1. Session proposed title
Grassroots Assembly

2. Subtitle of the session/tag-line (if any) Grassroots Assembly: Scaling community-level interventions to localize the SDGs and build back better from Covid-19

3. Focal Point(s) (Name and email)
UN-Habitat, Land Housing and Shelter Section assigned focal points:
Kerstin Sommer (kerstin.sommer@un.org)
George Gachie (george.gachie@un.org)

4. Moderator – Joseph Muturi, Chair of the SDI Board, SDI International muturijoe34@gmail.com

5. List of Partners contributing to the session, if any
Grassroots-led organisations:
- SDI (Asia/Africa)
- Huairou Commission (Global)
- Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (Asia)

Supporting organisations:
- Habitat for Humanity
- UN-Habitat Regional Offices
- UN-Habitat Social Inclusion Section
- UN-Habitat Basic Urban Services Section

7. Key words
Agents of change; Locally-led action; partnership, Innovation and Technology; Vulnerable Communities; Inclusive Development; Adequate Housing, Local Knowledge, Public Health; Financing Partnerships; Transparency and Accountability; Local Economic Development; Livelihood; Service provision, Social protection; Inclusive governance

8. Objectives of the session (max. 150 words)
The Grassroots Assembly will aim at:
- Recognising the contributions and roles of the grassroots to localizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and building back better post COVID-19
- Elaborating on partnership opportunities and mechanisms between grassroots organizations, local and national governments, financing partners and other stakeholders
- Engaging in a networking platform for greater community resilience

9. Brief Summary – abstract (max. 300 words)
Grassroots organisations are primarily made up of civilians advocating a cause to spur change at local, national or international levels. They are associated with bottom-up decision making, encouraging community members to contribute by taking responsibility and action for their community.

As first responders to any crises, grassroots organisations have been, and continue to be, at the front lines of the response and recovery efforts to the COVID-19 global health crisis. The pandemic has highlighted and exacerbated many of the chronic stresses urban poor communities live with and struggle against daily. As such, effective solutions to «build back better» need to be about more than COVID-19 recovery: they must work as a force to accelerate progress towards a more equitable, sustainable, inclusive, healthy and resilient future.

SDG localization is understood as the process of transforming the SDGs into reality at the local level, in coherence with national frameworks and in line with communities’ priorities. UN-Habitat promotes the New Urban Agenda as the action-oriented framework to achieve the SDGs at local level.

Over many decades, organised grassroots communities have shown that they are critical contributors to solutions which are a better fit to the local context. Because they understand the multifaceted realities best, they have the social networks and systems in place to respond efficiently and effectively to disasters and chronic stressors.

The Grassroots Assembly will focus on how organised grassroots groups are addressing the Covid-19 pandemic, the initiatives and tools they employ to ensure sustainability and resilience and how they are adapting the lessons learned in developing their recovery plan and programmes. It will demonstrate that organised grassroots groups have the information, knowledge, and skills to work with government and other stakeholders to implement effective, scalable solutions to chronic and acute urban challenges.

10. Guiding Questions for discussions

- What are entry-points for grassroot organisations to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) transforming the standard of living locally?
- How can we build new partnerships with the learning from covid-19 towards post-covid community resilience?
- What do grassroot organisations need to co-create with partners? What are areas that need to be complemented? What is needed most urgently and next? How can those be connected to local and national policy making?

11. Expected outcomes and impact (max. 50 words)

- Recognition of the contributions and roles of grassroots organizations in addressing both practical and strategic priorities towards safer and resilience cities and communities.
- Identification of good practices and tools to strengthen ongoing partnership frameworks and mechanisms and initiate new ones
- Share lesson-learned on building effective and sustained partnerships between grassroots organisations and other stakeholders
• Provide a roadmap for grassroots organizations to contribute to and localize the Sustainable Development Goals

12. Outline the format of the session (max. 150 words)

The grassroots assembly will be a whole day event (9am – 6pm). The suggested event structure will include:

The format will include keynote speakers from the Grassroots and UN-Agency leading on localising the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and come out stronger post COVID-19 with multi-level collaboration and fit for purpose co-creation systems. This will be followed by projection of statements from Grassroots initiatives all over the world. There will be 4 panel discussions and presentation of Case Studies on successful multi-level approaches and a roadmap for collaboration to achieve localization and monitoring of global goals. Breakout sessions on three selected thematic areas followed by debriefing to the plenary. The Assembly will start and end with opening and closing remarks respectively and will conclude with a consolidation and presentation of a summary of recommendations to feed the final WUF 11 Declared Action.

All participants and attendees will have an opportunity to make statements from the floor and engage the speakers through Q&A. Other communication channels and tools will also be available to help capture additional contributions from participants during the WUF11 week. The online discussion and the outcome report will be shared with the WUF11 drafting team and all participants.

13. Proposed key speakers and moderator(s)

Use the following table for proposing the speakers and moderators.

Below is a preliminary list to be discussed with collaborating partners and the WUF Secretariat to ensure fair distribution of speakers.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position/Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Email for invitation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mr. Amadou Sall</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>PSUP Community Village Committee</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ms. Theresa Carampatana</td>
<td>SDI Board member</td>
<td>Philippine National Federation</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Philippine</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Ms. Beth Chitekwe Biti</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>SDI</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Ms. Lajana Manandhar</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>ACHR</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mr. James Mwanjau</td>
<td>Deputy Executive Director</td>
<td>Civil Society Urban Development Platform</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>Ms. Violet Shivutse.</td>
<td>Chair of Governing Council</td>
<td>Huairou Commission</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Ms. Elsa Maria Hernandez</td>
<td>Women Leader</td>
<td>Mujeres, Democracia y Ciudadania</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Ms. Grazyna Czajkowska</td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>Congress of Urban Social Movements</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Poland</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Ms. Catherine Epse Tondje</td>
<td>Head of Monitoring, Evaluation and Scaling</td>
<td>CODAS, DOUALA,</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Cameroon</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Mr. Oliver Von Malm</td>
<td>Founder</td>
<td>Start Somewhere</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Ms. Ingridt Ciego</td>
<td>Community Leader</td>
<td>Fundacion Guatemala</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>Mr. Ala Talbi</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Tunisian Forum for Economics and Social Change</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Tunisia</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>Ms. Veronica Katalushi</td>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>People’s process on Housing and Poverty</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Zambia</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>Ms. Laurinda Emmanuelle Godjo</td>
<td>Project Manager</td>
<td>Bohicon municipality, Benin</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Benin</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Mr. Joseph Kimani</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>SDI, Kenya</td>
<td>Male</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Mr. Witold Gawda</td>
<td>Representative</td>
<td>Congress of Urban Social Movements</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Poland</td>
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14. Indicate any necessary facility and equipment
Networks of community-based groups and initiatives will be reached out and given the opportunity to join virtually or to participate in key discussions with tools such as online poll tools or through recorded statements.

Adequate video conferencing and equipment to allow for virtual participation will be needed including a screen for projection of statements, videos and pool results.

15. Comments/Additional information
The Grassroots Assembly aims at achieving stronger multi-level collaboration for effective localizing the sustainable development goals. Supporting community led approaches and building synergies with local stakeholders to ensure we achieve transformation at the community level.
The Assembly will provide an opportunity for discussion and call to action on transforming communities through multi-level partnerships, towards localisation of the global goals.