

## ISULabaNtu at Habitat III

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We are delighted to announce the ESRC/NRF Newton funded *ISULabaNtu* project will be holding a side event at the Habitat III conference in Quito, Ecuador on **17th October 2016 at 9.30am in room R6**.

The project team will lead an interactive presentation on preliminary findings developed since our beginning in February 2016, followed by a panel discussion with experts including: Prof Marie Huchzermeyer from the University of the Witwatersrand; Emily Mohohlo and Rose Molokoane from Shack / Slum Dwellers International (SDI); Dr Graham Alabaster from the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (Geneva Office); Dr Zoleka Sokopo from the South African National Department of Human Settlements; and Ms Beryl Mphakathi, Head of Human Settlements in EtheKwini. Other panel members are also expected.

The side event will seek to critically discuss the preliminary findings of the first phase of the project, alongside a discussion of the following key questions:

- What are the skills and capabilities that the South African municipalities need to develop to implement inclusive participatory models for the provision of housing and services?
- How should one find the right balance between regulation and voluntary policy tools (e.g. incentives) in the context of informal settlement upgrading?
- Upgrading often takes place in informal settlements that are on land that is not 'ready to build'. How can we develop criteria and key performance indicators to incorporate upgrading in contexts where land is deemed unsuitable and where traditional & complex tenure schemes might apply?
- What are the challenges in implementing micro financing schemes in slum-upgrading and how they are related to community empowerment and leadership?
- What are the different definitions of "successful" community-led upgrading from the perspectives of the community, the NGO and the municipalities involved? What are the synergies and potential conflicts? How can different expectations be managed by the various stakeholders?
- What are good examples of "community participation and "co- production" of knowledge with communities?

We hope to see you there! More info can be found at [isulabantu.org](http://isulabantu.org).

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