SESSION DESCRIPTION

J4 Delivering resilience for informal settlements in the Global South

Presentations

Date: Friday, 28 June, 2019
Time: 13.30 – 15.00
Rooms: S34-35

Language: English
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Organized by: ICLEI

OBJECTIVE

Cities in developing countries are growing at an accelerated rate due to high levels of migration of the rural poor population; these migratory flows are contributing to the urban informal settlements' expansion. Informal settlements are vulnerable to poverty, social exclusion, and climate change-related risks such as flooding.

GSMA shows insights of their successful projects about how mobile technologies can contribute to the resilience of informal settlements through mobile-enabled water ATMS, geo-data and smart metering. The second presentation from Ardhi University, Tanzania, leverages emerging innovations and opportunities, such as recycling or reusing storm water runoff and conservation of green structures, in favor of more resilient informal settlements. The third contribution enriches the discussion with experiences on multidisciplinary and participatory planning methods. The focus then shifts towards multilevel governance for improved resilience in informal settlements through the initiative Barrio Resiliente in Honduras. Next, the Climate Response strategy of the City of Tshwane addresses the link between vulnerable population and exposure to climate hazards like urban heat islands. Last, the Disaster Resilience Scorecard (DRS) developed in the Philippines to bring disaster risk and reduction management at the local level and ensure citizens' safety.

OUTCOMES

- Participants learn about innovations and strategies addressing informal settlements and improve the climate change resiliency;
- Participants gain understanding about solutions designed to manage storm water to build resilience;
- Participants learn that investments should be allotted into natural, social and resource efficient capital;

METHODOLOGY

- The facilitator provided an introduction to the session topic and contributors. **(5 minutes)**
- Each presentation was allotted 10 minutes. **(5 x 10 minutes)**
- The facilitator managed questions and answers. **(30 minutes)**
- Closing remarks by the facilitator. **(5 minutes)**

CONTRIBUTORS

Facilitator *Steven Bland, Climate Change Planning Unit Consultant, UN-Habitat, Nairobi, Kenya*

Presenter *George Kibala Bauer, Advocacy Manager, Mobile for Development Utilities team at GSMA, London, United Kingdom*

Digital technologies for informal settlements' resilience

The presentation will focus on how digital technologies can widen access to basic utility services. It will showcase some of the insights from projects supported by the GSMA Mobile for Development Innovation Fund such as mobile-enabled water ATMS in Dhaka (Bangladesh), geo-data for sanitation service delivery in Kampala (Uganda), or smart-metering in Colombo (Sri Lanka), and identify key trends for the future of urban utility service provision. In the context of rapid urbanization and sprawling informal settlements and the challenge this poses for utility service providers, this presentation will showcase how different digital technologies (such as digital payments, IoT, app-based fleet management) have the potential to make urban utility services more affordable and more accessible to the urban poor.

Presenter *Wilbard Kombe, Lecturer, Ardhi University, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania*

Vulnerability of informal settlements in rapidly growing African cities

The paper, based on a case study of two informal settlements, underscores the challenges faced by technocrats and policymakers in responding to the emerging disaster risks. It stresses that conventional storm water management interventions are unable to cope with changing flood patterns; therefore, local governments should implement institutional reforms for improved management of informal urban land development sector and foster the functional collaboration between the stakeholders.

Presenter *Tatu Mtwangi Limbumba, Senior Research Fellow, Ardhi University, Der es Salaam, Tanzania*

The Design Charrette: planning for stormwater in informal settlement

This presentation showcases the results of adopting landscapes based storm water management solutions, such as green infrastructure to storm water run-off with a positive impact on urban agriculture and household water supply. For the strategy planning it was used a Design Charrette, a participatory planning method focusing on multi-disciplinary engagement and collaboration of professional and non-professional stakeholders.

Presenter *Bernard McCaul, Regional Director, GOAL, Cork, Ireland*

Achieving urban resilience starts with multilevel neighborhood governance

The Municipality of the Central District with USAID support developed Barrio Resiliente – BR strategy, which aims to increase resilience in existing or new informal settlements that are experiencing uncontrolled expansion. BR combines five principles: systemic approach, social behavior change, resilience, inclusion and technology to sustain long-term development and strengthen resilience.

Presenter *Lutske Newton, Director, City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality, Tshwane, South Africa*

Climate "roofing" as a measure to combat excessive heat in informal settlements

The City of Tshwane, in collaboration with the South African National Energy Development Institute, implemented a project to enhance the thermal efficiency of informal settlements and to tackle the urban heat island effect associated with unsustainable land use patterns in urban areas amplifying the global warming effects.

Presenter *Marie Angelique Go, City Administrator, City Government of Zamboanga, Zamboanga, Philippines*

Human Security as a Pillar of Resilience

The National Resilience Council (NRC) launched a Disaster Resilience Scorecard (DRS), a set of localized metrics for the use of internal and external stakeholders for local governments units to bring disaster risk and reduction management (DRRM) to the local level.