



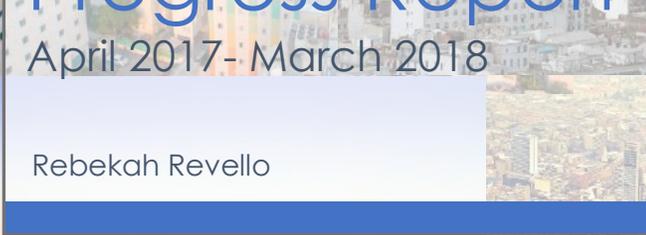
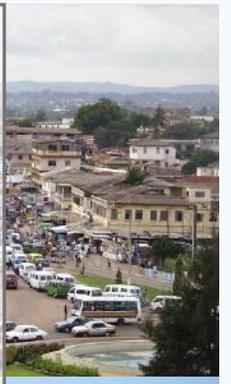
IHC  
GLOBAL

Changing Cities for Good

# Progress Report

April 2017- March 2018

Rebekah Revello





**IHC**  
GLOBAL

# PROGRESS REPORT

This progress report provides an update on activities that you have helped to support throughout this past year. With your help and membership, IHC Global has made significant strides this past year in focusing global and national attention on the challenges and opportunities of urban development. By 2030, 60% of the world's population will live in cities. Understanding and developing solutions for the challenges of the urban world will improve people's lives and make cities safer and more livable for all.

## OUR MISSION

IHC Global aims to achieve sustainable, inclusive cities through advocacy, analysis and action. This year, we have continued to champion this mission and advocate our core policy priorities: affordable housing, adequate water and sanitation, gender and property rights, and functioning property markets and real estate systems, as well as our supporting issues: food security, urban climate resilience, and migration and its implications, through:

- **Fostering** thought leadership through research and dialogue on key issues,
- **Connecting** the global and local conversations about urban development,
- **Serving** as a knowledge resource to support policy-makers and practitioners, and
- **Focusing** on the practical application of urban policy solutions.

IHC Global has actively participated in the global conversation on urban development, and has worked closely with multi-lateral and US government institutions to bring greater visibility and voice to the global importance of urban issues. Using an equity lens, we have been effective in advocating for greater attention to intersecting urban issues, as well as in directing attention globally and locally to the strategic importance of planning for urban growth.

## ADVOCACY

IHC Global influences policy through panels, events and engagement with our members and partners. Below is a snapshot of a year of discussions, dialogues, debates and more:

### URBAN POLICY EVENTS

In April 2017, IHC Global held a field research roundtable with the Inter-American Development Bank, in which students and aspiring urban researchers spoke to practitioners and academics about the ins and outs of their professions. In continuation of IHC Global's focus on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, in April, IHC Global and Next City hosted the event, **'The New Urban Agenda: Can We Really Have it All?'** Featuring speakers from the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank and the WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, the event focused on what local, regional and national governments really need to do to achieve both the NUA and Sustainable Development Goals, and what civil society and the private sector can do to spur on the process.



## A FOCUS ON HOUSING WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

With the merger with IRPF, IHC Global has strengthened its partnerships and collaborations with the global real estate community. We hosted two significant events: an **Open Forum** in conjunction with the NAR Washington, DC meetings in May, and **Global Cities: The Key Role of Housing**, featuring speakers from NAR, Habitat for Humanity International, and the Affordable Housing Institute, at the NAR Annual Conference and Expo in Chicago in November. IHC Global also had the opportunity to work with advocates for local housing policy with the Illinois Association of Realtors, briefing them on global housing finance trends and on approaches to and successful models for affordable housing.



## ROUNDTABLES WITH NUA STAKEHOLDERS

In partnership with the Wilson Center, IHC Global held three roundtables in 2017 with participants from government, private sector and civil society organizations. The first roundtable was held in June to discuss the UN-Habitat 26th Session of the Governing Council (GC26) and the upcoming UN High-Level Political Forum in July, and featured Filiep Decorte, Director a.i./Officer-in-Charge of the UN-Habitat New

York Liaison Office, and Genie Birch of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP) as speakers. A second roundtable was held in September, focusing on the future of UN-Habitat and featuring a presentation from Decorte. A third and final roundtable was held in December about the U.S. participation in the ninth World Urban Forum, with speakers from the department of Housing and Urban Development and the State Department.

## ANALYSIS AND ACTION

IHC Global has turned advocacy into action with new, innovative projects

### SMART CITY. JUST CITY.

IHC Global has launched 'Smart City. Just City.,' an initiative that focuses on aligning the thinking of those engaged in technological advance in cities and those advocating for greater social justice. The initiative has two objectives: to provide a policy framework to guide the intentional use of an equity lens when creating data and technology-driven solutions, and to test the framework in selected cities through pilot projects at the municipal level. As part of this initiative, in early November, IHC Global hosted an expert consultative session to consider how to use data to guide equitable decision-making, rather than simply for monitoring purposes. The expert group of participants from private and public sectors and civil society, including representatives from Amazon, Urban Institute, and USAID, convened to discuss the "data" and the "urban" sides of the issues and review an IHC Global Policy Paper, '**Mobilizing the Data Revolution to Support Urban Development**,' written by IHC Global Senior Technical Advisor and Urban Institute Fellow Tom Kingsley.

### USING DATA TO SUPPORT WOMEN'S RIGHTS

This year IHC Global launched the '**Using Data to Support Women's Rights: Property Markets and Housing Rights through a Gender Equity Lens**' project, which uses an IHC Global tool, the International Property Markets Scorecard, to analyze and collect data on property markets worldwide. In this iteration, the tool has been adapted to focus on and measure women's experiences in the property market, touching on issues such as property ownership, inheritance, rights and tenure security. A pilot program was carried out in Uganda, in partnership with the Association of Real Estate Agents-Uganda, and its Women Council. IHC Global Director of Policy and Advocacy Karly Kiefer and IHC Global Chicago Office Managing Director Sylvia Luchini completed field work with local partners in Uganda in November.

## STRENGTHENING PROPERTY RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS

In fall 2017, IHC Global has successfully completed real estate courses for participants from countries throughout former Yugoslavia. In partnership with the Real Estate Cluster- Serbia, IHC Global trained over 120 participants on the building blocks of effective real estate brokerage and how to best represent buyers in two courses: a basic course that taught the National Association of Realtors' real estate model, and an advanced course that led to an Accredited Buyer's Representative designation for all participants. The program will continue in 2018.

## BRINGING OUR PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS TO THE WORLD

IHC Global has brought its innovative work to new audiences at the highest level

### HIGH LEVEL POLICY DIALOGUE

IHC Global has continued its collaboration with the United Nations and the World Urban Campaign (WUC) through attending and participating in several conferences over the past year. IHC Global President and CEO Judith Hermanson traveled to Nairobi, Kenya, to participate in GC26 as well as the meetings of the WUC Steering Committee and the General Assembly of Partners. Hermanson also traveled to Dubai in October for a WUC Urban Thinkers Campus focusing on the future of the SDGs with regards to housing. IHC



Global was honored to present its partnership project, 'Using Data to Support Women's Rights: Property Markets and Housing Rights through a Gender Equity Lens,' at the UN High-Level Political Forum Partnership Exchange in July. Hermanson presented the project in its early stages to great reception, making the voice of the IHC Global Coalition increasingly significant in its impact.



### THE NINTH WORLD URBAN FORUM

The culmination of a year's work came in February 2018, where IHC Global had an active role and leading presence at the ninth World Urban Forum (WUF9) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. IHC Global participated and spoke in several of our members and partners' events, and hosted three events of our own. Alongside presentations from Habitat for Humanity, the Global Land Alliance and UCOBAC, IHC Global discussed how to use data to inform and support women's

access to land and property, presenting the findings from our project in Uganda. On the Next City World Stage, IHC Global unveiled our 'Smart Cities. Just Cities.' Initiative, and led a discussion about the connections between technology, sustainability, and inclusivity, with speakers from Next City, the World Bank, and Cityspace Architecture. IHC Global's final event at WUF9 reviewed the key lessons of Latin American housing policy found in the IHC Global policy paper, '**No Time to Waste**,' followed by a discussion about the challenge of applying housing policies to rapidly urbanizing countries, featuring speakers from Habitat for Humanity International and Cities Alliance. Find a full recap of our time in Kuala Lumpur and a photo essay on the conference-goers on our website blog.

## WORLD BANK LAND AND POVERTY CONFERENCE

IHC Global presented the findings from the 'Using Data to Support Women's Rights: Property Markets and Housing Rights through a Gender Equity Lens' project at the World Bank Land and Poverty Conference in March 2018. Following the conference, IHC Global hosted "Action from Every Angle: Approaches to Advancing Property Rights," a panel discussion highlighting methods and tools for advancing property rights, featuring presentations from IHC Global, Habitat for Humanity International, Global Land Alliance, Landesa, and World Citizen Consulting.

## WHAT COMES NEXT

Clearing a path towards global urban sustainability and inclusivity

### LOOKING AHEAD

Going forward, IHC Global and its 50+ member coalition will forge new ways to make its mark on urban policy. In the aftermath of the World Urban Forum, IHC Global will continue to advocate for the implementation of both SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda, by working to inform local and national urban policies and participating in and hosting future urban policy dialogues. IHC will also work to promote our policy topics, programs, and research to wider audiences, starting with our 'Smart City. Just City.' initiative. As an organization that stands at the nexus between civil society and the private sector, IHC Global will strive to strengthen the connection between the two, through events and dialogues that focus on increasing opportunities for collaboration. As long as the urban world continues to change and evolve, IHC Global will advocate for a sustainable, inclusive urban future, and will use our platform to change cities for good.

### WHAT TO EXPECT FROM US THIS YEAR

- IHC Global will host an urban policy dialogue with members and partners like you, as a follow-up event to the World Urban Forum to discuss plans moving forward.
- The 'Smart City. Just City.' campaign will roll out, beginning with a blog series on how women are contributing to the creation of 'smart cities.'
- IHC Global will publish its Annual Report, featuring an in-depth look at our 2017.
- IHC Global will play an active role in the conversations and actions leading up to the UN High-Level Political Forum in New York in July, where global progress on SDG11 will be discussed.

## We Couldn't Do It without You

Thank you for continuing support IHC Global

The IHC Global team appreciates members like you for continuing to support us on our quest to achieve global urban sustainability and inclusivity. Because of you, we have exceeded our goals and objectives in 2017, and we're looking forward to an even better 2018.

Thank you for another year of support. Together, we can help change cities for good.



For more information about IHC Global, please visit [www.ihcglobal.org](http://www.ihcglobal.org).

