



Private Sector Partnership Forum

Innovative Solutions to Challenges in Slums & Informal Settlements in Africa

24 to 26 June 2020, eConference

Leveraging the Market Potential in Informal Settlements:

Findings from Market Studies in Kenya

Date: Wednesday, 24 June 2020, 1230 – 1300

Dr. James Mutero, Urban Development & Housing Finance Expert

Findings from Market Studies in Nigeria and Cameroon

Date: Thursday, 25 June 2020, 1145 – 1315

Prof. Johnson Bade Falade, Nigeria

Sipliant Takougang, Advisor to the Government, Cameroon

Findings from Market Studies in Senegal

Date: Friday, 26 June 2020, 1045 – 1145

Ousmane Mbodji, Technical Director, FDV

Topics Explored

1. Results of the data assessments in the areas of urban infrastructure and services, construction, housing, energy, transportation, social-economic development, small scale business development, finance and community-managed funds in informal settlements
2. Opportunities and entry-points for private sector investment and business cases for slum upgrading and prevention
3. Questions & Answers

About the Private Sector Partnership Forum

Recognizing the key role played by the private sector in all areas of development, engaging the business community is critical to the realization of the SDGs. Even though approx. 60% of urban populations in Africa live in informal settlements, the economic importance of this large market remains untapped, yet it presents lucrative business opportunities. Companies and investors lack the enabling environment needed to develop business cases for modern solutions and affordable innovations for informal urban areas. For this reason, PSUP is taking the first steps towards addressing this major opportunity and duly matching private sector solutions with the needs in informal urban settlements and slums.

The three-day Private Sector Partnership Forum has been organized in recognition of the critical roles played by the private sector in innovating and piloting novel solutions to development challenges, and the public sector in scaling up successful innovations. To this end, the Forum seeks to facilitate partnership between national governments and municipalities with private sector companies, specifically investors and innovators with low-cost innovative solutions to development challenges.

About the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) together with the European Commission (EC), and the Secretariat of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) entered a tripartite partnership to address the challenge of slums in the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Countries through the launch of the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) in 2008. Since then, the PSUP has worked in over 40 countries and 200 cities and urban centres, developing the capacities of country partners in slum upgrading and urban profiling for sustainability. In addition, the Programme has developed more than 30 citywide slum upgrading and prevention strategies and identified concrete entry-points for participatory slum upgrading at city scale.

Description of the Session

Sector experts will present the key results of the market studies conducted for UN-Habitat in Kenya, Nigeria, Cameroon and Senegal identifying the key opportunities and entry-points for private sector investment and business cases for slum upgrading and prevention. The presentation will provide an overview of the existing situation and opportunities for business per sector covering housing, water, sanitation, waste management, transportation, energy, health services, education and economic infrastructure. The opportunities for partnerships with different stakeholders at national and local government levels will be presented, as well as results from socio-economic survey and the existing markers that are currently providing an enabling environment for investment into the informal sectors. The experts will point out the key challenges for doing business, such as the legal and regulatory limitations, status of informality, levels of savings and the costs of doing business. Most importantly, the opportunities for investment will be analysed and specified by sector and recommendations will be drawn on the market potentials, including a way forward.

Expected Outcomes

The Forum is among a series of events organized by UN-Habitat to strengthen partnership with the business community to support sustainable and inclusive urban development and the New Urban Agenda. It provides a platform for matching the needs of informal settlements residents and demands of cities with innovative private sector solutions.

The session is expected to have:

1. Demonstrated the business potential and identified opportunities to develop and deploy low-cost innovative solutions to a sustainable urbanization that is inclusive of informal settlements
2. Identified opportunities and sector entry-points for private sector investment and business cases for slum upgrading and prevention and the required partnership models for success
3. Identified bankable and investment-ready sectors to be piloted in selected slums and informal settlements