

October 2016 United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito, Ecuador

Conference Workshop Title:

Community development, land tenure and social innovation under conditions of rapid urban transformation: Issues and Strategies

Key words: land tenure systems, community development, urbanization and deprivation, social innovation

Questions of land tenure have been of major interest to urban development policy makers and practitioners in cities of the South. Many communities, and particularly the urban poor communities fell victim to eviction, displacement, lack of tenure rights and exclusion from urban services (drainage, water supply, waste collection, maintenance, etc.). In the last 50 years, approaches to these problems have evolved from outright negative attitudes or neglect by public agencies and urban professionals to a more empathic and constructive approach looking for potentially more positive solutions.

This Conference Workshop seeks to bring together about 50 action-researchers and policy analysts from all continents working in the area of land tenure and urban development, together with key experts and practitioners and other interested stakeholders to share state-of-the-art knowledge and to set the agenda for future research, policy and practice in this area. The workshop set-up explicitly allows for flexible approaches to actively stimulate exchange between the academic world and policy makers and practitioners.

Themes for parallel sessions/ panels:

- Theory and methodology in researching and governing land tenure and community development community land trusts, land readjustment, value capture, etc.
- Promoting responsible policy debates and approaches in recipient countries/regions.
- Land tenure dynamics and the production of a sustainable built environment in rapidly transforming cities.
- Community participation and co-production processes based on socially innovative initiatives and bottom-up governance and their role in establishing resilient land tenure.

If you are interested to participate please send an abstract to Frank Moulaert by February 15, 2016 (frank.moulaert@asro.kuleuven.be). The abstract should follow the following template:

1. Title 2. Author 3. Affiliation, full address, Email, URL 4. Abstract text (objective paper, approach/ methodology, case study description, expected outputs) 5. Explain how abstract connects to conference themes. 6. Short bibliography

Organization:

KU Leuven, Department of Architecture, Planning and Development Research Unit (<http://architectuur.kuleuven.be/onderzoek/society/planning/?lang=en>), OSA, the MAHS and EMSDP alumni networks, the University of Quito, the South African Cities Network (www.sacities.net), Asian Coalition for Housing Rights in collaboration with UN-Habitat.

Participation: up to 50 junior and senior researchers from across the urban world, and especially the Global South who work on land tenure systems and their governance.

Experts supporting the initiative: Lowie Rosales-Kawasaki (Kenya), Geoffrey Payne (UK), Somsook Boonyabancha (Thailand), Robert Home (UK), Nick Bailey (UK), Arif Hasan (Pakistan), Alain Durand-Lasserve (France), Faranak Miraftab (USA), M. Napier (SA), Peter Ngau (Kenya), Stacey-Leigh Joseph (SA), Monica Quintana (Ecuador), Pedro Abramo (Brasil), Vanessa Watson (SA), Abid Mehmood (UK), Nellie Lester (SA), Raf Tuts (Kenya), Joris Scheers (Belgium), Felix Chunga (Ecuador), Frank Moulaert (Belgium), Viviana d'Auria (Belgium), Han Verschure (Belgium).

Funding opportunities: there are limited funding opportunities especially for junior scholars and alumni of the Human Settlement Programme at KU Leuven. We are exploring alternative sources. In the mean time please note:

- *KU Leuven (Architecture and Society, Architecture and Design) will provide a few (3 to 4) scholarships for participants to this Workshop. These scholarships will cover travel expenses.*
- *VLIR/IRO: limited resources for funding students/ alumni of the Human Settlement Programmes at KU Leuven*
- *KU Leuven also offers travel grants to its Master students. See <http://www.kuleuven.be/internationaal/studenten/stageonderzoekinontwikkelingsland/reisbeurzen/travel-grants> Deadline for application is March 15.*

We keep exploring other opportunities but please send us your suggestions!