DHARAVI: A Thriving Ecosystem, Should we interfere, and if so, in what ways?

There is absolutely "nothing to celebrate about living in a cramped 150 sq. ft. house with no natural light or ventilation, without running water or sanitation"

Eviction, closing of thriving unregistered businesses

Dharavi History
- fishing village
- industrial workers for factories
- labor migrants for big tanneries (Muslims and lower caste Hindus from the Tirunelveli District of TN)
- "supportively neglect" (rlns b/w industry, workers, state)
- illegal dumping ground
- DRP

Dharavi Redevelopment Project
- new state interests
- democratic engagement

Reality Tours and Travels

DHARAVI
Largest slum in Asia
- 175 hectares
- 1 million popn.
- cheap rent ($4/month)
- business turnover: >$500m/yr

Access to Resources
| Dharavi | 
|------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Cost of credit (annual interest) | 60-75X |
| Municipal grade water (cu.m) | 37X |
| Phone call (per minute) | 2X |
| Diarrhea medication | 10X |
| Rice (per kg) | 1.2X |

Problems
1. Public Services
   - clean water/plumbing/electricity
   - education
2. Private Services
   - price discrimination
   - lack of access
3. Integration
   - with rest of society
   - with markets (avoid middlemen)

Solutions?
- PROUD (People’s responsible organization for united Dharavi)
- Dealing with Maharashtra state gov.
- Education/Activist NGOs

"If you want to eat the best gulab jamuns in town, buy the best chiki, acquire an export quality leather handbag, order World Health Organization (WHO) certified sutures for surgery, see the latest design in ready-made garments being manufactured for export, get a new suitcase or an old one repaired - there are few better places in all of Mumbai than Dharavi" she says.

Sources: Wikipedia, HBS case study, Liza Weinstein’s Phd dissertation (someone to call?), Prahalad’s BoP, Rediscovering Dharavi (Kalpana Sharma)