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© A Global Studio and the Center for Sustainable Urban Development in the Earth Institute at Columbia University project to share and exchange knowledge, build networks, and promote dialogue between communities, urban practitioners, universities, NGOs and policy makers on people's participation in meeting the challenge of inclusive urbanization and climate change. Inquiries: anna.rubbo@columbia.edu



01 PEOPLE BUILDING BETTER CITIES

A traveling exhibition by Global Studio and the Center for Sustainable Urban Development in the Earth Institute at Columbia University, New York. During 2013 the exhibition will go to cities in Thailand, Brazil, Australia, South Africa, Kenya, India, Bangladesh, China and the USA.

02 RESILIENT, EQUITABLE, INCLUSIVE, SMART AND SUSTAINABLE

If cities are to be Resilient, Equitable, Inclusive, Smart and Sustainable (REISS), people must be part of the conversation. New forms of education and practice can help create the REISS city. People Building Better Cities wants to provoke a dialogue on participation and inclusive urbanization.

03 INEQUALITY

Inequality, measured by income (GINI) and human development (HDI), is profound. Globally, the top 20% holds more than 70% of total world wealth. Inequality threatens economic stability and democratic rights in the city.

04 POPULATION GROWTH AND SLUMS

Most future urban population growth will be in developing countries. By 2020, 4.2 billion people will live in cities and 1.5 billion (35%) will live in slums. Inequality contributes to spatially divided cities.

05 CLIMATE CHANGE

Buildings contribute around 30% of greenhouse gases. The top four CO2 emitting countries are China, USA, EU, and India. The highest emitters (by tons/person) are Australia, USA, South Africa, and China. The urban poor are dangerously vulnerable to extreme weather. To achieve the REISS city, the poor must be at the center of climate change strategies.

06 CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Citizen engagement is a necessary pre-condition for a more inclusive city. In the REISS city, residents must be able participate in decisions affecting the city, neighborhood, and housing. Effective participatory processes can be transformative and empowering. A rights based model, as espoused by Slum Dwellers International, promotes opportunity in all areas of life. Hamdi (2004) says, "Participatory design (and planning) is key to achieving equity and efficiency when formulating plans and in urban governance".

Resilient, equitable, inclusive, smart and sustainable cities require citizen involvement.

07 IS EDUCATION WORKING EFFECTIVELY?

How do designers and planners work effectively with people to address urban problems, and help deliver better outcomes? Khosla (India), Pieterse and Benit-Gbaffou (South Africa), and da Silva (Brazil) provide some insights on public participation and citizen engagement.

08 / 09 THE GLOBAL STUDIO APPROACH

Global Studio aims to educate urban professionals to contribute to the REISS city by partnering with residents. With 8 principles and priorities guiding the approach, Global Studio draws on a "tool kit" of 20 possible participatory actions, and a number of catalyst questions. Principles include building capacity in all participants, and disseminating outcomes to community, academic and professional stakeholders.

10 / 11 GLOBAL STUDIO CASE STUDY 1: INDIA INCLUSIVE CITY CENTRE, BHOPAL

An approach based in research and community consultation, resulting in urban design proposals to knit together the old and new cities, and create a new "commons," park, and lake front walkway for Bhopal citizens.

12 / 13 GLOBAL STUDIO CASE STUDY 2: INDIA KABADKHANA NEIGHBORHOOD, BHOPAL

Two proposals based in community consultation to identify problems and opportunities for an urban slum. Smaller Changes - Big Difference. Incremental neighborhood upgrades improve community life, livelihoods, and health. Design for Housing explores "big picture ideas" for a people-responsive approach to the design of new housing as an alternative to high-rise G+3 blocks favored by the national JNNURM and RAY Slum Free city policies.

14 / 15 GLOBAL STUDIO CASE STUDY 3: INDIA INCLUSIVE PREMPURA SCHOOL, BHOPAL

Partnering with the school, local community, and NGO to improve the learning and physical environment for and with children. Additionally, the project focused on developing income-generating projects for women and the community, and site plan proposals promote a school-community "commons."

PEOPLE BUILDING BETTER CITIES

Participation and Inclusive Urbanization
A 2013 Traveling Exhibition

16 GLOBAL STUDIO CASE STUDY 4: SOUTH AFRICA THREE TOWNSHIPS, JOHANNESBURG

Working with communities over three years generated trust, knowledge, and three community-based NGOs. Implemented initiatives include environmental health improvements and cultural activities; design proposals for climate change mitigation and remediation of a floodplain; and an arts and culture center.

17 COMMUNITY CASE STUDY 5: SOUTH AFRICA COMMUNITY LED DEVELOPMENT IN DIEPSLOOT, JOHANNESBURG

Building on Global Studio work (2007-09), the community-based NGOs DACN and WASSUP, with Sticky Situations have developed effective structures to enact change in sanitation and arts and culture.

18 ARE DESIGNERS WORKING EFFECTIVELY? HOW?

How are designers engaging communities around the world? Pieterse (South Africa), Luansang et al (Thailand), and Aquilino and Stephenson (France-Haiti) provide some insights on public participation and citizen engagement.

19 CASE STUDIES 6 AND 7: HEALTH

Healthabitat engages Indigenous Australians, Nepalese villagers, and public housing tenants in New York to improve health through design and capacity-building strategies. Archive Global's international design competitions address difficult health issues in Haiti and Cameroon.

20 CASE STUDIES 8 AND 9: EMPOWERMENT

ACCA (Thailand) and community architects work with people in 165 cities and 19 countries in Asia on urban upgrading projects and housing. BRAC (Bangladesh) architecture students engage in design and build projects and provide new opportunities for cyclone victims.

21 ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY

Given the opportunity, the tools, and the access to information, how do the urban poor become effective agents and leaders of change? Boonyabancha (Thailand), Patel (India), Sclar, Garau, and Carolini (USA) provide some insights.

22 PARTICIPATE

How can you participate? Share and contribute your experience, and expand the People Building Better Cities Network and resources base on <http://peoplebuildingbettercities.org>

23 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Customs House Sydney, BSHF (Building and Social Housing Foundation); Studio X, GSAPP, Columbia University; University of Sydney International Development Fund; Australia-India Institute; Global Studio participants; Project advisory group.

24 HOW COULD DESIGN HELP IMPROVE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD OR CITY?

Add your comments on the exhibition panel or on <http://peoplebuildingbettercities.org>.