Ricardo Alvarez
PhD Candidate, Department of Urban Studies and Planning, MIT
Researcher, MIT SENSEable City Lab

Ricardo Alvarez is a PhD Candidate for the City Design and Development Group in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning and also a researcher in the SENSEable City Lab, both at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). His research focuses on the integration of large scale networked architectures of digital sensors and the use of A.I. in future urban infrastructure systems.

Prior to MIT, he worked for five years in the Mexican Federal Government as a founding member of ProMexico (the country's trade and investment promotion Federal Agency) where he worked as Senior Advisor to the CEO, managed International Operations for North America, Europe, Africa and the Middle East and headed the Innovation and Strategic Projects Office. Before that he worked in the private sector in the retail, financial and media industries, both as an entrepreneur as well as corporate.

Alvarez is also an international speaker, having participated in conferences across several countries in America, Europe and Asia. In addition to his studies at MIT he holds a Master in International Management degree from Thunderbird and a Bachelor in Industrial and Systems Engineering degree from the Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey.

Fabio Duarte
Principal Research Scientist, Senseable City Lab

Fabio Duarte is a Lecturer in DUSP and Principal Research Scientist at the MIT Senseable City Lab, where he manages projects including Underworlds, Roboat, City Scanner, as well as the data visualization team. Duarte has a background in urban planning and a PhD in communication and technology from the Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil. Duarte has been a visiting professor at the Yokohama University and Twente University, is a professor at PUCPR (Brazil) and has served as a consultant in urban planning and mobility for the World Bank.

His most recent book is "Unplugging the city: the urban phenomenon and its sociotechnical controversies" (Routledge, 2018), and his papers have appeared in Urban Studies, Journal of Urban Technology, Environment and Planning B: Urban Analytics and City Science, and Science Robotics. More information at http://senseable.mit.edu

Introduction to Senseable City Lab Research

This session will introduce to participants the cutting-edge research performed by the Senseable City Lab on Urban Science and Technology. We’ll discuss a selection of projects, as well as the methods and technologies used in the research, as well as the impact for partner cities. We will also discuss the diverse forms of collaboration between the lab and our partners.
11:45am - 12:30pm  The Urban Tech opportunities for Latin American Development / Introduction to the Latin American Urban Tech Initiative

This session will focus on defining topics of research and development opportunities for Latin American Cities. We'll present potential research lines from the lab that could form the initial basis for an urban technology agenda for the region. We will also use this session to introduce the Latin American Urban Technology Initiative to the participants.

12:30pm - 1:00pm  Q&A and Workshop Discussion

The workshop discussion will center on obtaining feedback from the participants on the proposed initiative and the urban technology agenda for the region, as well as in potential forms of collaboration needed to move the initiative forward.