

# PARTICIPATION

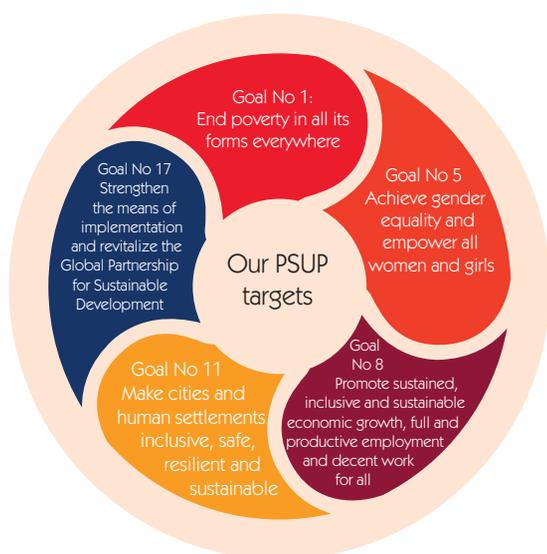
GET INVOLVED FOR CHANGE!



**PSUP INVOLVES ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE SLUM UPGRADING PROCESS**



**ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVE ALL STAKEHOLDERS - FALLS UNDER THESE SDGS**



**PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING**

**CHANGE STARTS WITH** each individual. The name Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme already suggests how strongly the participatory approach shapes our work. People and their needs are our priority, and PSUP involves all stakeholders: authorities, communities, private sector and a broad range of urban practitioners are all partners in the slum upgrading process. We encourage specifically slum dwellers to participate in our project, since no one knows better than the neighbourhoods' residents what it is lacking. Our experience has shown that people in slums are willing to take over if they feel ownership of the projects. PSUP involves them in the decision-making process and the design, implementation, monitoring and follow-up of the upgrading initiatives. Slum dwellers benefit from investments for technical training whilst contributing their knowledge, work and resources. In this way, not only is change structurally happening in the slum, but the mind-sets of its inhabitants also changes towards empowerment. In other words, PSUP is pushing a development process.

## WHAT WE DO

Through technical support we help the communities form their own assemblies, which represent all groups of the society in the decision-making process including men, women and youth.

We combine slum upgrading with employment and income generation through Community Managed Funds, involving PSUP-funded action groups that take on certain tasks in the community to generate income.

We develop digital peer learning platforms, where stakeholders, especially slum dwellers, share knowledge on slum upgrading with others.

We engage local and national governments. They have a leading role to play in improving slums and can provide the enabling environment to develop and implement the appropriate policies and plans to trigger change for, and in partnership, with slum dwellers.



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

# HOUSING

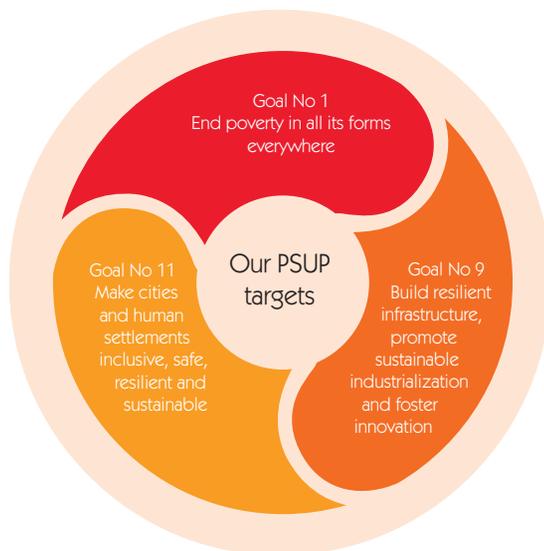
MAKE SLUMS  
A BETTER PLACE



**PSUP WORKS ON THE 2030  
AGENDA TO ENSURE ACCESS FOR  
ALL PEOPLE TO ADEQUATE AND  
AFFORDABLE HOUSING**



**ENSURE ACCESS TO DURABLE,  
SAFE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING -  
FALLS UNDER THESE SDGS**



**PARTICIPATORY  
SLUM UPGRADING**

**ROUGHLY 4,000 HOMES** every hour need to be built to meet the current demand worldwide. Rapid urbanisation is a phenomenon of our times. Young people especially are drawn from rural areas to the world's metropolises – most of all in developing countries. These are millions of people, who hope for future prospects in a city: education, a job and a better livelihood. Not everyone gets the chance to accomplish this goal and many have to find a home in the slums of a city. The number of slum dwellers worldwide keeps rising, where Sub-Saharan Africa alone shows 60 per cent of the urban population living in slums.

Slums grow without any planning strategy. The residents often face critical housing conditions: an unsafe accommodation, because houses are built with whatever material is available and wherever there is space. The lack of roads and streetlights makes slums inaccessible and risky. Public space is scarce and overcrowding a major problem.

To solve this situation, better and durable housing is needed. Building patterns have to change. Instead of a multitude of small ground-floor mud or tin huts, stable, multi-storey houses or apartments would provide living space at affordable prices for many slum families.

## WHAT WE DO

- Policy frameworks to ensure housing for all and social inclusion
- Ensure affordable, adequate and durable housing
- Make the slum safe and accessible

In GHANA's capital Accra, the unique old town area of Ga Mashie has been undergoing upgrading by PSUP since 2008. In the two historic settlements of James Town and Ussher Town there are now paved streets and sewer systems almost everywhere. There are public and private toilets, as well as a municipal waste disposal system connected to the public refuse collection system.



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

# WATER

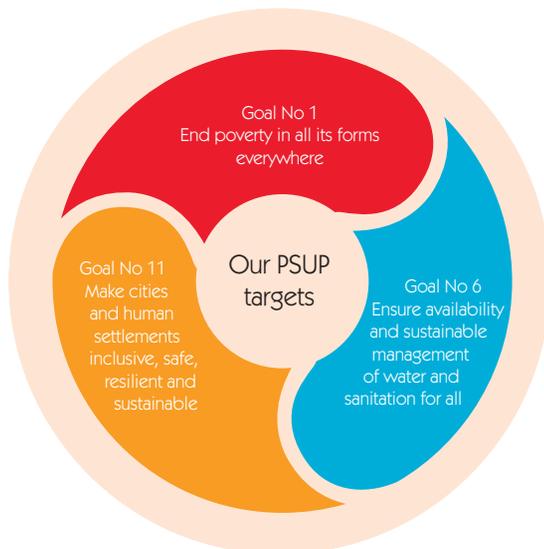
IS A HUMAN RIGHT



## PSUP TAKES ACTION TO PROVIDE SAFE AND AFFORDABLE DRINKING WATER FOR SLUM DWELLERS



### PROVIDING CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION - FALLS UNDER THESE SDGS



### PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING

**NEARLY 2.6 BILLION** people have gained access to clean drinking water in the last 25 years worldwide. This is an achievement! However, it still leaves about 884 million people without. Many live in slums all over the world, and are usually not connected to any safe water supply. This is a global challenge, but it is our overall mission, since the UN-Habitat Agenda has recognized water and sanitation as part of the right to an adequate standard of living.

Access to safe drinking water falls under international human rights law! This obligation requires States to ensure everyone's access to a sufficient amount of safe drinking water for personal and domestic uses, defined as water for drinking, personal sanitation, washing of clothes, food preparation, and personal and household hygiene. This should be considered in all areas of a city, including the informal settlements. In trying to better the living conditions of millions of slum dwellers, supply for facilities for water must be one of the main topics for the PSUP.

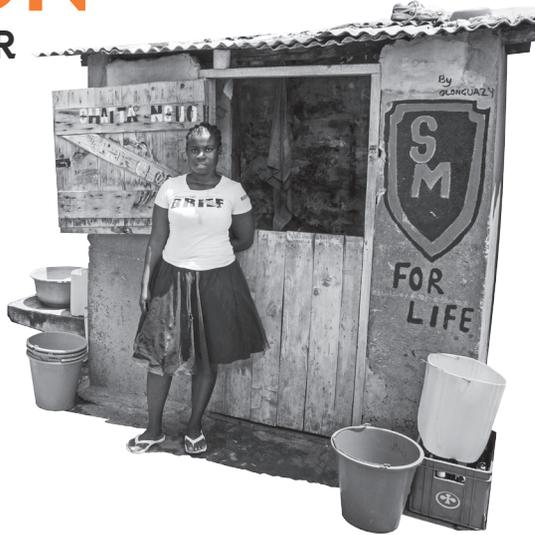
#### GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE

Water Kiosks in Mtwapa - widows and widowers of Majengo and Mzambarauni, two slum villages on the Kenyan coast, came together and formed groups which operate several water supply points selling affordable drinking water to the residents. The local authorities took part in the process: The Government of Kilifi contracted a regional water company to connect the settlement to the "official" water supply system.



# SANITATION

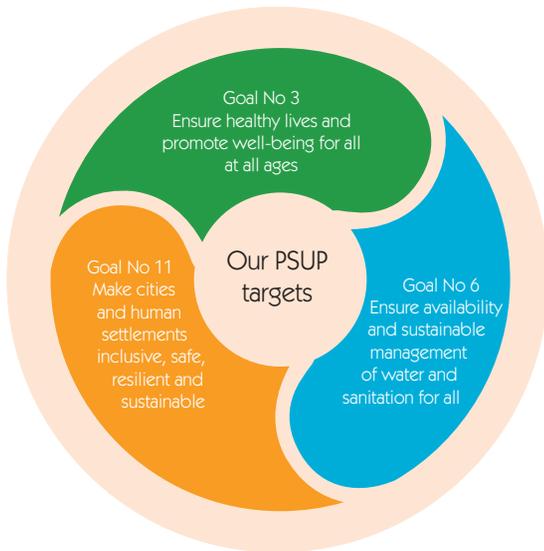
BASIC NEED AND MATTER OF DIGNITY



**PSUP PROVIDES FACILITIES FOR MILLIONS OF PEOPLE, TO HAVE ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION**



**PROVIDING CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION - FALLS UNDER THESE SDGS**



**PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING**

**THE LACK OF A TOILET**, but a cell phone - this is the reality faced by many slum dwellers around the world. There is digital progress, but the essentials are missing: a toilet and a shower.

In Kenya's largest slum Kibera, in Nairobi, residents pay bills digitally with a mobile phone, but have to live with open sewer lines emptying effluent in front of their houses since drainage and sanitation facilities are so limited. There are only 1,000 public toilets to serve the entire Kibera slum population of hundreds of thousands people. As a result, open defecation is still common. This is not only highly unhygienic, but poor or non-existent clean water and sanitation facilities are also linked to high malaria and diarrhoea rates, as in the case of Liberia where these diseases are the leading causes of child mortality.

## WHAT WE DO

We assist local and national authorities through Community Managed Funds to find solutions for adequate and affordable sanitation systems in slums, including flush toilets or latrines connected to a closed sewer or septic tank, or ventilated pit latrines. We work with local water and sanitation companies and connect them with communities and authorities to install pipelines and facilities. We ensure that slum communities are trained to operate and maintain these sanitation facilities through the Community Managed Funds.



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

# GENDER

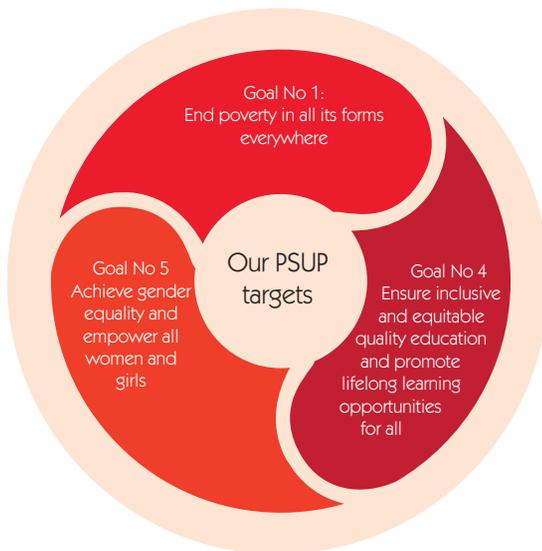
EQUAL RIGHTS  
FOR EVERYBODY



**PSUP EMPOWERS WOMEN,  
PROMOTES GENDER  
EQUALITY AND STRENGTHENS  
HUMAN RIGHTS**



**SECURING GENDER EQUALITY  
AND HUMAN RIGHTS - FALLS  
UNDER THESE SDGS**



**PARTICIPATORY  
SLUM UPGRADING**

**WOMEN AND GIRLS** often experience their lives in slums very differently from men or boys. They are much more exposed to gender-based violence. They face a higher vulnerability to unsafe public spaces and the lack of essential infrastructure, such as sanitation facilities. Even the basic need of using the toilet, could cause serious danger for a woman or a girl.

Moreover, women often have less power to ensure their rights are upheld, even though it is often the women who are the main bread-winners of the family, while also taking care of the housework and attending to family members. This translates into more fragile livelihoods as women have more difficult access to credit and finance, an unequal position in the labour market and a limited ability to secure assets independently from male relatives. Poverty is therefore often feminized. In 89 countries with available data, there are 4.4 million more women than men living on less than US\$ 1.90 a day.

## WHAT WE DO

To fight gender inequality, PSUP takes action. In the process of fast urbanisation, women and girls must be fully integrated into cities' economic, social, political and cultural lives.

We promote women's participation in processes of slum upgrading. At least 40 per cent of a local country team is comprised of women and half of our community-based projects are implemented by women. Our work has also established gender focal points in 35 countries. They ensure a gender-responsive approach in all our activities. Furthermore, councils and communities of PSUP participant countries are frequently trained on the participatory process, focusing on gender and youth in the city. This raises locals' awareness on the topic and helps to break out of the current gender-biased status quo.



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

# WASTE

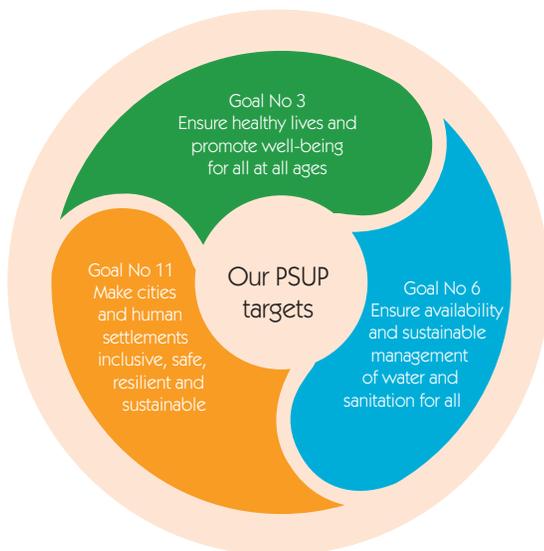
MUST BE MANAGED IN ALL AREAS OF THE CITY



**IN A CITYWIDE APPROACH ALL AREAS OF A METROPOLIS NEED TO BE CONNECTED TO A PROPER WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**



**PROVIDING A PROPER WASTE MANAGEMENT - FALLS UNDER THESE SDGS**



**PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING**

**CITIES WORLDWIDE GROW** rapidly, as does the amount of waste that they generate. This is particularly problematic in low-income countries, where large cities often have limited resources to provide the essentials, such as a functioning garbage collection system. Urban management is often overwhelmed by the mass of waste the city generates and not enough political actions are taken. Moreover, cities often do not supply any services in the slums. These areas in particular drown in their own garbage. This inevitably leads to health problems in the communities, destroys the environment and brings extra costs for the entire city, because of air, water and soil pollution.

These threats remain constant, as long as unmanaged urbanisation continues to intensify. Therefore, a city must secure sufficient management for all areas and for different types of waste: municipal solid waste, wastewater, and sludge from human excreta, to ensure sustainable development.

## WHAT WE DO

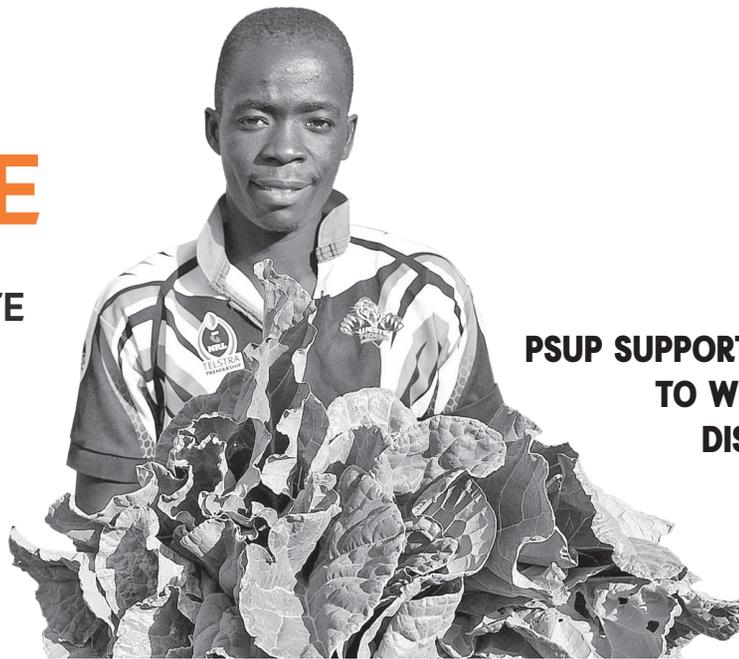
Creating a better waste management system in slums is one of PSUP's main priorities. We involve slums and slum dwellers in finding solutions, such as a community based waste collection system. Our approach is participatory, aiming at involving various stakeholders in the decision-making process. Waste collection and disposal can be organized through Community Managed Funds. These are PSUP-sponsored action groups that take on specific tasks in the settlement and generate an income for the community.



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

# CLIMATE

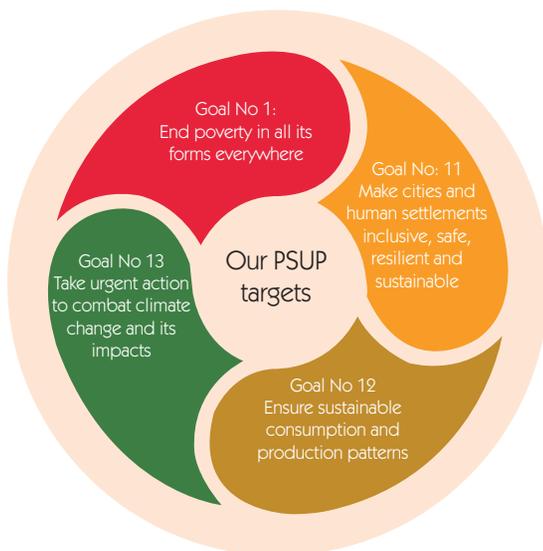
RESILIENCE TO  
CHANGING CLIMATE  
PATTERNS



**PSUP SUPPORTS SLUM DWELLERS  
TO WITHSTAND NATURAL  
DISASTERS AND RISKS**



**BUILDING RESILIENCE TO  
CLIMATE CHANGE -  
FALLS UNDER THESE SDGS**



**PARTICIPATORY  
SLUM UPGRADING**

**SHIFTING CLIMATE PATTERNS** are some of the major challenges of our time. These effects are becoming even more severe and their impacts will be felt increasingly in the future. People in rural areas and informal settlements will experience the effects of climate change most strongly. Droughts, heat waves, floods, landslides, cyclones or coastal erosion add more and more stress to these communities, food production and threatening housing as slums are often built in environmentally-fragile locations such as steep slopes, floodplains, swamps, coastal shores and river banks. Due to poverty and lack of education, slum dwellers often have low capacity to deal with these dramatic impacts.

## WHAT WE DO

Resilience building is a major task for PSUP. It starts with a detailed, in-depth understanding of the conditions people live in and which challenges the slum dwellers face in order to adequately plan interventions. Many cities have not yet addressed climate change as a threat, due to a lack of relevant data, city policies and action plans.

With our participatory slum upgrading approach we bring communities and their local authorities together, to seek solutions in reducing the effects induced by natural disasters. This includes the improvement of housing and infrastructure, where residents play an active part in planning, designing and implementing the slum upgrading process. It can range from building a drainage system or water supply, to widening access roads, rebuilding homes and infrastructure.



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# LAND

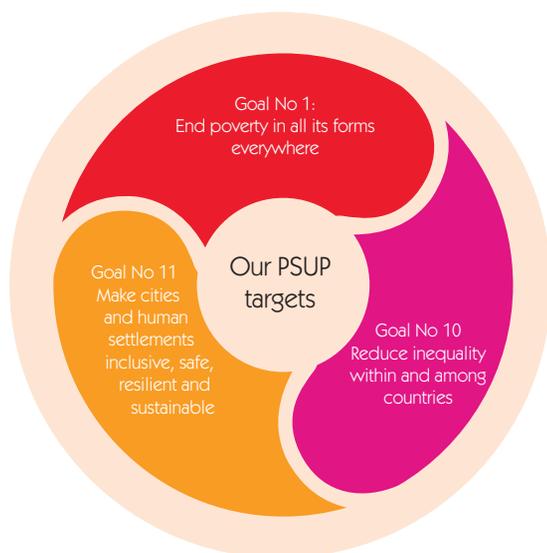
## THE RIGHT TO A SAFE HOME



**A SECURE RIGHT OF RESIDENCE MOTIVATES PEOPLE FOR LONG-TERM CONTRIBUTIONS**



**SECURING THE RIGHT TO A SAFE HOME FOR EVERYONE - FALLS UNDER THESE SDGS**



## PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING

**EVERYBODY** has the human right to an adequate standard of living, which includes the secure right to stay in a property: a security of tenure. However, the reality in slums is different. Slum dwellers often have to give way, for instance when a city's authorities decide to build structures, such as new expensive apartment blocks for a city beautification, motorways or roads. Slum dwellers have to live with the daily fear of being evicted from their homes. They face the fear of having to find a new place from one day to another if necessary, building a house all over again or, in the worst case, ending up homeless.

A decade ago, over 900 million people living in urban areas lacked security of tenure and this figure has not decreased yet. It affects the poorest, especially women and children. Over the next 30 years, the number of slum dwellers is expected to double. Public housing systems may fail to handle such numbers.

Who wants to invest in a home, which has no property right? Security of tenure is a key factor to improve people's living conditions in informal settlements and helps to fight poverty.

Tenure security can help individuals' gain access to work and education; therefore can promote economic growth. Furthermore, land titling and associated property rights can result in greater daily security and peace, as well as habitants' ability to demand services or apply for loans.

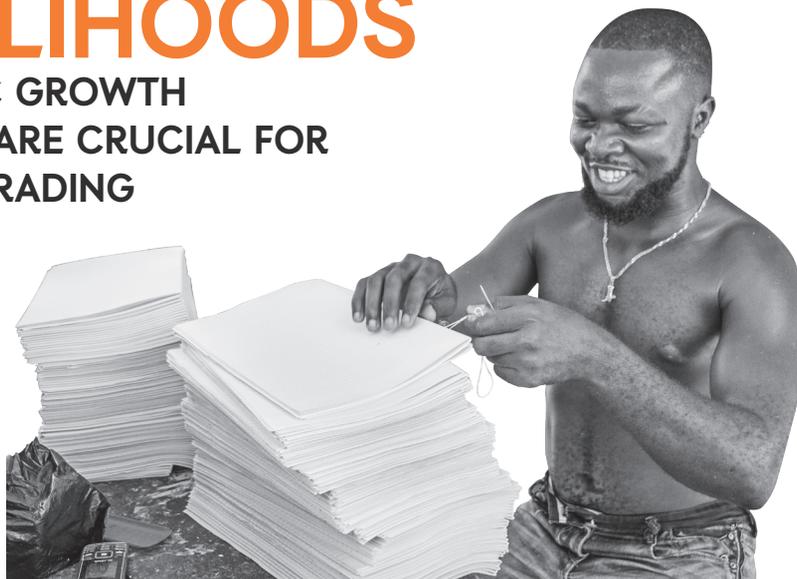
### WHAT WE DO

PSUP works with local authorities and national governments to secure slum dwellers' rights. We develop solutions that benefit all involved, including tenants and landlords, whilst institutionalising and enforcing no forced evictions policies. Up until now, our work has provided more than 800,000 slum dwellers with secure tenure in nine countries, including Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo and Ghana.



# LIVELIHOODS

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND JOBS ARE CRUCIAL FOR SLUM UPGRADING



**LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEEDS TO GO HAND IN HAND WITH STRUCTURAL SLUM UPGRADING**



**IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOODS OF ONE BILLION SLUM DWELLERS - FALLS UNDER THESE SDGS**

## PARTICIPATORY SLUM UPGRADING

**GLOBAL POVERTY RATES** have been reduced by more than half since 2000. Nevertheless, one billion people still live in slums today. This is approximately 30 per cent of the world's urban population. We cannot ignore millions of slum dwellers; they need to be integrated into the development planning of cities. Slums play an important role in the economy, as they are often vibrant centres of economic activity that serve both slum dwellers and the wider city, contributing decisively to the prosperity of a city.

However, the informal job market is often unskilled and low-paid. The slums' economy is a mesh of small-scale enterprises and home-based work, which are often insecure livelihood options. It allows inhabitants to survive, but not to progress sufficiently to change their living conditions. Whilst recurrent periods of unemployment are a constant in their lives, young people living in slums are particularly affected by the lack of opportunities and jobs; this increases the risk of crime, violence and drug abuse.

### WHAT WE DO

Employment is an important factor to end poverty. PSUP strengthens income generation through Community Managed Funds (CMFs). These are PSUP-sponsored action groups that take on specific tasks in the slum, generate money for the community and create jobs for its residents. Youth in particularly are central in the realisation of the CMFs.



**UN HABITAT**  
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE