

## Citizen Participation and Urban Management: Resolving the Equation of Social Exclusion and Poverty with Empowerment Strategies

### Description of event:

Professional workshop linked to a roundtable debate with prominent practitioners, NGOs and local government officials focusing on innovative approaches and practical experiences with citizen participation in urban management. The workshop advocates the link between public policies and bottom-up processes that help empower civil society organizations in the design and implementation of pro-poor policies.

### Name of organization:

IHS-Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies  
Cordaid

### Description of organization:

IHS is an international institute associated to the Erasmus University of Rotterdam. Its mission is to develop human and institutional capacities in urban management, housing and urban environmental planning on a global scale to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life in cities. Cordaid constitutes, together with Memisa, Mensen in Nood and Vastenaktie, one of the biggest international development organizations. As one of the focus fields, Cordaid works towards achieving a better life for the poor in the major cities in developing countries: a healthy living environment, sufficient income and political control.

### Partner organizations:

Municipality of Santo Andre, Brazil  
Municipality of Sao Paulo, Brazil  
Coplan-Institute for Habitat Development, Albania  
DESCO, Peru  
Fundasal, El Salvador  
SDI, India

### Confirmed speakers:

Mr. Ed Rama, Mayor of Tirana  
Mr. Jeroen Klink, Municipal Secretary for Economic Development of Santo André, Brazil  
Mr. Ron Spreekmeester, Director Habitat Platform  
Mr. Gustavo Riofrio, Senior Advisor and former Director of Urban Programmes, DESCO, Peru  
Mr. Edin Martinez, Senior Director, Fundasal  
Mr. Claudio Acioly, Senior Housing & Urban Management Staff, IHS, The Netherlands

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