EXPANDING OPPORTUNITY

IHC Annual Report 2015
Dear Friends of the International Housing Coalition:

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank everyone who helped to make 2015 a successful year for IHC. The interest of many individuals and organizations speaks of a mutual commitment to addressing the needs of the world’s urban poor. Particularly, I would like to thank Judith Hermanson, IHC President & CEO, and her predecessor Barbara McMurray for their effective guidance.

The past year was a significant one as urban issues gained increased global recognition and support and the member states of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda to eradicate poverty worldwide. The Agenda included among its 17 goals an explicitly focused urban goal as part of the worldwide development agenda for the period 2015-2030.

IHC continues to have a strong network and a growing reputation as an advocate for inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and for the poor and slum dwellers who make up a quarter of the world’s population. During the year IHC received ongoing support from its founding sponsors, Habitat for Humanity International and the National Association of Realtors, an important grant from the Wallace Genetic Foundation, as well as support from members of the IHC coalition. This support makes IHC’s work possible, and we are enormously grateful for it.

IHC accomplishments for 2015 are described in this report, but I would like to highlight five of them specifically.

During the year IHC:

- Was an active and influential advocate for including a sustainable urban development goal and access to adequate, safe and affordable housing in the 2030 Agenda.
- In partnership with the Woodrow Wilson Center, sponsored policy oriented discussions on critical issues related to rapid urbanization with urban experts in Washington, DC.
- Published a series of papers on critical policy issues related to rental housing development and availability of adequate affordable housing.
- Continued sponsorship of a very successful international urban essay competition for graduate students which encourages creative thinking on urban issues by emerging scholars.
- Continued to advocate for increased funding of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act and for investments in urban water and sanitation.

This will be a pivotal year for IHC. Under IHC’s new strategy, IHC will advocate for and advance practical knowledge about the opportunities that Goal 11 and the upcoming Habitat III offer, as well as a comprehensive view of cities to encourage investments in services, infrastructure and housing delivery to serve all residents, including those who are the poorest and most marginalized. I hope you will join us in the efforts.

Sincerely,

Bob Dubinsky
Board Chairman, IHC Global
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In 2008, the global urban population exceeded the rural for the first time in history. Population growth is expected to add 2.5 billion people by the year 2050. Sixty-six percent of that population – about 6.5 billion – will be living in urban areas.
Global Goals for Sustainable Development

1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere
2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture
3. Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all
5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls
6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all
8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all
9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation
10. Reduce inequality within and among countries
11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns
13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts
14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss
16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development

IHC believes that the future of sustainable development is bound inextricably with how cities grow and develop. How equitable they are. How they provide or impede opportunity. How they evolve spatially. How they plan for and assist their residents to adapt to climate change. How they enable and encourage the housing delivery system. How they encourage investment. How they embrace all of their citizens.

These are exciting and unprecedented times for those concerned about cities, their opportunities and challenges! For the first time, the global community has recognized the critical role that cities play in our planet and has established a goal, Global Goal 11, specifically focused on cities: To make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. Goal 11 acknowledges that how cities function will affect this agenda.

From IHC’s perspective, Goal 11 also provides a new vision of cities, which we share. This new vision requires a re-thinking of institutional relationships, resource flows and investments. It therefore holds profound implications for the roles of citizens, local and national governments, private sector, and civil society. Global Goal 11 is an ambitious goal, and it is also a chance to get things right! This is a goal towards which we have been working and will continue to work!
Urban growth has enormously exciting implications for innovation, creativity, economic growth and development, and more equitable prosperity. But, it could go the other way as well. Already, over one billion poor people live in slums. This is a number that will only increase unless policies are changed and strategic investments are made. The good news is that these are instruments that can benefit everyone.

City level investment and governance structures outstripped by population growth mean a deteriorating environment and quality of life, not only for the poor but for all residents. Mass migration, instability, health pandemics and stagnating growth are but a few of the far-reaching consequences if the global community fails to understand these implications.

Good thinking, inclusionary policies and wise, equitable investments in cities will make all the difference to our collective future. A vision of the city that enables even the poorest and most disenfranchised to have a fair chance and access to opportunity is achievable. Civil society, the private sector, governments, and people who live in cities, bringing their complementary strengths and working together, can transform neighborhoods and communities.

Bawana is a poor slum resettlement colony northwest of central Delhi. Despite many challenges in the area, IHC sponsor Habitat for Humanity has built over 500 houses in this community since 2004. Housing is a critical driver for improving the lives of slum dwellers, and is central to improving health, safety, and economic security.
THE GLOBAL AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND HABITAT III’S NEW URBAN AGENDA

The development of the 2030 Global Agenda and its 17 goals to eradicate poverty globally was a highly inclusive process, and allowed many different stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, and academia, to provide substantive comments and input into the process. The prospect of Goal 11 encouraged a surge of interest and scholarship on the elements of an inclusive and sustainable urban environment. There was a chorus of many different voices. The IHC was glad to be part of this chorus to provide a strong voice for housing, services and particularly to ensure that the needs and rights of the urban poor are acknowledged and addressed. IHC advocated for this separate goal focused on cities, in the strong belief that it is only a systems-oriented approach that understands the operations of a city – its physical, economic, social cultural and other dimensions – as a complex whole that will enable cities to prosper and serve all of its residents, including the poor.

The past year was also important to housing in particular. In addition to the adoption of the Global Sustainable Development Agenda, those interested in housing and urbanization, including IHC, have been actively engaged in preparing for Habitat III, the UN Conference on Housing and Urban Development, which is held every 20 years to re-examine and direct urban policy for the future. IHC convened a panel at the United Nations in New York to address gender and land issues during a PrepComm for Habitat III.

Habitat III will be held in Quito, Ecuador in 2016; it will be the first UN conference to take place following the passage of the SDGs and the climate change negotiations at COP21. The conference represents the first opportunity to discuss practical implementation of Goal 11 and the interrelationships among the 17 Global Goals that constitute the 2030 Global Agenda. IHC continues to be involved in the subgroup discussing housing and slums and participating with the World Urban Campaign in drafting the “City We Need 2.0” which envisions the future, providing a voice within the civil society committee of the Global Assembly of Partners, among others.

There continue to be opportunities to move IHC’s agenda forward and to begin to build on one of the inherent qualities of cities: The capacity for innovation. IHC is excited for its membership and for the chance to be part of this transformative movement.
LOOKING FORWARD: CHANGES AT THE IHC

2015 has been a significant year for re-positioning the goals and practices of the IHC to build upon current internal and external momentum. With the adoption by 193 nations of the Global Goals, the opportunity of Habitat III and the expected New Urban Agenda that will result from it, IHC will expand its membership and its activities to embrace both inclusive housing and sustainable cities. The timing of leadership changes at IHC, Goal 11 and the New Urban Agenda, and IHC’s 10th anniversary has culminated in an ambitious new strategy to move the organization forward into this newly energized space.

IHC new strategic vision is grounded in the assumption that what happens in cities matters profoundly. What happens in cities matters not only to the people who live there but also to the rest of the world. The demographics speak for themselves: With nearly 4 billion people living in cities and urban settlements, we are an urban planet, with the markets and opportunities for innovation and new enterprise and improving living standards that urban centers offer an incontrovertible fact. The promise of the urban future includes expanded opportunities for individuals, civil society and private enterprise. The challenge of the urban future is for these opportunities to be made widely available.

Housing has been at the core of IHC’s programs and activities since its founding in 2006. However, as IHC grew and the landscape changed,
VISION:
A world made more equitable by inclusive cities and vibrant communities.

MISSION:
To serve as a convener, thought leader and leading voice for sustainable more equitable cities and settlements, fulfilling our global commitment to urban communities becoming inclusive, safe and resilient -- better places to live -- giving all citizens a chance for decent housing and a decent life.

THEORY OF CHANGE:
Building a global constituency aware of the global and local implications, challenges and solutions for more equitable urban development will sway public opinion, shape public policy and increase resource allocation and programs to enhance urban equity and opportunity.

IHC’s Unique Niche

• Aggregating voice through its global membership and constituency
• Influencing policy and practice through its solution-oriented analyses and information sharing
• Keeping a steady light shining on the plight of the urban poor AND on the forward pathways to prosperity that can be forged with and for them through policies and investments designed with Global Goal 11 in mind
• Developing and sharing knowledge and innovation directed towards the new vision of the city embodied in Global Goal 11
• Advocating to improve the inclusive delivery of housing which includes improved access to basic services and the full range of opportunity provided by cities
• Finding and disseminating solutions that engage communities, civil society organizations, private sector and governments to work together
• Convening and meeting with policy makers and policy influencers to advocate for inclusive, safe resilient and sustainable cities and bringing to the policy table a strong voice for greater urban equity

LOOKING FORWARD: CHANGES AT THE IHC (Contd.)

so has the organizational focus and mission, expanding to view housing more holistically within the larger urban context. With the approval of the Global Agenda 2030 and the inclusion of a standalone goal focusing on inclusive and sustainable cities, cities and urban development are finally being included in global discussions and policy. This is a propitious moment when key policy making and influencing organizations are seeing opportunities to address the continuing cycle of urban poverty and exclusion, and IHC is well-placed to occupy the advocacy space.

As IHC takes its new strategy forward, it will focus on more equitable urban development. IHC believes that housing delivery, within a comprehensive city-level plan, can be a driver for more equitable development and the social, economic and spatial inclusion that implies. The ability of housing to drive more equitable development can lead to growth and greater overall prosperity in cities. New public private partnerships, resource flows and investment opportunities will all be part of this new equation.
Reflecting on 2015: Accomplishments & Building Blocks

Research, Knowledge and Innovation

2015 Winners

Grand Prize:
Stephanie Butcher,
University College London
“The ‘Everyday Water Practices’ of the Urban Poor in Kisumu, Kenya”

Finalists:
Ei-Lyn Chia,
University of Cambridge
“Sharing São Paulo: Towards a Smart Inclusive City”

Jason Scott,
University of Colorado-Boulder
“Pacified Inclusion: Digital Inclusion in Brazil’s Most Violent Favelas”

Annual Urban Poverty Essay Competition

This competition engages emerging scholars in innovative thinking around urban issues.

Initiated by IHC in 2010, IHC continues to be a main sponsor of the annual Urban Poverty Essay Competition for masters and PhD students. In supporting this competition, IHC’s intention is to contribute to a continuing stream of new urban scholars as part of its mission to build a robust constituency for urban development.

Submissions come from around the world and the growth of the competition indicates the increased interest and research being done in cities across the globe. After traveling to Washington to present their work, winners of previous competitions have gone on to distinguished teaching and research positions at major universities in the US and abroad, as well as joining research and policy teams with international development agencies, donors and NGOs.

Nearly 150 abstracts were submitted in 2015 from a record-breaking 29 different countries. 21 full papers were solicited, and three winners were selected.

More Equitable Housing Markets: Rental Housing Short Papers

As part of IHC’s goal to support and share city-focused research and innovative solutions for affordable and decent housing, IHC commissioned Ira Peppercorn, an expert housing economist, to write a series of short, actionable papers on rental housing as part of IHC’s concern about affordability and availability of housing. The papers examine aspects of the rental housing sector, proposing practical solutions and lessons learned.

Rental Housing Papers

- Rental Housing – An Introduction
- Rental Housing Subsidies after Disasters – The Case of Haiti
- Small Scale Solutions to Meet Large Scale Rental Housing Challenges
- Problems with Some Current Housing Assumptions and Formulas
Only two per cent of the world’s land is in the Low Elevation Coastal Zone (LECZ) – the area adjacent to the coast that is less than ten meters above mean sea level – but this zone is home to ten per cent of the world’s population, 60 per cent of whom live in urban areas.

IHC Member, ICMA facilitated a Broward County and Fort Lauderdale, Florida partnership with eThekwini Municipality (Durban), South Africa, to address the impacts of climate change, particularly sea level rise, and strategies for adaptation.

In 2010, 60 percent of the urban population in sub-Saharan cities lived in slums with no access to basic services.

Using a community-driven approach IHC member Global Communities is implementing programs to create sustainable improvements in water and sanitation access while also improving hygiene behaviors.

The historical opportunities for innovation, global productivity, and increased realization of human potential that are rightly associated with urban growth may also, due to rapidity and inability to keep pace, lead also and dangerously to a concentration of poverty, security and other threats to social well-being, and to widening inequity.

IHC carried out its advocacy agenda on an on-going basis and met with a wide variety of policy-makers and policy-influencers on Capitol Hill, at the US State Department, US Agency for International Development, US Department of Housing and Urban Development as well as other civil society and private sector stakeholders with the unequivocal message that “urban matters.” The demographics must be acknowledged and IHC continued to bring this message to meetings and symposia drawing attention to the opportunities and challenges, highlighting the plight of the most marginalized living in slums and the global policy imperative to ensure that a billion people are not required to live in degrading, over-crowded conditions without water, sanitation, durable shelter, or secure tenure as both unjust and untenable for the planet itself.

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Keeping the Light Shining: Advocacy

Water for the Poor

World Water Day Congressional Briefing

The availability of clean water for the urban poor is an enormous, inadequately addressed issue, despite landmark legislation and good programs to address the availability of water for everyone. IHC is strongly advocating for the urban poor to be equitably included in foreign assistance water programming.

Highlighting the accomplishments that have been made and in honor of World Water Day 2015, and in support of this connection, the IHC joined a small group of organizers to sponsor a Congressional Staff round table in April of 2015. The IHC joined the water and sanitation NGO community and corporate sponsors Proctor and Gamble and Giorgio Armani in hosting. The event highlighted the importance of clean water, basic sanitation and hygiene, how the private sector is supporting those programs, and the role that U.S. government foreign assistance can play. IHC Board Chairman Bob Dubinsky spoke about the importance of the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act to bring clean water and sanitation to urban areas, particularly slums and informal settlements of the urban poor.

Measuring Progress is Key

IHC played an important role in bringing adequate housing to the fore during the policy dialogue leading to the adoption of Goal 11. However, having a goal is not enough! IHC believes that having the right indicators is key to ensuring that real progress is made and has made that part of its advocacy agenda. The IHC partnered with Habitat for Humanity International to solicit support for a meaningful target on adequate housing within Goal 11 of the Global Goals. IHC and the members who joined in signing were concerned about affordability specifically as a measure of availability and adequacy of housing. This is one example of how IHC can mobilize its unique private sector and civil society membership to help influence the global target and indicator discussions.
REFLECTING ON 2015: ACCOMPLISHMENTS & BUILDING BLOCKS (Contd.)

Keeping the Light Shining: Advocacy

Connecting Policy and Practice: Learning and Knowledge Sharing

Through membership events, conference participation, and general public learning opportunities, IHC advanced ideas of inclusive urbanization, housing and community development. IHC events focused on practical applications of current research, lessons learned, and ways for members and other stakeholders to participate in important global conversations.

Highlights include:

Member Policy Briefing Series

Initiated this past fiscal year, IHC provides policy briefings for its members in a collegial setting facilitating dialogue and exchange with policy makers and influencers.

As the kick-off, IHC convened a Briefing event on Global Goal 11 and on Habitat III shortly after the adoption of the Global Goals. IHC was fortunate to draw upon the expertise of member and supporter, Habitat for Humanity International, to set out the issues and ways for members to engage. Policy Briefings planned for 2016 include discussions on the implications for cities of the recent global climate change commitments made at the UN Climate Conference COP21, urban food security, urban maternal and child health, and inequality in cities.

World Bank Land and Poverty Conference

The gender imbalance with respect to secure tenure and land rights is a continuing concern of IHC’s as a barrier to equitable development. IHC was invited to be part of a panel discussion focused on gender at the Land and Poverty Conference in March to share its insights and knowledge. Board member Susan Corts Hill presented IHC’s 2014 paper “Women and Secure Property Rights: A How-To Primer on Effective Reform in Developing Countries.” She focused on practical steps that have been taken to address the barriers women face to owning land and property, with specific case studies from around the world of successful interventions and lessons learned.

Statistics vary widely, but it is well-documented that women face significant barriers when attempting to own land and or have secure tenure. Across 10 countries in Africa, only 12 percent of women, on average, report owning land individually, while 31 percent of men report owning land individually. Advocating through knowledge based discussion and cross-sectoral linkages, IHC seeks to lessen this inequity and to advance strategies for asset building for women through homeownership, rights to land and secure tenure.
More than 2 million people were left homeless after the earthquake that struck Haiti on 12 January 2010. Yet Oxfam estimates that less than 20% of the housing solutions provided as a response to the disaster could be seen as long-term, or sustainable.

IHC member Global Communities implemented a long term urban reconstruction program in Port-au-Prince. Utilizing an integrated approach, the program provided rubble removal and shelter building services, while also working with the community to plan for green spaces, plots for schools, and proper access roads to cover the basics of sustainable urban improvement. Returning people displaced by the earthquake to their own communities helps to reduce violence, crime and disorder; facilitate access to employment and maintain community cohesion.

In partnership with the Washington chapter of the Society for International Development, IHC hosted an event in honor of World Habitat Day, drawing attention to the universal need for safe and adequate shelter and to encourage action to address urban poverty through housing.

Noting the 5th year anniversary of the Haiti earthquake and the large amount of press, IHC put together a panel of housing and urban experts working on the ground in Haiti to understand more deeply, beyond the headlines, how housing investment has been made, the accomplishments and challenges remaining. IHC drew on its membership for the panel, who together have unrivaled practical experience in re-building adequate housing and communities in a disaster-affected, impoverished urban setting.

A key theme of the panelists was that more than is commonly reported has been accomplished in addressing the difficult housing issues, many of which pre-date and were greatly magnified by the earthquake. And yet, at the same time, so much remains to be done. Another key theme was the importance of land and tenure issues, availability of finance and affordability, and the centrality of community engagement and participation to sustainable housing and urban re-development.

Participating IHC members were Habitat for Humanity International addressing land tenure, Global Communities addressing participatory neighborhood-level housing reconstruction, the Pan American Development Foundation, addressing integrated neighborhood re-development, and Development Innovations Group, addressing financial services and products. These presentations covered the gamut of urban challenges: from housing and neighborhood upgrading projects and working to rebuild houses, roads and community spaces, to providing non-traditional finance mechanisms for residents to rebuild and improve on housing themselves.
Keeping the Light Shining: Advocacy

Supporting the Global Agenda: New Partnerships

World Urban Campaign

The IHC was pleased to join the World Urban Campaign as a Partner. The World Campaign will be a key player in the Habitat III conference and is actively engaged in the “City We Need” campaign, advocating for a new urban paradigm and an inclusive city model. IHC has joined in this advocacy as well as host joint events throughout the year supporting WUC.

Habitat III Sub-Committee

The IHC was very happy to join one of the subcommittees coordinating the US message going into Habitat III. Chaired by IHC Senior Advisor and Vice President at the Woodrow Wilson Center Blair Ruble, the Committee is designed to bring global voices to the US in the lead up to Habitat III. A series of seminars hosted by various subcommittee members is planned, which together will address why it is important to look at cities and do so through a comprehensive framework. These meetings are also aligned with the Global Goal 11 and will illuminate how inclusiveness, resilience, safety and sustainability of cities can be achieved. IHC will host one of these meetings focused on inclusiveness.

General Assembly of Partners: Civil Society Constituent Group

Co-chaired by IHC Management Committee Member, Jane Katz, IHC joined with other civil society organization representatives to ensure that this important perspective is reflected in the Habitat III preparations and input into the New Urban Agenda.

International Ethics Standards

The IHC was invited to join the International Ethics and Standards Committee constituted by IHC member Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. The aim of this committee is to craft a high level code of ethics that can be adopted by various professions and private sector actors engaged in urban development. In IHC’s view this is especially important not only for a common frame of reference across the globe but also when real estate markets are nascent.

Plans for 2016

With the rollout of the new Strategic Plan, IHC expects to have a very exciting 2016. Plan highlights include:

- Expand and Globalize IHC membership, with more opportunities to network and learn
- Provide targeted advocacy through thought leadership, knowledge creation and dissemination
- Continue to engage in the Habitat III processes and beyond the global outcomes to support multi-stakeholder engagement in effective solutions
- Become a go-to information source for practice and policy friendly knowledge for advancing equitable urban development

In 2016, IHC expects to leverage our unique coalition of civil society and private sector members to become a powerful voice for global focus on cities and all their residents, including the most vulnerable.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Dubinsky, *Chairman*
Independent Housing Consultant

Calvin Lindberg, *Treasurer*
Past President, Canadian Real Estate Association

Marc Weiss, *Corporate Secretary*
Chairman and CEO of Global Urban Development

Elizabeth Blake
Senior Vice President for Government Relations and General Counsel, HFH International Representative (stepped down December 2014)

Steven Feldstein
Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, U.S. Department of State (elected in September 2015)

Susan Corts Hill
Independent Housing Consultant

Brad Miller
Fellow, Center for American Progress, Counsel at Grais & Ellsworth LLP, Former Congressman (D-NC) (resigned September 2015)

Christopher Vincent
Vice President, Government Relations and Advocacy, Representative of Habitat for Humanity International (appointed March 2015)

David Wluka
Realtor, Wluka Real Estate Corp; Representative of the National Association of Realtors

Judith Hermanson, *IHC President and CEO, Ex-Officio* (September 2015 - present)

Barbara McMurray, *IHC President and CEO, Ex-Officio* (resigned June 2015)

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jane Katz
Director of International Affairs and Programs, Habitat for Humanity International

Janet Branton
Senior Vice President, Commercial & Global Services, National Association of Realtors

SENIOR TECHNICAL ADVISORS

Laurence Hannah
Housing Economist, Lead Economist, World Bank (retired)

Blair Ruble
Vice President for Programs, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

IHC STAFF

Judith Hermanson, *IHC President and CEO* (September 2015 - present)

Anjali Bean, *Program Manager*

IHC Organizational Changes

Management
- Barbara McMurray resigned as CEO
- Judith Hermanson, PhD was appointed as CEO, September 2015

Board of Directors
- Elizabeth Blake completed her service
- Brad Miller resigned from the board
- Christopher Vincent was appointed to the board
- Stephen Feldstein joined the board

IHC Annual Report 2015
SUPPORTERS & SUSTAINERS

As a 501 (c)(3) IHC receives financial and other support from membership dues, donations, and project funding. It is this support that makes our work possible. Below we acknowledge and express our appreciation to our major contributors:

IHC Members

- AFL-CIO Housing Investment Trust
- Affordable Housing Institute
- Beekman Advisors
- Canadian Real Estate Association *
- Chemonics International
- Cordaid
- Development Innovations Group
- Enclude LLC
- Global Communities
- Global Urban Development
- Habitat for Humanity International *
- Housing Partnership Network

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Robert Kanchuger
Peter Kimm
Alexander Shakow
Michael Shea
Dianne Tsitsos
Roger Williams

In-Kind Support

Habitat for Humanity International
National Association of Realtors
Jeremy Duenas

Bob Dubinsky
Judith Hermanson
Barbara McMurray

IHC Members

- International City/County Management Association
- International Real Property Foundation
- Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University
- J.J. Palmtag, Inc.
- Landesa
- Millennium Water Alliance
- Mortgage Bankers Association
- National Association of Home Builders
- National Association of REALTORS *
- National Housing Conference

Pan American Development Foundation
Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors
Research Triangle Institute (RTI)
Somerset Development Company
Stewart Information International
TCG International
Urban Institute
Water Aid America
Westmoreland Associates
Women’s Council of REALTORS

* IHC Founding Sponsor

IHC appreciates the support of each of its members and wishes to acknowledge especially the continuing support of our Founding Sponsors: Habitat for Humanity International and the National Association of Realtors.
MEMBERSHIP

About

Co-founded and supported by the National Association of Realtors (NAR) and Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI), IHC is an independent, non-profit global membership coalition of NGOs, civil society organizations, private sector companies, corporations, and individuals committed to equitable urban development and sustainable, inclusive cities.

IHC is an advocate for Goal 11 of the 2030 Global Agenda for Sustainable Development, which directs cities to become inclusive, resilient, safe and sustainable. IHC is committed to the principle that greater income equality and greater prosperity for all result from an integrated, resource-supported plan for the development of spatially, socially and economically inclusive cities.

Join Our Cause

Promoting urban sustainability isn’t just good for those in poverty. Building an equitable society stimulates the economy, creates a safer and cleaner environment, and improves the lives of all people.

Join IHC and help advocate for these changes,. We are building a community of people from all sectors and walks of life who care about the future and recognize that it will be defined by what happens in cities. Join with like-minded IHC members across the globe and lend your voice to the global conversation about the urban future. Be a change agent for good.

Our Goals

Urban growth has enormously exciting implications for innovation, creativity, economic growth and development, and more equitable prosperity. But, it also presents tremendous challenges. Already, one billion people live in slums, where city level investment and governance structures have been outstripped by population growth, leading to a deteriorating environment and quality of life. IHC Global brings a united voice supporting opportunities to do things better and differently, with economic and social policies that weave together the populations of a city rather than drive them apart.

IHC’s overarching aim is to build a robust and informed global constituency for equitable urban development. Good thinking, inclusionary policies and wise, equitable investments in cities will make all the difference to our collective future. Civil society, the private sector, governments, and all people who live in cities, bringing their complementary strengths and working together, can transform neighborhoods and communities. This will in turn make cities – and the world -- safer, more resilient, secure, equitable, and prosperous.

Visit our website for more info: ihcglobal.org
Promoting urban sustainability isn’t just good for those in poverty. Building an equitable society stimulates the economy, creates a safer and cleaner environment, and improves the lives of all people. Join IHC and help advocate for these changes. We are building a community of people from all sectors and walks of life who care about the future and recognize that it will be defined by what happens in cities. Join with like-minded IHC members across the globe and lend your voice to the global conversation about the urban future. Be a change agent for good.