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# Business as Usual: Small-Scale Contractors and the Production of Low-Cost Housing in Developing Countries

*Edmundo Werna*

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The process of construction of low-income settlements in developing countries has been frequently regarded as something entirely different from what takes place in the formal part of cities. However, such a process is also permeated by market relations: it is business as usual in low-income settlements. This book demonstrates the pivotal role played by small-scale private contractors in the production of housing for the poor. Such contractors have gained wide attention in development thinking and assistance. The book brings together and analyses the currently dispersed set of papers and policies related to the issue, and provides empirical information. The book contains a research investigation and also policy analysis and recommendations. Being interdisciplinary in nature, the book is aimed at

those with an interest in development studies, housing, urban studies, and small-scale enterprise development.