Asia-Pacific Housing Forum

Powering collaboration for housing impact

September 16-19, 2019
Bangkok, Thailand

Post-event Report

Organized by

Habitat for Humanity®

Contents

Executive summary

Over the past 12 years, the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum has strived to challenge our thinking and spur action on shelter and related issues. At the latest conference in 2019, the following objectives were realized.

Collaborate

A private sector participant observed that in 2011, the environmental assessment of bamboo-based housing was the subject of a pilot research presented by UNESCAP at the Housing Forum. By 2019, the technology had become the focus of a large-scale project.

Act

In 2015, more than 340 Housing Forum participants in three locations signed postcards and pledges supporting the development of the New Urban Agenda. By 2019, those who took part in an Urban Thinkers Campus, a side event of the seventh conference, agreed to form a network of networks for sharing knowledge and best practices in housing and urban development. The following month in October, some participants delved into that commitment at the Asia-Pacific Urban Forum in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Promote

While exhibitions by Forum partners had been a feature, the latest conference took it further by hosting the Innovation Awards. Following presentations and pitches, we celebrated winners in three categories in promising initiatives for affordable, resilient housing.

We aim to keep the dialogue going and networking strong because we believe housing is at the center of sustainable development. From the youth to the corporates to the governments, everyone has a stake in a better and more sustainable future.

About the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum

The seventh Asia-Pacific Housing Forum in September 2019 was the largest-ever with more than 2,300 participants across the main and side events. Corporate and youth leaders, local government representatives, shelter experts, and entrepreneurs, among others, gathered at the Grand Hyatt Erawan in Bangkok, to learn, collaborate and maximize our collective housing impact.

In terms of the topics, the staples included housing and urbanization challenges, climate change resilience and construction technologies. Other topics such as innovation in housing services, humanitarian shelter trends and land tenure alternatives provided key insights and food for thought.

Ahead of the main conference, preliminary events held in Bangladesh, New Zealand, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, the Philippines and Cambodia drew more than 1,700 people. With participants coming from the public, private and people sectors as well as academia, myriad views were heard and ideas exchanged.
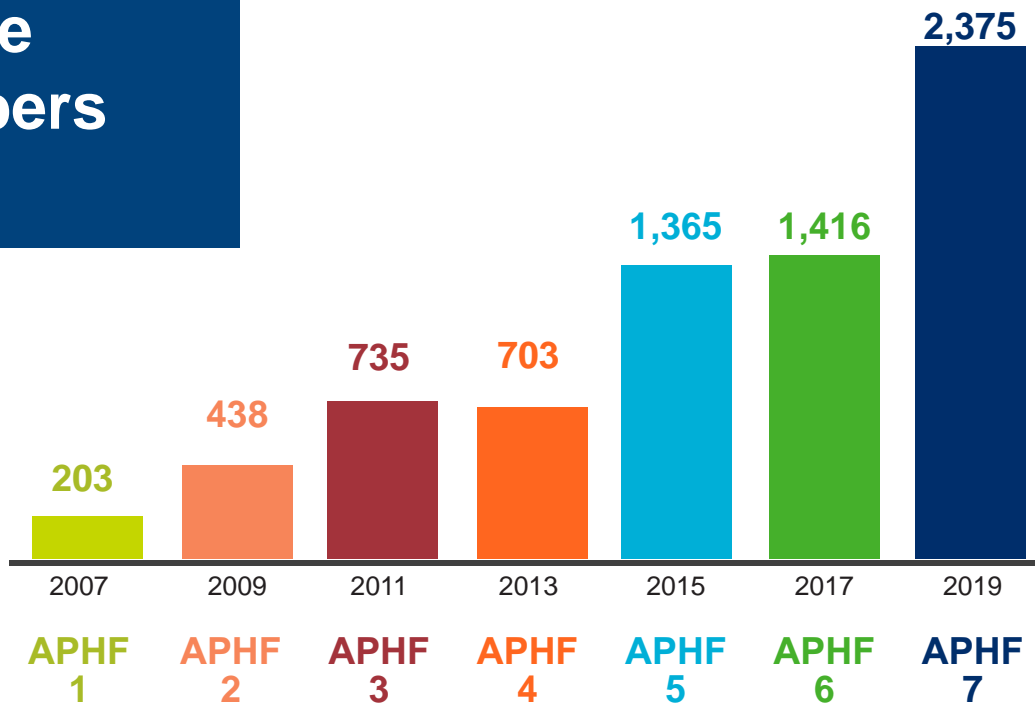
We would like to take a leaf out of a speaker's book:

> "In disaster recovery, the contribution of NGOs is minute; the contribution of the government is ten-fold but still minute. The real contribution is from the community."
>
> - Dave Hodgkin, shelter coordination adviser, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

At the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum, our participants, donors and supporters are our community. Thank you for your contributions.

By the numbers

Year	Event	Participants
2007	APHF 1	203
2009	APHF 2	438
2011	APHF 3	735
2013	APHF 4	703
2015	APHF 5	1,365
2017	APHF 6	1,416
2019	APHF 7	2,375

Since 2007, more than 7,200 people have attended the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum. For the seventh housing forum, between May and August 2019, a total of 1,731 attendees took part in seven preliminary events prior to the main conference.

Participants in preliminary events

330
Dhaka, Bangladesh

100
Auckland, New Zealand

50
Hong Kong

422
New Delhi, India

100
Jakarta, Indonesia

538
Manila, Philippines

191
Battambang, Cambodia

Preliminary events

Dhaka, Bangladesh

About 330 people took part in the 'National Seminar on Building Collaboration for Housing Impact' from April 23 to 24, 2019, in the first preliminary event to be kicked off under the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum.

At the event, the Bangladesh Housing Forum — a platform to facilitate cooperation and collaboration among local housing stakeholders — was launched. The platform was initiated by Habitat for Humanity Bangladesh with UN-Habitat, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Oxfam in Bangladesh, Caritas Bangladesh and Housing and Building Research Institute.

Auckland, New Zealand; Fiji, Tonga and Samoa

About 100 people attended the first-ever Pacific Peoples Housing Forum in Auckland, New Zealand, on May 17, 2019. Prior to the forum in Auckland, related events were organized in Fiji, Samoa and Tonga. Diverse voices were heard, not only about the Pacific Islands' main housing challenges but also climate change.

The three winners of a youth essay competition from Samoa, Tonga and Fiji respectively presented their work and were later invited to join the regional Housing Forum in Bangkok.

Jenny Salesa, New Zealand's first Tongan-born Member of Parliament, opened the Forum.

Hong Kong

In Hong Kong, a high-level roundtable on July 11, 2019, gathered about 50 participants comprising academics, government officials and corporate representatives to discuss strategies for affordable housing in the Special Administrative Region.

Conversations also focused on smart housing technologies, resilient cities and the importance of impact investing and partnerships in the affordable housing space.

New Delhi, India

Organized for the third time, the India Housing Forum held from July 18 to 19, 2019, attracted 422 delegates and speakers who tackled challenges on housing affordability and access to sanitation.

Hanifa Zaara, 8, was in the media spotlight after she went to the police to make her father keep his promise of building a toilet for their family. She received an award at the Forum for her work in raising awareness about sanitation in India.

Jakarta, Indonesia

About 100 people attended the event on July 25, 2019, in Jakarta organized by Habitat for Humanity Indonesia in partnership with Ministry of Public Works and Housing Settlements and Pelita Harapan University.

A poster exhibition was held from July 24 to 29 at the Living World Alam Sutera shopping mall, showcasing the work of Habitat Indonesia.

Some 30 participants also joined a July 31 site visit to Mauk district in Tangerang where they saw living conditions and Habitat Indonesia's work in building communal toilets, an early childhood education center and a community center.

Manila, Philippines

In Manila, the Housing Forum had strong participation from government entities such as the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council and the Senate Committee for Local Government Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement.

A Youth Congress was also held as part of the conference, where young delegates discussed their role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 11 of sustainable cities and communities..

At the close, participants wrote down their dreams and aspirations on paper folded into the shape of planes and threw those in the air, symbolizing their hopes for more decent and affordable homes.

Battambang, Cambodia

Following a successful National Housing Forum in 2017, Habitat for Humanity Cambodia took the conference to the city of Battambang where the findings of a city-wide survey and mapping of the informal settlements in the municipality were shared.

The 191 participants at the July 30 event were encouraged to solve the problems and improve the quality of life of informal settlers.
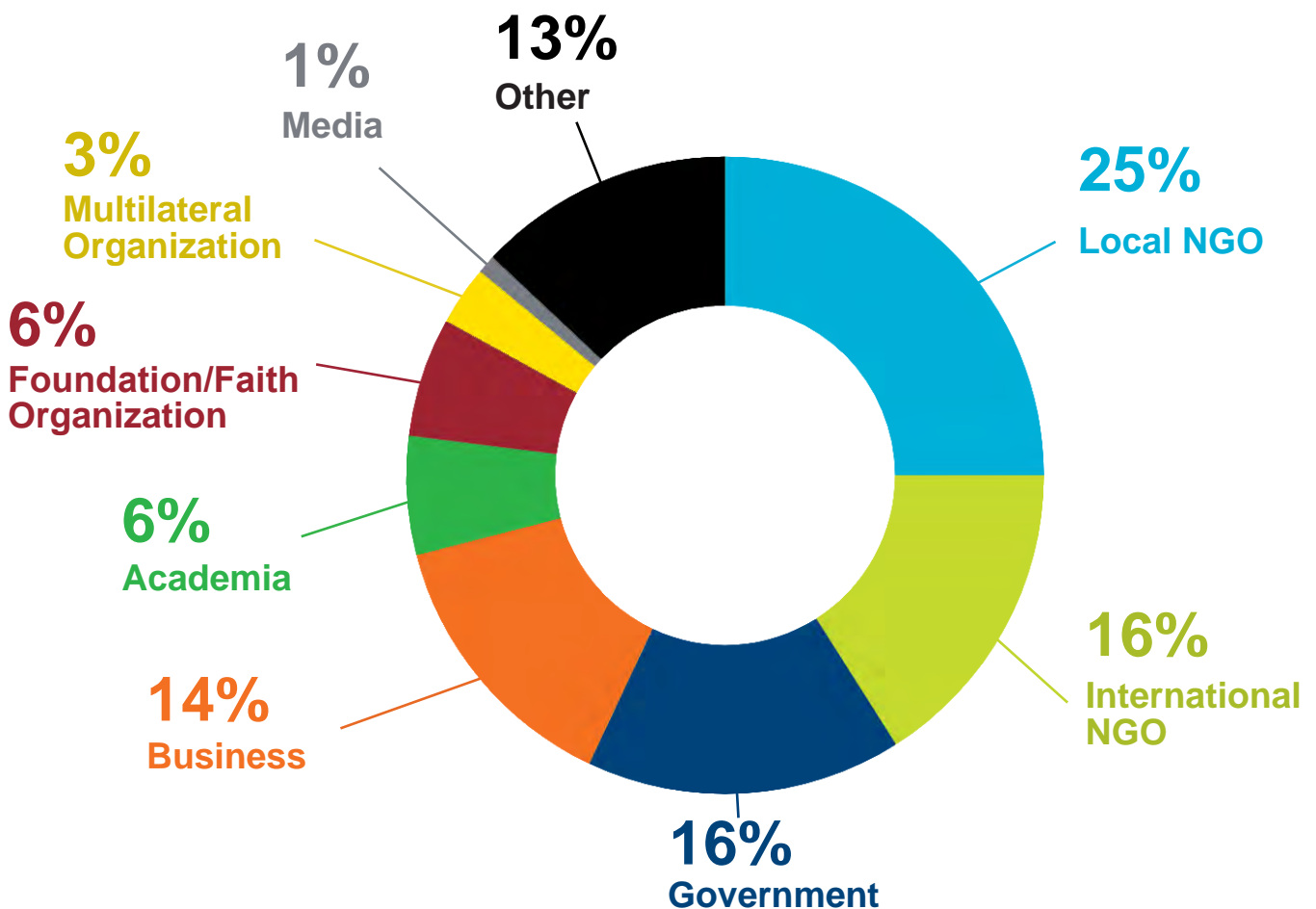
Main forum

Most of the **644** delegates at the regional conference in Bangkok came from

Thailand
Philippines
Cambodia
United States
India
Bangladesh
Hong Kong
Indonesia
Nepal
New Zealand

1% Media

13% Other

3% Multilateral Organization

6% Foundation/Faith Organization

6% Academia

14% Business

25% Local NGO

16% International NGO

16% Government

81 — Speakers and moderators

100 — People trained in the first land tenure course

86 — Participants in 'Youth in the House!'

Media

213
articles, blog posts and op-eds

US$606,000
ad value

65.6 million people
reached

Social media

more than
800 mentions
of Asia-Pacific Housing Forum

over 45 million people
reached

Website

27,000
unique page views
(between August and September 2019)

The data on this page is specific to the regional housing forum in Bangkok, Thailand.

Highlights

Strengthening Land Tenure Security for Disaster Resilience Training Course

Participants sharing their views following a practical training session on data collection tools and processes with the use of mobile applications.

Whenever disasters hit Asia-Pacific — which is often — a vast majority of the poor and vulnerable are badly hit because they often live in hazardous areas. Without clear evidence of their ownership of land or property, they are unable to receive support following disasters.
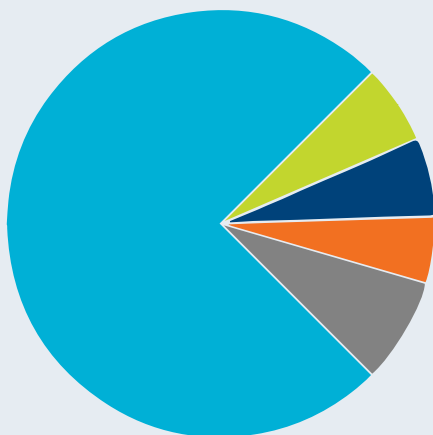
In view of the important role that secure tenure plays in post-disaster recovery, a training course was organized by Habitat for Humanity in partnership with the Netherlands' ITC – University of Twente. The Global Land Tool Network and the Cadasta Foundation also lent support by facilitating sessions. Basic concepts and terms were covered with participants gaining a better understanding of the continuum of land rights. They also saw how climate change vulnerability as well as gender were connected with secure tenure, and what fit-for-purpose land administration could do.

It was not all case studies, tools and processes. In post-disaster projects, building trust among affected communities was not merely an act of benevolence but sprang from a sense of duty and empowerment, participants learned.

About 100 participants attended the training course.

- **75% Nongovernmental organizations** (local and international)
- **6% Governmental institutions**
- **6% Private sector**
- **5% Academia**
- **8% Others**

> Land tenure is about rights and responsibilities; it is about who has access to resources, for how long, and in what conditions. When we create land systems, we create rights. It creates both inclusivity and exclusivity.
>
> – Professor Jaap Zevenbergen, Head of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Geo-information Management, ITC – University of Twente

Urban Thinkers Campuses

Opportunities and Challenges in the Provision of Adequate and Affordable Housing in the Urban Context

Fifty-five practitioners gathered with one major goal — to accelerate housing innovation through collaborative networks. A panel considered the Latin America and the Caribbean experiences in setting up a regional Urban Housing Practitioners Hub and what cross-sector collaboration in Asia-Pacific would entail. Panelists came from the Hilti Foundation, UN-Habitat, EU SWITCH Asia SCP Facility, the University of Dhaka and the Government of the Philippines.

One of the three breakout groups noting key points. The proposed hub's activities include:

- *Create mechanisms for sharing products, processes and data on housing.*
- *Help shape and drive policy agenda on housing.*
- *Provide assistance and capacity building for other stakeholders, such as small local government exploring new policy and program areas.*

A consensus that emerged among the breakout groups: a network of networks is relevant to the geography, and current political climate of Asia-Pacific. Such a hub can be the common space and catalyst for everyone to contribute to the common vision of sustainable housing and urban development. Some of the participants agreed to follow up at the seventh Asia-Pacific Urban Forum in Penang, Malaysia, where the following topics were discussed:

- What are the key issues and activities that the network of networks will engage in?

- What are the outcomes expected in terms of sustainability, enhancing inclusion, improving quality of life, and increasing resiliency?

Hosting an urban innovation session at the Asia-Pacific Urban Forum on October 15, 2019, representatives from Habitat for Humanity and a few organizations represented at the UTC made the case for an Asia-Pacific practitioners network. The participants went on to discuss an action plan and next steps in setting up such a hub.

"We are enthusiastic about the possibility for such a platform to be able to connect people, organizations and networks, fostering collaboration and embracing diversity of knowledge and expertise in delivering housing solutions.

– Puja Sawhney, Key Expert for South Asia, SWITCH-Asia Sustainable Consumption and Production Facility, who made the remark at the close of the Housing Forum

Youth in the House!

The Asia-Pacific Housing Forum saw its largest Youth Congress since 2017 with 86 young leaders representing more than 10 countries. Half of them were based in Thailand. The other half comprised international delegates who submitted their housing solutions and attended the event with the support of the Housing Forum's event partner HTMX Industries.

Over six sessions at the Youth Congress, young people learned how to tap into their strengths in volunteering and raising awareness. Through the sharing of young professionals on community resilience, building leadership and advocacy, participants were inspired to bring positive change to their communities and cities.

"

If everyone works with the thought that we are all doing this for the future generation, I am sure that our future would be in great hands, and it is, from what I've seen and heard at the Forum these past few days.

– Ana Malia Falemaka from Tonga and a youth essay winner who presented earlier at the Pacific Peoples Housing Forum.

"

At the end of the event, commitments and a new initiative were unveiled.

- Business leader Harlan Stone from event sponsor HMTX Industries declared his support for empowering 14 million young people through Habitat for Humanity's Young Leaders Build Leadership Academy.
- Habitat for Humanity and the International Federation for Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, with the help of Aniporn Chalermburanawong, Miss Universe Thailand 2015 and Habitat for Humanity ambassador, launched the beta version of PASSA Youth's online platform. It allows young leaders to form a network, receive support and share knowledge to effectively identify and mitigate disaster risks and vulnerabilities in their communities.
- Participants were also able to indicate their commitments to the New Urban Agenda via an online petition: bit.ly/Youth4SDG11.

Organizations represented at the Youth Congress included UN-Habitat, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, World Youth Alliance Asia Pacific, Navotas Homes PASSA Youth Group, Chaitanya Rural Intermediation Development Services, and Kawayanville Youth Organization.

Innovation Awards

The Innovation Awards turned the spotlight on innovative housing solutions for vulnerable families in Asia-Pacific. A region-wide call was made to start-ups and entrepreneurs, particularly those that focused on affordable and resilient housing products and projects for the most vulnerable people in the region. Finalists were selected in three categories:

- **Construction Innovation** for affordable, resilient housing showcasing entrepreneur-driven and ecologically friendly products, processes, hardware and software for the shelter ecosystem;

- **Community Initiatives and Spatial Planning** focusing on housing innovations at the community and settlements levels including urban community planning and community-led initiatives.

- **Partnerships and Policies** highlighting the need for cross-sector collaborations of various stakeholders including national and local governance units.

Ten highly innovative entrepreneurs were invited to attend the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum in Bangkok and pitch their ideas to a panel of jury experts. Besides the judges from UN-Habitat, the Hilti Foundation, Cities Alliance, International Finance Corporation and others, the audience comprised key regional stakeholders. Finalists also had access to ecosystem mentors and specialized guidance in preparing for their pitches.

"

We need a strong community of organizations and individuals from across the region in order to initiate solutions for the housing shortage in Asia-Pacific. Networks represent the power of collaboration.

– Egbert Appel, president of the Hilti Foundation

"

During the day on September 17, 2019, TED talk-style pitches were heard from six finalists with initiatives that strengthen the housing ecosystem in community initiatives and spatial planning as well as policies and partnerships. When evening arrived, another four finalists, entrepreneurs in the construction innovation space, took to the stage. The shelter innovation pitch night and networking reception was jointly organized with the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs.

Based on the evaluation and voting by the judges and the audience, three organizations emerged as winners. They received their awards the next day at a networking dinner.

(From left) Egbert Appel, president of the Hilti Foundation, after presenting the awards to Romel Benig, CEO of Green Antz Builders (Philippines); Soe Win Zaw, founder of Pounamu Bamboo Construction (Myanmar); and Paulette Liu, CEO of the School of Knowledge for Industrial Labor, Leadership, and Service from the Philippines.

Green Antz Builders Inc., from the Philippines, turns recycled plastic waste into construction materials such as bricks, walling and pavers. The Philippine company utilizes a holistic system to cover recovery, collection and treatment.

Pounamu Bamboo Construction is a bamboo design and construction company with the vision of bringing economic and environmental benefits to poor, rural communities in Myanmar.

School of Knowledge for Industrial Labor, Leadership, and Service, or SKILLS, addresses the shortage of construction workers in the Philippines by partnering with the government, businesses and educational institutions. The technical vocational institute has also developed a certification system that standardizes skills and competencies required by the construction industry.

Main forum overview

Tracks

Under the theme of 'Powering collaboration for housing impact,' the seventh Asia-Pacific Housing Forum addressed critical trends and advanced affordable housing solutions. Under each of the four thematic tracks, participants delved into key topics presented in the Forum's plenaries and breakout sessions:

⬢ Impact to the max

Through impact investing and market-based solutions, businesses are creating new opportunities for innovative partnerships to bring affordable housing solutions to scale. Firms are progressively pursuing the triple bottom line: positive social impact, positive environmental contributions, and good financial performance. This track focused on how companies and other stakeholders could contribute to a more sustainable future.

⬢ Promoting inclusion amidst rapid urbanization

Improving inclusive access to adequate and affordable housing is fundamental to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the goals of the New Urban Agenda. Cities in Asia and the Pacific are home to half of the world's urban population, with about 28 percent living in slums lacking access to basic services, secure land, and adequate shelter. This track highlighted global housing and development challenges in urban and rural contexts, and the appropriate local strategies and interventions.

⬢ Fostering resilient cities and communities

Half of the Asia-Pacific population is now urban, living in a region that is most affected by natural disasters. Amid increasing threats from climate change, there is greater impetus for collaboration and coordination among stakeholders for sustainable development. The track examined issues and explored ways in which safe, secure housing could help communities mitigate disaster risks and build long-term resilience.

⬢ Responsive housing technologies

The track covered some of the latest technologies that could benefit families in need of adequate, affordable housing. In a digital age, will technological advances serve the shelter needs of the most vulnerable and add value to housing policies?

Plenary Sessions

6 Plenaries

20 Speakers and moderators

All of you today, come from different sectors –public, private and civil sector. With your different perspectives, what story can you create about housing?

– Than Phu Ying Sirikitiya Jensen. The keynote speaker is the daughter of Thailand's Princess Ubolratana Rajakanya. This marked the first time the Housing Forum was opened by a royal family member.

To address even a fraction of the problem, we need not only collaboration but also the private sector to take a lead because it can make the largest dent in the market deficiency.

– Dhaval Monani, Chief Executive Officer, First Home Realty Solutions

The world's biggest problem is also the world's biggest opportunity.

– Chanond Ruangkritya, President and CEO, Ananda Development, referring to the trend of urbanization in Asia

Civil society plays a critical but insufficient role. Most important: make sure that the voice of the community is part of the process from the beginning. Give voice to the voiceless.

– Jonathan Reckford, Habitat for Humanity International CEO

We must all continue to look for new avenues or solutions so that one day, we can all look back knowing that we all did our part in making a change in the lives of families who needed proper and adequate housing the most.

– Rachel Swann from Fiji and a youth essay winner who presented earlier at the Pacific Peoples Housing Forum

We often overlook traditional technology, indigenous technology that already exists in our society.

– Dr. Sohee Minsun Kim, Assistant Professor, Urban Environmental Management Program, Asian Institute of Technology

Breakout Sessions

16 Breakout sessions

65 Speakers and moderators

At the core of this is the primacy of people's choice and agency; people should drive their own recovery.

– Bill Flinn, senior shelter advisor, CARE International UK

Canals in Thailand are managed under the Department of Sewerage. What does that mean? That canals only serve as 'waterpipes' instead of as public space or green park or as an ecological space within the city.

– Kotchakorn Voraakhom, ffounder and CEO, Porous City Network. She was nominated by TIME magazine as one of 15 women leading the fight against climate change

A member of the audience asking a question at the breakout session on 'Window to Appropriate Construction Technologies.'

'People at the center' should really be our guiding principle. Tech is not the solution to all. It has to be embedded in housing ecosystem. Public-private partnership needs to address the actual needs of the people.

– Corinna Salzer, Head of Engineering and Technical Marketing, Hilti Asia-Pacific

We want to empower common people with information reparable to their communities. However, any data or information is useless if it is not trusted, and to build trust, we need to have enough diverse stakeholders to voice the importance of the data, for all interests to be represented to benefit communities.

– Cha-ly Koh, Founder & CEO, Urbanmetry

Conclusion

Diverse as they were, the participants at the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum had a common denominator. Each has a stake in a sustainable future built on the foundation of safe, stable and affordable housing. With a decade left for countries and governments to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals, the race is on to ensure no one is left behind. As we connect the dots between affordable housing, climate change, disaster resilience, urbanization, secure land tenure, gender equality and more, we realize that no one has the perfect solution. That is why the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum will continue to serve as a cross-sector platform bringing together governments, businesses and civil society. Through dialogue and collaboration, learnings and ideas are exchanged, innovation is promoted and housing gaps are bridged. Powering collaboration, we build housing impact together.

Recommendations

1 Weighing in on public policies

At the Forum, speakers reiterated the need for local governments to take ownership of their roles in contributing toward the Sustainable Development Goals. Policies and practices should be aligned and measured alongside specific SDG metrics. To meet SDG 11 — sustainable cities and communities — local contexts, constraints and opportunities need to be taken into consideration for the implementation of localized policies. For the global goals, cities feature prominently in multiple targets.

The localization of indicators is critical to drive policies and a bottom-up approach to housing challenges. Local authorities can tap into the expertise of both grassroots groups and the private sector in value-added partnerships. Improved long-term financing for large urban projects as well as smaller scale owner-driven construction are part of effective public policies. But unstable fiscal income, corruption, lack of efficiencies and governance challenges often hamper efforts to develop long-term, sustainable urbanization initiatives. Low-income and marginalized communities may also lack the capacity and means for measuring results and impacts.

To address their own communities' needs, local governments need solid guiding principles and a network of partners, a strong base for monitoring and evaluating communities, and regional governmental collaboration to target cities and areas that are lagging behind.

> **It has to be national SDG — make it work for your city, your neighborhood, your country.**
>
> – Omar Siddique, Economic Affairs Officer, Sustainable Urban Development, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

2 Deepening partnerships

Housing is far too complex without all three sectors working together. Civil society must move beyond donor programs and explore broader, cross-sector platforms for funding opportunities. The people sector is also a place for risk capital, to test out new ideas that may not be scalable in the short term but could be a pathway for the public and private sectors to take them to scale.

While companies have more flexibility in taking calculated risks when implementing CSR projects, government support is essential in providing an enabling environment. Corporations and governments can work together in opening and supporting opportunities for businesses in the low-cost housing sector, such as microfinance services, construction materials, green technologies, testing and standardization. Aside from funding, they can also share knowledge, technologies and techniques. This will lead to customer satisfaction as a business result and encourage people to use safe and environmentally friendly construction materials, even in the low-cost housing segments.

Ultimately, public-private partnerships need to be developed with strong government backing, because housing policies and regulation are addressed by the public sector. In addition, global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals as well as regulation of rental markets are often mandated through governments. What is more, a public-private partnership that is successful in one country may not work out in another. In Fiji, a country with a small population and where 86 percent of the land is communally owned, low-income housing financial products are not in high demand. Partnerships then may focus on women, persons with disabilities and traditional chief systems.

I think partnering is hard, if we're honest. One of my axioms is, 'the only thing worse than partnering is not partnering.'

– Habitat for Humanity International's CEO Jonathan Reckford

3 Smart and responsive cities

In Asia, most cities are at the beginning of a journey to become 'smart.' Government initiatives such as the India Smart Cities Mission launched in 2015 target select cities that will receive funding for core infrastructure, IT connectivity, efficient urban mobility, public transport and improved governance and citizen participation. Still, the technological and system build-up for smart cities must go hand-in-hand with effective policies and strong regulatory environment to cater to different sectors and communities.

At the same time, a smart city that is also resilient plays an important role in connecting people, services and business. Rapid urbanization exacerbates existing problems and brings new challenges in Asia-Pacific. Millions of people living in this region are particularly vulnerable to the risks of flooding, earthquakes and other natural hazards. Resilience can and should be a characteristic of a smart city, and innovations should be built around that concept.

There're multiple needs we need to fulfill. We need to innovate and be smart. It doesn't have to be technology or digital, but we do need an element of smart, to solve the problems before they become a crisis.

– Samantha Stratton-Short, Associate Director, Arup

The creation of a smart city is a process and not limited to cities that are already developed. When it comes to housing, public and private sectors alike must take into consideration the home space as the central unit and starting point for families and individuals to enjoy the benefits of smart systems.

To incorporate housing as an essential component of smart and resilient cities, the various approaches include:
- planned infrastructure for residential areas with special focus on access to clean water, sanitation and drainage systems;
- appropriate community mapping and transportation arteries that can connect marginal areas to urban business centers;
- the use of data by authorities and civil society entities to analyze the habits of people in communities, individuals per household, their water and electricity consumption, school-aged children and older inhabitants; and
- leveraging such data to create dynamic policies that are most beneficial to communities at a certain point in time.

There is neither a standalone solution nor a prototype for smart cities in the region. The capacity of governments and other relevant actors to access relevant information and apply that knowledge to the benefit of their citizens is what will define a city as smart. Becoming a smart and resilient city is a consultative process that involves a society's stakeholders and fits into a city's long-term plan.

4 Low-income friendly technology

Three sectors came together at a plenary to share how effective use of technology could serve the most vulnerable. The speakers agreed that technology is not a solution in itself but a means to an end in the housing value chain. It is a tool that can advance and facilitate various resources and engagement models to be more efficient and faster. Still, technology can play an important role in streamlining the planning and delivery of affordable housing, by lowering costs, shortening timelines, and facilitating larger scale construction. Technology can also help organizations to be more accountable, transparent and inclusive through assessing their work and impact through the data gathered.

If misused, however, technology can end up increasing the vulnerability of low-income communities who may find themselves at the mercy of unscrupulous agents, businesses or even government entities. Organizations working in the field of affordable housing have the duty to raise the awareness and build the capacity of communities in terms of data usage and governance.

It is estimated that 60-70 percent of the world's low-income population build their housing incrementally over a period of at least 15 years. With the use of technology, low-income families can have access to a wider range of services, from connecting to materials suppliers to hiring construction workers to obtaining financing. Systems for central storage of land records and the various forms of ownership that can be accessed by families, tenants, government and financial institutions also play a key role.

Governments can also benefit from the use of technology across the housing value chain. The government of Odisha state in India shared how GIS mapping, and even WhatsApp were used for monitoring and collecting information on slums and local vulnerable groups. The government also used the information to help slum dwellers secure land tenure, and foster a community approach to housing needs in the region.

> **Technology mirrors the relationships that exist in the space. You basically are using technology to make those relationships function better, as opposed to trying to change those relationships.**
>
> – Ronald Omyonga, Chief Relationship Officer, iBUILD Global, Inc.

Other takeaways included:
- power access to financing for low-income households, as a way to speed up incremental housing construction in a sustainable and resilient manner;
- leveraging existing technologies rather than introducing new ones, where practitioners can learn from current best practices in the middle and high-income housing markets, and adapt those to support low-income housing needs; and
- use technology as a tool to facilitate existing community dynamics and relationships as well as the work of professionals in the sector.

Acknowledgements

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September 18

09:00-09:30 Main ballroom	**Opening Remarks**		Speaker: Than Phu Ying Sirikitiya Jensen	
09:30-10:30 Main ballroom	**Plenary** Businesses achieving scale and sustainability through affordable housing markets		Speakers: Chanond Ruangkritya Ananda Development Jonathan Reckford Habitat for Humanity International Dhaval Monani First Home Realty Solutions	Moderator: Sinida Pethveerakul Thairath TV

10:30-11:00 — Networking Break

11:00-12:30

Making inroads into low-income housing finance Ballroom I Speakers: Anshukant Taneja Asian Development Bank Patrick Kelly Habitat for Humanity International Zaigham M. Rizvi Prime Minister's Housing Program Pakistan Moderator: Haseeb Khan Credit Suisse	**Slum upgrading or inclusive urban development** Ballroom II Speakers: Brenda Perez-Castro Asian Coalition for Housing Rights Dr. Renu Khosla Centre for Regional and Urban Excellence Rattanak Nguon Governor of Battambang Province, Cambodia Moderator: Steven Weir Habitat for Humanity International	**Leaving no one behind in urban humanitarian responses** Ballroom III Speakers: Leveni 'Aho National Emergency Management Office of Tonga Shalini Kanwar Asian Disaster Preparedness Center Kamran Akbar World Bank Moderator: Mario Flores Habitat for Humanity International	**Window to appropriate construction technologies** Lecture Hall, The Campus Speakers: Maricen Jalandoni Base Bahay Foundation Acharawan Chutarat King Mongkut's University of Technology Walid Bahsoon Premier Enviro Solutions Aaron Opdyke University of Sydney Moderator: Mehjabin Ahmed Habitat for Humanity International

12:30-14:00 — Lunch

14:00-15:30

Government partnerships with the private sector for inclusive housing and urban development Ballroom I Speakers: Larry English Urbuntu Barry Beagan Kota Kita Corinna Salzer Hilti Asia Pacific Dr. Poon Thiengburanathum Chiang Mai University Moderator: Jenny Lei Ravelo Devex	**Fit-for-purpose land policies** Ballroom II Speakers: Prof. Jaap Zevenbergen ITC - University of Twente Oumar Sylla Global Land Tool Network Louie Robert Posadas TAMPEI Moderator: Tony Piaskowy Cadasta Foundation	**Resilient communities in response to climate change** Ballroom III Speakers: Angel Anguila Housing and Development Coordinating Council, Philippines Kotchakorn Voraakhom Porous City Network Thaongdeth Insisiengmay Asian Disaster Preparedness Center Moderator: Claire Szabo Habitat for Humanity New Zealand	**Enabling environments to increase access to housing services** Lecture Hall, The Campus Speakers: Nagachethan S. M. Chaitanya Rural Intermediation Development Services Private Limited Shruti Narayan International Finance Corporation Mata'utia Rula Levi Samoa Housing Corporation Andreas Fransson United Nations Capital Development Fund Moderator: Naeem Razwani Habitat for Humanity International

15:30-16:00 — Networking Break

16:00-17:15 Main ballroom	**Plenary** - Localizing solutions for global urban challenges + Summary	Speakers: Omar Siddique United Nations ESCAP Ajay Suri Cities Alliance Christopher Rassi International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Moderator: Ruth Bailey Faithful+Gould

17:15-18:30	Cocktail hour	18:30-21:00	Dinner

9:00-10:30

Cash transfers in shelter: how to achieve quality recovery?

Ballroom I

Speakers:
Arwin Soelaksono
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Indra Puspasari
World Vision Philippines
Bill Flinn
CARE International UK
Moderator:
Scott Merrill
Habitat for Humanity International

Inclusive partnerships for delivery of adequate and affordable housing

Ballroom II

Speakers:
Johann-Ludwig Baar
The Hilti Foundation
Laxman Perera
UN-Habitat
Masi Latianara
Habitat for Humanity Fiji

Moderator:
Alan Lau
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Humanitarian shelter coordination: linking relief and recovery

Ballroom III

Speakers:
Dave Hodgkin
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Luamanu Maea
Habitat for Humanity New Zealand
Dr. Chandra Bahadur
National Reconstruction Authority of Nepal

Moderator:
Aaron Opdyke
University of Sydney

Using data to spark housing action

Lecture Hall, The Campus

Speakers:
Cha-ly Koh
Urbanmetry
Katie Pickett
Cadasta Foundation
Bernadette Bolo-Duthy
Habitat for Humanity Cambodia

Moderator:
Prof. Jaap Zevenbergen
ITC-University of Twente

10:30-11:00 — Networking Break

11:00-12:30

Engaging with youth for a sustainable future

Ballroom I
Speakers:
Seth Sarmiento
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Ana Malia Falemaka
Pacific Peoples Housing Forum, Youth Essay finalist
Rochelle Triguero
Habitat Young Leaders Build's advocacy grant winner

Moderator:
Patrick Davis
Soap Cycle

Alternative land arrangements to encourage adequate housing at scale

Ballroom II
Speakers:
Dr. Malcolm Childress
Global Land Alliance
Frances Birungi
Uganda Community Based Association for Women
Makathy Tep
Cambodian Institute for Urban Studies
Moderator:
Rina Chandran
Thomson Reuters Foundation

Climate-induced displacement

Ballroom III
Speakers:
Helen Brunt
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Dr. Phil Connors
University of Deakin
Dr. Lalith Dasora
Asian Disaster Preparedness Center

Moderator:
Bill Flinn
CARE International UK

Stepping up the game: what is the role of incubation and acceleration in the shelter space?

Lecture Hall, The Campus
Speakers:
Jennifer Cinelli-Oomen
Habitat for Humanity International
Vidyashankar C
Tvasta Manufacturing Solutions
Simar Kohli
EcoSTP
Shankar Laxman
Kaushal Bhaav Skill Solutions

Moderator:
Andrea Skinner
Aspen Network for Development Entrepreneurs

12:30-14:00 — Lunch

14:00-15:00
Main ballroom

Plenary - Can "smart cities" also be resilient?

Speakers:
Samantha Stratton-Short
Arup
John Ryan
Center for Creative Leadership
Laxman Perera
UN-Habitat

Moderator:
Dr. Phil Connors
University of Deakin

15:00-15:30 — Networking Break

15:30-16:30
Main ballroom

Plenary - Making technology work for the poor

Speakers:
Ronald Omyonga
iBUILD Global, Inc.
Mathi Vathanan
Government of Odhisha, India
Tony Piaskowy
Cadasta Foundation

Moderator:
Dr. Sohee Minsun Kim
Asian Institute of Technology

16:30-17:00

Closing Plenary

Speakers:
Rick Hathaway
Habitat for Humanity International
Puja Sawhney
SWITCH-Asia Sustainable Consumption and Production Facility
Rachel Swann
Youth essay finalist, Pacific Peoples Housing Forum

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Laxman Perera
Human Settlements Officer
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Professor, Faculty of Built Environment
University of New South Wales

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Associate Director
Arup

Speakers

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Director of Policies, Programs and Development, Legislative and Special Group
Housing and Development Coordinating Council, Philippines

Leveni 'Aho
Former director
National Emergency Management Office of Tonga

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Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist
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