

URBAN NEWSLETTER

Issue: Jan - Feb 2017

Dear Colleagues,

Greetings from sunny Melbourne.

We commenced 2017 developing an urban roadmap for our next learning phase as a requirement to implement the Partnership Strategy. Our annual work plan prioritises the launch of the 'Citywide Self-Sustaining Model' with a consultation process of engaging leaders, specialists and practitioners to validate and strengthen the model. We will be collaborating with select NOs in transitioning economies to promote its application and refinement through practice. Last week, we hosted two webinars to share the concept design, inviting thoughts and questions about the model. We plan to host face to face validation workshops with select NOs during Q3 as an ongoing process of peer review.

The city model narrative aims to enhance our brand visibility and profile at local and global levels, creating opportunity for innovative partnerships and resource diversification. The plan is to continue positioning WV as a thought leader on complex contexts such as urban, and as an entrepreneurial and agile NGO of the future.

With those aspirations, we are launching this newly designed newsletter to truly serve you – our clients. The revamped design allows interactive space to contribute your stories, thought-provoking insights and expertise to foster learning. We are also featuring experts from external agencies proposing urban solutions.

In today's dynamic, often volatile and ever-changing environment, change is the constant to endure and embrace. The millennials thrive on this aspect of living. We say goodbye to our amazing and excellent KM Coordinator who leaves us for now to pursue some personal goals.

We welcome your ideas and innovations that could be featured and shared through this platform.

- Joyati Das, Senior Director, Urban Programmes, Global Centre.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Missed the Citywide Self-Sustaining Model Webinars? Read the summary or listen to the recording.

SNAPSHOT FROM AN URBAN THINKER



- Jackie Trieu
Knowledge Management &
Project Coordinator.

Thankyou and farewell (for now)...

After three unforgettable years with WV, it saddens me to say farewell. This photo of the participants from the Children's Assembly with Secretary General of Habitat III, Dr Joan Clos, represents one of my greatest highlights of my urban journey with WV.

In a historic first, children's voices and their calls for actions were included in the Habitat process and the New Urban Agenda - a global policy framework that will shape sustainable urban development for the next 20 years.

I wish your urban journeys continue to be as rewarding as mine has been.

Have a photo that you would like to share? Email us.



PICK OF THE MONTH

Education is the way out of child labour in megacity slums, ODI



Children from poor urban neighbourhoods are among the least likely to attend school and be pushed into child labour to support families.

This ODI webinar explores how education can become a key part of the strategy to end child labour, and how governments can both implement and regulate legislation that prohibits companies from hiring children as labourers.

CITY GOVERNMENT'S WASTEFUL EFFORT IN WASTE MANAGEMENT

CASE STUDY FROM BANGLADESH



Written by Bipasha Dutta,
National Urban Specialist, WV Bangladesh

The city of Dhaka, Bangladesh, generates over 6,100 tons of rubbish each day. However, only 37% of waste is collected due to inadequate waste collection and limited resources by City Corporations. Few dustbins exist in low income communities and solid waste continues to be dumped into open drains and streets, resulting in environmental pollution and posing serious health hazards to urban dwellers.

In April 2016, Dhaka City Corporation spent USD 1.5 million on placing 15,000 bins on Dhaka's streets with the message imprinted in Bengali, "Drop waste here. Keep our dear city clean". The bins were expected to address the growing solid waste issue. However, you still often see people of all ages and backgrounds littering the streets within two meters of a waste bin. You will also see piles of solid waste growing underneath empty bins, or abandoned broken bins altogether. The question arises, what are the causes of such a failure in this noble initiative?

Investing in street bins is a technical solution, however it does not change behaviors. An important consideration to remember is that Dhaka is a city of migrants. Generally, people migrate from rural and/or peri-urban areas where waste management practices differ significantly from urban areas.

Prior to the placement of bins, there was not any comprehensive awareness programs for city dwellers, nor promotion on the purpose and proper usage of the bins. Designed for light waste collection, urban dwellers continued to dispose heavy household wastes into bins. Simultaneously, there were public complaints that the bins are too small, non-user friendly, and rancid smelling due to infrequent waste collection.

Recently, the City Corporations started a new waste management initiative where all road side open bins would be abandoned and specific transfer stations would be allocated for dumping household waste. They have also announced their plans for a mass public awareness campaign on waste management.



To raise mass awareness on waste management, different representatives from shopping centers, fast food chains, NGOs, schools and community organizations need to be engaged with City Corporations. Following the campaign, it is also critical to perform a needs assessment to explore what types of additional support is required and where bins could be best placed.

WV Bangladesh has a strong relationship with Dhaka's City Mayors, and some of our Area Development Programs have formal Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with the City Corporations. For example, in World Vision's Mirpur Urban Programme, the City Corporation is now removing waste from the slums after signing a MoU. World Vision can play an active role in partnership with City Corporations to raise community awareness in public campaigns.

This month, a waste management workshop will be held by the City Corporation inviting NGOs, including WV Bangladesh, to take part in developing a joint action plan on waste management by 2020. Our organization has the expertise and experience in ensuring community engagement by conducting needs assessments, facilitating the establishment of active community-led organizations, community groups, child and youth forums and employing local community advocates to raise awareness in slum areas. All these measures can be effective tools for raising community awareness and promote behavioral changes that can contribute to achieving a healthy city for children and their families in Dhaka.



"We commit to promote a safe, healthy, inclusive, and secure environment in cities and human settlements for all to live, work, and participate in urban life without fear of violence and intimidation, taking into consideration that women and girls, and children and youth, and persons in vulnerable situations are often particularly affected. We will also work towards the elimination of harmful practices against women and girls, including child, early, and forced marriage, and female genital mutilation."

- New Urban Agenda, adopted at Habitat III Conference, Quito, 2016

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

CALL OUT FOR URBAN THINKERS CAMPUSES

Is your office hosting an event to share innovative urban solutions that contribute to children's well-being in the city? UN-Habitat's World Urban Campaign is calling upon partners to host an Urban Thinkers Campus - an open space for debate, learning and consensus building that brings together multi-stakeholder partners to propose solutions and action plans to implement the New Urban Agenda. Contact us if you would like to link your event to this global campaign.

WORLD VISION SELECTED FOR GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR URBAN CRISES' STEERING GROUP

WV has been chosen to be part of the main decision-making entity for the Global Alliance For Urban Crises. The Alliance arose out of consultations for the World Humanitarian Summit held last year, during which a number of committed organisations, including WV, led an urban expert group and developed a series of Urban Recommendations. The Alliance is the vehicle through which these recommendations will be put into action. Find out more about the Alliance.

FROM AN URBAN EXPERT



Globally, 60% of all urban dwellers have been victims of crime. In this video, Juma Assiago from UN-Habitat's Safer Cities Programme talks about how crime and violence is an issue of urban governance, planning and management, and the role of local governments in coordinating citywide community-based crime prevention strategies.

QUESTIONS FROM THE MEMBERS

Q: Safer and Resilient Cities include a focus on the built environment as one of the strategic pillars to achieve sustainable, large-scale and transformational impact. How does the built environment relate to the five priority sectors outlined in the Partnership Strategy?

- Brenda Rose Daniel, Shelter & Infrastructure Advisor, HEA, Global Centre.

A: The built environment and public space is crucial in all interactions between people in urban settlements. The character of a city is defined by its streets and public spaces such as children playgrounds, parks and squares. Public space is where friendships are formed, stories are exchanged, complex problems are solved, common vision is developed, and shared value is created.

Public space is the stable backbone of the neighbourhood that holds the area together - the glue that helps to create urban communities. Social urban planning - which works with public space as the key activator - contributes not only to an improved physical structure of the city, but more importantly, it provides a stable vehicle for shared knowledge and community based planning.

This year, we will develop a concept note focused on the built environment and public space, which will include four internal promising practices from Kenya, Lebanon, Indonesia and Honduras that contribute to safe, healthy, resilient and prosperous cities for children.

Got a question? Email us at urban_programming@wvi.org

RESOURCES

Citywide Self-Sustaining Model: Contributing to safe, sustainable and just cities for children - especially the most vulnerable.
Read the high level summary or listen to the webinar recording.

'How to ensure children everywhere enjoy the 'urban advantage', Citiscope.

'The Right to the City for Urban Displaced: A Review of the Barriers to Safe and Equal Access to the City for the Displaced Residents of Dar Es Salaam', International Rescue Committee

'Violence in the City: A Systematic Review of the Drivers of Violence Against Displaced Populations in Urban Crisis and Post-Crisis Settings', International Rescue Committee

CALENDAR

April 3 - 7

Urban Thinkers Campus

Making Cities Together: The City We Need Through Safe, Inclusive and Accessible Public Spaces - Nairobi, Kenya

April 10 - 12

Urban Thinkers Campus

Kids Urban Thinkers Campus: My City, My Choice - Riobamba, Ecuador

Find out more about these events, including an Urban Thinkers Campus near you.

MEET THE TEAM

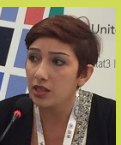
JOYATIDAS

Senior Director



ALINE RAHBANY

Urban Programming Advisor



Visit the Urban Community of Practice or our external website.