



Private Sector Partnership Forum

Innovative Solutions to Challenges in Slums & Informal Settlements in Africa
24 to 26 June 2020, eConference

THE WAY FORWARD: Commitments and Pipeline Projects

Date: Friday, 26 June 2020, 15:15 – 16:15 EAT

Topics Explored

1. Opportunities for partnership between governments and investors with investable innovative solutions and models
2. Pipeline projects to develop and deploy bankable, investment-ready and low-cost innovative solutions for implementation in slums and informal settlements
3. Strategic partnerships with investors and development partners to support and finance the implementation of the project pipeline to address the most critical socioeconomic and environmental challenges facing the urban poor, including COVID-19
4. Soft launch of the Resilient Slums Challenge Fund for Urban Enterprise Development (ReSCUED)

Moderator

Robert Lewis-Lettington, Chief of Section, Land, Housing and Shelter, UN-Habitat

Panel Discussions

1. Victoria Sabula, CEO, The AECF
2. Ruth Ndegwa, Director Corporate Services, Kenya Climate Innovation Center
3. Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States
4. European Commission
5. Financing Partners
6. Governments
7. Ian Shapiro, CEO, Reall
8. Graziella Roccella, Chief Research and Urban Planning Officer, Planet Smart City
9. Kerstin Sommer, Programme Manager, PSUP, UN-Habitat

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

The closing session of the forum will specify the way forward for the partnership opportunities explored during the thematic sector sessions. Commitments from various stakeholders, from national and local government decision makers, from community representatives, international and local businesses, investors, financing cooperation partners and from UN-Habitat will be put forward and summarized. Partnership opportunities will be concretized and pipeline projects that were identified during the thematic sessions will be listed to leverage public and private financing. Opportunities for innovative financing and business-support models for innovators identified during the forum will be summarized.

The closing session will concretize and summarize

1. Opportunities for partnership between governments and investors with investable innovative solutions and models,
2. A pipeline to develop and deploy bankable, investment-ready and low-cost innovative solutions for implementation in slums and informal settlements,
3. Strategic partnerships with investors and development partners to support and finance the implementation of the project pipeline to address the most critical socioeconomic and environmental challenges facing the urban poor, including COVID-19.

The forum will close with the soft launch of the Resilient Slums Challenge Fund for Urban Enterprise Development (ReSCUED).

Guiding Questions

- ✓ Which innovative solutions can be identified, that are investment-ready for implementation in slums and informal settlements?
- ✓ What are the opportunities for partnership between governments and investors with investable innovative solutions and models?
- ✓ What are the strategic win-win partnerships that can be pursued between investors, governments and development partners to support and finance the implementation of innovative solutions?
- ✓ Which innovative solutions should be put forward to the project pipeline to address the most critical socioeconomic and environmental challenges facing the urban poor, including COVID-19?
- ✓ What existing infrastructure, investments or partnerships can be leveraged to accelerate the realization of a sustainable urbanization in informal settlements?
- ✓ What investments are required to meet the challenges in informal settlements and slums?
- ✓ What are your municipality's plans and budgetary commitments towards upgrading of informal settlements or providing affordable housing to residents of informal settlements?
- ✓ Which commitments can be proposed, i.e. co-financing, policies and sector reforms to accelerate the realization of investments in informal settlements?

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 closing 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 for partnership and matched governments and investors with investable innovative solutions and models are explored
3. Identified bankable and investment-ready projects to be piloted in slums and informal settlements