

Women's Assembly

Wednesday, 7 February 2018

9th World Urban Forum

Ballroom 1

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre

Concept Note

The Women's Assembly at the World Urban Forum is a key meeting point for groups working to build sustainable, gender responsive and inclusive cities. At the Habitat III Conference, the Women's Assembly was an important venue for the exchange of knowledge, tools, and partnerships to discuss the engendering of the New Urban Agenda (NUA). Since the adoption of the New Urban Agenda, this upcoming Women's Assembly at the Ninth World Urban Forum (WUF9) will be an essential meeting place in the continuing process of implementing the New Urban Agenda and all Sustainable Development Goals, particularly 5 and 11. Whereas the last Women's Assembly culminated in a set of thematic commitments on behalf of attendees, the upcoming Women's Assembly serves as a space to share and report on the localized implementation of the New Urban Agenda as well as lessons learned. It will also serve as an opportunity for sharing tools and addressing areas that need more inputs on gender equality and women's empowerment in implementing the NUA. The Women's Assembly is a site for continued collaborative work on the global level as well as the grassroots level. It is designed to build a platform for the women's constituency¹ to share their experiences and perspectives, aiming to create an overall mechanism for engaging women in the creation of citizenship and the strengthening of urban governance for advancing the New Urban Agenda. The Assembly was created to acknowledge, celebrate, share, replicate and improve the achievements of the Women and Human Settlements movement in championing the sustainable inclusion of women in urban development.

Alongside the New Urban Agenda, the 2030 Agenda, the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Prevention and Reduction, the Paris Agreement on Environmental Protection, and the Addis Ababa Agenda for Financing for Development, which establish the ways for achieving the Sustainable Development Objectives of Agenda 2030, the Assembly provides an important platform to advocate for gender equality and women's empowerment in all aspects of urban development, thus ensuring the inclusion of women's unique needs and priorities, and recognizing the important leadership roles they play in implementation. Further highlighting the use of women's experiences to shape appropriate and effective solutions will promote sustainable urban development. Promoting participation, dialogue and engagement, the Assembly will hold six (6) training sessions as well as two (2) plenary sessions, further emphasizing the institutionalization of gender-mainstreaming and women's empowerment activities. The Assembly will conclude with the consolidation of participants' recommendations and commitments, and the sharing of tools and methodologies to ensure the objectives of the New Urban Agenda will be

¹ Leading organizations of the women's constituency include Huairou Commission, Cities Alliance, United Cities and Local Governments, Women in Cities International, Jagori, Groots International, Slum Dwellers International, Red Mujer y Habitat, Metropolis, Women's Environment and Development Organization, Gender Hub, etc.

implemented in an empowerment-focused and gender-responsive manner, based on the principle of substantive equality. The Women's Assembly is thus an important, pivotal meeting point to discuss the progress of and plan the implementation of engendering the New Urban Agenda. This site for the exchange and sharing of knowledge and the transfer of tools is essential to implement the NUA.

Objectives

- Assess the main outcomes and impact of the Women's Assembly at Habitat III, including the state of New Urban Agenda implementation and address how the women's movement and such platforms as the Women's Assembly in particular contribute to the core work of the World Urban Forum and UN Habitat
- Present current gender responsive and women's empowerment innovations in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and analyze ways forward in planning gender responsive Cities 2030 - identifying partnership opportunities and challenges ahead, sharing practices and lessons learnt
- Examine the role of women in NUA governance and implementation monitoring mechanisms, engaging local and national urban frameworks of monitoring
- Discuss the significance of women's political participation in terms of affecting the national and local policies and the roles of elected women in advancing women's agenda and contributing to the women's movement;
- Create and sustain a knowledge sharing platform for different women's constituency members to showcase their work.

Expected Outcomes

- A platform is created to share knowledge about best practices, action items, and the progress made on the commitments made to gender responsive implementation of the NUA.
- New tools are developed and showcased to support implementation of the New Urban Agenda, Sustainable Development Goals 5 and 11, and increased inclusivity and participation of women and girls in cities.
- Presentations, training materials and sessions on best practices are produced and packaged for the implementation of sustainable, gender responsive and inclusive cities and the implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
- Creation of a site for collaborative work between organizers, both grassroots and global, to advocate for gender equality in all aspects of urban development and for the necessity of women's involvement in the successful implementation of the New Urban Agenda.
- A set of strategic indicators is established for systemic and global monitoring.
- The global and regional links of the women's movement are strengthened around the promotion of The Right to the City with equality between men and women.

Agenda

Wednesday February 7, 2018
9:00-18:00

Joint Opening ceremony - ASSEMBLIES

9:00 – 10:30

Room: Plenary Hall

Speakers:

- **Magdalena Garcia Hernandez, MIRA, Mexico**
- **SM Shaikat, UN-Habitat Youth Advisory Board**
- **Célestine Ketcha Courtès, President of the Network of Local Elected Women of Africa**
- **Dr. Reem Al Saud, Advisor to H.E the Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs**
- **Zoleka Mandela, Global Ambassador for Child Health Initiative**
- **Maimunah Mohd Sharif, UN-Habitat Executive Director**
- **Tan Sri Noh Bin Haji Omar, Minister of Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government**

Women's Assembly Opening Ceremony

10:30-11:00

Welcome and opening remarks.

Room: Ballroom 1

Speakers:

- **Maimunah Mohd Sharif, UN-Habitat Executive Director**
- **Maria Noel Vaeza, Programme Director, UN Women**
- **Prof. Emerita Tan Sri Dr. Sharifah Hapsah Syed Hassan Shahabudin, President of The National Council of Women's Organisations (NCWO), Malaysia**

Moderator: Sri Husnaini Sofjan, AGGI and Huairou Commission

Rapporteur: Hannah McCasland, Women in Cities International

Cities 2030, Cities for All: Implementing the New Urban Agenda

11:00-11:45

This plenary session will feature diverse perspectives from women and girls, including representatives of government, GAP constituency groups, the Advisory Group on Gender Issues (AGGI), the UN and grassroots women, on gender responsive implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The importance of the WUF9 and the Women's Assembly as well as other institutional mechanisms in ensuring engendered urban governance and creating space for women's and girls' empowerment in implementation will be highlighted.

Speaker:

- **Julia Bentley, Canada's High Commissioner to Malaysia**

Speakers:

- **Ana Falu of Advisory Group on Gender Issues (AGGI)**
- **Kathy Klein, GAP Older Persons Group**

- **Risna Utami, GAP Persons with Disabilities Group**
- **Violet Shivuste, Shibuye Community Health Workers**

Moderator: Sri Husnaini Sofjan, AGGI, Huairou Commission

Rapporteur: Hannah McCasland, Women in Cities International

Three TED X Style Presentations

11:45 – 12:00

Three five minute presentations in the style of TED X talks will be given on tools and best practices and their use in the implementation of the gender responsive New Urban Agenda. Trainings and related materials to the tools/practices will be distributed on the online platform.

- **Rt. Hon. Clare Short, Chair, Cities Alliance Management Board and former Secretary of State for International Development, Department for International Development (DFID)**
- **Rose Molokwane, SDI, Know Your City, South Africa**
- **Ruxanda Renita, Atlanta Office of Resilience, United States**

Rapporteur: Hannah McCasland, Women in Cities International

Break

12: 00-12:15

Voices from the Region

12:15 – 13:00

Plenary session showcasing regional perspectives on implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Diverse panelists from the Asian Region representing women in government, urban planners, activists and women in NGOs, and grassroots women to discuss how to engage and leverage women's political participation in engendering the NUA implementation and monitoring of local and national urban policies and practices.

Moderator: Sri Husnaini Sofjan, AGGI, Huairou Commission

Rapporteur: Hannah McCasland, Women in Cities International

Speakers:

- **Bernardia Irawati Tjandradewi, UCLG ASPAC**
- **Lajana Manandhar, Lumanti, Nepal**
- **K.H Angela Kang, President of Seoul Foundation of Women and Family**
- **Natalja Wehmer, Sustainable Urban Development Section, UN-ESCAP**
- **Suneeta Dhar, Jagori, India**

Three TED X Style presentations

13:00 - 13:15

Three five minute presentations in the style of TED X talks will be given on tools and best practices and their use in the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Trainings and related materials to the tools/practices will be distributed on the online platform.

- **Ivy Josiah, Programme & Management Committee, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law & Development (APWLD), Malaysia**
- **Frances Birungi, UCOBAC, Uganda (TBC)**
- **Ellen Woodsworth, Women Transforming Cities, Canada, WTC Cafes**

Rapporteur: Hannah McCasland

Lunch

13:15 – 14:30

Thematic Working Groups

14:30 –

16:30

The last part of the Assembly will be participatory, centered on discussions around 11 Thematic Working Groups that reflect elements.

The eleven thematic areas will build on the work done during the Quito Women’s Assembly. The TWGs are the opportunity to review the work done since, share best practices, identify existing gaps and collectively brainstorm ideas for the way forward. Each TWG will have a related discussion hosted prior to the Assembly on the online platform that can serve to inform and concretize these exchanges. Group facilitators, representing women from academia, government, civil society, and community practitioners, will introduce best practices and tools for engendering the NUA implementation and monitoring. During each TWG, participants will develop a powerpoint and three key commitments to action and highlight select tools to be shared during the closing plenary groups will present these commitments, action items, and tools.

Moderator: Kathryn Travers, Women in Cities International

Topic	Facilitator (in bold)
Engendered emergency/DRR/climate change response Ballroom 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Sandy Schilen, Huairou Commission2. Eleanor Blomstrom, WEDOCelene Fung, Women Transforming CitiesMary Balikungeri, Rwanda Women’s Network
Strengthening women’s role in local governments: challenges and opportunities Room 405	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Olenka Ochoa, FEMUM2. Emmy Galama, International Council of WomenJoy Masuhara, Women Transforming CitiesKaren Lai, Selangor Women's Empowerment Institute
Public spaces safe and accessible for all, including women’s mobility and public transport Room 410	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Kathryn Travers, Women in Cities International2. Kalpana Viswanath, SafetipinOlga Segovia, Women and Habitat NetworkSilvia Llorente Sanchez, Metropolis
Rural-urban links and food security Room 402	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Violet Shivutse, Shibuye Community Health Workers2. Quazi Baby, Participatory Development Action Program, BangladeshEsther Mwaura-Muiru, KenyaMildred Crawford, GAP farmer’s constituency, Jamaica
Slum-upgrading and basic gender-responsive service delivery Room 403	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Beth Chitekwe Biti2. Elsa María Arroyo Hernández MIRA/MUDECI MéxicoRachel Kamweru, Nairobi city councilMartha Kaulwa (grassroots leader, Namibia)

Legislation, planning, budgeting, monitoring and evaluation of urban public policy with a gender perspective in the framework of the Right to the City Room 404	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Magdalena Garcia Hernandez, MIRA, Mexico 2. Ellen Woodsworth, Women Transforming Cities 3. Shariza Kamaruddin, Penang Women Development Corporation (PWDC)
Land and Property Ownership Room 406	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mino Ramorason, Madagascar 2. Francis Birungi, UCOBAC 3. Maria Fides Bagasao, Huairou Commission
Economic Inclusion of women and girls: promoting capacity building opportunities in cities Room 407	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. David Thomas, UN Habitat 2. Angela Mwai, UN Habitat 3. Prof Datin Dr Norizan Abdul Razak, Tun Fatimah Hashim Women Leadership Centre, University Kebangsaan Malaysia
Inclusion of women with disabilities in an urban environment: education/transport/health/economic services Ballroom 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Risna Utami, S.H, MS/IHPM 2. Yenny Rahmayati, EROPH Australia and Swinburne University of Technology Australia
Humanitarian crises and migration Room 408	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teresa Boccia, AGGI 2. Maite Rodriguez, Women and Peace Network
Engendering the Right to the City-what's working, what still needs to be done Room 409	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lorena Zarate and Nelson Saule, Global Platform for the Right to the City 2. Alana Livesey and Alex Munive, Plan International 3. Limota Goroso Giwa, International Women Communication Center 4. Ana Falu, AGGI 5. Patricia Cortes, UN Women

Coffee Break

16:30 – 16:45

Closing Plenary

16:45 – 17:30

Outcomes of thematic working group discussions will be shared in plenary, highlighting sharing main commitments made, tools, and action items. Closing remarks on Women's Assembly and way forward through WUF9 and beyond to maintain active engagement of women and girls in implementing the New Urban Agenda.

Moderator: Kathryn Travers, Women in Cities International

Reports from the thematic breakout sessions

Closing Remarks:

- Jan Peterson, Huairou Commission

Plenary Closing of the Assemblies

17:30 – 18:30

Moderator: Esther Mwaura-Muiru, Kenya

- Kalpana Viswanath, Safetipin
- Kathryn Travers, Women in Cities International

