



## **World Urban Forum 2020 – Abu Dhabi, UAE**

### **Side Event - Inclusive Local Governance Solutions to Accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals and Leave No One Behind**

#### **Side Event Speaker's Guide**

**14-15h, 11 February 2020**

#### **I. Background**

To ensure that “No One Is Left Behind”, the 2030 Agenda calls for a special effort to ensure that countries make accelerate progress in realizing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).<sup>1</sup>

With ten years remaining to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, inclusion is the imperative to ensure “No One is Left Behind” as cities and countries alike advance on the 2030 Agenda. During the 2018 International Mayors Forum in Lilongwe, Malawi mayors, civil society, international organizations all agreed that the “SDGs are a Peoples Agenda”. Equally, in September 2019 during the UN Secretary-General’s SDG Summit, Heads of State agreed on a Political Declaration adopted by the UN General Assembly calling for a focus on ten accelerators to ensure achievement of the SDGs in the coming decade (A/RES/74/4).

The first and primary accelerator in the SDG Summit’s Political Declaration is “Leaving no one behind” we will place a focus on the poorest and most vulnerable in our policies and actions” while another accelerator focuses on “Bolstering local action to accelerate implementation”. The Political Declaration also commits us to “empower and support cities, local authorities and communities in pursuing the 2030 Agenda” - to do so we need to build culture, norms and skills on inclusion in planning, policymaking, decisionmaking and governance overall at the local level. This side event features interactive presentations and initiatives from civil society and UN agencies to ensure WUF attendees can engage on how to accelerate the SDGs in cities through inclusive planning and decisionmaking approaches, while also learning about new initiatives to ensure inclusive localization of the SDGs. The side event will especially highlight how cities are sharing their progress on the SDGs through Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs).

VLRs are a tool to engage a diversity of voices and stakeholders while showcasing how local authorities are delivering on the SDGs today. With “Leaving No One Behind” as a central principle of the SDGs, this side event aims to inspire inclusive local actions to accelerate progress for all on the SDGs - in particular SDG 11, as well as the New Urban Agenda. This side event will also announce the next International Mayors Forum to take place in Incheon, Republic of Korea in June 2020. The solutions to accelerate and deliver on the SDGs in cities are there, but without

---

<sup>1</sup> GA Resolution 70/1 of 21 October 2015. Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

the culture and skills to engage locally we are only seeing part of how to ensure no one is left behind by 2030.

## II. Session Format

<p><b>Time</b> 14-15:00pm (60 minutes)</p>	<p align="center"><b>Inclusive Local Governance Solutions to Accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals and Leave No One Behind</b></p>
	<p><b>Session Objective:</b> Through interactive presentations, this side event aims to engage WUF attendees on how to accelerate the SDGs in cities through inclusive planning and decisionmaking approaches, while also learning about new initiatives to ensure inclusive localization of the SDGs. The side event will especially highlight how cities are sharing their progress on the SDGs through Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs).</p> <p><u>NB for speakers – use more visual slides, text should focus on key facts/stats in short form, remember to stop for questions to engage the audience or passers by as you are speaking in between slides to ensure understanding/eyeballs from audience, close with recommendations or next steps for follow up.</u></p> <p><b>Proposed Session Format:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moderator’s opening (2 minutes)</li> <li>- Presentation on Session Context (5 minutes)</li> <li>- Interactive Presentations on main topics (10 mins per presenter with 1 or 2 audience questions in between - 35 minutes)</li> <li>- Roundtable Discussion taking questions from audience/moderator (15 minutes)</li> <li>- Closing by Moderator (2 minutes)</li> </ul>
<p>2 minutes</p>	<p><b>Opening by Moderator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Sara Castro-Hallgren, Programme Expert, United Nations Office on Sustainable Development, UN DESA</b></li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator introduces the side event objectives, session format and introduces the speakers.</i>  <i>Moderator invites speakers to take the podium.</i>  <i>Moderator moves to first presentation and introduces the first presenter.</i></p>
<p>5 minutes</p>	<p><b>A Decade of Action to Achieve the SDGs and LNOB</b>  <b>Mr. Jean D’Aragon, Officer-in-Charge, UNOSD</b></p> <p>This intervention will describe the background concept for the side event, the 2019 Political Declaration, Decade of Action for SDGs and necessity to focus on building local government skills, norms and cultural of engagement, knowing and prioritizing vulnerable groups to LNOB, and the benefit of inclusion for better city and community planning.</p> <p>The speaker intervention will especially answer the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Where in the SDGs and the Decade of Action does inclusion fit and why is it important for Mayors/local governments/SDG 11?</i></li> <li>• <i>Which vulnerable groups are not being engaged today and being left behind?</i></li> <li>• <i>What role can Voluntary Local Reviews play to ensure a culture of inclusion?</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>How is UNOSD engaging local governments to ensure LNOB and inclusion culture in urban/community governance, policymaking and planning?</i></li> <li>• <i>What has UNOSD learned from its previous activities in working with local governments in this regard (e.g. Mayors Forum survey evaluation data, cases, etc.)</i></li> <li>• <i>What forthcoming events or activities will UNOSD host for this purpose – e.g. International Mayors Forum and VLR activities?</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator thanks presenter and moves to next presenter.</i></p>
10-15 minutes	<p><b>LNOB and Persons with Disabilities</b>  <b>Mr. Murali Padmanabhan, Disability Inclusion Lab, Light for the World</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This intervention will note <b>the state of play in LNOB and where, how and why persons with disabilities are being left behind.</b></li> <li>• It will also note <b>what norms or cultural barriers prevent engagement of persons with disabilities in decisionmaking or policymaking locally.</b></li> <li>• This presentation will also share <b>practical challenges persons with disabilities face with inclusion in cities/communities</b> – remarking how these challenges vary in urban vs rural settings.</li> <li>• Noting that the majority of urban growth is taking place in second/third tier cities, the intervention will especially <b>highlight the capacity gaps among these second and third tier cities to ensure inclusion and LNOB especially for persons with disabilities</b></li> <li>• The intervention will also underscore <b>the priorities and innovative ways for engaging persons with disabilities</b> – <i>what have we learned in this regard to ensure newly developing cities and communities can adopt innovative measures for engaging persons with disabilities.</i></li> <li>• It will conclude with <b>recommendations for adopting or scaling these innovative measures</b></li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator thanks presenter and moves to open floor for one or two questions. If no questions, moderator moves to next speaker.</i></p>
10 minutes	<p><b>Asia-Pacific CITYPRENEURS: Urban Innovation Challenge</b>  <b>Si-tou Wai-kit (Jackie), UNESCAP North East Asia Office</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This intervention will introduce the CITYPRENEURS: URBAN INNOVATION CHALLENGE programme which seeks start-up solutions to achieve the SDGs. <b><i>Who are the CITYPRENEURS and are they themselves from any stakeholders (e.g. not just that they are the youth cohort, but also their locations, genders, etc to highlight their diversity since the 2017 editions)?</i></b> Some quick facts and numbers on who they are would be ideal in a visual aide.</li> <li>• The presentation will note <b><i>how the programme’s start-up cases are addressing LNOB and ensuring inclusion</i></b> [E.g. any on transport, digital inclusion, engagement, etc.] focusing on <b><i>What CITYPRENEURS have contributed to LNOB and how? What are these star cases about and how can they be scaled up across the urban space?</i></b></li> <li>• The presentation will also explore the role of biases and the implicit cultural norms that create barriers for engagement of these types of innovations - <b><i>What cultural norms [BIASES] do we need to change to ensure CITYPRENEUR solutions can flourish as the mainstream or new social norms?</i></b></li> <li>• It will also note <b><i>What are the next steps for CITYPRENEURS programme in the coming Decade of Action for the SDGs?</i></b></li> </ul>

	<p><i>Moderator thanks presenter and moves to open floor for one or two questions. If no questions, moderator moves to last presenter to take the floor.</i></p>
10 minutes	<p><b>Leaving No One Behind through SMART City Solutions</b>  <b>Albert Graves, Program Director, World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization (WeGO)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The intervention will introduce how <b>World Smart Sustainable Cities Organization – noting its mission and objectives – is introducing technological innovations to ensure inclusive local government</b> <i>“technology as the great equalizer”</i></li> <li>• <b>It will note the most vulnerable groups that have been engaged locally through WeGO smart city initiatives</b></li> <li>• <b>WeGO Civic Participation System (CPS)</b>  It will highlight the important role technological innovations can play in ensuring inclusion of vulnerable groups such as through Civic Participation System (CPS) cases - <i>(Show examples of CPS in action and its benefits from cities – e.g. Hanoi (Vietnam), San Fernando La Union (Philippines), Quezon City (Philippines), Pokhara (Nepal), and Bharatpur (Nepal))</i></li> <li>• It will also feature a few <b>compelling smart city cases from its membership</b> that demonstrate how cities overcame various challenges specifically for SOCIAL INCLUSION – (Who are the model inclusive cities and why/how are they enabling inclusion through innovation?)</li> <li>• If any model cities from WeGo are present these could be invited to make a statement of how through their SMART City solutions they have ensured more inclusion of vulnerable groups</li> </ul> <p><i>Moderator thanks presenter and moves the roundtable discussion session.</i></p>
15 minutes	<p><b>Roundtable Discussion with Audience – Moving from At to With</b></p> <p><i>Moderators thanks all the speakers and moves to open the floor for questions from the audience or the speakers themselves. Any reflections or questions could be touched upon. If no questions from audience, the moderator may ask a question to ensure momentum of dialogue. The moderator will actively engage the audience to ensure a culture of inclusion as well – adopting WITH instead of the traditional top-down At model of delivery. Moderator will seek outcomes or key messages from the discussion.</i></p>
2 minutes	<p><b>Closing</b></p> <p><i>Moderator thanks roundtable representatives and the audience. The moderator may ask the speakers for any closing reflections or words before summarizing key points and thanking all for their attendance.</i></p>

**N.B.**

**Planning Meeting Feb 10 – Monday – outside of Hall 5 @11:00 towards lunch area**

**Actual Event on Feb 11 – Tuesday – Hall 5**

**Sara Mobile – 0082 10 9589 3141**