Approaches to slum upgrading and informal settlement regularization

United Nations Human Settlements Program
www.unhabitat.org

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UN-Habitat’s presence

UN-Habitat Headquarters & Regional Office for Africa
UN-Habitat Regional Office
UN-Habitat Liaison Office
UN-Habitat in countries
Urban growth and slums

World population

Billion people

Urban slum population

Urban population

Rural population

Year

1850
1900
1950
2000
2050

UN-Habitat
For a Better Urban Future
Global momentum for urban development

- Sustainable development goals
- Habitat III and New Urban Agenda
Settlement in which a significant proportion of households lack:
- Potable water
- Improved sanitation
- Durable housing
- Adequate living space
- Security of residential tenure
UN-Habitat’s work on slum upgrading

“Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme”
Approach

1. Recognition of slums/informal settlements

– Through inventories called “urban profiles”

– Mapping the entire city:
  • Where are the informal settlements?
  • How many people?
  • Quality of structures? Tenure?
  • Services?
  • Risks?
2. Involve the community

- Dialogue local authorities-community
- Discussion about priority interventions (infrastructure/services)
- Community decides and manages part of the available budget
- Community oversees construction works
3. Demonstrate that change is possible

- Implement demonstration projects
- Mobilize combination of resources
4. Strategy for entire city
   – including slums

5. Review local and national policies on slums
   objective: policy change.
   budgeting for slums.
Principles

• No unlawful, forced evictions
• Recognize urbanization as unstoppable, harness positive potential
• Mobilize internal resources
Results

• Changing 50 national policies
• All participating countries commit to halting unlawful forced eviction
• (Re)formulation of urban development strategies in 150 cities
• Leveraging millions in additional investments
What about prevention?

- Planning ahead of growth (Shlomo Angel)
- Affordable serviced land
What about UNECE region?

State of European Cities in Transition 2013
Conclusions

• General lessons learned can be applied worldwide:
  
  – Recognize existence of informal settlements
  
  – Involve concerned community
  
  – Address at community, city and national level
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