



International Housing Coalition

*Flourishing Communities and Inclusive Cities*

# International Housing Coalition

## Weekly Update

October 23, 2015

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### Habitat III Thematic Meeting Update - Montreal Declaration

On October 6 and 7, the city of Montreal hosted the 2nd Habitat III thematic meeting focused on metropolitan areas. The Montréal Thematic Meeting is one of the eleven thematic and regional meetings to help prepare the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) to be held in Quito in 2016.

The result of the two-day meeting was a declaration which "emphasizes the importance of metropolitan cooperation to meet the challenges of global urbanization which is concentrated in metropolitan areas. It proposes the establishment of partnerships between States, local and metropolitan institutions and civil society in order to continue to improve the quality of life of citizens."

Read more about the meeting in a *CitiScope* article [here](#). Read the full declaration [here](#).

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## Innovation in Colonias on the Texas-Mexico Border

Please join the Wilson Center's Urban Sustainability Laboratory and Mexico Institute, along with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas for a discussion on "Innovation in Colonias on the Texas-Mexico Border: Building on Border Assets."

Texas colonias, home to an estimated 500,000 people, represent one of the largest concentrations of poverty in the U.S. Panelists will discuss how policies for affordable housing, infrastructure, education, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and health can be integrated with efforts to build an inclusive economy and strong community networks and cooperation. A recent report by the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas provides context for the discussion.

WHEN: Tuesday October 27th, 9 - 11 AM

WHERE: Woodrow Wilson Center

1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington D.C.

Find more information and RSVP [here](#).

Read Bloomberg Business article about the Bank report [here](#).

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## ADB Study: Urban Sanitation in Vietnam

The Asian Development Bank recently published a study summarizing the factors affecting the success of the national urban wastewater program. It identifies major issues influencing performance and achievements related to the program, highlights successful programs and the policy changes need to encourage progress toward Vietnam's environmental objectives and targets.

Together with other development partners, ADB is considering expansion of its proposed urban wastewater management program into a 10-year multidonor urban environment program, incorporating climate change resilience into the urban planning and governance legislative and institutional structure. The publication attempts to organize priority considerations for this framework.

Read the full paper [here](#).

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## CDG Event: Legal Identities for All Critical to Achieving SDGs

A legal identity is the first step to claiming many basic rights and those without one can be denied the chance to play an active and productive role and to raise themselves and their families out of poverty.

SDG Target 16.9 requires states to 'provide legal identity for all, including birth registration'. Yet legal identification is much more than a goal in itself: it is critical in achieving at least 10 other SDGs. Please join the Center for Global Development for a high level event considering the implications for, and experiences of, governments in the developed and developing world and the potential for technology to help find the missing millions and achieve development goals.

WHEN: Tuesday, November 3rd, 3 - 4:30 PM

WHERE: Center for Global Development  
2055 L St NW, Washington D.C.

Find more information and RSVP [here](#).

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### In the News and Around the Web

- Read a *Forbes* article discussing the use of job-training programs as a way to improve slums [here](#).
- Read a *CitiScope* article making the case that housing is critical to a sustainable cities agenda but must not be addressed in a vacuum [here](#).
- Read a *CityLab* article on the solid waste challenges many states in India are facing [here](#).

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