

SLUM ALMANAC 2015 2016

Tracking Improvement in the Lives of Slum Dwellers



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Prepared by the PSUP Team Nairobi

Design and lay-out: Peter Cheseret

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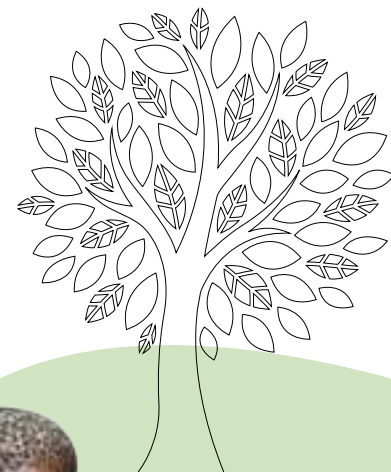
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Inequalities are linked with poverty and sustainable development, and have patently hindered development and stalled progress. Acting together, these inequalities further entrench the deprivation suffered by certain groups and individuals and manifest themselves clearly in the way space is used.

The fight against inequality requires the establishment of a new governance paradigm which coordinates efforts, strengthens formal coordination mechanisms, establishes joint responsibilities and provides the resources and incentives necessary at every level of government.

The integration of slum upgrading programs with countrywide planned urban development is the sustainable way to make a difference in slum areas of cities. This planned growth is part of a three pronged approach, combining the components of urban planning, urban legislation, and urban economy. The combination of these three components provides not only physical plans but also the rules and regulations and the financial plans which generate good growth, stability, and investment." *

Dr Joan Clos

Under-Secretary General, United Nations
Executive Director, UN-Habitat

* UN-Habitat (2015), Construction of More Equitable Cities; UN-Habitat (2015), Practical Guide To Designing, Planning and Executing Slum Upgrading Programmes.



It is the transformation of our urban landscapes that will enable us to end poverty, to provide basic services, housing, sustainable transportation, and to create an environment in which not only can human rights be actually delivered but also prosperity be available to everybody across the world."

Dr Aromar Revi

Director, Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS)

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACP	Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States
CPI	City Prosperity Index
EC	European Commission
Habitat III	United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MDG 7D	Millennium Development Goal No. 7 Target 7D
NUA	New Urban Agenda
PPAB	Programme Participatif D'Amélioration Des Bidonvilles
PSUP	Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
Urban SDG	Sustainable Development Goal No. 11



[01]

**Acknowledging Slums:
the Continuity of the Slum
Indicator in the World's
Development Agenda –
MDGs, SDGs and the NUA**

In our world, one in eight people live in slums. In total, around a billion people live in slum conditions today.¹ This not only amounts to a rather unacceptable contemporary reality but to one whose numbers are continuously swelling. In spite of great progress in improving slums and preventing their formation – represented by a decrease from 39 per cent to 30 per cent of urban population living in slums in developing countries between 2000 and 2014 – absolute numbers continue to grow² and the slum challenge remains a critical factor for the persistence of poverty in the world, excluding fellow humans and citizens from the benefits of urbanisation and from fair and equal opportunities to attain individual and collective progress and prosperity.

To begin with, and acknowledging that the different typologies of informal housing receive a multiplicity of names in many languages, dialects and slangs all over the world, there is need to assert that the word 'slum' as used throughout this publication refers to the definition that classifies a *slum household* as one in which the inhabitants suffer one or more of the following 'household deprivations': lack of access to improved water source, lack of access to improved sanitation facilities, lack of sufficient living area, lack of housing durability and lack of security of tenure.³ Thus, these living conditions are the features taken into consideration when assessing a household's status, independent of its name. In this case, the definition is more relevant than the term.

Millennium Development Goal 7 Target 7D, 'to have achieved by 2020 a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers',⁴ and it has been also proposed as one of the means to measure the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goal 11 Target 11.1: 'By 2030, ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services and upgrade slums'.⁵ The *slum household* definition is therefore essential for measuring the fulfilment of the basic human right to adequate housing for all,⁶ and its continuity as an indicator for the development frameworks pre- and post-2015 confirms the importance that the world assigns to the eradication of urban poverty as one of the crucial steps towards the sustainable development of humankind.



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