



Local Strategies for Managing Public Land and Space to Foster Equitable Economic Growth in Cities (STS 13)

A session organized by the Joint Work Programme
for Equitable Economic Growth in Cities at Africities 2018

Date and time: 21 October 2018, 9.30 – 12.30

Venue: TBC, Marrakesh, Morocco

Updated 09/11/2018



1. Context and background

The importance of public land and space as key assets in the transition towards more sustainable, inclusive and equitable city economies in Africa can hardly be overstated. The public goods, amenities and services located on public land are part of the urban infrastructure that allows economies to grow and people to thrive. Inclusive public spaces such as streets, sidewalks and markets are fundamental to the productivity and wellbeing of workers and formal and informal businesses, as primary sites of economic, social and cultural exchange. Regulated access to public space is a direct productive asset to the urban workforce, particularly the working poor in the informal economy. Moreover, well managed and maintained public land and spaces has the potential to increase land and property value and generate much needed revenues through taxes and fees. Crucially, the management of urban public land and space typically lies within the control of local governments, which is why the development and identification of appropriate strategies to maximise its benefit is at the heart of the Africities 8 Summit agenda.

As part of its efforts to explore and support the link between public goods and services and more equitable economic growth in cities, the Cities Alliance Joint Work Programme (JWP) is addressing the role of public space and land as a pathway and lever to local economic development. This session will approach this link from two angles, both based on the ongoing work of the JWP.

First, as part of its engagement in Uganda, the JWP, through its implementing member UNCDF, has conducted research on public space and land management in two secondary cities. The work reveals several pitfalls, challenges and prospects related to policy and practice, with implications for local economic development. Second, the JWP is documenting the important role of regulated access to public space for the productivity and livelihoods of urban informal workers. The work conducted by WIEGO is aimed at compiling evidence, disseminating good practices and supporting improved engagement between local governments and associations of informal workers around the provision and regulation of public space. Case studies from cities in Africa, Asia and Latin America detail both exclusionary and inclusionary approaches and their consequences for informal workers.

2. Session description

The session will have three sections, starting with two key input presentations. UNCDF will share highlights from their research on public land management in two secondary cities in Uganda, including policy-relevant recommendations for local governments. WIEGO will then summarise their comprehensive material on the intersection of public space and informality to answer two key questions: Why is public space so important for informal livelihoods, and what can local governments do to ensure regulated and inclusive access? The second section introduces a panel to reflect on the topic from a number of viewpoints, with the aim to share good practices. The overarching question is how public land can be managed, protected and leveraged as a municipal asset and public good to support more equitable and inclusive economic development. The third section is dedicated to identifying recommendations for policy and practise.

3. Programme

| Time | Item and speaker | Key questions/themes |
|---------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Introduction (20 min) | | |
| 10 min | Opening: Mr Parks Tau (Chairperson), President, UCLG (TBC) | <i>Opening and Introduction to the session theme</i> |
| 5 min | Introduction: Mr Rene Hohmann (Moderator), Senior Urban Specialist, Cities Alliance | <i>Introduction to Cities Alliance, the session format and the speakers</i> |

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| 5 min | Introduction: Mr Fredrik Bruhn, Cities Alliance | <i>Introduction to the Joint Work Programme on Equitable Economic Growth in Cities</i> |
| 2. Input presentations (app 45 min) | | |
| 15 min | Presentation: Mr Dmitry Pozhidaev, UNCDF | <i>The significance of public land management for local economic development: lessons from two secondary cities in Uganda</i> |
| 15 min | Presentation: Ms Jenna Harvey, Coordinator, WIEGO Focal City Initiative | <i>Why does public space matter for informal livelihoods, and what can LGs do to ensure regulated and inclusive access?</i> |
| 15 min | Q&A | |
| 3. Panel discussion (app 80 min) | | |
| 10 min | Ms Justina Assan , Chief Executive (Mayor) of Agona West, Ghana | <i>In your experience, what are the key roles and responsibilities of city leadership in managing public land? How can these functions be used to leverage economic development in secondary cities?</i> |
| 10 min | Mr Marco Kamiya , UN-Habitat | <i>How can public land be managed and utilized as a source of local revenue? What tools, approaches and good practices are available?</i> |
| 10 min | Ms Phumla Ndaba , Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF) | <i>What are the key tenets of a successful land management strategy that supports economic development? What are the major obstacles and challenges? Any promising examples?</i> |
| 10 min | Mr Adama Soumaré , WIEGO Dakar | <i>How can the dialogue between informal workers and local governments be improved and sustained? What can and should informal workers and LGs demand from each other?</i> |
| 30 min | Q&A and discussion with the audience | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rounds from the floor |
| 4. Identifying recommendations (30 min) | | |
| 30 min | Facilitated by the Moderator and Chairperson | |
| 4. Wrap-up (10 min) | | |
| 10 min | Concluding reflections: Mr Parks Tau (Chairperson), President, UCLG | |

4. Guidelines for panellists and presenters

The session tightly packed with interesting questions and speakers. To respect the participants and the other contributors, we will be strict on keeping speakers to the limit of their time allocation. Your challenge is to ensure you get across all of your very interesting content in the time allowed.

- Please note that apart from the two *presentations*, there will be no PowerPoint presentations during the session. We recommend 3-5 key messages to be conveyed by each panellists.
- Speak slowly, clearly and in short sentences.

- Avoid or explain abbreviations.
- Avoid very complicated or special terms.
- In case you make references to your country or culture, please be aware that explanations are needed. You cannot expect others to know country-specific terms, references to paragraphs in a national law or references to historical dates etc.

5. Contact

Fredrik Bruhn, Cities Alliance Secretariat, fbruhn@citiesalliance.org

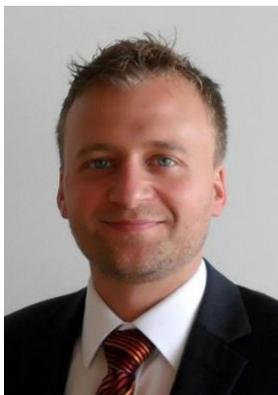
6. Background

The side event is hosted by the Cities Alliance Joint Work Programme (JWP) for Equitable Economic Growth in Cities. The JWP is chaired by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and its members are UN-Habitat, United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO), Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF), the Ford Foundation, the World Bank and the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies (IHS) of Erasmus University Rotterdam.

Cities Alliance is a global partnership bringing together organisations with different perspectives and expertise on city issues around common goals: well run, productive cities that provide opportunities for all residents. Our members include multilateral development organisations, national governments, local government associations, International NGOs, private sector and foundations, and academia. The Cities Alliance has set up a four-year Joint Work Programme to better understand and address the relationship between the delivery of public goods and services and equitable economic growth in cities.

7. Speakers

PARKS TAU



RENE PETER HOHMANN

Cities Alliance

Dr. Rene Peter Hohmann is the Head of Global Programmes at the Cities Alliance Secretariat. From 2004-2013, he worked for the Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Technische Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH and advised various urban governance projects funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). He taught urban planning courses at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and has an extensive experience in evaluating urban regeneration schemes in Europe and slum-upgrading programmes in rapidly urbanising countries. He holds a PhD in Geography from King's College London and a Master's degree in Social Sciences from Humboldt University in Berlin.



PHUMLA NDABA

Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF)

As CLGF's Local Economic Development Advisor in the Southern Africa region, Ms Ndaba provides technical support to the members of CLGF. In this capacity she supports the implementation of CLGF programmes and projects that support Ministries of Local Government, Local Government Associations as well as local authorities. This includes the rollout of LED in a number of Southern African countries, the design and implementation of capacity development initiatives, the development and implementation of LED strategies, facilitation of national and local stakeholder engagements, as well as other targeted technical support to members. Prior to joining CLGF, she had worked within the South African public service in various capacities in economic development, for twelve years. She has worked in national government, provincial government, local government and state owned enterprises; the last assignment having been as Chief Director for LED for the national Ministry of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs. She holds a Master of Science degree in Resource Economics from the University of Massachusetts.



MARCO KAMIYA

UN-Habitat

Marco Kamiya is coordinator of the Urban Economy and Finance Branch of UN-Habitat, headquartered in Nairobi. In addition to working on field projects with UN-Habitat, Kamiya conducts research on

municipal finance, the economics of urban expansion and local infrastructure-investment policy. Previously, he occupied senior positions at CAF Development Bank of Latin America from Caracas, the Inter-American Development Bank from Washington and with PADECO Co., Ltd on international development projects from Tokyo.

**DMITRY POZHIDAEV**

United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

Dmitry Pozhidaev is the Regional Technical Advisor based in Uganda in charge of UNCDF programming in East Africa and the Horn of Africa. Having joined the United Nations in 1998, Mr. Pozhidaev led local government and local development programmes in Afghanistan and Yemen in 2007-2012 and worked as an international municipal administrator under the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo in 2000-2005. In this latter capacity he oversaw the preparation and execution of the municipal budget and capital investment programme of €11 million annually, including a large portfolio of infrastructure PPPs. He participated in the design and launch of UNCDF's Local Finance Initiative in Uganda and Tanzania. He also worked as a consultant on decentralization, public financial management and reforms at the central and local levels for the World Bank, Council of Europe, UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), and Adam Smith International in Albania, Kazakhstan, Palestine and Serbia.

Mr. Pozhidaev holds a master's degree in finance and investment from the Geneva Business School, a master's degree in public administration and development from the University of Birmingham and a doctorate in quantitative research and statistics from Moscow University. He authored a number of publications on local development, finance and investment.

**JUSTINA ASSAN**

Chief Executive, Agona West, Ghana

Ms. Justina Marigold Assan is the mayor of the city of Agona Swedru in Ghana since 2017. She is the first female mayor of Agona Swedru in central Ghana. Previously she was the first female deputy constituency organizer and women's organizer for the New Patriotic Party of Ghana. Ms. Assan is trained in economics and has a deep compassion in capacity building for women in politics. She is passionate about issues affecting women and girls and embarks on activities to empower them. Ms. Assan has recently brought together 84 widows and taken them through training in employability skills and entrepreneurship. For her achievements as mayor, in March 2018 Ms. Assan was adjudged the Best Woman in Development at Agonaman Achievers Awards.



DORCAS ANSAH

WIEGO - Accra Focal City Coordinator

With 15 years of development experience and a background in designing and delivering adult learning programmes, Dorcas has worked extensively in facilitating processes, organizing development interventions, gender mainstreaming, monitoring and evaluation, as well as training and capacity-building at many levels—from the informal sector to civil society and parliament. She is a graduate of the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland OSD Center, the University of Ghana Legon, and the Central University College and Corporate Administration Institute of Professional Studies, with an MA in social policy. Dorcas is the Accra Focal City Coordinator for WIEGO, leading organizational development as well as capacity- and relationship-building work for membership-based organizations (MBOs) and stakeholders.



ADAMA SOUMARÉ

WIEGO - Dakar Focal City Coordinator

Adama is a lawyer in business law by training. He studied at the Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar (UCAD). Before joining WIEGO, he was the representative of the German organization Doleel Jigeen (Strengthening and Empowering Women) in Senegal. He was also administrator, in charge of pedagogy, of the Center of Exchange and Development of Artisans of Senegal. He then worked for

several years at Enda's Research-Action-Training Group where he was responsible for programmes focused especially on women, children, craftsmen, and waste collectors. He is currently a special advisor to the Mayor of the municipality of Malika where he lives. He has proven experience in action research, popular mediation, and management of community and non-formal organizations. He has worked as an activist in his country and across Africa for the causes of vulnerable people and development problems for more than 20 years.



JENNA HARVEY

WIEGO - Global Focal Cities Coordinator

Prior to joining WIEGO, Jenna worked in community development and women's economic empowerment with a network of grassroots organizations in Nicaragua and Costa Rica. On a Fulbright research grant, she subsequently carried out ethnographic research on urban informality and migration in the informal settlement of La Carpio, in San Jose, Costa Rica. She has a bachelor's degree in global studies from the University of California at Santa Cruz and a master's degree in city planning from MIT. Jenna coordinates WIEGO's Focal Cities initiative, which has a presence in 5 cities. Her experience and research interests are in participatory planning, critical education, and inclusive models of urban economic development.



FREDRIK BRUHN

Cities Alliance

Fredrik Bruhn is Urban Programme Analyst at the Cities Alliance secretariat in Brussels, and Focal Point for the Joint Work Programme on Equitable Economic Growth in Cities. Prior to joining Cities Alliance, he worked as Advocacy Officer with the Uganda Human Settlements Network (SSA: UHSNET) and We Effect, the Swedish Cooperative Centre in Uganda. He previously conducted research and analysis of electoral and governance issues across Africa for the South Africa-based research firm Consultancy

Africa Intelligence. He holds a master's degree in Development Studies and a bachelor's degree in Political Science, both from Lund University.