



## IHC Weekly Update

April 15, 2016

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### Habitat III Key Thematic Meeting on Informal Settlements

Last week, the United Nations hosted a meeting in advance of Habitat III, focused on incorporating informal settlements and slums into the New Urban Agenda that will ultimately come out of the conference in October.

The conference, which took place on April 7th and 8th in Pretoria South Africa, allowed stakeholders to provide guidance to the Habitat III secretariat on issues such as tenure security and housing, livelihoods, safety, and governance. The meetings also discussed the challenges of crafting effective policy, providing infrastructure and services, and building capacity and for the future.

The outcome document from the meeting, a draft is available [here](#), will be one of many inputs into the final negotiations at Habitat III. IHC is pleased that inclusive upgrading and development is a key theme throughout the document, and that secure tenure, adequate housing and provision of basic services are all highlighted as critical parts of improving informal settlements worldwide.

Read a CitiScope article highlighting other aspects of the meeting [here](#).

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## Online Training - Toward Resilience: Principles in Practice

The Toward Resilience Guide published by Catholic Relief Services provides a resource on incorporating disaster risk reduction & climate change adaptation principles into relief and development programming.

In a followup training following basic training on the guide (available [here](#)), DisasterReady.org is hosting another training furthering the principles in the guide. Based on 10 principles that support integrated programming, this 75-minute eLearning course helps practitioners better understand how these principles can be put into practice in areas where communities are threatened by disasters and the effects of climate change. Based on real world case studies, the companion course illustrates the benefits and key elements of an integrated approach to building resilience to disaster and climate change risk.

The course is entirely online and can be taken at any time. Find more information [here](#).

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## Habitat III Event at the Wilson Center: Localizing the SDGs

In September 2015, world leaders agreed on 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with 169 targets to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030. Many of the SDGs are interrelated and will require governments to develop integrated and cross-cutting approaches to make the goals a reality. Cities and local stakeholders will play a critical role in implementing the SDGs.

Please join the Woodrow Wilson Center for a discussion organized by the Habitat III U.S. National Committee together with the Wilson Center, Urban Institute, and USAID to examine local strategies for realizing the 2030 Agenda. Representatives from 3 US Government Agencies, nonprofits, think tanks and multilateral organizations will take part in two panel discussions, on the relevance of urbanization across the SDGs and on building a local SDG infrastructure.

WHEN: Monday April 25th, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM ET

WHERE: Woodrow Wilson Center, 6th Fl  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington D.C.

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

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## Partnering for Greener Cities: How Public Works with Private

Please join ICLEI Europe and the GREEN SURGE Project for a meeting of urban green infrastructure decision-makers, researchers and private sector stakeholders, to discuss local government strategies for partnering with private sector actors to lead urban development down a greener path.

This Stakeholder Dialogue forum, taking place in Bilbao, Spain, is the second in a series of events organized by the project, this forum will feature Peter Massini of the Greater London Authority who will present on a public-private partnership to encourage greater green corridors in London. The event will also feature many other speakers from the region. The Forum is a pre-event to the 8th European Conference on Sustainable Cities & Towns.

WHEN: April 26th, 2PM - 6PM

WHERE: Bilbao, Bizkaia, Spain

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

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### In the News and Around the Web

- Read an article highlighting Habitat for Humanity and the Inter-American Development Bank's leadership in crafting the Habitat III Policy Paper on Housing [here](#).
- Read an article on the ISO 37120, the first international standards for cities [here](#).
- Read an article [here](#) on the World Urban Campaign - UN Habitat 'Up for Slum Dwellers - Transforming a Billion Lives' campaign. The program is a public-private partnership aimed at accelerating actions to improve the living conditions of slum dwellers.

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