



## **Summary of Urban Library Events**

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MONDAY, 17 OCTOBER

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 1: *Remaking the urban mosaic: Participatory and inclusive land readjustment***

**OVERVIEW:** This Urban Library event presented an overview of the challenges and opportunities of land readjustment in cities, particularly in developing country contexts. Building on the experiences of a series of pilot projects initiated by the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) across the world, the session touched on a number of lessons learned and highlighted the importance of consultation, partnerships and negotiations in achieving a socially acceptable outcomes that benefits all stakeholder. **Lead:** Land and GLTN Unit Urban Legislation, Land and Governance Branch (UN-Habitat)

**APP OR PUBLICATION:** The event presented a summary and more detailed case studies from a forthcoming UN-Habitat report on Participatory and Inclusive Land Readjustment (PILar). This publication draws on pilot land readjustment programmes in a variety of cities in different regions, illustrating the different steps required along the way and the potential difficulties encountered throughout the process. The resource provides a rich evidence base for policy makers, communities and other stakeholders planning to undertake similar projects elsewhere.

**SUMMARY:** The discussions outlined the complex factors at work in local urban contexts and the importance of ensuring that every intervention has safeguards to ensure the rights of all residents are respected. Furthermore, while much of the existing discourse on land readjustment is informed by urban contexts in the Global North, many of the assumptions do not apply in cities where relationships between local authorities and communities may be weak – hence the necessity of engaging in extensive trust building before the project can go underway. The speakers also emphasised the importance of engaging broadly with different and sometimes competing interests, as well as ensuring additional safeguards such as social housing quotas are in place to prevent adverse effects such as displacement.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** In the context of rapid urbanisation, housing pressures and the rising value of land can often lead to poor living conditions and adverse development that disenfranchises established settlements. This resource on land readjustment will enable policy makers, planners and others to design socially just and mutually beneficial interventions to support the National Urban Agenda (NUA)'s commitment to inclusive and participatory cities.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 2: *Urban-rural linkages in support to the New Urban Agenda***

**OVERVIEW:** This panel discussion focused on the intersections between urban and rural areas, emphasising the need to recognise the connections and mutual dependencies between them. Besides looking at the ways that rural management can support urban centres, it also highlighted the responsibilities that cities in turn have to rural areas in terms of ensuring equitable development and access to resources. **Lead:** UN Center for Regional Development (UNCRD). **Partners:** International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), UN-Habitat (Urban Planning and Design Branch, Strategy and Knowledge Department).

**PUBLICATION:** *Regional Development Diague, Vol. 35*, themed around 'Urban-rural linkages in support to the New Urban Agenda', brings together contributions from a broad range of practitioners working on the intersection between urban and rural issues. The volume outlines the ways that cities and surrounding areas can work together to achieve better development outcomes for all, as well as the importance of ensuring that in a context of rapid urban growth rural communities are not left behind.

**SUMMARY:** The presenters looked at different aspects relating to 'extreme urbanism' and the need for a new urban paradigm that successfully balances grey and green infrastructure. They also stressed the continued problem of inequality and the marked failure of the Millennium Development Goals in rural areas. Consequently,





urban policies should not be seen in isolation from rural needs and interests - allowing rural communities a say in decision-making is essential. This means not only allocating more investment to less connected regions, but also establishing the necessary institutional linkages. The linkages between urban and rural concerns necessitate the creation of collaborative mechanisms to ensure 'no space is left behind' so that not only cities but also peri-urban areas, towns and villages benefit from future development.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The publication provides an important set of insights, guidelines and recommendations from a variety of metropolitan contexts to support the NUA's commitment to a more integrated approach to urban strategy that prioritises inclusive development for both cities and the wider rural surroundings connected to them.

### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 3: National Housing Profile Series**

**OVERVIEW:** This session showcased two forthcoming Housing Profiles on Afghanistan and Guyana, undertaken by UN-Habitat and offering a unique evidence base on the complex factors determining housing provision in both countries. **Lead:** Un-Habitat. **Partners:** Governments of Afghanistan, El Salvador, Ghana, Guyana, Lesotho and Liberia.

**PUBLICATION:** Since their inception in 2010, the *National Housing Profile Series* have been conducted in more than 15 countries worldwide and have been hugely influential in guiding policy. Covering a breadth of issues from finance, land and construction to institutions, regulations and culture, they provide a comprehensive picture of the various factors shaping housing provision. Each profile therefore presents a holistic picture of the social, political and economic conditions determining housing access.

**SUMMARY:** This session, hosted in partnership with a number of countries previously included in the series, showcased two forthcoming profiles on Afghanistan and Guyana. The presentations outlined the particular challenges confronting decision makers in both countries and provided important guidelines on how to steer policies to promote more socially equitable and affordable options for poor urban communities struggling to access housing.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The value of the series as a unique evidence base will only increase as countries begin to implement the NUA's vision to upgrade informal settlements, ensure adequate shelter for marginalised urban populations and reduce the root causes of urban poverty. These profiles will strongly inform the efforts of the governments of Afghanistan and Guyana as they take steps to realise these aims in their cities.

### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 4: Inclusive cities work better: Lessons and evidences from 10 cities.**

**OVERVIEW:** This session presents some of the experiences gained by **Women in Informal Employment: Globalising and Organising (WIEGO)** and its partners over a five-year period of pilot programmes supporting membership-based organisations in the informal sector in 10 different cities. These projects together aimed to provide informal sector workers with the opportunity of greater participation in urban decision-making. **Lead:** WIEGO. **Partners:** Informal Vendors and Hawkers Association of Ghana/StreetNet International; Latin and Caribbean Network Of Waste Pickers. **Speakers:** 4 **Participants:** 100.

**PUBLICATION:** WIEGO's forthcoming publication, *Inclusive Cities Work Better*, brings together a selection of 12 case studies from 10 different cities in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Showcasing a number of projects coordinated by WIEGO with membership-based organisations since 2008, with the aim of providing informal sector workers with the opportunity of greater participation in urban decision-making, it provides a detailed picture of how poor urban workers in the informal sector can play a larger role in shaping the decisions that affect their lives.





**SUMMARY:** The presenters discussed the changing context in many cities and the possibilities of building partnerships not only with NGOs and civic associations, but also private companies and governments. Consequently, membership-based organisations must move beyond policies of confrontation to engage other actors through alternative proposals and awareness raising. They also highlighted the difficulties that informal sector workers typically contend with, from inadequate housing and lack of services to punitive regulatory frameworks and the threat of eviction. Besides capacity building and education to enable workers to negotiate directly with governments, the projects also included legal advocacy and technical interventions in areas such as health and safety.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The guidelines and lessons learned in the selection of case studies provide an important knowledge base to policy makers and membership-based organisations to work together in supporting the informal sector economy – an essential element in the NUA's vision of social inclusion and economic sustainability for the urban poor.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 5: *Inclusive growth in cities: Challenges and opportunities; cities as growth accelerator***

**OVERVIEW:** This session examined the role that local and national strategies can play in encouraging inclusive growth in cities. The event also aimed to identify, building on two recent briefings by The Growth Dialogue, key strategies to ensure urban growth is pro-poor and benefits all urban stakeholders. **Lead:** The Growth Dialogue.

**Partners:** Development Bank of Latin America (CAF).

**PUBLICATON** The Growth Dialogue Urban Development team recently produced two seminal briefing papers linking inclusion, inequality and urban sustainability. These looked at the critical role that local and national strategies can play in helping cities to achieve socially and economically beneficial outcomes for their cities, with important lessons for policy makers elsewhere.

**SUMMARY:** The discussions, including participants from a number of different regions including East Asia, Africa and Latin America, as well as leading universities, offered a range of insights and recommendations on how to foster more equitable urban development. These regional perspectives and lessons learned together offered a detailed picture of the challenges and opportunities that decision makers face in balancing economic development and social justice. Many of these insights will be included in CAF's forthcoming 2017 flagship report.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The challenge facing cities worldwide, identified clearly in the NUA, is the need to drive continued economic growth in cities to create livelihoods and improve prosperity but in a way that is socially sustainable and reduces, rather than increases, inequality. The recommendations in the briefings and discussions therefore offer a roadmap to navigate a path towards more inclusive economic growth.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 6: *Shaping smarter and more sustainable cities: Striving for Sustainable Development Goals***

**OVERVIEW:** This session examined the opportunities of Information Communication Technology (ICT) in supporting more effective and sustainable urban management in different contexts, from strengthening air quality to improving access to essential services in informal settlements. Drawing on recent research, it highlighted different ways that these new technologies can be adapted to meet various developmental challenges, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). **Lead:** Ericsson Ab.

**PUBLICATION:** *ICT and SDGs: How information and communications technology and help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals* was jointly developed by Ericsson and the Earth Institute, Colombia University. This report examined the many ways that ICTs can contribute to the urgent priorities of the SDGs in areas such as health, education and energy. In addition, the session showcased peer-reviewed papers by Ericsson on how ICTs can be





used to reduce carbon emissions in cities, with additional research studies on its adaptation to water provision in developing urban contexts.

**SUMMARY:** The participants focused on the ways that emerging ICT products offered to policy makers, development practitioners and other actors in light of the recently agreed SDGs and their ambitious targets to reduce poverty, including Goal 11 to make cities more inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. While these technologies are currently under-utilised in developing urban contexts, they have the potential to strengthen many aspects of governance and service provision. In addition, the session presented research on the use of ICT to reducing country emissions and enhancing water resilience, as well as a case study of its application in urban planning in Nepal. The discussions also included recommendations on how ICT solutions can be implemented depending on different local conditions and their relative affordability.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** While the NUA champions smart urban growth as a means for cities to develop both economically and technologically, it also emphasises the importance of inclusive and pro-poor outcomes. This research by Ericsson, by attempting to establish a clearer understanding of how emerging ICT can be adapted to meet the SDGs, therefore offers valuable insights on how cities can invest in smart systems that provide tangible benefits to all citizens, including those typically excluded in the past from high-tech interventions.

***URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 7: New master-planned cities: Challenges and opportunities***

**OVERVIEW:** This session explored the current state and future possibilities of master-planned cities, highlighting the opportunities that they presented to learn from past mistakes and integrate the latest knowledge on best practices in urban design to encourage healthy, inclusive and environmentally friendly cities. **Lead:** McGill University. **Partners:** Carleton University; Yachay Public Company; New Cities Foundation; Montreal.

**PUBLICATION:** McGill University has already conducted extensive work on the underexplored dimensions of master-planned cities. This research, spanning a number of case study cities in different regions of the world, builds on the experiences of master-planned cities worldwide and aims to add to the currently limited evidence base on their performance to date as well as their potential to deliver more equitable urban outcomes in future.

**SUMMARY:** The participants explored the growing phenomenon of master-planned cities in the Global South and their variations across the world, with presentations outlining the development of new cities in five major regions – Latin America, the Middle East, North Africa, Southeast Asia and sub-Saharan Africa – as well as a detailed case study of Yachay Knowledge Centre, Ecuador. Besides looking at the history and drivers of their development, there was also discussion of the challenges they posed – in particular, their bypassing of traditional democratic processes, with CEOs sometimes taking the place of mayors. However, appropriate policies in the design of planned cities could offer a wide range of benefits by hardwiring urban environments to improve mobility and minimise pollution. Drawing on the lessons of previous attempts at master-planned cities, the session concluded with some key insights on how to harness their potential to serve as models of inclusive and sustainable urbanism.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Ensuring socially inclusive and holistic planning strategies are in place is a vital element in reducing the negative effects of unmanaged urbanisation and providing better outcomes for all city residents, including the poor. This research offers guidelines on how the NUA's call for stronger and more innovative planning can be implemented to help reduce urban poverty and the related challenges of environmental degradation, poor health and limited mobility.

***URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 8: 4th Global report on local democracy and decentralisation (GOLD IV): Co-creating the urban future: The agenda of metropolises, cities, and territories***





**OVERVIEW:** This event, building on recent research by UCLG, explored the different levels of urban governance that have developed in metropolitan regions across the world and the importance of an integrated approach to meet the specific challenges of each context. In particular, it highlighted the importance of ensuring local and regional perspectives are included in the implementation of the NUA. **Lead:** United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). **Partners:** CEMR; FLACMA; UCLG Africa; UCLG ASPAC; UCLG MEWA; UCLG Eurasia; UCLG North America; Metropolis; Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments; Province of Barcelona; UN-Habitat.

**PUBLICATION:** UCLG's *Co-creating the Urban Future: The Agenda of Metropolises, Cities, and Territories* is a landmark study on the role of local and regional governments in urban governance. Carried out by an international team of experts, it has already strongly informed the local and regional policy dialogues around Habitat III, linking their concerns to other development agendas such as climate change and the SDGs.

**SUMMARY:** UCLG's GOLD IV report, launched through this event, is innovative in that it looks beyond traditional sectoral approaches to instead analyse the interaction of different levels of urban management – metropolitan areas, intermediary cities and territories (regions, small towns and rural areas). The discussions covered some of the main findings and examples of local government innovation, drawing out the crucial contribution of decentralised solutions to some of today's most pressing urban challenges. The participants also emphasised the currently undervalued potential of local and regional governments to contribute positively to governance, if the opportunity for them to participate meaningfully is available.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The publication includes a range of case studies and key findings that showcase the role of local and regional leaders in improving urban management. These will be invaluable for governments as they move towards a more territorial approach to urban governance, as advocated in the NUA, to include local authorities and other stakeholders in the wider metropolitan region.

#### ***URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 9: 5<sup>th</sup> International report on crime prevention and community safety: Cities and the New Urban Agenda***

**OVERVIEW:** This session, hosted by the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) to launch its 5<sup>th</sup> *International Report on Crime Prevention and Community Safety: Cities and the New Urban Agenda*, focused on the particular challenges to public security facing cities. The discussions included case studies on security interventions in different urban environments and concrete measures to promote safer cities for all residents, particularly those most vulnerable to crime. **Lead:** International Centre for the Prevention of Crime. **Partners:** Women in Cities International; Safer Cities Programme – UN-Habitat.

**PUBLICATION:** *The International Report on Crime Prevention and Community Safety* has since 2008 been published as a regular series by ICPC, with each volume focusing on a specific topic. The theme for 2016, designed to coincide with Habitat III, focuses on 'Cities and the New Urban Agenda'. The volume explores a variety of public security issues that are especially relevant to cities, including crime prevention in public transportation, drug-related violence and urban issues relating to radicalisation.

**SUMMARY:** The session brought together participants from ICPC, Women in Cities International and UN-Habitat's Safer Cities Programmes to highlight different aspects of public safety in cities and the need to adopt a range of solutions to ensure security for all citizens, including the urban poor. Each speaker presented a range of case studies and recommendations on how to strengthen crime prevention, enhance community safety and ensure justice for victims.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The NUA emphasises the importance of ensuring that urban areas are safe for all citizens, in particular women and girls, who are at especially at risk of gender-based violence. The research and





recommendations could therefore help ensure safer public services, more accessible urban design and community-based initiatives to promote greater security in cities.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 10: *Are you gender mainstreaming without knowing it?***

**OVERVIEW:** This event, drawing on the findings of a recent evaluation of Cities Alliance programmes by SKL International, explored the barriers to gender integration in development projects and how gender mainstreaming can be assessed in an urban context. It also included practical recommendations on how organisations can enhance gender mainstreaming in their own work. **Lead:** SKL International. **Partners:** Chile; Cities Alliance; AcTogether; Slum Dwellers International (SDI); Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (Sida); UN Habitat; UCLG; HfHI; and Ministry of Housing.

**PUBLICATION:** SKL International's *Diagnosis of Gender Equality Integration in Cities Alliance Country Programmes* was commissioned by Cities Alliance to assess its current policies to strengthen gender mainstreaming across the organisation. While designed primarily to assess specific programmes and policies within Cities Alliance, the lessons and recommendations are also of relevance to other organisations working on gender issues in an urban context.

**SUMMARY:** The presenters outlined some of the key findings from their evaluation that could also be applied to similar gender-based urban development programmes. They then focused on practical examples from the Cities Alliance country programme in Uganda, followed by panel discussions with Cities Alliance implementing partners. The session concluded with practical guidelines for urban development practitioners on how to effectively mainstream gender into their work.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The NUA stresses the central importance of ensuring every aspect of urban management, from budgeting and political institutions to public transport and disaster response, is gender sensitive. This research will provide urban practitioners in a range of contexts with a valuable toolkit of ideas and insights to ensure that the rights of all citizens, including women and girls, are protected.

**TUESDAY 18 OCTOBER**

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 11: *Building cities the RIGHT way***

**OVERVIEW:** This event, involving a number of UN agencies, showcased their guidance on ensuring equitable and socially just urban development. **Lead:** Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). **Partners:** UN Housing Rights Programme (UNHRP); UN-Habitat; Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing.

**PUBLICATION:** The publication, developed by human rights mechanisms and UN agencies, provides a useful toolkit for local and national actors to ensure urban development occurs within a rights-based framework.

**SUMMARY:** This event, bringing together the expertise of housing and rights experts, provided an overview of how to ensure that housing development and city planning decisions respect and protect the rights of all citizens, particularly the urban poor.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Given the speed of urban growth, often in the context of limited governance or legal oversight, ensuring a solid framework of human rights for urban citizens is essential to ensure that the aims of the NUA are not undermined by expropriation, evictions and other violations.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 12: *Climate change issues in National Urban Policies***





**OVERVIEW:** This session, hosted by UN-Habitat, address the urgent need to integrate climate change action into National Urban Policies. The discussions highlighted various practical steps and structural mechanisms that could be developed to promote the mainstreaming of climate change into urban policy frameworks. **Lead:** UN-Habitat. **Partners:** Cities Alliance; INS; OECD; RMIT.

**PUBLICATION:** UN-Habitat has regularly provided support to governments wishing to develop a National Urban Policy – a central tool for countries to navigate current urban challenges and design policies to support the future of their cities. This process of consultation, information gathering and analysis results in the identification of key urban development priorities, guidance on the actions that need to be taken in response and a plan for more targeted investment in cities. The findings from this session illustrate ways that climate change concerns and related documents such as National Adaptation Plans can be formally integrated into a country's urban strategy.

**SUMMARY:** The session highlighted how, as National Urban Policies have become a widely used tool by governments, they offered an important mechanism for countries to enact the NUA's call for a wide-ranging and multi-sectoral response to the threat of climate change. Among other areas, the discussions focused on how climate change policies could be effectively mainstreamed into urban decision-making and the specific structural mechanisms that could support this process. Through a process of vertical integration, urban policies at different levels could then consider appropriate adaptation and mitigation measures as standard.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Addressing climate change through a systematic urban strategy of carbon emission reductions and resilience building is one of the key commitments of the NUA – a crucial provision given the central role cities have to play in mounting an effective response to climate change. The guidance outlined in this session provides a useful roadmap for countries to realign their urban policies and investments accordingly.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 13: *Water, megacities and global change: Portraits of 15 emblematic cities of the world***

**OVERVIEW:** The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) used this event to launch a major publication by its International Hydrological Programme, exploring the major issues facing megacities in terms of water access in a context of rapid and often poorly managed urban growth. **Lead:** UNESCO. **Partners:** Association Recherche Collectivités dans le domaine de l'EAU Île-de-France (ARCEAU-idf); International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI).

**PUBLICATION:** *Water, Megacities and Global Change: Portraits of 15 Emblematic Cities of the World* is a joint publication by UNESCO's International Hydrological Programme and ARCEAU-idf. It provides a detailed overview of the challenges facing global megacities as urban growth places increasing pressure on water resources, with impacts that are particularly acute for women. The publication also includes a variety of case studies on different cities in Africa (Lagos), the Americas (Buenos Aires, Chicago, Los Angeles, Mexico City, New York), Asia (Beijing, Ho Chi Minh, Manila, Mumbai, Seoul, Tokyo) and Europe (Istanbul, London, Paris).

**SUMMARY:** The discussions focused around the dissemination of the main research findings that came out of the volume. The research highlighted how increasing urban populations and a changing climate have placed a great strain on potable water supply and sanitation in many cities, particularly in low-income and informal settlements. Managing these challenges requires a wide-ranging response, including both technical interventions and 'soft' measures such as demand management and improved governance, to ensure a sustainable water supply for megacities now and in the future.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The NUA's commitment to universal access to safe water and adequate sanitation will require a systematic reform of how cities manage and provide these services to their populations. The findings from this





research illustrates the need to undertake comprehensive, socially inclusive strategies to ensure that everyone, including the most marginalised communities, are able to access these essential resources.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 14: *Urban disaster resilience: New dimensions from international practice in the built environment***

**OVERVIEW:** This session explored the changing nature of the humanitarian response to urban crises, particularly in the context of increasing levels of displacement and extreme weather. As a result, an increasing focus on resilience is now shaping interventions – a multidimensional approach that helps reduce both the threat and impact of a major urban disaster. **Lead:** Faculty of the Built Environment, University of New South Wales **Partners:** Harvard University (Graduate School of Design); International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC); Department of Urban Planning and Design.

**PUBLICATION:** The session was informed by two recent publications. The first, the *2016 World Disasters Report*, is themed around resilience and brings together contributions from a range of disciplines on the need to invest in preparedness, social support networks and mental health. The second, *Urban Disaster Resilience: New Dimensions from Practice in the Built Environment*, originated in the conference ‘Design for urban disaster’ at Harvard University and includes case studies from Asia, the Americas and the Middle East.

**SUMMARY:** The research findings presented during the event outlined how, amidst unprecedented levels of migration, extreme weather patterns and the rising incidence of natural disasters, the need for a radical change in traditional approaches to humanitarian aid to crisis-affected cities was more urgent than ever. Consequently, there has been a recent shift towards resilience building and the adoption of more holistic interventions that focus on anticipation, preparedness and the physical, social and emotional dimensions of disasters.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The NUA outlines the importance of disaster risk reduction through a range of measures, including improved environmental management, slum upgrading, better housing design and socially inclusive post-disaster recovery plans. Understanding how resilience can be effectively built within urban communities is therefore central to reducing the vulnerabilities of citizens and their populations to major disasters.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 15: *Contextualising and inspiring sustainability in the New Urban Agenda***

**OVERVIEW:** This event showcased three publications on urban climate change that together explore the problem of urban climate change from a range of perspectives. **Lead:** Urban Climate Change Research Network (UCCRN), Columbia University. **Partners:** Future Earth; Mistra Urban Futures; UN-Habitat.

**PUBLICATION:** Future Earth’s *Urban Planet* brings together writings from specialists in diverse fields of sociology, science, politics and other areas who together examine the importance of urbanisation for global sustainability. *Rethinking Sustainable Cities*, by Mistra Urban Futures, provides a detailed assessment of urban sustainability by analysing three key features of sustainable towns and cities – that they are accessible, green and fair. Finally, the *Second UCCRN’s Assessment Report on Climate Change and Cities* presents the latest scientific findings on urban climate change from leading scholars around the world.

**SUMMARY:** The discussions highlighted the diversity of professional and disciplinary expertise needed to bring about a substantive transformation in society’s response to urban climate change, particularly in light of the commitments of the NUA and SDG 11. Consequently, the presentations offered different but complementary approaches to tackling urban climate change, with policy, social justice and scientific evidence all having a role to play in the solution.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Besides identifying climate change as a major priority, the NUA also champions the science-policy interface and the importance of urban strategies that are sustainable socially, environmentally and





economically for all. The collaboration evident at this event, bringing together experts with different specialisms, therefore demonstrates the value of cross-disciplinary dialogue and solutions.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 16: *From Habitat II (1996) to Habitat III (2016): Building with scarce resources in Latin America***

**OVERVIEW:** This event is a panel discussion, based around the publication of a book charting the evolution of housing and urban development in Latin America in the last two decades. **Lead:** The Ministry of Development, Government of Spain.

**PUBLICATION:** The book charts the trajectory of Latin America's urban development in the 20 years separating the previous Habitat event in 1996 from Habitat III today.

**SUMMARY:** The panel discussion focused on the legacy of Habitat II and the developments in the past two decades since then in Latin America's housing sector.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Learning from the mistakes and successes that have both obstructed and supported the realisation of Habitat II's objective offers valuable insights in anticipating the likely barriers that may impede the NUA's progress, as well as ways these can be navigated through well designed urban policies.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 17: *Towards resilient non engineered construction- Guide for risk informed policy-making***

**OVERVIEW:** This event launched a new publication by UNESCO, outlining guidance for governments, communities and other stakeholders to improve the resilience of informal construction to disasters. **Lead:** UNESCO. **Partners:** ARCEAU-idf; ICLEI.

**PUBLICATION:** UNESCO's new publication, *Towards Resilient Non Engineered Construction: Guide for Risk-Informed Policy Making*, provides a detailed survey of the potential vulnerabilities of non-engineered construction and the various measures – social as well as technical – that can be taken to improve their resilience to earthquakes and other hazards.

**SUMMARY:** While there is a substantive body of work on disaster prevention design in engineered buildings, these solutions are less applicable in the context of non-engineered construction – in particular the informal or spontaneously built housing and other structures that characterise many informal settlements. The session showcased some of the key findings in the report on how policy makers and engineers can increase resilience through training, emergency preparedness, technical interventions and also through a better understanding of the social dimensions of disasters, such as gender.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** This volume provides a valuable source of guidance for urban policy makers seeking to upgrade housing and boost community resilience to the growing threat of disasters, particularly in informal settlements.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 18: *Better cities better lifestyles***

**OVERVIEW:** This event, launching two publications on sustainable lifestyles, explored the ways that cities can promote reduced waste and consumption. **Lead:** Ministry of Environment, Government of Argentina. **Partners:** Scientific And Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES); Colectivo Ecologista Jalisco; Universidad El Bosque; Government of Barbados; Government of Sweden; Consumers International; Akatu Institute for Conscious Consumption; Caribbean Youth Environment Network; United Nations Educational; United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP); Earth Charter.





**PUBLICATION:** Two reports were launched at the session, *Global Typology on Sustainable Lifestyles* and *Understanding Sustainable Lifestyles in Latin America and the Caribbean*.

**SUMMARY:** The session brought together a selection of local and national officials and specialists to share the latest research and best practices in the area of sustainable living. Building on the findings of the publications launched at the event, the participants also discussed key ways forward to promote more efficient and integrated patterns of living in cities.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Promoting sustainable lifestyles at an individual and grassroots level is a necessary step in promoting the transition of urban areas towards the low carbon, less intensive models of consumption stipulated in the NUA.

#### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 19: *Global street design guide***

**OVERVIEW:** This event showcases case studies and findings from a new resource developed by the National Association Of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) on street design. The publication illustrates how, in a wide range of contexts, carefully considered design interventions can improve safety, accessibility and social wellbeing.

**Lead:** National Association Of City Transportation Officials- Global Designing Initiative **Partners:** Bloomberg Philanthropies; UN-Habitat.

**PUBLICATION:** The *Global Street Design Guide* offers the first worldwide standard on how to increase safety, prioritise pedestrians, enhance liveability and boost local economies through effective street-level interventions. Drawing on material from 72 different cities in 42 countries, it serves as a toolkit to provide policy makers, communities and other actors with the knowledge and understanding to promote more people-friendly urban environments, street by street.

**SUMMARY:** The presentations drew out the value of imaginative interventions in street design and the significant benefits that they could bring, often at relatively little cost, to pedestrians, communities and local economies by promoting accessible, socially inclusive urban environments. The research, informed by case studies from a wide range of urban contexts across the world, offer a variety of adaptable solutions for other cities seeking to create more human-centred streets.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The NUA repeatedly emphasises the importance of urban design in achieving better social, spatial and environmental outcomes for cities. The lessons contained in this resource therefore present an invaluable roadmap for reconfiguring streets to benefit a broad range of citizens.

#### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 20: *The Lancet series on urban design, transport and population health***

**OVERVIEW:** Responding to major health challenges today requires a new set of approaches that focus on disease prevention holistically, particularly as urban populations continue to grow. This event showcased a new Lancet series exploring the intersection between urban design, transport and health. **Lead:** University of Melbourne.

**PUBLICATION:** This three-part *Lancet Series on Urban Design, Transport and Population Health* explores the role that the currently underutilised tool of multi-sector planning can play in improving public health through better urban design and transport planning. The articles include 'City planning and population health: A global challenge', 'Land use, transport, and population health: Estimating the health benefits of compact cities' and 'Use of science to guide city planning policy and practice: How to achieve healthy and sustainable future cities'.





**SUMMARY:** The session brought together a number of researchers who contributed to the Lancet series to consider the opportunities offered by city planning as a tool to prevent non-communicable diseases and injury. Given the heavy toll that automobile-dominated urban environments have on urban residents through traffic accidents, as well as the increased incidence of obesity and other issues as a result of decreasing physical activity, the presenters stressed the need for a radically new approach to address these problems. Through a more integrated approach to urban design, transport planning and public health, the physical wellbeing and quality of life of urban residents could be considerably improved.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The findings of this research support the NUA's emphasis on creating safe and accessible public spaces through better design, as well as ensuring more inclusive mobility options for city residents through the development of progressive models such as transit-oriented development.

### **WEDNESDAY, 19 OCTOBER**

#### ***URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 21: The emergence of Pacific urban villages: Urbanisation trends in the Pacific Islands***

**OVERVIEW:** This event presents the findings of an Asian Development Bank (ADB) report that outlines the current state of the widespread phenomenon of 'urban villages' in the Pacific – a by-product of informal urbanisation in the region that poses particular challenges for urban policy makers. **Lead:** Asian Development Bank.

**PUBLICATION:** ADB's new report, *The Emergence of Pacific Urban Villages – Urbanisation Trends in the Pacific Islands*, provides a wealth of research and analysis on the current context of urbanisation across the region. Besides providing a detailed profile of its unique trends and characteristics, it also offers a new framework for policy makers to better understand their specific challenges and opportunities.

**SUMMARY:** The event outlined the key findings of the publication and its analysis of the particular forces shaping Pacific settlements. Urban villages are typically marked by hardship, poor living conditions and lack of basic infrastructure, with residents frequently excluded from adequate housing and public services. The problems associated with these areas and their informality has led to these communities being unfairly stigmatised and overlooked by formal planning. The findings offer policy makers a clearer understanding of these settlements and a series of actions to support improved development outcomes.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Better recognition of the specific challenges facing informal settlements in the Pacific, where the pace of unmanaged urbanisation is especially intense, is essential for designing effective, locally appropriate policy responses to promote sustainable growth.

#### ***URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 22: Thrive global***

**OVERVIEW:** This event brought together a multimedia exhibition with the dissemination of a publication by UN University (UNU) exploring the intersection between ecology, human society and participation. **Lead:** United Nations University (UNU). **Partners:** International Council for Science – Urban Health and Wellbeing Programme; International Society for Urban Health; Urban Health Network for Latin America and the Caribbean.

**PUBLICATION:** Besides an exhibition of posters and audiovisuals, the event also launches UNU's new publication, *Thrive Global: People, Planet and Participation*. This combines a selection of photographs with the text of the *Kuching Statement: Healthy, Just and Sustainable Urban Development*, developed at the Urban Thinkers Campus on Health and Wellbeing in Kuching, Malaysia.

**SUMMARY:** The event, in addition to its visual presentation, was designed to disseminate the text of the Kuching Statement, developed out of a collaboration of stakeholders from 27 countries and more than 90 organisations.





This outlined the importance of a systems approach to address the current pressures of urbanisation on the planet, with an emphasis on holistic solutions that recognise the intersecting social, economic and environmental forces shaping human development.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The publication is an important roadmap for cities seeking to adopt, as outlined in the NUA, an integrated approach to urban management.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 23: *Urbanisation in China: Since 1978* 中国城镇化三十年**

**OVERVIEW:** This event disseminates the findings of a recent publication surveying China's urbanisation trends since 1978. **Lead:** Tongji University. **Partners:** UN-Habitat Safer Cities Programme.

**PUBLICATION:** This book, authored by renowned urban scholars at Tongji University, provides an authoritative analysis of the major milestones in China's extraordinary process of urbanisation – an unprecedented and hugely complex process of transformation with wide ranging social, economic and environmental effects.

**SUMMARY:** Beginning in 1978 with the country's economic reform, the speed and scale of China's urbanisation has seen its cities and towns increase exponentially, bringing considerable prosperity and rising standards of living, but also environmental strain and social change. The session outlined some of the publication's main findings, drawing out both the successes and shortcomings of local and national policies, with lessons for other countries facing similar issues.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** This resource provides an illuminating profile of China's response to rapid urbanisation, outlining lessons and best practices from its experiences that provide an important evidence base for cities struggling to manage urban growth sustainably.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 24: *The atlas of urban expansion - the 2016 edition***

**OVERVIEW:** This event launches the 2016 edition of the *Atlas of Urban Expansion*, charting urban population growth, affordability and other key trends in 200 cities worldwide. **Lead:** New York University. **Partners:** Lincoln Institute of Land Policy; UN-Habitat.

**PUBLICATION:** *The Atlas of Urban Expansion – the 2016 Edition* is jointly authored by New York University, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and UN-Habitat. With detailed maps, statistics and commentary, it provides an authoritative picture of the latest urbanisation trends.

**SUMMARY:** The session presented some of the key findings of the volume, including the physical and demographic expansion of cities, the spatial character of recent urban growth, housing affordability and land regulation. This research offers a clear empirical picture of urban change worldwide and a scientific evidence base to inform policy responses.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Besides offering a highly reliable and detailed data set to pinpoint urbanisation trends, the content of this volume and subsequent editions provides a framework to measure future progress of the NUA.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 25: *Transformative strategies for the century of cities***

**OVERVIEW:** This event presents the findings of two new publications that explore different aspects of urban transformation and its potential, if well managed, to produce widespread benefits for all citizens. **Lead:** German Advisory Council on Global Change. **Partners:** WGBU, World Resources Institute.





**PUBLICATION:** The event showcases two new reports. WGBU's *Humanity On the Move: Unlocking the Transformative Power of Cities* provides a comprehensive conceptual overview of urban governance, environment, land use, resource management and other functions, followed by a series of detailed case studies of a variety of different cities with specific social, spatial and environmental challenges. WRI's *World Resources Report, Towards a More Equal City: Framing the Challenges and Opportunities*, highlights the key challenges undermining global urban sustainability and analyses the benefits that implementing equitable access to services would bring to cities as a whole.

**SUMMARY:** The presentation outlined the findings of both publications, beginning with the cross-sectoral analysis of WGBU's publication and outlining the central role that effective governance and civic participation will play in catalysing lasting urban change. WRI's presentation then focused on the specific issues of accessibility and sustainable mobility, highlighting concrete measures that will support urban transformation.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The publications both provide a clear strategic framework to help policy makers and planners reorient urban development in line with the NUA's objectives of equality and sustainability.

#### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 26: *Just cities – The right to the city in an unequal world***

**OVERVIEW:** This event, combining a book launch and panel discussion, assessed the potential of rights-based urbanisation policies to promote greater economic and political inclusion. **Lead:** Friedrich-Ebert Stiftung. **Partners:** FLACSO-CITE.

**SUMMARY:** The discussions highlighted how urban growth, despite its considerable economic and social potential, was often failing to address inequality and engage all constituencies in the development of their cities. Consequently, a stronger emphasis on rights-based approaches and social justice was needed to ensure that urbanisation realised its full potential for all citizens.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The findings offer a clear articulation of the need, also expressed in the NUA, of the necessity of a rights-based urban policy framework to ensure the future sustainability of cities.

#### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 27: *Community's transformative power for sustainable urbanisation***

**OVERVIEW:** This event presents a new publication outlining community-driven urban development and its potential contribution to the NUA, with a focus on the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) approach. **Lead:** UN-Habitat. **Partners:** Cities Alliance; INS; OECD; RMIT.

**PUBLICATION:** The report aims to draw out the connections between the community-based approach of PSUP and broader efforts to achieve urban sustainability. Its format, as a box set with a series of thematic booklets, is designed to be clear and visually appealing to make it accessible to a wide range of stakeholders.

**SUMMARY:** The session drew out the key strengths of community-driven urban development, in particular its success in informal settlement upgrading. Building on the experiences of PSUP projects collected in the volume, the presentation outlines the central role that community-based strategies should play in furthering the aims of the NUA, SDG 11 and other development agendas.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Effectively engaging PSUP and other community-based approaches in cities will strengthen the capacity and legitimacy of urban policy interventions, so strengthening the aims of the NUA.

#### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 28: *Envisioning future cities: Ideas and examples***





**OVERVIEW:** This event presents the annual publication of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP), surveying efforts by cities worldwide to achieve greater sustainability, including detailed cases studies on areas such as land use, food security and education. **Lead:** International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP).

**PUBLICATION:** The 12<sup>th</sup> edition of ISOCARP's series of annual publications, *Envisioning Future Cities*, is broken up into five separate sections. In addition to an overview of 10 key characteristics of sustainable cities and a chapter highlighting some cutting-edge examples of sustainable infrastructure, it also includes detailed case studies of land use reform in South Africa, a global survey of initiatives to mainstream food security into city planning and a summary of the Future Cities educational programme, designed to encourage young students to seek careers in science, engineering and planning.

**SUMMARY:** The session outlined the publication's key findings and highlighted some of the progressive approaches to urban sustainability being pioneered in different countries.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The volume outlines successful interventions in a number of areas, including land use and food security, identified in the NUA as priority areas for future urban policy.

#### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 29: *The Journal of Public Space***

**OVERVIEW:** This event launched a new journal, focused exclusively on public space, and included discussions on how to facilitate knowledge transfer from academic to industry and communities. **Lead:** City Space Architecture.

**Partners:** Queensland University of Technology, Australia; UN- Habitat.

**PUBLICATION:** *The Journal of Public Space* has been jointly developed by City Space Architecture and Queensland University of Technology, in partnership with UN-Habitat. As the first multidisciplinary journal dealing solely with public space, it is designed to be as diverse as possible, embracing a variety of views and perspectives with the aim of providing a platform for alternative voices to the conventional discourses of urban planning and development.

**SUMMARY:** The session showcased the new journal and the emerging network it has already created through its accessible, interdisciplinary vision. The discussions focused on how academia could better encourage international partnerships and disseminate knowledge to other stakeholders, such as businesses and communities, and more specifically how better access to international research and case studies could enhance the design of public spaces.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The journal offers an exciting and inclusive platform for practitioners in different disciplines to engage effectively in dialogue on public space, supporting the creation of more socially responsive urban design and planning.

#### **THURSDAY, 20 OCTOBER**

#### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 30: *UN-Habitat Global State of Urban Youth Report- 2015/2016***

**OVERVIEW:** The event launched UN-Habitat and Action-Aid International latest report on urban youth worldwide, presenting its findings on the intersection between urban inequality and youth exclusion. **Lead:** Youth Unit Urban Economy Branch, UN-Habitat. **Partners:** Action-Aid International; Coca-Cola Africa Foundation Programme; Jamaica School for Social Entrepreneurship; Sharek Youth Forum - Co-Organizer and Speaker; Somalia; Y-PEER Network – South and Central Zone.





**PUBLICATION:** UN-Habitat and Action-Aid International's jointly authored publication, *Global State of Urban Youth Report 2015/2016*, provides a comprehensive survey of the situation of young people in cities worldwide and the particular challenges they face in a context of inequality, violence and widespread informality. It also looks at the structural barriers they face in accessing education and employment opportunities. The volume includes detailed case studies of a number of cities, developed in partnership with local youth organisations.

**SUMMARY:** The session included a panel discussion with a range of experts, private sector representations and youth organisation members to highlight the report's findings. The participants explored the dynamics of urban inequality and the ways it affected youth in particular, as well as the need to explore the underlying social, cultural and economic factors that shape unequal outcomes.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The research provides a valuable resource on youth exclusion in urban contexts and the ways this can be addressed effectively. Addressing the multiple discrimination that young people face in cities is a key priority in the NUA.

### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 31: *The Finance for City Leaders Handbook***

**OVERVIEW:** This session launched a report by UN-Habitat outlining the range of financing options cities have at their disposal to fund areas such as housing and settlement upgrading. **Lead:** Urban Economy Branch Municipal Finance Unit, UN-Habitat. **Partners:** Oxford University.

**PUBLICATION:** The *Finance for City Leaders Handbook*, developed in partnership with a number of other organisations, provides a comprehensive overview of urban financing and the many ways that local governments can leverage tax, revenue and loans through a variety of mechanisms. From green municipal bonds and public-private partnerships to real estate development and capital markets, it considers different aspects of municipal finance and how these funds can be used to support the most marginalised urban populations.

**SUMMARY:** Contracting funds and increasing pressure on resources, services and infrastructure means that cities now more than ever must explore a variety of financing options. This event, drawing on the publication's findings, showcased a number of innovative solutions and inspiring case studies to show the potential of various funding mechanisms to achieve lasting change for low-income communities.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** The lessons from this report will support the NUA in transforming urban finance and ensuring sufficient funds are allocated into key areas such as affordable housing.

### **URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 32: *Foundations of municipal fiscal health***

**OVERVIEW:** This event, building on the insights of a number of publications by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, explores the issue of property tax and its role in municipal finance. **Lead:** Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

**PUBLICATION:** The event came out of the Lincoln Institute of Land's research in the area of municipal finance, including four recent publications that explore different aspects of property tax. *A Good Tax: Legal and Policy Issues for the Property Tax in the United States* examines the current state of the country's property tax regime. *Making Land Legible: Cadastres for Urban Planning and Development in Latin America* charts the history and current evolution of the central institution of the *cadastre* and the implications of its changing role for urban financing in Latin America. *Property Tax in Latin America* provides an overview of property tax across the region. *Los Sistemas de Tributación Inmobiliaria en América Latina y el Caribe* similarly focuses on property tax systems in Latin America and the Caribbean.





**SUMMARY:** This event, drawing on recent research by the Lincoln Institute of Land, explores the complexities of property tax regimes and some of the key issues that determine their effectiveness. Focusing on a variety of different regions, it covered a number of initiatives that have been piloted by cities to boost their finances through more efficient property tax regimes. The session also disseminated resources on best practices and key actions that can be taken by cities to improve their fiscal health.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Innovative and holistic financing options are especially important as cities face increasing responsibilities and reduced flows from conventional sources. As the NUA recognises, transformative change in cities can only occur if adequate resources are allocated to meet urban development challenges.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 33: *Local economic development in the New Urban Agenda***

**OVERVIEW:** This event focused on the subject of local economic development in light of the NUA. **Lead:** Fondo Andaluz de Municipios para la Solidaridad Internacional (FAMSI). **Partners:** Former UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing; Carlos Macías; Habitat International Coalition; Global Platform for the Right to the City; Miloon Kothari; Representative of the Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca.

**SUMMARY:** FAMSI is a network of local organisations and other entities, based in Andalucía, that promote knowledge sharing, coordinates financial assistance and supports the development of collaborations at a regional, national and international level. This event, bringing together a variety of other organisations working in different areas, explored strategies for local economic development and how they could be related with the implementation of the NUA.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 34: *Investing in urban resilience: Making cities and the urban poor more resilient***

**OVERVIEW:** This event focused on the increasing vulnerability of cities to climate change and the severe impacts that will result if urgent action to strengthen resilience is not taken. **Lead:** Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR). **Partners:** World Bank Group.

**PUBLICATION:** *Investing in Urban Resilience*, a new report co-authored by the GFDRR and World Bank Group, presents a range of startling findings on the risks posed by climate change and the rising toll this will have on cities if left unaddressed. The report estimates that by 2030, as many as 77 million people may be pushed into poverty as a result of climate change – unless adequate investment in much needed infrastructure is made now to increase the resilience of cities and their populations to this threat.

**SUMMARY:** This session highlighted the growing dangers posed by climate change to cities and the implications in particular for the urban poor, who will be the hardest hit. Given the need for major infrastructure improvements, institutions such as the World Bank must help cities and national governments to leverage private capital sources to make these investments. A number of innovative financing products and advisory services provided by the World Bank were also showcased.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Increasing resilience is a major concern of the NUA, which recognises both the need for more infrastructural investment and the need to mobilise significant funds to do so.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 35: *Steering the metropolis to achieve sustainable urban development***

**OVERVIEW:** This event showcases a new publication on metropolitan governance that explores the subject from a global perspective. **Lead:** UN-Habitat. **Partners:** World Bank; The Inter-American Development Bank.

**PUBLICATION:** *Steering the Metropolis: Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Urban Development* brings together a selection of essays and case studies exploring metropolitan governance and its forms in a variety of





geographic contexts. The volume, besides analysing the difficulties confronting metropolitan regions in today's urban context, also highlights many innovative examples of metropolitan governance in areas such as finance, housing and service provision.

**SUMMARY:** The session, besides launching the volume, brought together a number of its contributors to present the findings and explore the future of metropolitan governance and its implications for cities worldwide.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** As reflected in the NUA, the growing size and complexity of cities requires a better understanding of the need to adopt broader metropolitan systems of governance to achieve sustainable development outcomes.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 36: *Ekistics and New Urban Agenda for sustainable development***

**OVERVIEW:** This session launches a new journal that explores the implications of Ekistics for supporting progress of the NUA. **Lead:** World Society for Ekistics-Oceanic Group, Australia. **Partners:** Swinburne University of technology, world society for ekistics; centre for design innovation

**PUBLICATION:** This event presents a new Ekistics journal that looks at the contribution the discipline can make to support the NUA and other development agendas. The publication will attempt to draw out the links between Ekistics and the sustainable development of all kinds of human settlement, both urban and rural, through a rigorous online academic platform.

**SUMMARY:** The discussions highlighted the significant contribution of Ekistics to urbanisation research and its continued relevance today in promoting sustainable cities through community engagement and cultural development. The session also showcased the application of Ekistics to humanitarian relief and the specific urbanisation challenges facing indigenous communities in Australasia, Asia and the Pacific.

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Ekistics provides an important framework to interpret and respond to urbanisation challenges, and can contribute to the development of a holistic policy response.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 37: *Habitat '76: A look back***

**OVERVIEW:** This event includes a presentation on the first UN Habitat conference and discussions with a number of those who attended it. **Lead:** Alumni of Habitat '76.

**PUBLICATION:** Lindsay Brown's forthcoming *Habitat '76* charts the history of the first UN Habitat Conference in Vancouver and its legacy today.

**SUMMARY:** This session brought together a number of interviewees in the forthcoming book on Habitat '76 to discuss their experiences of this founding conference. This was preceded by a short presentation by the author and a selection of historic photographs of the event.

**URBAN LIBRARY EVENT 38: *Por una autonomía del habitar***

**OVERVIEW:** This event included a screening of two documentaries on self-build settlements in Lima. **Lead:** Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences.

**PUBLICATION:** This event coincides with the publication of seminal pieces by John F.C. Turner for the first time into Spanish, *Por una Autonomía del Habitar*. This session screened Turner's 1964 documentary 'A roof of one's own' and its follow-up, looking at the development of self-build settlements in the Peruvian capital of Lima.

