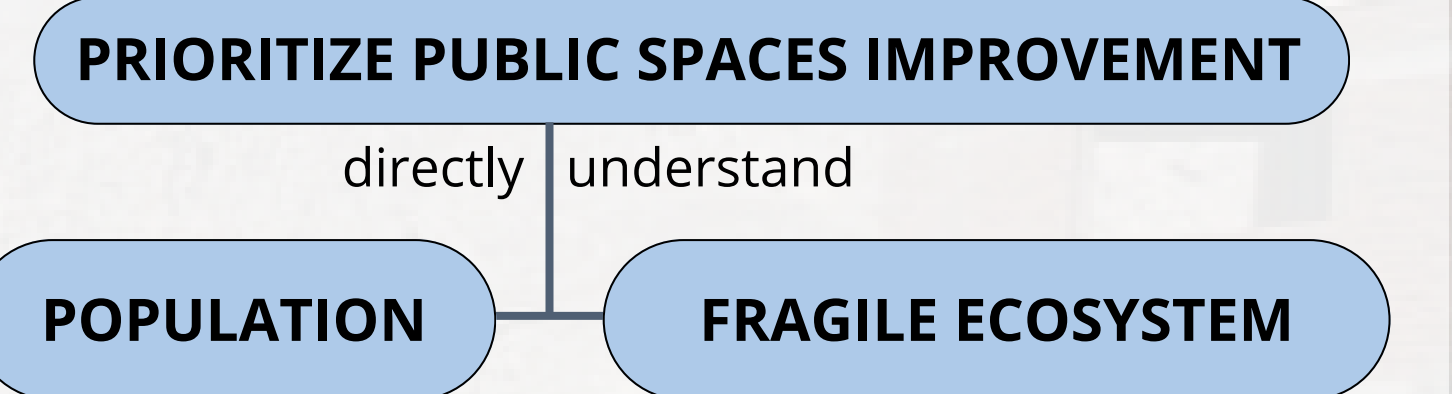
- Physical vulnerability:** Presence of mounds of earth and burning trash in the street and dependence on water tanker trucks.
- Perception of insecurity:** Presence of blank walls and poor urban infrastructure.
- Topographical complexity:** The topography of the site drastically increases the costs of installing water connections.
- Unfinished plans and proposals:** There were proposals to improve the urban and sustainable quality, but when the district mayor changed, everything was discarded.
- Municipal plan on sustainable proposals:** One of the tasks related to urban change is urban conditioning, (putting up informational banners and installing trash cans with recycling stations) according to recent work plan.
- Loss of community spirit:** Community participation in activities is lower according to the population.

DISCUSSION

- Urban Problems:** The presence of blank walls, the state of urban conservation, and land use management increase the perception of insecurity.
- Opportunity for Participation:** The community must participate in urban proposals to increase the sense of community and value of public space.
- Institutional Barrier:** Municipal strategies show a misalignment of focus by prioritizing symbolic solutions over investment in improving urban infrastructure.
- Political Barrier:** Lack of management continuity and changes in mayors have halted previous development plans, creating an institutional obstacle to long-term progress.
- Limited investment:** Municipalities allocate a limited amount to create strategies. It is possible to investigate applicable strategies such as the use of fog catchers for humidity, trails for vegetation control, etc.

CONCLUSION

- Limited structural investment and dependence on soft solutions keep the community subsisting, demonstrating that **the approach is not designed for dignified urban development.**
- Therefore, the guidelines for growth and relationship with the Quebrada Verde ecosystem are:



RECOMMENDATIONS



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