



**REPORTING FORMAT FOR PARTNERS**

**Networking – Side – Training events**

**City Changer Room – Urban Library – Agora – One UN events**

**Deadline: 30 April 2014**

**Please send via email:** [wuf@unhabitat.org](mailto:wuf@unhabitat.org)

**Reporting Format for Partners**  
(Networking Events, Side Events, Training Events, City Changer Room, One UN Room, Urban Library, and Agora Room)

<b>Name of Reporter:</b>	Caroline Moser
Event title/number:	Gender, Asset Building and Just Cities; NE6
Date:	8 <sup>th</sup> April 2014
Venue:	Room 6, Yellow Pavilion
Time:	14:00-16:00 pm
Name of Organizing Institution(s):	Ford Foundation, New York
Country/City where Organizing Institution(s) is/are based:	USA
Approximate number of participants:	100

**Summary of the Event (max: 300 words):**

The Network Event had the following three objectives:

1. To better understand the contribution that a focus on the gendered nature of asset building brings to the goal of achieving just, more equitable cities.
2. To identify the gendered constraints to achieving just cities, through gender-based inequalities in access to financial, physical, productive, human and social capital associated with such global urban issues as violence and transport.
3. To share the experiences of partners in the Global South in Brazil, Bangladesh and Zimbabwe, working with local women in their choice of solutions to accumulate or adapt assets. Through these achievements women not only empower themselves, but also successfully challenge power relations in a transformative manner thus contributing to just, more inclusive cities.

The Networking Event was grounded in the WUF7 theme of urban equality, and the importance of ‘building’ just cities, that encompass equity, democracy and diversity. Closely linked were the articulation of ‘rights’ to the city, and the inclusion of all city users within its space. From a gender perspective, this was closely associated with gender justice, particularly in relation to urban rights and democracy. The relevance of the event related to WUF Sub-theme 2: Spatial Fix; and to Sub-theme 6: Safer Cities.

**Summary of the Discussion (max: total 500 words):**

1. Outline of the discussion/debates  
The event comprised three components;

*All reports received will be included in the WUF7 final report to be published after the closing of the Forum. We kindly urge you to send the report of your session to us **before 30 April 2014** following this format. Please be aware that not delivering the report within the deadline will be taken into consideration when applying for future events at the World Urban Forum.*





1. First, a conceptual and operational framework was introduced by Caroline Moser. This identified the nexus linking gender, asset accumulation and just cities, and showed that while just cities represent transformative opportunities, there are also gendered constraints due to persistent disparities and discrimination. The challenge for just cities is to identify how gendered accumulation of assets not only empowers women but also leads to transformation, confronting and changing wider structural inequalities.
2. Two presentations then identified driving forces that present both constraints and opportunities; while Cathy McIlwaine focused on gender-based violence, insecurity and conflicts as barriers to achieving a just city, Caren Levy then addressed the transport constraints in accumulating assets, and routes to just cities.
3. Finally, three presentations from Global South partners described the practices of pathways for gendered transformation in three different ‘sectors’; Beth Chitekwe-Biti from SDI, Zimbabwe identified slum-dweller organizations as collective assets that contest local authorities around housing; Huraera Jabeen identified gendered adjustment to severe weather in relation to house design and space in Dhaka; and Sonia Dias from Brazil described the work of WIEGO in empowering women in the garbage recycling sector.

## **2. Major emerging issues and position documents/declarations towards:**

The panel presentations provoked a positive response about the importance of the Networking Event’s robust framework as well as the specificities of different case-study examples. Don Chen, from the Ford Foundation, commented that the framework’s emerging nexus is unique in linking together three critical issues generally isolated in separate ‘silos’, namely gender, asset building and just cities. However, there is still the need for more research, for examples of success for scaling up, and above all to better understand how transformative change occurs.

These debates are critical for the post-2015 development agenda and recommendations for Habitat III. At the economic level they link to challenges relating to income inequalities; at the spatial level, as well as those relating to differentiated gender-access to public goods and services, they link to the priorities of urban planning for more equity. At the social inclusion level, the issues of empowerment and transformation are linked to gender discrimination and exclusion, lack of participation and insecurity. Deliverables at the economic, spatial and social levels include participation, public spaces, improved mobility, affordable housing and safer cities. At the level of outcomes all link to equal opportunities—especially gender equality—and associated integration and inclusion.

## **3. Recommendations made during the discussion**

For practitioners grappling with just cities to move beyond ‘add women and stir’ and really address structural gendered inequalities in urban space, there is a critical need to shift from ‘instrumental’ to ‘transformative’ models and policies. One outcome from the Networking Event was the agreement by panel members and others to identify collaborative research initiatives as well as networking exchanges and further dissemination of the Briefing Paper and other documentation produced for the event.





### Detail Information of Speakers/Presenters/Moderators:

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Ms. Caroline Moser
Nationality:	British
Organization/Institution:	Ford Foundation
Time:	14:00-14.12
Position:	Emeritus Professor, University of Manchester
Contact address (Email):	<a href="mailto:cmoser@carolinemoser.co.uk">cmoser@carolinemoser.co.uk</a>

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Ms. Cathy McIlwaine
Nationality:	British
Organization/Institution:	Queen Mary University of London
Time:	14.12-14.25
Position:	Professor of Geography
Contact address (Email):	<a href="mailto:c.j.mcilwaine@qmul.ac.uk">c.j.mcilwaine@qmul.ac.uk</a>

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Ms Caren Levy
Nationality:	British
Organization/Institution:	Development Planning Unit
Time:	14.25-14.46
Position:	Senior Lecturer
Contact address (Email):	<a href="mailto:c.levy@ucl.ac.uk">c.levy@ucl.ac.uk</a>

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Ms Beth Chitekwe-Biti
Nationality:	Zimbabwean
Organization/Institution:	Dialogue on Shelter
Time:	14.46-15.11
Position:	Director
Contact address (Email):	<a href="mailto:btchitekwebiti@gmail.com">btchitekwebiti@gmail.com</a>

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Ms Sonia Dias
Nationality:	Brazilian
Organization/Institution:	WIEGO
Time:	15.11-15.30
Position:	Director WIEGO Brazil
Contact address (Email):	<a href="mailto:Soniadiaz2010@gmail.com">Soniadiaz2010@gmail.com</a>

Full name (Mr/Ms):	Mr Don Chen
Nationality:	USA
Organization/Institution:	Ford Foundation New York
Time:	15.30-15.40



Position:	Senior Program Officer
Contact address (Email):	<a href="mailto:d.chen@forddoundation.org">d.chen@forddoundation.org</a>



**UN-Habitat Thematic areas**

All events are identified by UN-Habitat priority substantive areas as below.

**URBAN LAND, LEGISLATION & GOVERNANCE**

*Land & GLTN, Urban Legislation, Urban and Community Management & Governance, Safety*

**URBAN PLANNING & DESIGN**

*Regional & Metropolitan Planning, City Extensions & Enlargements, Market Town & Intermediate City Planning*

**URBAN ECONOMY**

*Urban & Municipal Finance, Urban Productivity, Youth and Job Creation*

**URBAN BASIC SERVICES**

*Water & Sanitation, Urban Energy, Urban Mobility, Urban Waste Management*

**HOUSING & SLUM UPGRADING**

*Housing, Slum Upgrading, Shelter Rehabilitation*

**RISK REDUCTION & REHABILITATION**

*Urban Risk Reduction, Infrastructure Rehabilitation, Climate Change Mitigation & Adaptation, Resilience*

**RESEARCH & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT**

*Global Urban Observatory, Flagship Reports, Capacity Development*

***Cross-cutting issues:***

**GENDER**

**YOUTH**

**HUMAN RIGHTS**

