



## Event Details

### Title of Event

Innovation-Data-Finance Nexus: Connecting the Pathway to Achieving the Urban Related SDGs and NUA

### Organization Details

**Organization:** College of William and Mary

**Organization Country:** United States of America

### Summary

The session is designed to last 50 minutes, starting with a 5-minute opening statement by Mr. Mihir Prakash (moderator). Mihir would address the relevance of the three pillars (innovation, data and finance) and describe their connection to the WUF 10's theme of culture and innovation. Mihir would then introduce the panelists, their areas of expertise and the work that they would present. Each panelist would then give a 7-minute presentations of their work. Robert, UN-Habitat's Chief Statistician, would set the stage by discussing the Global Urban Observatory's mandate of tracking progress on SDG 11 and NUA, their challenges and opportunities that data innovation offers in overcoming them. Argyro Kavvada (Female), Executive Secretary of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Earth Observations in Service of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (EO4SDG) Initiative, on behalf of the United States / National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), would then showcase how geospatial technologies can help bridge these data/evidence gaps. Argyro will highlight the work of GEO and how they have been supporting governments in increasing their use of geospatial data for their pursuits of achieving global agendas such as the Sendai Framework, SDGs and the NUA. Seth, Data Engineer/Scientist at the College of William and Mary, will discuss the key bottlenecks to the use of geospatial data, such as technical capacity or GIS skills. To overcome this obstacle and make geospatial data more accessible, Seth has developed the GeoQuery tool, which allows users to download preprocessed data in easy to use tabular form for any administrative unit worldwide. He will introduce GeoQuery and give a brief overview of how it works. Seth will also discuss how GeoQuery is expanding its coverage to cities and exploring avenues to incorporate citizen-generated data from sources such as Open Street Maps. Finally, Marco Kamiya would speak towards the challenges that lack of data poses on financing development, decisions and policies in cities. Marco would also provide pathways that could be pursued if more local data was available. Mihir and Marco would introduce the 'Counting the Costs' project which has developed a pilot methodology to establish a baseline cost for achieving SDG 11 and the NUA, and invite external feedback. Presentations would be followed by a 10-minute moderated discussion between the panelists, after which the floor would be opened to a Q&A session with the audience until the end of our allocated time.

### Other Organization name

UN-Habitat's Municipal Finance and Urban Economy branch; Group on Earth Observations

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

	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Organization</b>
1	Mihir	Prakash	Moderator	AidData, College of William & Mary
2	Robert	Ndugwa	Panelist	UN-Habitat
3	Marco	Kamiya	Panelist	UN-Habitat
4	Argyro	Kavvada	Panelist	Group on Earth Observations, seconded by NASA
5	Seth	Goodman	Panelist	AidData, College of William & Mary
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