



SDG | INCLUSIVE CITIES: LAST MILE DELIVERY IN SLUMS AND INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

Leave No One Behind -
Social Development Track

EVENT DETAILS

EVENT TITLE:	Inclusive Cities: Last Mile Delivery in Slums and Informal Settlements
DATE:	03 November 2021
IN ASSOCIATION WITH:	Aga Khan Development Network, Siemens and UN-Habitat
CO-CURATE PARTNERS:	UN-Habitat
TIME:	11:00 – 18:30
VENUE:	The Nexus for People & Planet



EVENT SUMMARY

By 2050, 70% of the world's population will be living in urban areas and the number of slum dwellers will increase to 3 billion. Such rapid pace of urbanisation threatens to put unprecedented pressure on urban infrastructure, making it prone to disease outbreaks and limit service provision capacities.

SDG 11 intends to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable by 2030, leaving no one behind. Urban areas are home to diverse communities and groups including indigenous people, refugees, and migrants, which add immense value and vibrance to cities. This day-long event, **Inclusive Cities: Last Mile Delivery in Slums and Informal Settlements**, co-curated by UN-Habitat, brings together eminent experts from across the world to draw attention to inclusive solutions for building safe, resilient, and sustainable settlements.

AGENDA

TIME	ACTIVITY
11:00 – 12:00	Registration
12:00 – 12:07	Welcome Mr. Kennedy Odede , Founder & CEO, Shining Hope for Communities and Ms. Zoe Tabary , Tech Editor, Thomas Reuters Foundation will outline the diverse sessions of the day; spotlighting case studies, panel discussions and fireside chats with key stakeholders, to promote effective models of slum upgradation and frameworks for improved access to essential services making positive social and economic changes in many cities.
12:07– 12:15	Opening Remarks Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif , Under-Secretary General and Executive Director, United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) will share a video address spotlighting progress made towards achieving the SDGs in urban slums and informal settlements. They will highlight the value of sustainable urbanisation as well as the prioritisation of the New Urban Agenda - a comprehensive framework designed as an accelerator of the SDGs, particularly SDG 11, to guide and track urbanisation around the globe while ensuring that nobody is left behind.

12:15 – 12:50

Building Inclusive Cities

The former Special Rapporteur for Housing and Global Director of The Shift, **Leilani Farha** will set the scene of how we build inclusive cities and provide adequate housing for marginalised groups.

Zoe Tabery will introduce a panel discussion identifying priority areas and action for diverse stakeholders who have a role in fostering sustainable urban development with an emphasis on urban slums and informal settlements.

Panelists will share insights and learnings from models of slum upgradation and frameworks for improved access to essential services including health, education, water, and sanitation that have proven to make positive social and economic changes in their respective communities.

The panel will include participation from **Ms. Freda Prempeh** (MP), Minister of State, Ministry of Works and Housing, Government of the Republic of Ghana, **Washington Fajardo**, Urban Planning Secretary, Municipality of Rio de Janeiro and **Somsook Boonyabancha**, Secretary General, Asian Coalition for Housing Rights to share recommendations, best practices and inputs based on their work on ground. The session will be followed by a Q&A from the audience.

12:50 – 13:00

Reflections

Kennedy Odede and **Sameh Wahba**, Global Director, Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, World Bank will share reflections on the session and key takeaways.

13:00 – 13:07

Slums Today – Snapshot

Outlining trends, challenges and opportunities, informal settlements and COVID-19, **Eduardo Moreno**, Head, Knowledge and Innovation, UN-Habitat will highlight the growing number of slums across different geographies, spanning different continents.

13:07 – 13:30

Creativity and Pride in Slums

Kennedy Odede and hip-hop artist, activist and youth ambassador, **Octopizzo** will discuss their experiences growing up in a slum, outlining their ventures from social enterprises, charitable foundations to creating holistic community services and artistic networks.

13:30 – 13:32

Sharing Stories from Slums

Join for a short video screening showcasing the work of Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO).

13:32 – 14:30

From the Ground Up | Successful Innovations for Delivery Systems

This is a series of four short and inspirational talks highlighting enterprising solutions from the urban settlements that are contributing to creating more inclusive communities, including Expo Live and Global Best Practice Programme Projects.

Moderated by **Ana Claudia Rossbach**, Regional Manager LAC, City Alliance, and **Patrick Canagasingham**, Chief Operating Office, Habitat for Humanity, these case studies will showcase stories of resilience and the benefits of a participatory approach, required in developing sustainable solutions for challenges such as systemic poverty and inequality in cities and highlight the value of giving greater focus to housing, basic services, sustainable mobility, and connectivity in informal settlements.

Speakers will share key takeaways on their approach to designing solutions and their learnings on what needs to be prioritised in informal, urban settlements.

Case Study 1: Dr Sasha Kramer will share the story of leading Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL), a successful innovation model which has brought about a sanitation revolution in Haiti

Case Study 2: Vincentia Koranteng-Asante, Community Leader, Ga Mashie Community, Accra (Ghana), will shed light on UN-Habitat's Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, which addresses the living conditions of slum dwellers by directly engaging with communities on areas such as livelihood, housing, water, and sanitation.

Case Study 3: Emilie Röell will highlight the story of upgrading city spaces and preserving heritage through Doh Eain, a Myanmar based non-profit which focuses on participatory design practice dedicated to making cities better.

Case Study 4: Lucy Livesley, will share insights on building and investing in innovative housing models at Reall.

14:30 - 14:45

Coffee Break

14:45 – 14:55

Reflections

Zoe Tabary and **Violet Shivutse**, Chair & Africa Regional Representative, Huairou Commission will share reflections on the earlier session and key takeaways.

14:55 – 15:25

Youth Voices for Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Development

Cities have become younger- it is estimated that 60% of urban populations will be under the age of 18 by 2030. To explore this further, this panel will focus on youth perspectives on creating and implementing strategies and solutions for innovative and sustainable approaches towards urban development.

Moderated by **Kennedy Odede**, the panel discussion will include **Gurmehar Kaur**, Student Activist & Author, **Samuel Malinga**, Founder, Sanitation Africa and **Roziyamo Hokimshoeva**, Co-founder, Pamir Innovation Hub highlighting ways through which youth culture can be harnessed to advance sustainable urbanisation. The discussion will be followed by a short audience Q&A.

15:25 – 15:27

Inclusive Cities

Join for a short video screening showcasing UN-Habitat's work to ensure everyone has an adequate, safe, and affordable home to live in.

15:27 – 15:45

Slums and Safety: Building blocks for gender responsive and safer informal settlements

Zoe Tabary will introduce the session focusing on innovations that can help mainstream gender equality into urban planning. It will shed light on the different ways in which women, men, girls and boys experience urban spaces and cities.

Join **Violet Shivutse**, Chair & Africa Regional Representative, Huairou Commission, **Daniel Tillias**, Board Member and Co-Chair, Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL).

15:45 – 15:55

Reflections

Kennedy Odede and **Washington Fajardo**, Urban Planning Secretary, Municipality of Rio de Janeiro will share reflections on the earlier session and key takeaways.

15:55 – 17:05

Deep Dive Sessions: Part 1

Learnings from Successful Public Sector-led Slum-Upgradation Interventions

These sessions will focus on how to identify priority actions required and how local and national governments can build their capacity to effectively manage, deploy, and regulate the use of technology to enable last-mile delivery in slums and informal settlements through representatives sharing successful case studies.

Led by **Robert Lewis-Lettington**, Chief Housing and Shelter Section, UN-Habitat, the following representatives, **Benjamin Armah**, Coordinating Director Presiding Member, Accra Metropolitan Assembly, **Thipparat Noppaladarom**, Advisor, Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI), Government of the Kingdom of Thailand and **Sameh Wahba**, Global Director, Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, World Bank will shed light on the learnings, as well as best practices applied in slum upgradation and the role of governments in ensuring adequate housing for all.

Deep Dive Part 2

Leveraging Public / Private Partnerships for Inclusive and Sustainable Urbanisation

This session will include perspectives on the challenges and opportunities for financing partnerships for sustainable urbanisation that is inclusive of informal settlements and slums. It will also invite private stakeholders to comment on specific entry points and opportunities for partnerships between governments, investors, financing partners to discuss innovative solutions for slum upgrading that can be invested in.

Moderated by **Ana Claudia Rossbach**, hear from **Washington Fajardo**, Urban Planning Secretary, Municipality of Rio de Janeiro and **Mohammed Amine El Hajhouj**, CEO SAZ by CDG and **Kennedy Odede**.

Both sessions will be followed by a short Q&A and provide opportunities for audience to ask experts.

17:05 – 17:15

Break

17:15 – 18:15

Launch of the UN-Habitat Roadmap

The launch will take place in the Nexus for People and Planet.

Eduardo Moreno, Head, Knowledge and Innovation, UN-Habitat will introduce the session of the symbolic launch; providing a strategic moment for the global community to learn from UN Habitat's decades of work towards achieve SDG 11. The launch will feature speakers from partners as well as invite more partners to participate in different milestones to be announced.

High-level Statement on the Roadmap

- **Mmamoloko Kubayi**, MP - Minister of Human Settlements, South Africa

Presentation on the Roadmap and key findings

- **Kerstin Sommer**, Programme Manager, Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, UN-Habitat

Remarks and Reflections on the Roadmap and discussions hosted during the day

- **Andrea Fernández**, Vice-Minister, Republic of Costa Rica
- **Aditya Bahadur**, Principal Researcher - Human Settlements, International Institute for Environment and Development
- **Patrick Canagasingham**, Chief Operating Office, Habitat for Humanity
- **Paolo Ciccarelli**, Head of Unit F4 – Sustainable Transport and Urban Development, European Commission – International Partnerships
- **Marie Huchzermeyer**, Professor, School of Architecture and Planning at WITS University, South Africa

18:15 – 18:30

Closing

*The closing session will involve **Dena Assaf**, United Nations Resident Coordinator for the United Arab Emirates and **Robert Lewis-Lettington**, Chief of Section, Land, Housing and Shelter, UN-Habitat summing up the key takeaways from the day and sharing a note on hope and a call to action for inclusive development for cities.*

18:30 – 20:00

Guided Tours:

Ghana Pavilion
Opportunity Pavilion: Mission Possible
Best Practice Area & UN Hub

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



MR. KENNEDY ODEDE

Founder & CEO
Shining Hope for Communities

Mr. Kennedy Odede is one of Africa's best-known community organizers and social entrepreneurs. Kennedy grew up in Kenya's Kibera slum, where he experienced the devastating realities of life in extreme poverty. Odede founded Shining Hope for Communities (SHOFCO) in 2004. Today, SHOFCO impacts over 2.4 million slum dwellers across 24 urban slums in Kenya. In 2018, SHOFCO became the youngest-ever organization to receive the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize, and in 2021, SHOFCO was awarded the prestigious UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour. Kennedy, though entirely informally educated, received a full scholarship to Wesleyan University, where he graduated in 2012 with honors in Sociology. He was awarded the 2010 Echoing Green Fellowship, and featured on the Forbes "30 under 30 list" for top Social Entrepreneurs in 2014. Kennedy is also the recipient of the Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Prize. He is the best-selling author of *Find Me Unafraid: Love, Hope, and Loss in an African Slum*, co-written with his partner, Jessica Posner Odede. His work has been featured by President Bill Clinton, Chelsea Clinton, and by Nicholas Kristof in *The New York Times*. Kennedy has previously served on the United Nations International Commission on Financing of Global Education Opportunities. He is a Young Global Leader (YGL) at the World Economic Forum, an Obama Foundation Africa Leader, a UBS Global Visionary, and a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council.

@KennedyOdede / @hope2shine



ZOE TABARY

Editor
Thomson Reuters Foundation

Ms. Zoe Tabary is an editor at the Thomson Reuters Foundation, where she runs its coverage of cities including housing and homelessness, slums, cities' net-zero efforts and smart cities, among other areas. She has organised and conducted journalist trainings in various countries including Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal and Uganda. Prior to joining the Thomson Reuters Foundation, Ms. Tabary worked as an editor at The Economist Group, where she managed research projects for a number of clients across the energy, healthcare and sustainability sectors. She has also worked with Amnesty International as an editor, focusing on human rights issues. She holds a Master of Science in Marketing, a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Sciences Po Paris, and is fluent in French, Spanish and German.

@zoetabary



MS. MAIMUNAH MOHD SHARIF

Executive Director of the United Nations
Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif is the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat). Prior to this appointment, she was the Mayor of the City Council of Penang Island, Malaysia. She began her career as a town planner at the Municipal Council of Penang Island in 1985. In 2003, she was promoted to Director of Planning and Development. In November 2009, as its General Manager, Ms. Sharif established George Town World Heritage Incorporated and managed the George Town World Heritage Site, which was inscribed by UNESCO. In 2011, she became the first woman to be appointed President of the Municipal Council of Seberang Perai. Ms. Sharif holds a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Town Planning Studies from the University of Wales Institute of Science and Technology, UK and a Master of Science in Planning Studies from the Malaysia Science University. Ms. Sharif has received several awards, including, Planner of The Year 2014 by the Malaysian Institute of Planners, the 2016 Global Human Settlements Outstanding Contribution Award during Habitat III in Quito, for her contribution to sustainable planning in Seberang Perai and from the Penang State Government. On 11 January 2018, she received an award from the Malaysia Book of Records for being the first Asian woman to be appointed as Executive Director of UN-Habitat.

@MaimunahSharif



LEILANI FARHA

Former UN Special Rapporteur for Housing
and the Global Director of The Shift

Ms. Leilani Farha is the former UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Housing and Global Director of The Shift. A lawyer by training, Leilani has worked for the past 20 years both internationally and domestically on the implementation of the right to adequate housing for the most marginalized groups. Her work is animated by the principle that housing is a social good, not a commodity. Leilani has helped develop global human rights standards on the right to housing, including through her topical reports on homelessness, the financialization of housing, informal settlements, rights-based housing strategies, and the first UN Guidelines for the implementation of the right to housing. She is the central character in the documentary PUSH regarding the financialization of housing, screening around the world. Leilani Launched The Shift in 2017 with the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and United Cities and Local Government. She was also a founding member of the ESCR-Net – an international network of organizations committed to economic, social, and cultural rights.

@leilanifarha



HON. DR. FREDA PREMPEH

Minister of State, Ministry of Works and Housing,
Government of Ghana

Hon. Dr. Freda Prempeh is the Minister of State, Ministry of Works and Housing, Government of Ghana. She is a three-time Member of Parliament for Tano-North Constituency, and the only female MP in the Bono and Ahafo regions. She is a former Deputy Minister for Works and Housing, and former Deputy Minister for Gender, Children and Social Protection. Hon. Dr. Prempeh has served as Assembly Member for the Lakoo Electoral Area for a period of eight years where she chaired the Women and Children Sub-Committee and the Development Planning Sub-Committee. Prior to becoming a Member of Parliament, she worked with the Prison Service for ten years. She also served on the National Reconciliation Commission as a Public Affairs Officer in 2006. She served on the Communications, Government Assurances and the Mines and Energy committees in Parliament and is currently serving on the Local Government Committee and Government Assurances Committee. Hon. Dr. Prempeh has received many awards in recognition of her leadership and dedication. Amongst the many awards are the Ultimate Woman Laureate, Orlando Spirit of Service Award, The Brong-Ahafo Young Adult Fellowship Award for Excellence, Distinguished Leadership Award for Excellence, and the Ghana Nigeria Achievers Award. Hon. Dr. Prempeh has a Masters in Marketing, Masters in Media and Public Relations, and a PhD in Business Administration from the Ghana Telecommunication University in March 2021.

@FredaPrempehGh



WASHINGTON FAJARDO

City Planning Commissioner of Rio de Janeiro and
President of Pereira Passos Institute for Urbanism

Mr. Washington Fajardo is the City Planning Commissioner of Rio de Janeiro and President of Pereira Passos Institute for Urbanism. He has also served as President of the Rio World Heritage Institute and the Mayor's Special Advisor for Urban Issues from 2009 to 2016. In these roles, Fajardo created policies and finance solutions to preserve heritage, regenerate buildings and places, and improve public services in Rio de Janeiro. The Loeb Fellowship selected him for the Class of 2019 at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. Currently, Fajardo is responsible for preparing a new master plan for Rio de Janeiro and is concluding an urban recovery plan for Rio's downtown which was hard hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. Fajardo is also responsible for the Revivify Plan, aiming for a bold housing stimulus to the city's downtown. He also has plans to introduce technology to shift the paradigm in favelas. Fajardo has authored two books, "Urban Transformations" and "Avenues of Rio".

@washfajardo



SOMSOOK BOONYABANCH

Chairperson of the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights

Ms. Somsook Boonyabancha is the Chairperson of the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights, a coalition of organizations working on urban poor housing development in Asia. She was the former Director of Community Organizations Development Institute in Thailand and still serves as Chairperson on the Institute's National Slum Upgrading Committee. She has been working extensively on urban poor housing development and slum upgrading in Thailand and other countries in Asia for the past 40 years. Ms. Boonyabancha has vast experience in community-led slum upgrading and housing development in urban as well as rural community upgrading and community-led development activities such as community welfare and disaster rehabilitation. In 1991, she was the project leader of the Sengki Land-sharing Project which received UN Habitat's "Habitat Scroll of Honor". At Community Organizations Development Institute, she implemented the national city-wide community upgrading program in 400 cities using a community finance mechanism. Ms. Boonyabancha serves as the Secretary of the Asian Coalition For Housing Rights since its inception in 1988. She studied Architecture at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand and a Housing and Urbanization Course in Copenhagen, Denmark in 1978. She is the recipient of an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Khonkaen University and several other awards.



SAMEH WAHBA

Global Director for the World Bank's Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice

Mr. Sameh Wahba is the Global Director for the World Bank's Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice. Previously, he was the Director for Urban and Territorial Development, Disaster Risk Management and Resilience at the World Bank Group's Social, Urban Rural, and Resilience Global Practice. He also served as the Practice Manager for the Urban and Disaster Risk Management unit in Africa and the Global Urban and Resilience Unit, and the Acting Director of Operations and Strategy for the Global Practice. He worked as Sustainable Development Sector Leader for Brazil, and as an urban specialist in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East and North Africa Regions. Mr. Wahba has a Ph.D. and a master's degree in Urban Planning from Harvard University, and a B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Architectural Engineering from Cairo University. He is a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on Cities and Urbanization and serves on the Boards of Cities Alliance, Global Resilient Cities Network, and World Resources Institute Ross Center for Cities.



DR. EDUARDO LÓPEZ MORENO

Director of Research and Innovation at UN Habitat

Dr. Eduardo López Moreno is the Director of Research and Innovation at UN Habitat. He is also the interim representative of the Agency in Mexico and Cuba. He has over 35 years of experience in housing and urban development policies, institutional analysis, global monitoring, and equity and urban poverty issues. Dr. Moreno has served as the Chief of Research and Capacity Development and Chief of the State of the World's Cities. He was also the Chief of the Global Urban Observatory, Senior Technical Adviser at the Bureau of Africa and the Arab States and Chief Technical Adviser in Angola for UN Habitat. Before joining the United Nations, he was invited as professor at the University of Louvain-la-Neuve and the University of New Mexico. Dr. Moreno has a Ph.D. in Urban Geography and a Masters degree in Urban Sociology from the University of Paris III-Sorbonne, and a BA in Architecture from the University of Guadalajara.

@e_lopez_moreno



MR. HENRY OHANGA DON (OCTOPIZZO)

Mr. Henry Ohanga Don, commonly referred to by his stage name Octopizzo, is an award-winning recording and performing artist, humanitarian, and budding entrepreneur. Born in the sprawling slums of Kibera, Nairobi, Octopizzo is passionate about philanthropy. He has been involved in numerous humanitarian engagements, such as the "Artists for Refugees" and "Refugeenius" projects with UNHCR. This initiative encourages refugees and youth in informal settlements to build their talents through music and the arts. The Refugeenius program has also been showcased by TEDx in 2018. Octopizzo's music centres on promoting self-belief and radiates dynamism, creativity, and passion. Currently, the artist has five albums including "Refugeenius" in which he collaborated with over 20 Refugees from Kakuma and Dadaab refugee camps. He founded his not-for-profit the Octopizzo Foundation in 2015 which is grounded in the pillars of creativity, art, music, culture, and sports. The Foundation strives to support vulnerable youths in realising their potential and liberating them from the cycle of desperation and dependency. Octopizzo has a certificate in Social Impact Strategy from the University of Pennsylvania and a certificate in Leadership, Organising, and Action from Harvard University.

@octopizzo



ANACLÁUDIA ROSSBACH

Regional Manager for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) at Cities Alliance

Ms. Anacláudia Rossbach is the Regional Manager for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) at Cities Alliance and the Manager of the Global Programme on Informality, where she supports the design of programmes, facilitates knowledge exchange and offers advisory services and technical assistance in housing and urban public policies in the global south. She has previously worked as a Senior Housing Specialist for the World Bank in Brazil and various countries across the world. She has also provided technical assistance as a high-level consultant for the development and implementation of two major programs in the Brazilian housing and slum upgrading policy, such as the slum upgrading program 'PAC Favelas' and the housing subsidies program, Minha Casa, Minha Vida. Ms. Rossbach is committed to maximising global practical experiences to overcome urban poverty and is the founder and director of Interação, an NGO which carries out high impact projects in communities in São Paulo and Recife.



MR. PATRICK CANAGASINGHAM

Chief Operating Officer, Habitat for Humanity

Drawing on 25 years of leadership in non-governmental organizations and the private sector, Mr. Patrick Canagasingham oversees the operations of Habitat for Humanity's work in more than 70 countries as Chief Operating Officer since he began in March 2020. Mr. Canagasingham is a native of Sri Lanka and a Canadian citizen. He served as Chief Executive Officer of Toronto-based Children Believe since 2017, before joining Habitat for Humanity. He previously served as Chief Operating Officer of Oxfam International, where he applied his considerable experience in operational management, strategic planning, and organizational leadership to serve a global workforce of 10,000 staff members and oversee a budget of \$1.3 billion. Before his time with Oxfam, Mr. Canagasingham held senior leadership roles with World Vision in Canada and East Asia from 2007 through 2015, including vice president of international programs at World Vision Canada, where he was accountable for planning, implementing, and evaluating the organization's international program commitments in nearly 70 countries in conjunction with other World Vision offices. Mr. Canagasingham holds a master's degree in human rights from the University of London and a bachelor's degree from York University in Toronto.



DR. SASHA KRAMER

Co-Founder and Executive Director
Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL)

Dr. Sasha Kramer is an ecologist, human rights advocate, and the Co-Founder and Executive Director of Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL). She received her PhD in Ecology from Stanford University in 2006 and co-founded SOIL that same year while also completing a postdoctoral research position with the Collaboratory for Research on Global Projects at Stanford. While Dr. Kramer spends the majority of her time living and working in Haiti, she is a global advocate for the recycling of nutrients in human waste, and has inspired people around the world to implement sustainable sanitation projects and participate in the sanitation revolution. She is also an Ashoka Fellow, a National Geographic Emerging Explorer, an Architect of the Future with the Waldzell Institute, a 2014 Schwab Foundation Social Entrepreneur of the Year, and the recipient of the 2017 Sarpharti Sanitation Award for Lifetime Achievement.

@SOILHaiti



MS. VINCENTIA KORANTENG

Community Leader
Ga Mashie Community, Accra (Ghana)

Ms. Vincentia Koranteng is a Community Development professional with more than a decade of experience in Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation in the Local Government Service in Ghana. She currently serves as Senior Community Development Officer at the Ashiedu-Keteke Sub Metropolitan Assembly and is in charge of developing new community-based initiatives, community Mobilisation and Advocacy. Her activities cut across various sectors of societal transformation including social housing, renewable energy, sustainable sanitation solutions and livelihood support programmes. The key interventions she has been intensely engaged in are the European Union/UN-Habitat funded Participatory Slum Upgrading Project, the Energy for Justice Programme which focused on Solar energy for informal settlements and Clean Cookstove projects, the GAMA household toilet project and the Segregation of Waste in Ga-Mashie. Ms. Koranteng has been a member of the district steering committee that assesses the impacts of critical government policies like the School Feeding Programme, Livelihood Empowerment Advancement Programme, among others. Recently, she has become the key person in Adolescent Reproductive Health issues, particularly on Menstrual Hygiene Management through advocacy and the training of peer educators in poor communities and across first and second cycle institutions in Accra. She has participated in several capacity-building courses and exchange programmes locally and abroad.



MS. EMELLIE RÖELL

Founder
Doh Eain

Ms. Emilie Röell is a social entrepreneur and consultant. An anthropologist by training, she is interested in creating solutions that make use of and preserve cultural and natural capital while also creating sustainable community impact. Ms. Röell is the founder of Doh Eain, a social enterprise aimed at heritage conservation and urban regeneration based in Yangon, Myanmar. As a consultant, she has carried out research, advised, and led programs and collaborations in the areas of cultural and environmental conservation, good governance, gender equality and alternative finance. She works/has worked for the EU, UNDP, WWF, IUCN and several other INGOs and local civil society groups in Myanmar, as well as in the Pacific and Tanzania previously. She was the Asian Venture Philanthropy Network's representative in Myanmar between 2016 and early 2019 (AVPN is an Asian-wide network of philanthropists and impact investors). Ms. Röell studied at Leiden University, the University of California at Berkeley and University College Utrecht and holds three Masters' degrees in Cultural Anthropology & Development Sociology, Political Philosophy (Cum Laude) and Religion Studies (Cum Laude), and a Bachelors degree in Development Studies (Honors).



LUCY LIVESLEY

Policy and External Affairs Director, Reall

Ms. Lucy Livesley has over 16 years of experience in international urban development, sustainable cities and affordable housing, and has spent over a decade of her career at Reall. She played a key role in shaping Reall's evolution from grant-giving NGO to commercial, market-focused innovator and investor. Ms. Livesley brings a wealth of expertise in governance and leadership, organisational strategy, programme design and management, investment and government relations. As Policy and External Affairs Director, Ms. Livesley is responsible for positioning Reall as a global thought-leader, crowding in actors and resources, addressing market barriers and catalysing climate-smart housing markets that work for people on low incomes. This includes the first publicly accessible data dashboard sharing market intelligence and data on Reall's housing investments, pioneering research and innovations in the climate, fintech and proptech space and strategic collaborations with players such as the United Nations.



VIOLET SHIVUTSE

Chair of the Global Governing Council and Africa Regional Representative at the Huairou Commission

Ms. Violet Shivutse is the Chair of the Global Governing Council and Africa Regional Representative at the Huairou Commission. For over 10 years, she has worked as a community health worker and home-based caregiver in the Shibuye sub-region of the Shinyalu constituency, Kenya. She is the Founder and Coordinator of Shibuye Community Health Workers, a group working with local authorities to enforce land and inheritance rights of women and orphans. She has been working to build community resilience and combat climate change, nurturing the leadership of large numbers of grassroots women, and negotiating with authorities for gender-responsive policy. Her organization is a practitioner of the Community Resilience Fund initiative and has represented the Huairou Commission in policy all over the world, pushing for grassroots women's inclusion at higher levels of dialogue. Ms. Shivutse has travelled in Africa, Asia and Latin America to mentor grassroots communities to identify their priorities and position their leadership in both national and international development agendas. She served two terms as a grassroots representative on the UN Women's Global Civil Society Advisory Board. She is a globally recognized expert in community resilience and health, women's access to and control over land and housing, gender responsive local public policy and governance approaches, and rural-urban linkages to stimulate equitable-inclusive local development.

@HuairouConnect



MS. GURMEHAR KAUR

Author of 'Small Acts of Freedom'

Ms. Gurmehar Kaur is the author of 'Small Acts of Freedom', a deeply personal family history published by Penguin Random House India in 2018. Her second book 'The Young and the Restless: Youth and Politics' in India was published in May 2019. Ms. Kaur is a social activist and a global ambassador for Digital Peace now, a non-profit organization advocating for Cyber Peace launched by Microsoft. Ms. Kaur co-founded Citizens for Public Leadership (CPL), an independent nonpartisan movement focused on advocating for progressive public policy in India. CPL is an apolitical non-profit with the sole objective of strengthening the capacity of Indian youth to take up leadership challenges in the public sphere. In 2017, Ms. Kaur was listed by TIME magazine as a 'Next Generation Leader', a global listing of ten young men and women making a difference in the world. She graduated from Lady Shri Ram College in 2019 and holds a master's degree from the University of Oxford.

@mehartweets



SAMUEL MALINGA

Managing Director, Sanitation Africa

A Ugandan national, Mr. Samuel Malinga is currently the Managing Director of Sanitation Africa, an organisation that enables low-income households to access decent and affordable housing, water, and latrine facilities. In recognition of his works and services, he has earned several awards both nationally and internationally. He was recognised as one of the 17 UN Young Leaders for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), shortlisted among 8 social entrepreneurs by the Social Entrepreneurship Forum in Sweden, and was a Yunus and Youth Fellow in 2017. Mr. Malinga was the first runner-up of the Civil Society WASH Innovations Award 2016 in Brisbane, Australia, and the winner of Total StartUpper and Tony O. Elumelu Prize in Business. He was also among 12 engineers short-listed for the Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation. In 2016, he was listed among the 30 under 30 African Entrepreneurs by Forbes. He attended Makerere University to pursue Agricultural Engineering and has expertise in project planning and management, business management, and construction skills in water supply, sanitation, roads, and agricultural infrastructure.

@MalingaSamuel



MS. ROZIYAMO HOKIMSHOEVA

Resilient Enterprise Development Analyst
Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH)

Ms. Roziyamo Hokimshoeva is a Resilient Enterprise Development Analyst at the Aga Khan Agency for Habitat (AKAH), where she works on the realisation of sustainable and resilient projects designed under the Khorog Urban Resilience Project. Currently, she is involved in setting up the women headed gabion weaving enterprise and other resilient enterprises under this project. She is also one of the Co-Founders of Pamir Innovation Hub (PIH), a public organisation established in 2018, which aims to orchestrate social projects and provide employment opportunities related to technology to the youth in Khorog. Along with serving on the Advisory Board of the Pamir Innovation Hub, Ms. Hokimshoeva supports the launch of Pamir Technology Park - a job centre, tech hub and co-working space. In addition to her working experience with PIH and AKAH, she is also an active volunteer in her community, devoting her time to support the Local Impact Project within Aga Khan Foundation, and has previously volunteered with Social Safety Network and Khorog Youth Center. She is particularly interested in inclusive cities related to migration and has a background in migration studies and development.



MR. DANIEL TILLIAS

Board Member and Co-Chair
Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL)

Mr. Daniel Tillias is a community development leader with over 20 years of experience. He is a social entrepreneur and the visionary behind several sustainable initiatives all over Haiti, such as ALAVET AYITI, FATRAKA, and Collaborative Jobs, among the more recent. Daniel's work is focused on the city of Cite Soleil, the largest underserved community of Haiti. He co-founded the largest community centre in Cite Soleil known as SAKALA (Community Center for Peaceful Alternatives) in 2006, which is now home to the largest urban garden in Haiti. The initiative has been awarded several prizes from all over the world, including Austria, USA, and Haiti, and most recently the prestigious CNN HERO 2019 award. Daniel is studying Peace building and Community Development as part of the apply master program of Future Generations Graduate Schools. He is currently majoring in Human Services at the Southern Maine Community College. He also studied Management and Entrepreneurship with Economic Growth Initiative in Haiti. He has a fellowship in Leadership and Management with Gather Institute of Chicago and a Management Fellowship with Columbia University through 92Y. Daniel works as a consultant for churches in Haiti and some of the largest NGOs in the world. He is also currently Co-chair on the Board of SOIL. Daniel is a writer, and his latest book "I can fly" speaks to his commitment to turn cities with challenges into cities that thrive.



DR. ROBERT LEWIS-LETTINGTON

Chief of Land, Housing and Shelter Section, UN-Habitat

Dr. Robert Lewis-Lettington is Chief of the Land, Housing and Shelter Section at UN-Habitat. He is a lawyer by training and has worked in both public and private international law for more than twenty years. Dr. Lewis-Lettington's principal areas of expertise are international institutions and processes, human rights and humanitarian law, environmental law, science and technology law and urban development. Dr. Lewis-Lettington is also an experienced programme and project manager having worked in most geographic regions and a large number of countries.



MR. BENJAMIN ARMAH

Coordinating Director of the Metropolitan Assembly

Mr. Benjamin Armah has extensive experience and knowledge in Local Governance and Decentralisation system which includes Policy Formulation, Planning and Decision-Making at Local Authorities.

His vast experience in urban development spans from planned city extension, waste management and slum upgrading. As a native of Ga Mashie and a key member of the Accra Metropolitan Assembly, he was instrumental in the Participatory Slum Upgrading (PSUP) process which involved the buy-in of the traditional leaders, women, youth, and the community at large.

In his current capacity as the Metropolitan Coordinating Director, he coordinates and ensures the implementation of governmental policies, projects and programmes at the Metropolitan Assembly level in addition to acting as an advisor to the mayor of Accra. His work experience also associates integrating educational reforms to improve teaching and learning and operationalizing policy reforms in governance in the Assembly while catalyzing positive change and increasing employee satisfaction, productivity and retention.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics and Sociology from the University of Ghana and a Master of Arts in Democracy, Governance Law & Development from the University of Cape Coast.



MS. THIPPARAT NOPPALADAROM

Advisor, Community Organizations Development Institutem (CODI)

Ms. Thipparat Noppaladarom is an architect and planner who has vast experience working in the field of housing development for low-income people in Thailand. She started her work with the National Housing Authority, Thailand in 1976 and worked there for 24 years. She served as the Director of Housing Policy and Planning Division which was her last position there. Subsequently, Ms. Noppaladarom worked as Deputy Director of Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI), under the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, Thailand in 2004 and was appointed as the Director of the institute in 2009. During her tenure at CODI, her work focused on supporting the development of community organizations in both urban and rural Thailand following the core principle of CODI to empower communities, especially grassroots people with the vision of "people and communities are the centre of development and people are the core actors". One of her major programmes is "City-Wide Slum Upgrading in Thailand" which was implemented in 2004 to empower low-income communities to have land and housing security with policy support from the Government of Thailand. After completing her term as Director of CODI in 2013, she has been working as an advisor for the institute. Ms. Noppaladarom graduated from the Faculty of Architecture, Chulalongkorn University and obtained a Master of Science in Urban Planning from the Asian Institute of Technology.



MOHAMMED AMINE ELHAJHOIJ

CEO of Société d'Aménagement Zenata, Morocco

Mr. Mohammed Amine Elhajhouj is the CEO of Société d'Aménagement Zenata, Morocco. Mr. Elhajhouj is responsible for the design and development of the new city of Zenata, and through this initiative he is contributing to the territorial development of Morocco. He has previously been a member of the Management Committee of Groupe Caisse de Dépôts et de Gestion (CDG). Mr. Elhajhouj has several certifications in project management and financial arrangements for major operations from AFITEP France and the World Bank. He has participated in numerous projects in retailing, health and education. Mr. Elhajhouj has worked closely with regional and local authorities on resettlement plans, and the launch of the eco-city framework. He graduated from the Hassania School of Public Works in 1992, and received a Graduate Diploma in Management from ISCAE in 1999.



MS. KERSTIN SOMMER

Programme Manager, the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, UN-Habitat

Ms. Kerstin Sommer is a lead expert on slum upgrading, informal settlements, land, housing and shelter management. As the Programme Manager of the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme, she contributes to poverty and inequality reduction, and inclusion and participation in slum transformation at UN-Habitat Headquarters. She has been managing the Programme in 40 countries and 200 cities for the past 10 years. She is the focal point for the Sustainable Development Goals and the New Urban Agenda implementation in informal settlements, slums and marginalized communities. Ms. Sommer has initiated slum upgrading strategies in all regions globally. Her mission currently is to move countries towards scaling slum upgrading, regeneration and affordable housing assisting governments to deliver Sustainable Development Goals in cities in the Decade of Action. Previously, she contributed to the work of the Regional Office for Africa and the Arab States on housing, slum upgrading, capacity building, governance and participation, municipal finance, participatory budgeting, and sustainable villages programme of UN-Habitat. She has worked with UN-Habitat for 16 years now. Ms. Sommer holds a master's degree in Urban Geography – Spatial Development, Business Administration and Political Science from the University of Trier. She is passionate about making cities homes with equitable opportunities for everyone.



MS. ANDREA FERNÁNDEZ BARRANTES

Vice Minister of Housing and Human Settlements, Costa Rica

Ms. Andrea Fernández Barrantes serves as the Vice Minister of Housing and Human Settlements, Costa Rica. She has experience in the Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements as External Prosecutor, Head of Office and Legal Advisor. She is a member of various High-Profile commissions of the Ministry of Housing and Human Settlements wherein she holds various posts. Among them are Institutional Head of the National Human Rights Commission; General Chancellery of the Republic; Institutional Technical Liaison, Commission for Comprehensive Attention to Evictions, Vice Ministry of Political Affairs and Citizen Dialogue and Technical Secretary of the Inter-institutional Attention Commission of the Carpio community. Ms. Fernández Barrantes is a lawyer and mediator, with advanced studies in City and Urbanism. She is also an advisor on Housing, Human Settlements and Construction, as well as a consultant for the development of the Urban Practitioners Hub platform. Ms. Fernández Barrantes holds a Law Degree and graduated from the Specialty in Notarial and Registry Law at the University of Costa Rica. She specialised in Land Markets and Policies; Human Rights, Right to Housing and Public Policies.



MMAMOLOKO KUBAYI

MP - Minister of Human Settlements, South Africa

Ms. Mmamoloko Kubayi currently serves as the Minister of Human Settlements of the Republic of South Africa and has held this position since August 2021. Prior to this appointment, she was the Minister of Tourism, a Member of Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, and a member of the National Executive Committee of the African National Congress (ANC). She has previously served as a Minister in three portfolios between 2017 to 2019 – Science and Technology, Communications, and Energy. Ms. Kubayi started her career as a Community Developer in the non-governmental sector and eventually joined the public sector as a Skills Development Facilitator at the National Health Laboratory Services. In 2009, she became a Member of Parliament and assumed several roles and responsibilities including Acting Deputy Chief Whip of the ANC and Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Telecommunications and Postal Services. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Johannesburg (formerly Vista University), a Postgraduate Diploma in Project Management from Damelin College, a Masters Degree in Public and Development Management from the University of the Witwatersrand and completed a Programme for Leadership Development at Harvard Business School.

@mmkubayi



DR. ADITYA V. BAHADUR

Principal Researcher at the International Institute
for Environment and Development, UKtt

Dr. Aditya V. Bahadur is a Principal Researcher at the International Institute for Environment and Development, UK where he leads policy research at the intersection of climate resilience and urban development. His research has been published in top tier academic journals, cited by the IPCC, and influenced global climate and development policies. Previously, he has worked with Oxford Policy Management UK where he helped run the UK Government funded Action on Climate Today programme where he provided technical assistance on climate adaptation to governments across South Asia. Prior to that, Dr. Bahadur was a Research Fellow with the Overseas Development Institute, UK where he provided policy and strategy input to international institutions and served as the Research Coordinator of the BRACED programme (the world's largest community level resilience programme at the time). He completed his postdoctoral research at the Earth Institute, Columbia University, as a Fulbright Scholar where he wrote a book on urban resilience (Routledge 2021). He has an MA and PhD from the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK.

@AdiBahadur



PROF. MARIE HUCHZERMEYER

Professor in the School of Architecture and
Planning at Wits University in Johannesburg

Prof Marie Huchzermeyer is a Professor in the School of Architecture and Planning at Wits University in Johannesburg. Her expertise lies in housing and informal settlement policy. She has convened the Master's in Urban Studies for several years, while leading postgraduate teaching in the field of housing. Prof Huchzermeyer is also affiliated with the Centre for Urbanism and Built Environment Studies (CUBES). Her comparative research resulted in three monographs: *Unlawful Occupation: Informal Settlement Policy in South Africa and Brazil* (Africa World Press, 2004), *Cities With Slums: From Informal Settlement Eradication to a Right to the City in Africa* (UCT Press, 2011), and *Tenement Cities: From 19th Century Berlin to 21st Century Nairobi* (Africa World Press, 2011). From her base at Wits, Prof. Huchzermeyer has participated in informal settlement policy debates and processes at various levels. She has accompanied civic organisations for over a decade in their pursuit for implementation of the Upgrading of Informal Settlements Programme, adopted by South Africa in 2004. Prof. Huchzermeyer is a co-Principal Investigator of a German-funded collaboration (DAAD/BMZ 'SDG School') with TU-Berlin and the University of Lagos. She represents CUBES on the Scientific Committee of the African Urban Research Initiative (AURI) in Habitat International Coalition (HIC) and the Global Platform for the Right to the City.



DR. DENA ASSAF

United Nations Resident Coordinator for the United Arab Emirates
and Deputy Commissioner General for the United Nations
at Expo 2020 Dubai

Dr. Dena Assaf is the United Nations Resident Coordinator for the United Arab Emirates and Deputy Commissioner General for the United Nations at Expo 2020 Dubai. She has been with the United Nations for over 20 years in various senior management positions and advisory roles with UN Peace Keeping, the UN Development Programme, UN Women and the UN Sustainable Development Group at the headquarters, the Arab Region, and various UN country offices.

@DrDenaAssaf