DESIGN IMPACT _ OPENING + SESSION 1

Organized by the Harvard Graduate School of Design Alumni Council

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SESSION NAME:

XX Slum Upgrading and the Right to the City:
Policies, Design and Transformation XX

DATE:

Thursday, September 23, 2021 - 8:30 am - 5:00 pm (ET) Friday, September 24, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm EST (Boston Time)

DESCRIPTION

XX Slum Upgrading and the Right to the City: Policies, Design and Transformation will be the first of a three panels series revolving around the urgent need and impact of design across disciplines, scales, and geographies.

This session would look at slum upgrading and what policy makers, planners and designers should be mindful of and how to work with communities to tackle the inequities in our cities which were laid bare by COVID-19. This last crisis add up to the increasing frequency and severity of disasters produced by climate change, and the systemic racial, religious and economic discrimination that plagues cities. XX

ABOUT DESIGN IMPACT

Design Impact is a global design leadership speaker series sponsored by the Harvard Graduate School of Design Alumni Council. These virtual events bring together outstanding rosters of global leaders to share their work and vision, challenging us as a global community to use design as a tool for actionable, transformative change, and healing. This ongoing series is free and open to all.

The mission of the GSD alumni 24-hour charrette Design Impact is to provide a platform to inspire designers worldwide to be proactive towards the creation of regenerative and more equitable cities and communities, essential for ensuring a safe and hopeful future for humanity. As architects, planners, and designers we hold a privileged and unique perspective, standing at the crossroads of power, opportunity, and creativity. We invite you to use our collective creative capital to dream and design a vision for humanity that is inclusive, equitable and sustainable.

SPEAKERS

Panelists

- Sheela Patel (India/Mumbai)
  Director of the Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC), Chairperson, Slum/Shack Dweller International (SDI), based in Mumbai, India.
- Jorge Mario Jauregui (Argentina/Rio de Janeiro)
  Architect and Urban Planner "The Favela-Bairro Program," based in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- Inês Magalhães (Brazil/Sao Paulo)
  Former National Housing Secretary and Minister of Cities, Senior Housing Expert, Based in Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Jennifer Musisi (Uganda/Cambridge, MA)
  Former Executive Director of Kampala City, City Leader in Residence, Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative, based in Cambridge, MA
- Anacláudia Rossbach (Brazil/Mexico City)
  Regional Manager for the Latin America and Caribbean Region, Cities Alliance, based in Mexico City.
- Sameh Wahba (Egypt/Washington DC)
  Global Director for the World Bank's Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice based in Washington D.C.

Moderator

- Francisco Brown (Nicaragua / New York City, NY)
  Research Affiliate at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, based in New York City, NY.

FORMAT & SCRIPT

This event will work as an online seminar and it aims to be highly interactive between the panelists, and the moderator. Due to the number of expected guests, the audience will not be able to directly ask questions to the panelists, however, there will be Q&A feature so the spectators could send their question on a written form.

The event will be comprised of four sections:

2. Project Presentations and Multidisciplinary Perspectives (40 minutes):

Each Speaker will have 5 minutes to make a brief presentation (we suggest 5 to 8 slides max.) which includes a sample of a selected project or projects responding to a specific prompt or question asked by the Moderator. Through these presentations we aim to show a plethora of ideas across disciplinary perspectives. The proposed order of the presentations and the suggested intellectual frameworks are: XX (this is the exact order of the session with the moderator name and the kick-off framework questions. Feel free to modify as much as you want based on the format of your own session) XX

1. Francisco Brown: Presentation of all the speakers.
   The What? Slums, favelas, bairros, bidonvilles, Ashwa'iyat, Gecekondu are many words to describe the same challenge –
   The How? places that developed informally, without prior planning and infrastructure coordination/provision, mostly on land that is not legally owned or without building permits, and where many people with moderate and limited income live and work, mostly in the informal sector, although with more socio-economic diversity than typically assumed.
   Why does it matter? The issue of slums lies at the intersection of equity (the places left behind), climate change (the places that are prone to flooding, landslides and where people live at risk), and public health (the places emerging as hotspots of COVID-19). What is this panel about? Different perspectives (national, city and community levels; design, economics and finance professions),

2. Sameh Wahba: Framing the crisis and strategies to tackle slum upgrading and housing challenges: A development bank's perspective.. Short presentation to frame the crisis (COVID-19 laid bare the inequities in our cities, especially the plight of slums and informal settlements; the trade-off between livability and opportunity) and what can be done about (both curative and preventive; supply and demand ambitious programs around the world). The biggest challenge - How to achieve scale in slum upgrading?

3. Inês Magalhães – The role of national governments in slum upgrading and housing: National government perspective. Short presentation about Brazil's slum upgrading and housing programs – the largest programs in the world. How did Brazil solve the challenge of going to scale? What is the role of subsidies, transformative investments and design in urban transformation (e.g. teleferico in Complexo de Alemao, libraries in Manguinhos, etc)? What are the main obstacles to solving the slum challenge?

4. Sheela Patel: Communities and urban transformation: A community perspective. Short presentation on the central role of communities in slum upgrading drawing on SPARC/SDI work in Mumbai and globally: "Know Your City Program" and other participatory mapping and implementation initiatives. How slum dwellers are mapping their own settlements to put neighborhoods on the map?

5. Jennifer Musisi – The role of Mayors/local governments in slum upgrading: Local government perspective. A short presentation on the role of local governments in slum upgrading drawing on KCCA's work in Kampala: how to prioritize investments; how to mobilize the financing; how to build a coalition; what are the key obstacles; What local financing and investments models maximized the community inclusion to leave no one behind?

6. Anaclaudia Rossbach – Housing and Land markets, and the right to the city: An economist's perspective – A short presentation on innovative planning instruments to address the inequities in cities contributing to slum formation (from Brazil the right to the city legislation; decouple land ownership from land development rights – paying for development rights to finance infrastructure; regularization of insecure land tenure

approaches – ZEIS, usocapiao, etc; from Mexico – housing subsidy strategies to encourage infill development.

7. Jorge Mario Jáuregui – Design and the power of transformation in slum upgrading: A designer's perspective – A short presentation on "The Favela-Bairro Program" in Rio de Janeiro, How crucial is design for transformation of slum upgrading programs? How to incorporate public spaces and amenities, local economic development such as job creation and investment attraction, involve communities?

Round-table Discussion (20 minutes):

The moderator will ask each speaker about a particular subject, or project presented by another speaker. This section aims to connect all perspectives emulating the complex process of urban transformation by discussing the diverse breath of experience and knowledge in the panel.

1. Jennifer Musisi and Inês Magalhães – Working across government levels: How to make change across different political and geographical jurisdictions? How can city and national governments work together to make change?

2. Sameh Wahba and Sheela Patel – Community mapping, crowdsourcing and community contributions: How to transform slum upgrading through community involvement? How can mapping and data/information on the ground be a critical way to connect to the community in the ground and put them at the center? How to pay for slum upgrading projects - to what extent can/should the community pay?

3. Anaclaudia Rossbach and Jorge Mario Jáuregui – The intersection of design and policy: What is the relationship between design and policies such as the right to the city? How can we get designers to influence informal development (how to expand the reach of designers from the 3% of the built environment to the 97% of the built environment they don't usually lead in – the informal development)?

Public Q&A (15 minutes):

The moderator will select questions from the public and ask them to all or to specific speaker.

GUEST SPEAKERS BIOS

Inês Magalhães is a sociologist, a senior expert in housing and urban development policies globally. She currently works as a senior consultant at UN-Habitat and the World Bank. She served as the National Housing Secretary and the Minister of Cities in Brazil between 2003 - 2016. During her term she restructured the institutional, legal and programmatic aspects of the housing sector, and conceptualized and coordinated two important Federal programs: The Slum Upgrading Program in PAC (Growth Acceleration Program), and the housing program named: "Minha Casa Minha Vida" (My House, My Life), which are the largest slum upgrading and housing programs in the world.

Sheela Patel is the Director of the Society for Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC), an NGO that has been working since 1984 to support community organizations of the urban poor in their efforts to access secure housing and basic amenities and seek their right to the city. She is widely recognized – nationally and internationally – for seeking urgent attention to the issues of urban poverty, housing and infrastructure onto the radar of governments, bilateral and international agencies, foundations and other organizations. She is a founding member of Slum/Shack Dwellers International (SDI), an international network of poor people's organizations and the NGOs that support them in Asia, Africa and Latin America, and is currently its Chairperson.

Jennifer Musisi is currently the City Leader in Residence at the Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative, at Harvard University. She previously served as the Executive Director for Kampala City Capital Authority leading the development of the capital of Uganda, and she is credited with many successful urban transformation projects as well as transforming the city's finances, service delivery and implementation capacity. Jennifer is also known for her commitment to cause compliance and for fighting corruption as well as improving the socio-economic conditions for local communities. She

Sameh Wahba is the Global Director for the World Bank's Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, based in Washington, D.C. The Global Practice, which also covers territorial development, geospatial and results-based financing, has a $30 billion portfolio of lending commitments and over 400 staff. Prior to joining the World Bank in 2004, he worked for the Rotterdam-based Institute of Housing and Urban Development Studies and the Harvard Center for Urban Development Studies.

Anacláudia Rossbach, an economist and urban specialist from São Paulo, Brazil, has been working for 20 years in the housing and urban fields, as practitioner and researcher for international organizations, local and national governments, universities and non-profit organizations. Currently she is Regional Manager for the Latin America and Caribbean at Cities Alliance, based in Mexico City.

Jorge Mário Jáuregui is an architect and urban planner. He was awarded the Veronica Rudge Green Prize in Urban Design from the Harvard Graduate School of Design; and he is a finalist of the Mies van der Rohe architecture Prize for Latin America. His office has worked on urban transformation in more than 20 favelas in Rio de Janeiro at different scales.

Francisco Brown is a Nicaraguan Architect and a creative consultant with experience in humanitarian and commercial architecture, journalism and research. He is currently a research affiliate at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design where he recently graduated with a Master in Design Studies. He previously worked in New York as an architectural designer, and as a correspondent for Arquine Magazine. Prior to this, he worked as an International Architect for the United Nations International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Kabul, Afghanistan.