



## Event Details

### Title of Event

Participatory upgrading of slums and informal settlements – urban sustainability management has a key role

### Organization Details

**Organization:** FIDIC (International Federation of Consulting Engineers)

**Organization Country:** Switzerland

### Summary

There are many reasons why much of the world's population lives in vast slums and informal settlements. Most have their roots in formal procedures to secure legal titles, build homes and comply with regulations on land use, buildings and services. Improvement in housing and basic services infrastructure is one of the most effective ways to upgrade unacceptable living conditions and to integrate cities more effectively and sustainably. It is therefore vital to understand how regulatory frameworks impact slum upgrading. UN Habitat's Slum Upgrading Legal Assessment Tool provides a framework to understand how and to what extent regulatory and institutional frameworks support the participatory, city-wide upgrading of informal communities. This unique tool uses indicators not only for issues related to the "five deprivations" (land; urban planning; basic services; building codes; finance) but also for the functional effectiveness of the law (regulatory objectives; transparency processes; institutional responsibilities; implementation capacity). Preliminary testing highlighted strengths and major gaps in Kenya's legal framework, and demonstrated how laws can both promote and undermine the integration of slums into a sustainable and inclusive city fabric. The Government of Iran subsequently requested UN-Habitat to help implement the tool in Tabriz, Kermanshah and Sanandaj in the context of a new slum upgrading policy. More generally, mainstreaming slum upgrading and empowering informal communities to act within formal frameworks calls for physical intervention at a scale that is difficult to comprehend. Ubiquitous throughout the urban environment are the necessary processes that deal with legal frameworks, data collection and analysis, planning, and procurement. They must be comprehensive, governed appropriately, integrated to avoid silo effects, and involve full participation. They must be mainstreamed into overarching urban management approaches based on international standards and frameworks that are being implemented worldwide at all scales across all types of communities.

### Other Organization name

SDI (Shack/Slum Dwellers International) Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation  
University of Chicago GIB (Global Infrastructure Basel) FIDIC (International Federation of Consulting Engineers)

**Prospective moderator, speaker(s) or panelist(s)**

	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1	Jeshika	Ramchund	Panelist	International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC)
2	Gianluca	Crispi	Panelist	UN-Habitat
3	Ariana	Karamallis	Panelist	Shack/Slum Dwellers International (SDI)
4	Anni	Buekes	Panelist	Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, University of Chicago
5	Peter	Boswell	Panelist	Global Infrastructure Basel (GIB)
6	Kirsten	Sommer	Moderator	UN-Habitat
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