



United Nations

## — HABITAT III —

### SIDE EVENT REPORT

Submitted by Lead Organization	
Name of the lead organization	Human Cities Initiative, Stanford University
City and country where the lead organization is based	Stanford, CA, USA
Title of the event	Global Lessons to Local Action: Crafting Better Urban Toolkits
Date	10/17/2016
Room number	R18
List of partner organizations	Sustasis Foundation UN SDSN Youth International Climate Development Institute (ICDI)
Number of attendees	81-100
Percentage of women participating	31-40%
Background information on the event (themes, issues, context).	<p>To operationalize the New Urban Agenda, we asked the question of how we can best assist local actors in devising effective, appropriate, and creative solutions to their day-to-day challenges. We proposed that the broad values promoted at international summits can be made more personal and relatable to practitioners through the thoughtful design of practical toolkits. The goal of the side event was to present how design thinking tools can inspire practitioners and toolkit designers. Our partners also shared their goals and experience when creating toolkits. We then turned to the room and asked participants to brainstorm and share their aspirations, challenges and needs for toolkits. Through an interactive event featuring design thinking activities, case studies and creative collaboration, we explored the elements that make toolkits useful for practitioners who will be at the frontline of implementing the New Urban Agenda.</p>



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<b>Concise summary of the event proceedings, including key points discussed</b>	<p>The New Urban Agenda calls for a paradigm shift in urban development. This revolution calls for practitioners from all fields to change their practice. But where should they start? What do they need to reorient their activities, gather other stakeholders to find common solutions, and convince more and more people to change their habits? We presented the idea of toolkits as a set of guidelines taking a variety of forms to help practitioners take action. SDSN Youth presented their practical tools for young citizens to know how to take action to support the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. Michael Mehaffy called for a new approach to urban planning, “more like gardening than carpentry” and adapted new planning tools. The Stanford Human Cities Initiative underlined the need to decipher the needs and practices of communities, as an essential first step to trying to spur change. Design thinking tools propose a variety of techniques, from observations to map-making and cultural probes. They put empathy at the forefront and seek to empower community to lead sustainable change. Half of the event put the audience at the center of the stage. Small groups shared their main challenges when trying to spur change in their community, what had been helpful in toolkits before, and what features they wished to see in toolkits in the future. We gathered some of the information expressed by the participants and are currently analyzing it. Recommendations based on this information will be available on the website of the Human Cities Initiative: <a href="http://www.humancities.org/habitat3/">http://www.humancities.org/habitat3/</a></p>
<b>Recommendations that emerged from these discussions.</b>	<p>Recommendations based on data gathered in the workshop will be available on the website of the Human Cities Initiative: <a href="http://www.humancities.org/habitat3/">http://www.humancities.org/habitat3/</a> We will also share them with participants who gave us their contact.</p>
<b>Partnerships or collaborations that emerged from the event.</b>	<p>The Stanford Human Cities Initiative (HCI) is in contact with SDSN Youth to discuss how Stanford can best help the program, informing and guiding young leaders who will be part of this initiative. Stanford HCI and Sustasis are also discussing how they can work together on the “future of places” initiative, working on new urban planning tools to support sustainable urban development.</p>
<b>Name, nationality, title and organization of the 1st speaker at your event.</b>	<p>Caroline Nowacki, French, Lecturer at Stanford University</p>



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Name, nationality, title and organization of the 2nd speaker at your event.	Kevin Hsu, American (USA), Lecturer at Stanford University
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 3rd speaker at your event.	Dan Chan, Hong Kong, Manager of the Local Pathways Fellowship at UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network - Youth
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 4th speaker at your event.	Maria Helena Hernandez, Mexican, Project Leader - Campaigns at SDSN Youth
Name, nationality, title and organization of the 5th speaker at your event.	Michael Mehaffy, American (USA), executive director of Sustasis Foundation
Dissemination of the outcomes of your event?	By email to participants and through our website: <a href="http://www.humancities.org/habitat3/">http://www.humancities.org/habitat3/</a>