



Partnerships for Peace: Community Innovation & Economic Inclusion

Sunday 9 February, Networking Event 22, Hall 2: Room 2, 16:30-18:30

Tenth Session of the World Urban Forum, Abu Dhabi 8-13 Feb 2020

In urban crises, much is to be learnt from communities and grassroots innovation, as people build solidarity networks, new governance initiatives emerge, and the informal economy replaces lost jobs and disrupted services, building the foundations for peaceful economic revival.

This Networking Event brings together researchers and activists from three world regions to demonstrate how cultural cohesion, grassroots innovation, and partnerships between communities and local governments can bridge the gap between short-term humanitarian response and longer-term development. In Cali, Colombia, a data-driven multi-agency approach slashed homicide rates, and public agencies found new ways to secure poor urban livelihoods. In Dohuk, N. Iraq, refugees and IDPs have brought new skills to the urban economy, showing the need for a safe investment environment and targeted humanitarian aid. In Hargeisa, Somaliland, NGO advocates have campaigned for the new MSME policy which is now embracing the informal economy.

Presentations highlight a new policy paradigm and success stories where, in crisis-affected cities, particular communities – whether kinship or ethnic based, communities of entrepreneurs, or neighbourhood communities – have partnered with enlightened local governments to instigate long-term sustained economic and social development.

The event launches a major new UN-Habitat report: *Surviving, Managing, Thriving: The Informal Economy in Post-Conflict Cities*¹, and two policy notes, one on the main report and a second on *Local Economic Development, Micro-enterprise and Crime Reduction: Lessons from Cali, Colombia*.

Speakers

Policy Paradigms for Economic Inclusion in Post-Conflict Cities	Alison Brown, Cardiff University
Refugee Economies: Supporting Refugee Enterprise in Dohuk, N. Iraq	Nesreen Barwari, Dohuk University
National Initiatives: MSME Policy for the Informal Economy, Somaliland	Eid Ali, Government Advisor, Somaliland
Implementing a Right to Work in Cali: Street Vendors in Cali's Public Spaces and Public Transport	Peter Mackie, Cardiff University

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¹ <https://unhabitat.org/surviving-managing-thriving-the-informal-economy-in-post-conflict-cities>