

# WHD FEATURE



## Background Information

### Box 1: Some Experiences in Localising the MDGs

UN-Habitat has developed a programme on localizing the MDGs by seeking to engage local authorities and other stakeholders in developing local actions to meet the MDGs as shown below:

The Philippines: UNDP/UN-HABITANT programme on localizing the MDGs through a league of cities. 14 cities have adopted localization of MDGs through a consultative process and have contextualised the MDGs targets, setting intermediate targets and allocating budgets to meet the targets.

**Brazil:** Preparation of MDGs baseline in Curitiba, City level human development report for Rio, UN-HABITAT.

**Paraguay:** Carapegua municipality adopted legislation to establish the MDGs as the principal basis for the strategy of the municipal government. The municipal plan reflects the MDGs as they are prioritized through a participatory method.

**Sri Lanka:** UNDP/UN-Habitat Urban Governance Support Project (UGSP) third phase covering 18 municipalities and urban centers have a component on localizing MDGs.

**Albania:** UNDP Albania programme to help the government to set and implement its own priorities within the MDG framework. Localisation facilitated through workshops and seminars where the MDG targets are adapted to local circumstances.

**Nigeria:** Ibadan localizing MDG city consultations.

**Zimbabwe:** Marondera city consultation on localizing the MDGs

*\*Source: Bringing the Goals to City Level by Dinesh Mehta (Habitat Debate, September 2005)*



### **Box 2: Key Features of a Slum Upgrading Project.**

Among the more than 200 donor-assisted projects for slum upgrading, the following features are found in most of them:

- *in situ* introduction of infrastructure services, such as water supply, sanitation and electricity.
- Minimal demolition of existing housing structure.
- Provision of minimal guarantee of legal occupancy, if not tenure.
- Provision of accompanying social services, such as education and public health.
- Expectation of community participation in the design, construction and/or maintenance of new community services; and,
- Some degree of cost recovery through periodic household payments to the implementing public authority.

*\*Source: Financing Urban Shelter: Global Report on Human Settlements, 2005*

### **Box 3: Sanitation Revolving Fund In Kitale, Kenya.**

The sanitation revolving fund has been initiated by the Intermediate Technology Development Group in two settlements in Kitale (Tuwani and Shimo la Tewa) The first phase has included 23 loans, all to plot owners, some of whom rent rooms within their plots. Many plot owners wished to take loans and the successful applicants were selected on the basis of the willingness to accept the loan in the form of materials, as well as according to their capacity to contribute towards the cost. The loans are to be paid over two three years. The amounts loaned are between 27,000 and 60,000 Kenyan shillings, and the interest rate charged is 12 per cent (if the repayment period is two to three years), or 11 per cent for a one-year repayment. A one-month grace period on repayment is offered. To assist in securing repayment, an affidavit has to be signed by each recipient. A further incentive for repayment may be that people have bigger dreams. (better housing) and seek further opportunities to borrow. A remaining question is whether they see the additional facilities as an opportunity to raise rents.

The Catholic Dioceses of Kitale has agreed to manage the sanitation revolving fund on behalf of Intermediate Technology Development Group. The dioceses already has some expertise in microfinance. A board of trustees oversees the loans and includes three members from the diocese, along with community members.

*\*Source: Financing Urban Shelter: Global Report on Human Settlements, 2005*

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## **Box 4: Funding Water Improvements In Pakistan.**

Faisalabad is one of Pakistan's largest cities. Two-thirds of Faisalabad's population lives in areas with little or no official provision for services, and most new housing and land developments take place without official approval. Less than half the city's population has piped water and less than one third are connected to the sewer system. The *Anjuman Samaji Behbood* (ASB) is a non-governmental organization (NGO) active in the city. The area in which it is working is Dhuddiwala -one among many informal settlements in Faisalabad- with a population of 8080 in 1999.

In 1994, ASB developed a successful microcredit programme for local business. The NGO agreed to help the community secure water improvements. Staff used and adapted the model developed by the Karachi-based NGO, Orangi pilot project. The model requires that those inhabitants of each lane within a settlement that want improvement have to organize and work out how to pay the immediate cost of the water supply and sewer infrastructure and the connection charges. The water supply committee felt that before such a process could happen, it needed funds to lay the main pipeline to the water mains. Then, individual lanes' inhabitants could lay their own distribution lines and households would connect to them and pay their share, so the project costs would be recovered. A loan for a revolving fund was received from WaterAid to cover the cost of laying 1100 running feet of main pipeline. The community invested 1,028,367 rupees to complete this work (around us\$18,700) which was only one third of the cost of water authority's initial estimates for this project (3.2 million rupees). A self financing piped water supply and underground sewer system were developed between 1995 and 1999, with 253 houses benefiting from in-house connection to water and 1300 houses with sewers. By 1999, 73,500 rupees had been recovered from the WaterAid loan (300 rupees per household). Within the first three years, slightly more than 30 per cent of households had been connected to the system. The water supply committee was responsible for collecting payments for water connection, keeping accounts, purchasing construction materials and supervising the construction of the main line and the distribution lines in the lanes.

Many other communities are now asking ASB for technical assistance in laying sewage lines, and a second phase of the programme is under way, developing a new collector sewer to serve 1,000 households.

*\*Source: Financing Urban Shelter: Global Report on Human Settlements, 2005*



### **Box 5: State of Informal Settlements in Nairobi, Kenya**

The state of living conditions in slums and informal settlements in Nairobi presents one of the greatest challenges facing Kenya today:

- Of the Nairobi city's population of more than 3 million, approximately 60 per cent (or 1.8 million) of the people live in informal settlements. This is expected to increase to 3 million by 2020. Here, as many as 1200 people live in one hectare of land with 6-10 people often inhabiting dwellings measuring 10 by 10 feet.
- The proliferation of informal settlements in Nairobi has roots in land distribution. For instance, between 1979 and 1985, 10 percent of Nairobi's households occupied 64 percent of all residential land. Today, 60 percent of Nairobi's population lives in 5 percent of the land.
- For hundreds of thousands of the poor living in informal settlements, the house is not merely a place to live in but is a place to work in as well. For instance, of a third of all households in Kibera whose population is more than 700,000 run between one and three business enterprises, most of which are service oriented.
- Only 11.7 percent of Nairobi households have piped water connections. Most households in informal settlements rely on community water points operated by private entrepreneurs. Other sources of water include vendors, roof catchments, boreholes, rivers and dams.
- Water distribution in Nairobi is related to income levels. Low-income areas consume only 35 percent domestic water supply. Though high income residential areas represent 11-12 percent of the population in the city, they consume 30 percent of the domestic water.
- By 1994, 95 percent of Nairobi residents had inadequate sanitation facilities with 56 percent lacking appropriate means of excreta disposal. In some settlements, over 400 people share one toilet. The situation is worse in Kayaba Mukuru slum where 85 percent of the residents have no access to bathrooms.
- Accessing well-maintained pit latrine in informal settlements costs between Ksh2 to Ksh5 per each visit. Those who cannot afford defecate in open spaces especially around refuse heaps and in the drainage canals, while others are forced to relieve themselves on polythene and hurl the waste on rooftops or to any open ground.
- In many informal settlements, roads, pathway and drainage channels are made of earth and flooding is common.

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*Journalists around the world are encouraged to write similar stories about meeting the MDGs in their own cities and about slum upgrading.*

**For further information, please contact:** Mr. Sharad Shankardass, Spokesperson, Ms. Zahra Hassan, Press & Media Liaison, Tel: (254 20) 623153/623151/623136, Mobile: 254 733 760332: Fax: 254 20 624060, E-mail: [habitat.press@unhabitat.org](mailto:habitat.press@unhabitat.org), Website: [www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)

or

Ms. Elis Nurhayati Chief, Communication, United Nations Development Programme, UNDP, Jakarta, Indonesia, Tel: 62 21 3141308 Ext 183, E-mail: [elis.nurhayati@undp.org](mailto:elis.nurhayati@undp.org)