



PUBLIC SPACE PARTNERS' MEETING **7th World Urban Forum, Medellin, Colombia**

Thursday, 10 April, 09:00 – 11:00, City Changer Room

Program

UN-Habitat manages the global Public Space Program, which is a concrete means to implement the mandate set by UN-Habitat's Governing Council thru Resolution 23/4: *Sustainable Urban Development through Access to Public Spaces*. Major components of the Public Space Program are the production of a policy approach to public space; facilitating and implementing exchange, cooperation and research among the broader network of public space practitioners; and supporting public space initiatives in selected cities. The implementation of these components will be facilitated by a practical guide, called the Public Space Toolkit.

This Public Space Partners' Meeting aims to present both the public space policy approach and Toolkit to partners and participant cities of the UN-Habitat Global Public Space Program, and to facilitate exchange among members of the global public space network. The inputs from this meeting will help provide some strategic direction for the Public Space Program, and enrich upcoming global agenda-setting processes, such as, Habitat III, and global public space events, e.g., The Future of Places Conference, the 2015 Biennial on Public Space.

09:00-09:10	Welcome and Introduction: Towards a Global Policy Approach to Public Space Thomas Melin , UN-Habitat
09:10-09:25	Inspiring Good Policies and Practice on Public Space: The Toolkit on Public Space Pietro Garau , Istituto Nazionale di Urbanistica (INU), Rome <i>A policy approach and a Toolkit on Public Space have been prepared by UN-Habitat, and refined through an Expert Group Meeting which was convened in Rome in January 2014, in partnership with the Istituto Nazionale di Urbanistica (INU) and the Municipality of Roma Capitale. Both the policy and the Toolkit are envisioned to provide guidance and inspiration to cities and local governments in their public space work. During this session, the outline and web format of the Toolkit will be presented.</i>
09:25-09:30	The Toolkit on Public Space – web version Jose Chong , UN-Habitat <i>The web version of the Toolkit on Public Space is an evolving product to be enriched by interacting with public space actors and practitioners all over the world.</i>





09:30-09:45

Keynote: Transformation of a City through Public Space

Giovanni Caudo, Commissioner for Urban Planning, Municipality of Roma Capitale

The City of Rome has a long and rich history of working with public space. Its current landmark pedestrianization project covering the famous Via dei Fori Imperiali and the Coliseum aims to enhance quality of life and rekindle a new-found love of the city. The project also aims to preserve other historical sites that are linked by this boulevard, as well as promote walking, cycling and a healthier lifestyle among Romans. In this session, the City of Rome will present how a city can change its approach to historical and other public spaces in order to respond to modern day challenges.

09:45-10:15

Presentations from Partner Cities: Making the Case for Public Space in the City

- **Kathmandu, Nepal:**
 - Mr. Bal Krishna Maharjan, Municipal Engineer, Municipality of Kirtipur
 - Mrs. Sangeeta Singh, Centre for Integrated Urban Development
- **Mumbai, India**
 - Mr. Ashok Datar and Mrs. Trupti Vaitla, Mumbai Environmental and Social Network
- **Nairobi, Kenya**
 - Mrs. Zarina Patel, Chairperson, Friends of Jeevanjee Gardens
 - Mrs. Rose Muema, Director for Housing & Urban Planning, Nairobi City County
- **Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**
 - Mr. Wossen Woldekian, Chairholder of Urban Design, Ethiopian Institute for Architecture and Building Construction
- **Les Cayes, Haiti**
 - Mr. Aubierge SAINT-CYR, Municipal Engineer, Les Cayes
- **Medellin, Colombia**
 - Ms. Diana Castro, Fundacion Avina

The representative cities are partners in the UN-Habitat Public Space Program. Each city has used public space as a means to achieving a higher end, such as improving urban safety, achieving environmental resilience, promoting proper sanitation practices, preserving historical and cultural assets, increasing access to basic services, and making the city more inclusive. The cities will briefly present their experiences on how they have made the case for public space within specific contexts, conditions and challenges.

10:15-10:45

Open Forum

During this segment, participants will be requested to write down suggested messages on cards based on the following questions:

1. *Why do we need public space?*
2. *What value does public space bring to the global agenda for sustainable urban development?*
3. *What does public space mean for my city?*

Key messages gathered will be brought to the next Future of Places Conference in Buenos Aires (1-3 September 2014).

10:45-10:55

Putting Public Space in the Global Agenda: The Future of Places Conference

Peter Elmlund, The Ax:son Johnsson Foundation

10:55-11:00

Closing Remarks

Thomas Melin, UN-Habitat

