HABITAT III POLICY UNIT 1
Rights to the City and Cities for All
September 2015
EXPERTS

Each Policy Unit is composed by 20 experts, coming from different geographic areas and constituencies. They have been appointed by the Secretary General of the Conference, in close consultation with the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for Habitat III, after receiving nominations from Member States and stakeholders.

The main objectives of the Policy Unit are:

// To bring together high-level expertise to explore state-of-the-art research and analysis on specific themes;

// To identify good practices and lessons learned; and

// To develop policy recommendations on particular issues regarding sustainable urban development.

Duties, and responsibilities for the policy unit experts

- Contribute with reviewing substantive documents prepared for the process of the Post-2015, and other relevant intergovernmental conferences;
- Support conducting analysis of the available data, including statistics and information in Habitat III Issue Papers, outcomes from official Regional and Thematic meetings, etc.
- Support preparation of the structure, the preliminary contents and messages of the Policy Papers at the first and second Expert Group Meetings (EGM1 and EGM2);
- Participate in meetings organized online and other virtual exchanges;
- Advise on incorporating proposed changes into the draft Policy Papers, harmonize Policy Papers and submit it to the Habitat III Secretariat.
The experts for Policy Unit 1 are (alphabetical order):

Allison Brown  
Professor of Urban Planning and International Development, Cardiff University  
She is an urban planner and development policy expert with 30 years international experience in academia and professional practice, with research and PhD supervision expertise on urban informal economies, and sustainable urban development. She is also the Director for the Master’s in International Planning and Development. She is planning advisor to the global advocacy group, WIEGO (Women in Informal Employment, Globalizing and Organizing).

Ana Falu  
Professor, National University of Cordoba  
Architect, with postgraduate studies in Rotterdam and TU Delft The Netherlands, where she obtained her “Doktoraal” in 82. She was Regional Director of UNIFEM (UN Women) in Andean Region (2002-04) and in Brazil and South Cone Countries (2004-09). She is an academic, social activist and feminist, Co-founder of the Women and Habitat Network for America Latina, Founder of CISCAS in Argentina, Vice-president of HIC and Gender Expert of UIM –Iberoamerican Union of Municipalists.

Anna Badyna  
Research Fellow, School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Birmingham  
She holds an MSc in the Built Environment from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm and a Doctorate in Human Geography from the University of Oxford. She previously worked professionally in the development industry. Her research lies at the interface between human geography, sociology and urban and housing studies.

Arun Jain  
International Federation for Housing and Planning  
He is an urban designer and urban strategist with over 30 years of international experience in practice and academia. After last serving as Portland, Oregon’s first Chief Urban Designer (2003-09), he currently works globally with city & regional (public) administrations, private sector companies, professional institutions, universities, and other organizations to improve cities and urban life.

Delia Brenda Acosta  
Professor, Universidad Autonoma de Ciudad de Juarez  
As psychologist, she participated in the development of the social, economic and cultural diagnosis of local environments for the design of interventions and prevention of violence in the northern region of Mexico.

Emilio de la Cerda  
Director, School of Architecture, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile  
He was an architect until 2014 and the Executive Secretary of Nacional Heritage of Chile. He is co-author of the Quinta Monroy housing project in Iquique. He holds Masters Degree from the Catholic University of Chile.


Eva García Chueca  
Researcher, Centre for Social Studies (CES) – University of Coimbra  
She is also the coordinator of the Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy and Human Rights of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), currently on leave of absence. She holds a Degree in Law by the University of Barcelona and Master’s degree in Citizenship and Human Rights: Ethics and Politics.

Francesco Bandarin  
President of the Italian Association of Historic Cities (ANCSA)  
He served as Assistant Director-General of UNESCO for Culture from 2010 to 2014. He is an Architect and Urban Planner and currently professor of Urban Planning and Conservation at the Institute of Architecture of Venice, Italy (IUAV). He managed the World Heritage Convention for over 10 years (2000 to 2010).

Frauke Kraas  
Chair, Institute of Geography, University of Cologne  
She is a geographer focus on research in urban and socio-economic development, especially in the Southeast Asia. She was visiting professor of the University of Yangong in Myanmar between 2012 and 2014. Currently she is speaker of the Priority Program “Megacities: Informal Dynamics of Global Change” of the German Research Council based on the Pearl River Delta China and Dhaka in Bangladesh.

Kevin Mugenya  
Urban Technical Advisor, World Vision Kenya  
He is a public policy analyst and governance expert on sustainable development with 9 Years’ experience in research, advocacy and public policy analysis on various urban developmental agendas. He holds a Master Degree in Environmental Policy from the Centre of Advanced Studies in Environmental Law and Policy Unit, University of Nairobi. He also worked as Programme Officer at the Institute for Law and Environmental Governance (ILEG).

Luz María Sánchez Hurtado  
Executive Director, NGO Estrategia  
Architect and urban planner, she holds degrees in Architecture, Urban Planning and Urbanism from Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal in Lima and from KTH at University of Stockholm, as well as a Post Graduate Degree in International Construction Management from the University of Lund in Sweden. She was re-elected co-chair of the International Architects Designers Planners for Social Responsibility (ARC-PEACE) until 2016, and is currently designing strategic reconstruction plans for Nepal in close coordination with ASF International joint action.

Mao Qizhi  
Professor, School of Architecture, Tsinghua University  
He is also the Vice President of the Human Settlements Institute of the Tsinghua University. He has been engaged in research and teaching in urban and regional planning, urban design, infrastructure planning, and GIS/RS and virtual reality technology application in rural and urban planning. He holds a doctorate in engineering from Tsinghua University, a master’s degree from Stuttgart University in Germany, and his bachelor degree in Architecture from Zhejiang University.
Margaret Lombe
Associate Professor at Boston College School of Social Work
She is also a faculty associate at the Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis. Dr. Lombe's area of expertise is international social development with an emphasis on social inclusion/exclusion and capacity building.

Nelson Saule Jr.
Coordinator of the Right to the City Area, Polis Institute
Doctor in Law by the Catholic University of Sao Paulo. He is Counselor of the Council of Cities ("Conselho das Cidades") of the Ministry of Cities. Since 2013, through the Polis Institute, coordinates the Global Platform Right to the City and the international research on ways of implementing the Right to the City in cities and countries in Latin America, Europe and Africa. He is also a professor of urban law and coordinator of the law school graduate program and model office at the Catholic University of São Paulo.

Sally Roever
Director, Urban Policies Programme, Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO)
She holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of California at Berkeley (2005) with specializations in research design, qualitative and quantitative methodology, and Latin American politics. Her work for WIEGO focuses primarily on urban policy trends in the street vending sector; law and informality; and research methods. She is presently the Director of the Informal Economy Monitoring Study (IEMS) and sits on WIEGO committees for research, law and informality, and the focal cities initiative. Prior to joining WIEGO as a staff member, she was a Lecturer at the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague and Visiting Researcher in Public Administration at Leiden University (The Netherlands).

Somsook Boonyabancha
Secretary-General, Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR)
She graduated from the Faculty of Architecture at Chulalongkorn University in Thailand and from the Housing and Urbanization Course in Copenhagen, Denmark. Formerly, she was the Director of the Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI) in Thailand. For the past 30 years, Somsook has worked on housing development for the urban poor and slum upgrading in Thailand and other Asian countries.

Sarah Nandudu
National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda
She is the Vice chairperson at the National Slum Dweller Federation of Uganda and Central community leader in implementation of the Transformation Settlements of the Urban poor in Uganda. Also a key member of the Uganda National Urban Policy. Her Keynotes at 7th World Urban Forum, Future of Places - 2015, Future Cities Africa Conference 2015, Habitat III - Un governing Council and PrepCom 2015 are the latest.

Thomas Coggin
Lecturer, School of Law, University of Witwatersand
He holds a postgraduate qualification in global governance from the German Development Institute, as well as a postgraduate qualification in diplomacy and negotiation from the Foreign Service Academy of the German Federal Foreign Office. He coordinates the International Research Group on Law and Urban Space and is the editor and founder of urbanjoburg.com.
Zione Ntaba
Judge, High Court of Malawi
She holds a bachelor of Laws from the University of Malawi and a Master’s Degree in Advanced Legislative Drafting for the University of London. She previously worked at the Malawi Energy Regulatory Authority (MERA) as Director of Legal Affairs and Board Secretary. She has also worked with the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs as a State Advocate as well as Legislative Counsel. Judge Ntaba is actively involved as a member of the Woman Judges Association of Malawi focusing on providing legal advice to women and children, holding legal clinics and offering mentorship programmes.