



Networking Event @ WUF

The Affordable Metropolis: Turning Density into Prosperity

Feb. 9th 3pm-5pm

Continuous demographic growth and urbanization, including the rise of migration flows, call for new responses from business and the industry in cities, starting with the real estate and the building and construction sectors. On the one hand, sustainable development calls for more inclusive and transparent markets matching the demand for affordable housing, transit oriented development, economic diversity, environmental and energy sustainability and integrated urban planning. On the other hand, real estate and land values are soaring in metropolitan cores worldwide, which nurtures the social divide and brings a rising number of households into the periphery.

According to recent research conducted by the World Bank, metropolitan areas that are larger in population size evidence higher levels of socio-spatial segregation and higher levels of income inequality (H.Terraza, World Bank, MIT MetroLab 2018, Metropolitan Governance to reduce social inequality and promote economic growth). As an illustration, according to data assembled by the Grand Paris Alliance, a think tank on metropolitan development, territorial segregation has not only worsened but worsened at a faster path in the last 5 years than in the previous decade, in global cities such as the Paris region (N.Buchoud & alii, revue Etudes Foncières # 175, 2017).

Turning density into prosperity is becoming a priority for public and private urban development stakeholders, so as to build metropolises as engines of inclusion and affordability and not just magnets for global capital or technological innovation. To reach this goal quickly in the 1000+ metropolitan areas of the world (Steering the Metropolis, MIT MetroLab & alii), we need a dramatic policy shift which includes more efficiently the private sector and civil society organizations in renewed metropolitan territorial and economic governance.

Our networking event will illustrate concretely how, and with whom it might happen.

The networking event will gather representatives from major metro areas from the North and the Global South along with global contractors, world-class research centers, global professional networks and leading civic organizations and think tanks. The aim is to move beyond common wisdom and build a roadmap for the mobilization of financial resources to increase urban prosperity and opportunities for all. It will be proposed that all participants to the roundtable then take a pledge to test and implement such solutions in real scale. In the case of Paris for instance, the conclusions will be shared on the way to 2024

Olympics. In the case of Indonesia, they will nurture the agenda of the World Conference on Creative Economy scheduled for summer 2018, etc...

This networking event is unique as it goes beyond the divide between the industry and civic groups. Building on concrete examples of large scale experimental projects, it will dig deep to find out how fundings from corporate social responsibility, from social impact investments and cooperative sources could be better mobilized as drivers for more inclusive and more affordable metro systems.

Density without shared prosperity will create chaotic urban environments. Meant to support the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the SDGs in metro areas, the event will function in a matrix mode, crossing geographical and economic dimensions (India, Melbourne, Grand Paris, New York, Indonesia) with complementary fields of specialty (local government, construction, innovation, real estate, research).

10 Key words (100 characters)

Innovation, Governance, Business, Industry, Partnerships, Affordable Housing, Urban Development, Urban Assessment, civic

Choose one dimension

Sustainable urban development for social inclusion and ending poverty

Sustainable and inclusive urban prosperity and opportunities for all

Environmentally sustainable and resilient urban development

SDG:

11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

Three expected outcomes:

1. Bringing the voice of the People to Public/Private Partnerships (PPPP);
2. Sharing of Best Practices from the private sector in meeting sustainable urban development and planning needs;
3. Strengthening cooperation between stakeholders and developing new Partnerships.

Is your event expecting to attract donors?

YES

Is your event expecting to increase partners?

YES

Scope:

Global

Is your event presenting a new commitment on the implementation of the New Urban Agenda?

YES

Please explain to what extent the event will be inclusive in terms of age and gender balance:

The event is strongly supported by the General Assembly of Partners (GAP), a global multistakeholder coalition. GAP is supporting the New Urban Agenda and its constitution promotes equitable and sustainable urban development in an integrated and coordinated manner.

The General Assembly of Partners includes organizations that either focus on gender issues or have programs that address the needs of all age groups or disabled persons.

The event is specifically endorsed by GAP Executive Committee and especially the Business and Industries Partners Constituent Group and the Professionals Partners Constituent Group (PCG).

Most important, speakers will embody this variety of age, gender and geographical origin.

What is your outreach strategy to promote attendance at this event?

FIABCI and other partners of the networking event will have booths or will take part to booths in the Exhibition Hall to promote the event.

Each GAP PCG will be promoting WUF 9 to its membership worldwide including hundreds of associations and universities and thousands of individual practitioners.

The networking event will be specifically followed by a major global online media and social network specialized in cities, NextCity, as part of NextCity comprehensive coverage of the World Urban Forum.

We provide a comprehensive, multi-channel (physical, digital) outreach and communication strategy before, during and after WUF.

What is your monitoring strategy to follow up on the expected outcomes of this event?

FIABCI will provide each partner with standardized reporting/assessment mechanisms as well as promote the outcomes of the networking event to its worldwide membership, in order to make a case of the issue of affordability in metro-areas an umbrella issue throughout 2018.

FIABCI will be assisted by GAP and by other partners of the event such as the think tank Grand Paris Alliance in doing so. The participation of U-Penn through the world-class research institute on urban issues Penn IUR will also guarantee quality follow up of the debate occurring in Kuala Lumpur.