

# SDI Annual Report

2018 - 2019







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## In Memoriam: Jockin Arputham



One of the most significant events of the last year was the passing of SDI founder and President, Jockin Arputham, on the 13th of October 2018. Jockin worked to build a voice for the urban poor across the Global South. He was at ease with world political leaders as he was pavement dwellers in Mumbai slums or the informal settlements of Kampala. His passing has cast a huge shadow across the network and amplified the need to increase mentorship programs across the network. SDI has sought to use Jockin's memory to harness the emotion felt across the network in a positive and befitting manner. Across the network, affiliates organised settlement and citywide memorials that celebrated his life and raised a call to action to recommit to the values and work to which Jockin dedicated his life. To this end, a Jockin Arputham Memorial Fund will be set up to support this work moving forward. Instead of electing a new president for the network, a decision was taken to use this opportunity to instil a culture of institutionalized collective leadership, nurturing horizontal, collaborative decision making and eliminating competition between leaders.

The following was shared by Joel Bolnick, Jockin's lifelong friend, colleague, and Manager of the SDI Secretariat, in the days following Jockin's passing:

I am very angry that Jockin has died. Anger is a normal response to the death of someone you love and admire. But the thing about Jockin is that you could never be angry with him for long, no matter how much he provoked you with his energy, his vision, his dogmatic certainties and his commitment – all of which knew no bounds and were always ferociously executed.

The many tens of thousands of people who met him would soon feel his magnetism. He was an enormously charismatic human being. He was an unstoppable force for good and an unbelievable champion of the urban poor. For their rights most certainly but at the same time for their humanity and for the recognition – not yet won – that they were not a mass of thugs, victims, or guinea pigs. Instead he was determined to show the ever growing number of people who understood the importance of listening to him that the capacities, the resilience, and the collective wisdom of the urban poor presented humanity with a blue print for survival and for a better future.

This makes me think of Jockin's Mandela-like tolerance. It was not weak and compromising like a few have had the temerity to argue – but a tolerance of others that came from complete self-assurance and a deep understanding that resolution of conflict comes from seeing your own humanity in those that the gross inequalities of life forced you to challenge.

And challenge the rich and powerful Jockin most certainly did; not to score ideological and abstract victories (although he certainly understood their value) but to make a real, tangible differences in the lives of poor people.

This was something he delivered in spades all over the world. Few, if any organizations, can demonstrate a similar scale and depth in terms of their impact on poor communities – through securing tenure, installing drainage, upgrading services, and incrementally building houses.

This required superhuman energy and courage. It required a brilliant mind. It required a capacity to see opportunities and seize them. Most of all, it required the capacity to mobilize, humanize, conscientize, and inspire people like himself, people downtrodden, excluded, evicted, exploited, and objectified.

I am angry because my best friend is gone. The silence is deafening. No more the deep discussions, the brilliant strategy sessions, the gentle laughter. No longer the unwavering support of a man whose loyalty was monumental as was his optimism and courage.

My anger is assuaged by the knowledge that hundreds of thousands of people living in slums in over 4,000 cities are also feeling shattered by the deafening silence. But that silence is momentary. Those hundreds of thousands of slum dwellers who belong to Jockin's beautiful, rag-tag, festive but deeply determined army are on the march. They are the ones that will fill the Jockin-sized hole that the great man has left behind.

## Who is SDI?

SDI was officially launched in 1996 as a transnational social movement of the urban poor following years of peer-to-peer exchanges between Indian and South African slum dweller movements and subsequent inter-Africa, inter-Asia, and intra Africa and Asia exchanges. These exchanges revealed the critical value of a network of community-based organizations driven by the poor themselves. The network now brings together over a million slum dwellers in over 30 countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The federations comprise thousands of the most vulnerable women, men, and youth who are mobilized around dynamic savings schemes networked at the settlement, city, and national levels to drive a collective, bottom-up change agenda for inclusive and resilient cities and to influence global development.

Federations use tools and strategies such as daily savings, peer-to-peer exchanges, community profiling, enumeration, and mapping to organize a critical mass of urban poor communities in cities of the Global South – enabling them to engage with local and national government as partners in development rather than beneficiaries, and to shift development agendas to be more inclusive and pro-poor and ultimately more resilient and sustainable. These organic movements enable the urban poor to change their own lives and the shape of their cities.

The SDI network consists of a professional Secretariat, a federation-led Management Committee and Board, and a Council of Federations. SDI is situated as a unique actor in the urban ecosystem and one that is a keystone for effective development. It is unparalleled in its capacity to bring together slum dwellers across three continents and to facilitate partnerships between poor communities, governments, and development partners. SDI prides itself on making investments in poor people's efforts to drive their own development.

The savings collectives that form the building blocks of SDI provide a supportive space for poor women and youth to become active local organizers and drivers of urban transformation rooted in gendered, local, and communal priorities. Organized communities co-produce citywide strategies for securing tenure and increasing access to basic services, housing, and livelihoods with their local and national governments. They also play a central role in implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of these strategies.



# Executive Summary

As SDI approaches the end of the first year of its new Strategic Planning period (2018 – 2022), the network reflects on the lessons learned and challenges faced as we work towards the goals identified in the 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan to become more powerful, more durable, and more impactful. Towards this end, the Strategic Plan committed to building SDI's Know Your City initiative, expanding our reach and scale with a particular emphasis on youth engagement, transitioning from projects (and outputs) to programs (and outcomes), and increasing engagement with innovative strategies towards SDI's data, finance, and large scale upgrading efforts.

The first step towards achievement of these outcomes is buy-in from SDI's federation leadership. This was achieved first through the creation of a Strategic Planning team, comprised of Board, Management Committee, and Secretariat who developed SDI's 2018 – 2022 Strategic Plan over months of collaborative engagement. Over the course of the past year, SDI leadership has made great efforts to broaden and deepen understanding of the Strategic Plan. More critical still has been the socialization of the Plan across the network and its integration into national affiliates' plans and activities on the ground. The strengthening of Regional Hubs has been critical in this regard.

SDI Management Committee member Rose Molokoane reflects that, thanks to deepened understanding of SDI's intended outcomes as outlined in the Theory of Change and Strategic Plan, Regional Hub meetings have transformed into spaces where federations can critically engage with questions about how and whether their work is contributing to SDI's larger objectives. Federations have begun to look beyond activities and outputs, such as numbers of savings groups, settlements profiled, or MOUs signed, towards the impact of their work on their communities and their lives. For example, in the January 2019 Southern Africa Regional Hub meeting, federations present used the Strategic Plan to frame discussions and monitor and evaluate the impact of their work. This demonstrates a real shift in the federations' understanding of their work's objectives and an increased capacity to lead communities in substantive discussions that translate the priorities, successes, and challenges on the ground into the network's agenda for the year.

## This report details how these efforts to deepen federation understanding of and commitment to SDI's objectives and outcomes has begun to bear fruit in our work towards the commitments outlined above.

Over the past year, SDI has begun significant efforts towards the development of a more user-friendly data platform as a first step towards the translation of the thousands of community profiles and household enumerations carried out by SDI federations into analysis and visualizations that are easy for communities to make use of in their engagements with government, donor agencies, academia, and other critical urban decision makers. The development of SDI's own in-house data platform, sdinet.io, is an important step in this regard, challenging dominant proprietary data systems built to exclude the poor from participation in city decision-making. This platform hopes to demonstrate the critical role of slum data produced for the poor themselves, and re-frame the role of slum dwellers in urban decision-making processes.

SDI has used the Know Your City initiative to broaden reach and scale over the past year, building partnerships with communities in Latin America and Asia through data collection activities. Through grants to community-based organizations and their support NGOs in ten different Latin American countries, SDI has created the foundation for partnerships with critical actors in the region. In addition, joint data-collection exercises with longstanding partner Asian Coalition for Housing Rights have deepened SDI's relationship with this organization whose reach spans some of the Global South's most urbanized nations. These successes have confirmed that the KYC campaign is a key vehicle for expanding the reach of the network, allowing SDI to engage with a broader range of partners and increase impact.

The past year has also witnessed a deepening in SDI's engagements with youth as federation leadership have embraced their role as mentors and have begun to acknowledge the valuable role youth play in bridging generational and technical gaps. Increasingly, and thanks in large part to SDI's Know Your City TV youth media programme, Federations are entrusting youth to document their stories, history, and interventions. Through these engagements, historical knowledge is transferred while creating documentation of federations' vast work over the years. Youth are able to provide a much needed skill while gaining understanding of the larger federation agenda.

Significant work has been devoted to the highly prioritised transition from projects and outputs to programmes and outcomes across the network. This included vetting and registration of SDI-affiliated professional support organizations (PSOs) in order to ensure greater alignment of affiliate work and SDI values, build horizontal accountability, and improve risk management and internal controls throughout the network. SDI has made great strides in this regard with the establishment of a PSO charter to guide affiliate obligations and completion of the first round of PSO visits, which included in depth discussions between affiliate-level federation and PSO staff, with support from SDI's Management Committee, Board, and Secretariat staff. These discussions use an affiliate scorecard as their starting point, facilitating the identification of key priorities for organizational development and guiding investments in professional support and capacity development.

Over the past year, SDI has also begun to engage experts to develop innovative strategies to increase impact of our data work, develop new finance mechanisms, and income streams for the network, and effect greater change through large scale slum upgrading efforts. Notably, this year saw the establishment of a UPFI Governing Body, an advisory committee to the SDI Board whose work will support SDI to both ensure greater alignment of capital projects with SDI's core mission and theory of change while at the same time assisting the network to develop projects that attract impact investment from new finance sources. At the same time, SDI is working with experts in the innovative finance space to map out a strategy for SDI to access existing innovative financing, explore potential impact investment opportunities, and develop innovative pro-poor finance mechanisms for large scale upgrading projects that maintain the poorest of the poor as their primary demographic.

As outlined in our Theory of Change (TOC), SDI seeks to make change at the settlement, city, and global level. This report has been organized around these three change pathways. At each level, we will use "Significant Change Stories" to present examples from over the course of the last year that illustrate how federation activities translate into the outcomes we have set forth, translating eventually into the desired impact at each level. Our hope is that this year's annual report provides a convincing testimony of the successful work urban poor federations are undertaking to transform their communities, cities, and ultimately influence changes at the global level in order to effect systemic change on global urban development policies, practice, and financing.



# Glossary of Terms

<b>EA</b>	East Africa	<b>NUA</b>	New Urban Agenda
<b>GCA</b>	Global Commission on Adaptation	<b>PSO</b>	Professional support organization
<b>GCF</b>	Global Climate Fund	<b>SA</b>	Southern Africa
<b>HH</b>	Households	<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>IIED</b>	International Institute for Environment and Development	<b>TOC</b>	Theory of Change
<b>KYC</b>	Know Your City	<b>UPF</b>	Urban Poor Fund
<b>KYC TV</b>	Know Your City TV	<b>UPFI</b>	Urban Poor Fund International
<b>LA</b>	Latin America	<b>UPFN</b>	Urban Poor Fund National
<b>LME</b>	Learning, Monitoring, and Evaluation	<b>WA</b>	West Africa
<b>MC</b>	Management Committee	<b>WATSAN</b>	Water and Sanitation





## THEORY OF CHANGE

The overall intended impact of SDI's work is the creation of inclusive and resilient cities where the lives of the urban poor are substantively improved.

### Pathways to change

### What SDI does

### What change looks like

### Outcomes



## Settlement

- We organize women-led savings groups and network them at settlement level
- We profile, enumerate, and map our settlements
- We mentor and train women leaders
- We support livelihood-building
- We equip youth with multi-media documentation skills
- We conduct settlement forums for dialogue between communities, government, and other urban stakeholders

We see slum settlements that are recognized by the city, have secure tenure, and universal access to basic services. We see safe and healthy communities where social cohesion is evident and even those with low incomes have access to economic livelihood opportunities and pro-poor credit. We see communities engaged in dialogue with government and our youth filled with opportunity and hope.

- Improved public health and safety
- Enhanced livelihoods
- Integrated and resilient neighborhoods
- Greater strategic influence of the urban poor



## City

- We network savings groups into city-scale federations
- We support partnerships between city governments and federations
- We produce citywide profiles and maps of all informal settlements
- We support city forums to shape urban policy and practice
- We establish community upgrading funds
- We support peer-to-peer exchange
- We design, build, and manage slum upgrading projects

We see cities where development is inclusive and urban decision makers recognize and value the skills, knowledge, and data of organized urban poor communities. We see institutionalized collaboration spaces for dialogue and strong partnerships for the coproduction of transformative policy, practice, and investment. We see citywide improvements to tenure security, housing, infrastructure, services, and livelihoods. We see slum upgrading supported by innovative pro-poor finance instruments that improve the lives of the poor and inclusivity and resilience of the city at large.

- Institutionalized collaboration between the urban poor and government
- Pro-poor data driven development
- Equitable and integrated urban policy implementation
- Expanded pro-poor financing instruments



## Global

- We participate in global debates to influence policy
- We support regional hubs of national slum dweller federations
- We support peer-to-peer exchange between federations and their partners
- We manage Urban Poor Fund International (UPFI) and other community finance facilities
- We use our data to inform, monitor, and evaluate development agendas and commitments

We see a world where organized urban poor communities are considered valued partners in urban development decision-making and where investment in inclusive and resilient urban development is prioritized. We see global decision-makers exhibit an increased capacity to integrate community driven knowledge in policy and practice, enhancing the social, human, physical, political, and economic capital of urban poor communities and enabling transformation of the status quo.

- Global urban decision-making is slum-friendly as a result of collaboration with the urban poor
- Global public sentiment supports slum-friendly cities
- Greater global investment in pro-poor urban development



# SDI Network Indicators by Regional Hubs

Indicator	EA Hub	SA Hub	WA Hub
Cities Reached	40	330	60
Settlements Reached	641	2,418	670
# of Savings Groups	2,889	3,189	1,702
Savers	121,688	150,115	55,464
Youth Members	3,180	3,489	5,251
Cities Profiled	50	54	19
Settlements Profiled	833	2,034	906
Settlements Enumerated	150	362	209
HH with Improved WATSAN	40,146	34,198	8,150
HH with Improved Tenure	12,401	78,105	22,652
HH with Improved Energy	984	7,500	683
HH with Improved Housing	662	22,649	359

Asia Hub	LA Hub	Total
91	6	527
877	12	4,618
1,078	13	8,871
60,184	434	387,885
NA	36	11,956
52	0	175
5,242	1	9,016
2,213	10	2,944
154,435	11,128	248,057
51,629	9,996	174,783
6,080	11,128	26,375
4,467	10,443	38,580





# Settlement Change Pathway

- a. Table 1. Settlement Level Indicators
- b. Table 2. KYC Profiling by Hub
- c. Our savings, our strength
- d. Yewaloo! – They are coming: Evictions and tenure security
- e. Inclusivity and resilience through settlement upgrading
- f. SDI's Energy Justice Programme
- g. Bridging the gap: Engaging youth towards the future

SDI has identified four strategic change outcomes under our settlement change pathway to impact. These include 1) improved public health and safety; 2) enhanced livelihoods; 3) integrated and resilient neighbourhoods; and 4) greater strategic influence of the urban poor.

Throughout the section, we will use a series of “Significant Change Stories” that draw on projects, partnerships, and exchanges from over the course of the last year to illustrate progress towards these desired outcomes. Below, we summarize our vision of “what success looks like” when these outcomes are achieved.

### What success looks like when settlement level outcomes are achieved

Women-led collective organizing and action by urban poor communities produces solidarity and social cohesion, generating improved health among residents of slum settlements. Residents have the skills, knowledge and confidence to secure tenure and improve access to safe water, health services, sanitation, and cleaner energy that improve their quality of life and their ability to adapt, absorb and transform in the face of shocks and stresses.

A range of livelihood opportunities, including employment and enterprise creation, results in improved lives of the urban poor (particularly the most vulnerable) and transformative city growth. Improved social and physical infrastructure reduces incidents of forced eviction and other hazards that threaten the safety and wellbeing of the urban poor, particularly women, and the inclusivity and resilience of the city at large.

Women-led collective organising and action by urban poor communities produces political voice, resulting in secure tenure for slum settlements and the prevention of forced evictions. This is evidenced by recognition of the existence of slums by government, which serves as a foundation for dialogue between the urban poor and cities that recognizes slum dwellers as citizens and their role in city transformation.

Women-led collective organising and action by urban poor communities anchors the coproduction (by communities, local government and other development stakeholders) of strategies for transformation of the built environment from slums to resilient, inclusive and integrated city neighbourhoods. This coproduction is underpinned by community-driven data processes and dialogue between communities and government and the joint planning and implementation of incremental, in situ, precedent-setting upgrading.

Table 1:

## a. Settlement Level Indicators

Indicator	Savings Groups	Savers	Settlements where we work	Settlements profiled	HH with improved WATSAN	HH with improved tenure	HH with improved energy	HH with improved housing
Baseline	7,675	369,304	4,495	8,811	240,130	171,575	16,455	36,912
Achieved 2018-2019	8,871	387,885	4,618	9,016	248,057	174,783	26,375	38,580





Table 2:

## b. KYC Profiling by Hub

East Africa Hub	Baseline	Achieved 2018 - 2019
Cities profiled	41	50
Settlements profiled	806	833
Settlement boundry maps	750	750
Settlement service maps	470	470

Southern Africa Hub	Baseline	Achieved 2018 - 2019
Cities profiled	30	54
Settlements profiled	1,958	2,034
Settlement boundry maps	591	591
Settlement service maps	209	209

West Africa Hub	Baseline	Achieved 2018 - 2019
Cities profiled	19	19
Settlements profiled	805	906
Settlement boundry maps	977	1,010
Settlement service maps	856	871



Asia Hub	Baseline	Achieved 2018 - 2019
Cities profiled	52	52
Settlements profiled	5,242	5,242
Settlement boundry maps	121	122
Settlement service maps	22	22

SDI Total	Baseline	Achieved 2018 - 2019
Cities profiled	142	175
Settlements profiled	8,811	9,015
Settlement boundry maps	2,439	2,473
Settlement service maps	1,557	1,572





# Significant Change Stories

- c. Our savings, our strength
- d. Yewaloo! – They are coming: Evictions and tenure security
- e. Inclusivity and resilience through settlement upgrading
- f. SDI's Energy Justice Programme
- g. Bridging the gap: Engaging youth towards the future

## c. Our savings, our strength

Savings groups are the building blocks of federations and anchor the transformational change across outcomes at settlement level. These groups support the development of social cohesion and collective capacities, and offer a financial safety net for the poorest who use their savings or take small loans from their peers to keep children in school, to cover medical bills, and to cope with unexpected shocks. When the groups federate, we see the ability of savings to advance achievement of settlement change outcomes beyond just livelihoods. As the Liberia SDI affiliate reported, “Federations throughout the network know that savings groups do more than collect money – they collect people and build a critical mass. When the savings groups are networked, federations are born.”

The federations use their Learning, Monitoring, and Evaluation (LME) systems to track the growth of groups and monitor their health. Savings group registers are updated biannually in all affiliates. Increasingly, we see movement toward digitization of data (already long underway in the Know Your City (KYC) profiling and mapping space) gaining traction in the savings arena. In Bangalore, India, the federation had a simple app developed for use on tablets when collecting savings. The app allows the collectors to quickly and easily enter the amount saved or repaid and to have their records sent by SMS to the members. From the federation office, the data is analysed to understand priority demands and repayment capacities of members.

In Sierra Leone and South Africa, the federations are eager to test the Indian system, following a period of investment in the federation-managed analogue systems. This preparation is essential to ensure the digital system enhances rather than supplants peer-to-peer accountability. In Uganda, the federation is in the process of profiling and digitally mapping all savings groups to raise awareness for the scale of the federation's reach, to monitor progress and to depict the linkages between increased savings and increased settlement improvements.

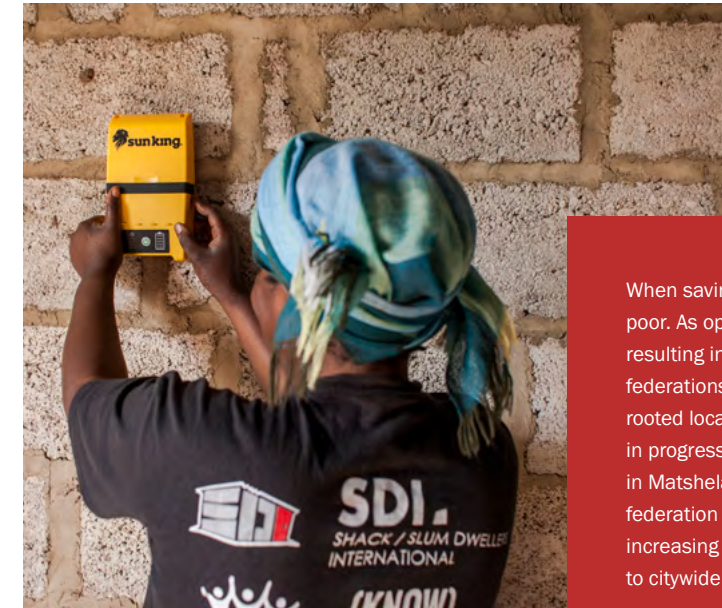


Savings group meeting in Dakar, Senegal.

“Mobilization is easy...  
whenever you go into an  
informal settlement, there  
are always mamas, they  
are the starting point of  
collaboration.”

Thozama Nomnga, Federation of the Urban Poor (FEDUP), South Africa

The contribution of savings to improved livelihoods is noted by each affiliate. In South Africa, the Federation Income Generation Program (FIGP) extends loans to federation members for livelihood projects and businesses. As at September 2018, the FIGP had supported 2,202 members and has a 95% repayment rate. This year, groups in Malawi underwent business management and quality assurance trainings (for their arts and crafts businesses) to enhance profitability. Hundreds of members have been trained this year and follow-up reporting shows sales increasing. The Kenya SDI Alliance has continued to build the savings and loans capacities of Mukuru residents through the nyumba kumi system. The federation has developed a standing team of Savings Trainers, resulting in the number of groups in Mukuru growing from 189 in July 2018 to 365 by November 2018. In Uganda, the federation savings groups are now registering as cooperatives to access more funding and support from government for their income generating projects.



Savings groups save for solar home kits.

When savings groups federate it supports greater strategic influence of the urban poor. As opposed to communities mobilized around particular projects (typically resulting in shallow community “participation” in development driven by outsiders), federations are organised around a longer-term, multi-faceted agenda that is rooted locally. In Botswana, this process of federating savings groups is currently in progress. We see the savings groups beginning to come together in networks: in Matshelagadi Village; Monarch and Blocks Network, and Francistown. The federation invites local officials and decision makers to these network meetings, increasing their visibility and strategic influence, and this is an essential precursor to citywide influence.

On top of the clear benefits to livelihoods and strategic influence, savings has also contributed to settlement level improvements to public health and safety this past year. In Malawi, 83 federation members were able to construct new Ecosan and VIP toilets using their savings; while others used their savings to leverage credit from the Mchenga Fund to build theirs. In Uganda, the federation has used their savings and partnership with local councils in four municipalities to leverage resources to build public sanitation units. As mentioned above, federations in 12 countries are using their savings to access clean energy products such as clean cook stoves and home solar kits and lanterns, improving access to energy and reducing the incidence of toxic indoor air pollution, shack fires, burns, and electrocution from unclean cooking and illegal electrical connections.

In line with our Strategic Plan aspirations to expand the scale and reach of SDI's work, SDI has placed emphasis this period on expanding savings programs to new geographies and new demographics. KYC TV teams are making short films about savings that target youth and are now passionate advocates of savings in many affiliates, as evidenced strongly during the Youth Conference in Cape Town, South Africa. We see many federations generating creative youth-to-youth mobilization strategies through fashion shows, art and music shows, and business development.

With the launch of the KYC Campaign in Latin America, SDI took a new approach to connecting with communities. This entry point (through profiling, enumeration and mapping) was successful and now – through exposure to other federations – the demand for peer-to-peer learning on savings is high. SDI is testing out video conferencing as a second-best option for peer-to-peer exchange in order to save cost and access more groups. This year, community members from South Africa and Nigeria took part in the first in a series of Virtual Savings Exchanges with Latin American community groups.

### Read and watch more

- The Black Raj Kumar <http://knowyourcity.info/2018/09/krishnappa-black-raaj-kumar-come-savings/>
- Uganda youth savings video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cvC7GGZyvnw&feature=youtu.be>
- Know Your City takes Latin America by storm! <http://knowyourcity.info/2018/10/know-city-takes-latin-america-storm/>



## d. Yewaloo! – They are coming: Evictions and tenure security



Nigeria Slum / Informal Settlement Federation protesting evictions in Lagos.

**“ We have a right to be sheltered, we have a right to education, we have a right to health. This is not a privilege. A privilege is something that can be taken away. This is our natural right as a citizen ”**

Jim George, evicted from Abonnema Wharf, June 2012

As long as poor people are perceived as second-class residents of our cities; as long as informal settlements are considered blights on the urban landscape that need to be eradicated; as long as vested interests are allowed to grab land whether in the name of profit or in the name of smart cities (which is simply profit by another name), evictions will form the epicentre of SDI's work.

Evictions take place in just about every city and town in which a SDI linked federation exists. SDI has participated in numerous eviction task teams, including UN Habitat's Advisory Group on Forced Evictions, and the new eviction watch process in Cities Alliance. SDI's experience has confirmed that, while reactions to evictions are necessary and sometimes useful, the real challenge is to prevent evictions before they happen.

Therefore, SDI has sought to make interventions, produce structures, and develop systems that move vulnerable communities from high levels of risk to tenure security, either through the prevention of evictions or through negotiated relocations acceptable to affected communities. Three critical areas of focus for SDI's will be:

- 1) Fighting and preventing evictions, including coordinating solidarity actions across the network against threatened evictions and working to proactively secure tenure;
- 2) Developing and demonstrating alternatives and consolidating knowledge about workable alternatives from across the network; and
- 3) Supporting communities/households who have been affected by evictions.

“Yewwaaaaalloooooo!!” The Egun word for “They are coming” echoes through the roads. Behind the line of policemen and touts, two caterpillar excavators rear their metal jaws. The policemen and touts move in.

Jawu, still admiring the stack of bills, hears the call of danger echoing across the community. She hears commotion outside the walls - people yelling, engines rumbling, things breaking.

“Daniel!!!” Jawu screams.

Chaos has descended on the entrance of the community. Police bang on doors with batons. Touts light fires to structures. Caterpillars bring down homes, their residents standing outside in futile protest.

Daniel is caught in a stampede of residents fleeing. He attempts to run against the flow, but can't make progress.

“Mama!! Mama!!! Mama!” cries Daniel.

An extract from “The Legend of the Vagabond Queen” an SDI feature film about evictions in Lagos, Nigeria currently in production.

Towards these ends, SDI has established its own internal Evictions Task Team, with operational centres in South Africa (the SDI Secretariat), Nigeria (JEI) and Kenya (SDI Kenya and Akiba Mashinani Trust).

During this past year there have been evictions in many of the countries where SDI has a presence. Major focal areas of SDI, however, have been in Nigeria, Kenya, and Uganda.

The Nigeria Federation faces constant threats of evictions. The bitter experience of large-scale evictions in Port Harcourt and Lagos has made sure that the Federation and JEI, its support NGO, are constantly vigilant and proactive. In that regard, the Nigerian Federation has supported community-led mapping, profiling, and enumerations in Lagos, Port Harcourt, and Abuja. In Lagos and Port Harcourt, the Nigerian Federation has carried out citywide profiling – capturing baseline data about every informal settlement in both cities, and pairing it with GPS boundary maps and geo-tagged data on the available services (water, waste collection, electricity, drainage, etc.). This information is used to make communities visible and organised as a means of preventing evictions. The Nigeria SDI Alliance has also used media – film, video, photo exhibitions – to brilliant effect, drawing attention to evictions and their impact on poor communities. This has also raised awareness in poor communities and significantly empowered slum dweller youth, adding advocacy to well-honed tools of information gathering, para-legal training, and resistance.

In Uganda, the SDI affiliate will work with Cities Alliance and the Ugandan Government to ensure that social safeguards associated with the Kampala-Jinja Expressway (KJE) and the Kampala Southern Bypass (KSB) are honoured. This Expressway will pass through the Kinawataka and Kasokoso informal settlements, where the Federation has a strong presence. SDI has already started to work towards the overall objective of achieving a negotiated and voluntary relocation of all affected households through the application of internationally-recognized safeguards, and through the application of appropriate local development policies.

Major evictions took place in Kenya from May through July 2018. Excerpts of a statement issued by the Kenya Federation (shown below) capture the strategies used by the Kenyans to advocate against evictions and to defend vulnerable communities. Their similarity to those applied by the Nigerians demonstrate clearly how the SDI network replicates capacity and transfers knowledge – in this case, information gathering and mobilization through maps and surveys, the use of social media and other media campaigns, and the building of alliances with potential partners.

### Excerpt from Muungano statement:

(1 August 2018, <http://bit.ly/20y8xsj>)

#### We will identify all settlements under threat on our maps.

This began yesterday and established that the following areas are under eviction threats: Makongeni, Kaloleni, Mbotela, Dandora, Deep Sea, Mukuru, Mathare and Kamae, with 4 areas having been marked for evictions tomorrow.

#### We will mobilize and conduct rapid enumerations.

A federation team is working to establish contacts with residents, create awareness on the need to resist the forced evictions, and train community members to conduct rapid enumerations. The team is also mobilizing residents of the affected areas and federation members from all settlements for a protest march on 8th August 2018. Slum dwellers will use this peaceful march to deliver a petition to the Cabinet Executive Secretary in charge of Roads, Infrastructure and Housing as well as the County Government.

#### Our Campaign Slogan. The team has developed a campaign slogan:

**#StopForcedEvictions** and **#StopForcedEvictionsNow** – and is asking people to use this to bring awareness to these events. The Kenya KYC TV team will spearhead a week-long social media campaign, raising awareness and calling on government to engage the community to seek alternatives. This will be supported by a media campaign on both mainstream and community media.

Upward engagement and networking. The Kenya SDI Alliance is working with Katiba Institute, Kituo Cha Sheria, Haki Jamii and Amnesty International. The organizations are meeting frequently and hopes to meet with government officials in the next week in order to negotiate alternatives. This work will be largely supported Muungano wa Wanavijiji with support from Amnesty International.

The SDI Secretariat has also compiled an eviction threat register from KYC settlement data spanning 135 cities. Efforts are underway to build a live eviction monitor in the next KYC online data platform. The Zimbabwean affiliate has commenced its own work to monitor and track evictions using a custom-made digital platform that offers many lessons to SDI as it approaches this work.

### Read and watch more

- Muungano Evictions Diary: <http://knowyourcity.info/2018/08/protest-representatives-petition-day-8-muunganos-evictions-diary/>
- Kibera evictions video [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eH\\_3NmQcZ3A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eH_3NmQcZ3A)
- Ghana youth eviction video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GbVrRQnVwdM>
- Zambia video on tenure solutions – certificates of occupancy issued to 3,584 people



## e. Inclusivity and resilience through settlement upgrading



The foundations of community collective action generated through community organisation at the settlement level are the starting points from which federations navigate the pathways of change towards more inclusive and resilient settlements. Whether by leading negotiations for alternatives to evictions, securing land tenure and title, implementing in situ incremental upgrading of homes and basic services, catalysing new housing developments, or leveraging institutional relationships with the state and other agencies to develop precedent-setting approaches to slum redevelopment, settlement upgrading is a key enabler of inclusivity and resilience.

In many cases, federations engaged in settlement upgrading are using methods that offer an alternative to conventional housing and basic service delivery approaches and formal urban planning systems. These are characterised by a wide variety of in situ upgrading projects in settlements where communities have long resided and are, thanks to learning from other affiliates, able to leapfrog unsuitable and unresponsive approaches to the upgrading of human settlements offered by the state.

Through leveraging its growing Urban Poor Fund International (UPFI) and previous successes influencing policy in respect of pro-poor housing and basic service delivery, federations are also involved (either directly or as enabling partners) in the ongoing development of new housing developments for the resettlement of urban poor communities.

The Urban Poor Fund International (UPFI) is a self-governed, self-managed, ongoing and expanding financial facility that provides capital to member National Urban Poor Funds (UPFN), so that they can in turn provide funds to savings collectives undertaking important urban improvement and housing projects. The Fund has as its principal goal the support of a viable and expanding network of UPFNs (or city level funds), each of which is similarly economically autonomous and continuously expanding. UPFNs exist in many different environments, from those where 100% capital recovery is possible to those where 0% capital recovery is most likely. These UPFNs assist federations in creating local political and institutional changes that make poor people central actors in urban development and that influence local, national, and international resource flows.

From 2008 to 2018 SDI federations implemented a total of 286 capital projects. Of these, 48 are UPFI projects, with an average rate of recovery of 63%. The remaining 238 are UPFN projects with an average recovery of 20%.

During the past year, SDI affiliates have continued their gradual shift to implementing more projects that fall into both the SDI cost recovery project category and that continue to address the socio-political outcomes SDI seeks in its Theory of Change. These projects include community resource centres, community sanitation facilities, housing, and energy projects.

Federations in India and South Africa are continuing to successfully leverage pro-poor social housing programmes. In India, UPFI finance is currently enabling the federation's involvement in the value chain of government financed construction of 400 two-bedroom houses for the urban poor in Bodhan Town, Telangana state. This project delivers multiple outcomes for the SDI programme in India, including housing, services, financial sustainability, and economic inclusivity. Although India may be considered more progressive and developed in the self-financed provision of pro-poor housing, the Bodhan Town project represents a key opportunity and venue for horizontal learning for affiliates from other SDI networked countries.



Housing project in Bodhan Town, India.

As with Bodhan Town, the Vusi Nsuntsha project in Cape Town, South Africa continues to show promise with respect to the development of inclusive cities through settlement upgrading, and the critical role that organised communities supported by allied professionals can play in adding value to state funded housing programmes and in the disentangling of complex social, political, and technical dynamics.



The Vusi Nsuntsha land was originally purchased with the vision to build housing according to a People’s Housing Process: single story houses on large plots for about 800 people residing in underserved informal shack settlements in Cape Town. Through an opportunistic land swap, a new 28-hectare piece of land, almost twice the original size, is the subject of a land sharing agreement between the community and the Western Cape Provincial Government which has resulted in a win-win trade off. In exchange for a portion of the land, the Province intends to incorporate the land into a spatially and economically inclusive catalytic housing project, servicing the entirety site with ‘bulk services’, and to building 5-story social housing units to accommodate relocated families from adjacent informal settlements, earmarked for redevelopment. The process of negotiations between the community and the Province has been complex and has addressed issues at the core of urban housing dynamics in South Africa. As a result of these continued efforts, it is likely that the Vusi project will break new ground in a number of precedent setting ways.

In Namibia, a well-established institutional relationship between the SDI affiliate and the state allows for a community driven housing process to continually and effectively replicate itself. Active and current projects include those in Swakopmund and Walvis Bay. This year, hundreds of members of the Shack Dwellers Federation of Namibia (SDFN) gathered in Erongo region to welcome members of local and national government, public and private partners, and their Patron, The First Lady of Namibia, Monica Geingos, for the official hand over of 136 completed houses in Swakopmund (36) and Walvis Bay (100). During the handover ceremony, the newly appointed Minister of Urban and Rural Development pledged continued support to SDFN, increasing the budget allocation to SDFN from N\$ 7 million to N\$ 10 million due to its demonstrated effectiveness.



First Lady of Namibia, Monica Geingos, hands over homes to federation members in Swakopmund, Namibia.

Other active housing projects that are financially geared by communities and leverage financial support from the state include the Nakuru-Shikamoo and Naivasha housing projects in Kenya (31 houses and 12 completed houses respectively); the Ghetto housing project (planning phase of 200 foundations) in the Eastern sub-county of Nairobi, Kenya; the second phase of the Chamazi housing project outside of Dar es Salam, Tanzania; and a project in Dakar, Senegal. A number of other small-scale initiatives piloting innovative building designs, construction techniques, and materials are happening on an ongoing basis throughout the network.



Chamazi Housing Project, Tanzania

Through their work, federations throughout the network support some of the most economically precarious urban communities in the Global South. Regardless of the formality of their tenure in respect to the state’s ability to provide basic life improving services, many of these communities feature as low or no priority within budgets. In contexts where national and sub-national governments have the means to resource pro-poor social programmes, collective action (the community voice) is effective in putting the prioritised service delivery needs of organised communities on the agenda.

In contexts more numerous, the provision of basic services like water, sanitation, energy, and waste removal is increasingly being privatised and left to large corporations who view low-income communities as risky and non-bankable.

In Accra, Ghana, the federation’s involvement in household toilet initiatives which require financial contribution by the household themselves has been influential in influencing national WASH guidelines. Similarly, the Zambian (Lusaka, Millennium Project Completion Agency) and Tanzanian (Vingunguti and Mwanza simplified sewerage) affiliates are involved in multi-stakeholder in-situ, sanitation projects, including local WATSAN authorities. These delivery models regard organised community as a key component to success.





Sanitation project installation in Vinguguti, Tanzania.

Public sanitation units using a variety of technologies have also informed larger area-wide or citywide programmes. In Uganda (multiple units in 4 municipalities), Zambia (Old Soweto), Malawi (Ecosan and VIP), and Nigeria (Bio fill), federations continue to have active projects constructing community managed, public sanitation units. Some of these also provide off-grid area lighting and charging of small mobile devices, providing additional social impact.

The Uganda SDI Alliance has successfully developed a model for cost recovery community driven water and sanitation facilities. The aim of this project is to construct, operate, and manage three sanitation facilities across three informal settlements in three different cities – Kampala, Kabale, and Arua. It is expected that 1,725 people will directly benefit from the project on a daily basis.

**“ This market toilet plays a significant part in the livelihood of my family. Recently the existing toilet in the market raised its fees. It was the only one our community. We negotiated with the land owner who allocated us another piece of land to construct a decent and more affordable toilet. ”**

Mrs Betty Mutabazi, Fedration leader and Woman Councillor

The sanitation facilities are not an end in themselves but rather serve as a means to attract government officials and other decision-makers in order to challenge and change institutional arrangements and policies in favour of more affordable and scalable access to basic services. The partnerships formed by this project position the urban poor as an equal partner with a seat at the table in slum upgrading and improvement of basic services.

The cost recovery aspect of the project is accessed in two different ways, either by a pay-per-use payment system for the toilets and showers, or a monthly subscription offered to families residing in the settlement. This cost recovery is managed by Suubi, Uganda's UPFN.

The Zambia SDI Alliance is also exploring cost recovery projects through public sanitation facilities. The Old Soweto public toilet's core business is to provide sanitation services to people in the Old Soweto market and will be anchored by a community-led process. Associated services, such as retail and other business spaces, will also be offered at the facility. The idea is to provide a business case for sustainability. It is anticipated that revenue generated from commercial rentals will be used to complement sanitation services, specifically maintenance and operations. This cost recovery is managed by the Swalisano Fund, Zambia's UPFN.

The implemnetation of the project officailly started in September 2018. The construction process has been purely community-led, providing a foundation for; (i) building the capacity of grassroots with livelihood skills as well as (ii) providing an income generating platform for community members. Ten seasoned federation construction artisans have been at the centre of construction work, supported by a structural engineer to ensure adherence to quality and structural integrity standards.

There is a growing interest from potential tenants and users of the facility as construction works have been underway, and the alliance has already started receiving applications from different vendors for the retail spaces in the facility. The Zambia SDI Alliance seeks to further engage the municipality to provide additional land in Old Soweto market or elsewhere to continue modelling, as well as provide a business case for sustaining federation activities.



Slum upgrading and housing construction in Zambia.

The implications of the above for SDI's settlement upgrading programme are therefore numerous, dynamic, and complex. The backbone of this work in all instances continues to be the leverage of institutional relationships with sub-national and national governments in order to create enabling policy and legislative environments for innovative, precedent setting, community led, and cost optimised solutions.

As the urban poor form an ever-growing constituency in cities of the Global South, the federation's work plays a crucial role in helping to shape and innovate cities' attitudes towards the urban poor into the future. Increasingly and necessarily the federation's work includes projects which look to substantively engage with stakeholder partners who represent natural coalition partners in projects designed to deliver affordable, accessible, and life enhancing services. These projects contribute to the achievement of SDI's outcomes related to improved public health and safety, the creation of integrated and resilient neighbourhoods, and increased strategic influence of the urban poor in the cities where they live and work. Through the implementation of innovative, precedent-setting slum upgrading projects, organised communities of the urban poor improve living conditions in their communities and take the first steps in the transformation of slums into integrated, resilient neighbourhoods that form part of the city. By engaging local government and other urban development stakeholders in this process, the urban poor demonstrate their agency and capacity to participate as active players in urban development and planning processes.

#### Read and watch more

- Based on the experiences of FEDUP and ISN across South Africa from 2008-2018. [https://www.sasdialliance.org.za/new-publication-a-peoples-led-approach-to-informal-settlement-upgrading/?fbclid=IwAR1C1qXwJ4kgE4nAGgSiL8RaGSS07V0DuUXx\\_giKhc-KP4zspAIEzMq3TL8](https://www.sasdialliance.org.za/new-publication-a-peoples-led-approach-to-informal-settlement-upgrading/?fbclid=IwAR1C1qXwJ4kgE4nAGgSiL8RaGSS07V0DuUXx_giKhc-KP4zspAIEzMq3TL8)
- Philippines: re-blocking and resilience <https://spark.adobe.com/page/yE20kMiH59WII/?fbclid=IwAR12n5wyvMe9jq8-czY10hRjCihcuEDpGnYSkELZMXKPTwpu0CPGIqU2oz0>
- Zimbabwe: <http://knowyourcity.info/2018/08/transforming-bulawayo-bottom/>
- Kenya Kambi Moto upgrading story - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wai06Kift2I>
- First Lady of Namibia hands over houses to Namibia federation: <http://knowyourcity.info/2018/04/first-lady-hands-houses-namibia-federation/>



## f. SDI's Energy Justice Programme

SDI's Energy Justice Programme continues to make strides in mainstreaming improvements in access to reliable, affordable, and safe energy to underserved urban communities. Energy access sits alongside other basic services seen as prerequisites for household wellbeing and integrated and resilient neighbourhoods. Our programme aims to be at the forefront of a global transition to clean and just energy, positioning urban poor communities - so often underserved by safe, reliable, and affordable energy solutions - as key enablers of this.

The SDI Energy Justice Programme has active projects in 12 countries (Ghana, Nigeria, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Malawi, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Namibia, India, and the Philippines) and has enabled affiliate federations to provide improved energy access to approximately 25,000 distinct households with the total number of beneficiaries numbering in the region of 100,000.

Building on energy access project precedents set by the federations, key projects within the programme have become sites for project-based learning and peer-to-peer exchanges. These projects are important nodes in the transfer of enabling knowledge, leading to more effective project delivery and an increasing appreciation of the types of multi-stakeholder models required for replicable and scalable energy access solutions for the urban poor.

Not only are these sites of horizontal dialogue between Federations, but they have also been nodes around which new and innovative collaborations have arisen between organised communities, their local governments, and private sector stakeholders. International academia has increasingly taken interest in SDI's energy justice projects, which have been featured as case studies in peer-reviewed policy briefs and journal articles.

Projects which have continued to scale up include: those micro-enterprises leveraging federation savings and loans schemes in improving household access to quality solar home systems; those which seek to leverage policy designed to enable decentralized renewable generation in the pursuit of increased energy affordability and resilience for households, and energy security for cities; projects which have demonstrated cost-optimized ways for sub-national governments to work alongside organised communities in the installation and maintenance of solar street lights; projects that are promoting the use of clean and safe cooking practices; future-looking projects seeking to influence settlement energy access planning, as well as the normalization of the integration energy efficiency measures and distributed generation assets onto low income housing.

We highlight three of these projects below.

### Pro-Poor Hybrid Model for Solar Home Systems – Longlands, South Africa

Access to free basic electricity was constitutionally mandated in South Africa in 2010. Indeed, each year the South African government provides thousands of un-electrified rural households with off-grid systems providing a basic level of electricity for lighting. But what about the growing communities of urban informal settlement dwellers residing in un-electrifiable areas either because of land tenure, quality, or climate vulnerability issues?

How can organised communities leverage institutional relationships, data, and savings to advocate for equitable urban policy implementation, and the expansion of pro-poor financing instruments in the context of energy service delivery? Despite its small scale and presence within a country renowned as being subsidy-rich, the Longlands project neatly encapsulates an approach being used throughout the programme in an attempt to create settlement, city, and ultimately global level change.

The South African SDI Alliance has an established institutional relationship with both the Stellenbosch Municipality as well as the Western Cape Provincial Government. In 2017, a province wide, community-led, settlement data profiling task resulted in the prioritization of a renewable energy solution for the community of Longlands, a temporary relocation area of 26 households outside of Stellenbosch. Although improved access to energy was raised by the community as an immediate need, this was not included in the basic service package provided to Longlands by the local municipality.

Through a collaboration between the SA SDI Alliance, an off-grid micro-utility, and SDI's Energy Justice Programme, the community of Longlands undertook an exchange to Siqalo, an informal settlement in the City of Cape Town being provided with basic electricity through the micro-utility's model on a pay-for-use basis. During this exchange, the Longlands community learned that residents of an informal settlement located within their own municipal area of Stellenbosch benefit from the allocation of a municipally allocated basic energy subsidy to the micro-utility. They also learned that this is something which the Siqalo community was lobbying the City of Cape Town for, in order to bring down the cost of their own basic electricity, and that this is something they too could request.

In early 2018, in the midst of productive conversations with the micro-utility project, all of the dwellings in the Longlands community burned to the ground. Residents lost everything, including savings and personal identification. Although the municipality quickly rebuilt the temporary housing, no energy solution was provided.

All households within the Longlands temporary relocation area are now electrified with solar home systems installed and maintained by the micro-utility but owned by the SA SDI Alliance. The community's savings group 'Big Dreams' helps to provide a financial vehicle for residents to finance small appliances and set aside money to pay for minor maintenance. With the assistance of the SA SDI Alliance, and leveraging their close relationship with the Stellenbosch Municipality, the community is engaged in lobbying for extend financial subsidization to the project.

If this strategy is successful, it is likely to be a significant precedent in South Africa. It is the first where a municipality has agreed to replicate an innovative off-grid and pro-poor energy solution outside of a pilot site. This can potentially open doors for solar home systems being considered as an electrification solution for temporary or un-electrifiable settlements within urban areas. Thinking farther into the future where the energy needs of low-income communities are predicted to grow, the programme demonstrates practical solutions to this through continued evaluation of hybrid approaches to energy service provision that seek to demonstrate how low carbon development can be enabled by organised communities.



Low emission, distributed electricity generation strategies make use of small-scale electricity generators, often embedded within formal grid infrastructure, and are often located on urban rooftops. Provided enabling renewable energy policies and are effectively implemented, distributed generation can provide a variety of benefits for stakeholders including households, host housing cooperatives, electricity distributors and energy planners. Under the right circumstances the result may be a contributing pillar to the low emissions development of low-income housing with megacities of the future.

Through the SDI Energy Justice Programme, federations have been supported in the installation of precedent setting rooftop PV infrastructure on buildings in the metropolitan areas of Accra, Ghana, and Mumbai, India. The co-development of feasibility studies, policy recommendations, and other knowledge products have taken place between energy professionals and federations in Kenya, Namibia, South Africa, and the Philippines too.

The case of the India Oil - Natwar Parekh and Mankhurd relocation Colonies in Mumbai are the farthest progressed examples within the SDI network of community-managed grid connected solar PV infrastructure providing benefit to low income residents. More than 20,000 people call the Natwar Parekh colony home, and it contains more than 70 multi-story buildings managed by women-led housing societies who are responsible for building maintenance and payment of utilities for the buildings. While they succeed in collecting the levies required for this from most households, they are vulnerable to electricity tariff rises which often rise faster than household incomes. This can impact funds available for the general maintenance of the buildings.

Community maintained and monitored, the first 6 net-metered rooftop PV installations in Govandi have demonstrated that a net savings of up to 80% on electricity bills otherwise paid over for water pumping, public lighting, and elevators can be realized by leveraging grid connected solar PV. Not only does this contribute towards significant immediate term savings for housing societies, but has the potential to positively contribute to local energy security, financial resilience to tariff rises, and low emissions development of low-income housing.

Each rooftop system installed in Govandi has an installed capacity of 20kW, meaning that the potential generation capacity of a large-scale development like the India Oil can easily exceed 1MW. In early 2019, housing societies began to approach SDI's Indian affiliate with offer to provide 50% co-funding for similar installations. At the same time the Federation is supporting efforts in lobbying for these types of installations to become standard for all low-income developments.



India is significantly progressive in the promotion of decentralized renewable electricity generation compared to other SDI affiliates where the formal and informal political economy of energy service provision still favours the status quo. In Ghana, Kenya, Namibia, and South Africa the Energy Justice Programme is developing and demonstrating similar models while simultaneously leveraging their institutional relationships to advocate for the equitable renewable energy policy leading to improved energy access for the urban poor.

SDI’s Energy Justice Programme continues to scale and broaden its scope by considering not only how the immediate positive impacts can be felt by poor households through improvements in energy access, but also how renewable energy can be used to provide improvements to public spaces and communal infrastructure.

### Solar Street Lighting in Jinja Municipality, Uganda

The creation of inclusive and safe streets is an important component of settlement upgrading, but in cities where government budgets fail to provide for even the most basic of services for informal settlements this consideration falls some way down the priority list. Nevertheless, the primary mode of transport in slums is walking and many residents typically derive their livelihoods from informal street trading. This means that poorly lit streets have a resultant negative impact on safety (crime and risk to pedestrians from vehicles) and the local economy.

The Kibugambata street lighting project is an initiative co-developed by the National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda (NSDFU) and the Jinja Municipal Council (JMC). The Jinja Basic Energy Service Cooperative Limited, a service cooperative made up of federation members, has procured, installed, and now maintains 200 meters of solar street lighting on roadways adjacent to the Kibugambata informal settlement. This cooperative qualified for community-based technical capacity and is provided a level of financial support from the municipality for its work. The cooperative was involved in the fabrication of the lighting poles which delivered value additions in terms of local economic development and transferable skills. It is also involved in the provision of solar home systems to residents within the local area through a partnership with a commercial solar enterprise.

Leveraging their institutional relationship with the JMC, NSDFU has led efforts surrounding plans for the redevelopment of Kibugambata settlement, which has been the focus of a settlement redevelopment plan. Progress surrounding land sharing agreements and road encumbrance is needed at community level before physical redevelopment can begin to take place. The street-lighting project was partly conceptualized as a demonstrable symbol of progress in the redevelopment of the settlement while less visible social processes were taking place.

The installation of the streetlights in the settlement has led to a significant shift in patterns of night time trade, giving the local informal economy a boost through adding additional hours during which trade can take place. In fact, a small night market has sprung up under the lights where none previously existed. Anecdotal evidence from community members and vendors indicates the incidence of crime (bag snatching and beatings) has dramatically decreased since the installation of the lights.

Indeed, this integrated multi-stakeholder model which holds the potential for municipalities to not only engage in low emissions development but to do so with the additional value adds of empowerment, local economic development, and cost optimization has been visited by high level stakeholders and has been profiled in at least one policy brief. It has been estimated that such models can generate up to 14,000 jobs in Uganda alone. The programme continues to promote and develop this model with a view to scaling and replication.

Despite the demand for improved access to clean, reliable, safe, and affordable energy being rooted in immediate needs of households, public infrastructure, commercial sectors at settlement level, SDI’s federations represent a key global constituency disproportionately impacted by the negative effects of climate change. SDI’s federations therefore form a natural ally within coalitions advocating for climate change mitigation at the global level and indeed have provided key inputs to global level discussions and research prioritization in this regard.

#### Read and watch more

- SDI’s work in Jinja informed a Frontrunners policy brief prepared published by the Coalition for Urban Transitions. “Sustainable urban infrastructure for all: Lessons on solar-powered street lights from Kampala and Jinja, Uganda”
- Clean cooking report and videos
- Solar energy breathes new life into Uganda’s slums <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pjr5-lpAXEE>
- SDI’s solar solutions for informal settlements <https://youtu.be/Hzt5pPGyL9c>
- Solar exploration in Mumbai: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhPOPIE8tvc>

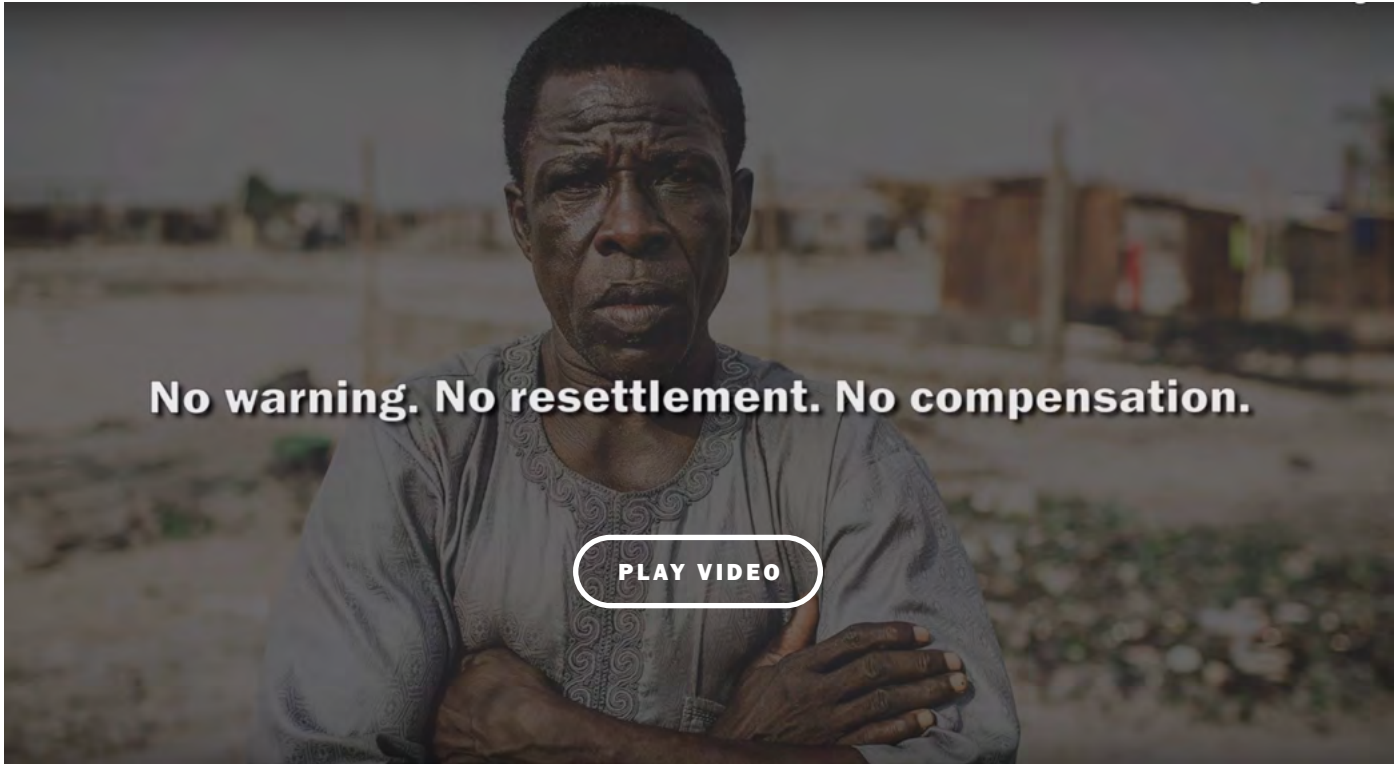
# g. Bridging the gap: Engaging youth towards the future

At the settlement level, youth membership and participation in federation work is increasing steadily thanks to concentrated efforts on the part of the network. Effective youth engagements by federations this year have included: youth profiling, arts and drama, cooking competitions, settlement clean ups, fashion shows, entrepreneurship trainings, youth exchanges, youth parliament, KYC TV, youth national budget submission, youth mentorship, youth participation in Regional Hub meetings.

As noted in our Strategic Plan, KYC TV has shown the most potential for inspiring, engaging, and attracting youth across the network. The KYC TV program aims to provide a glimpse into life in informal settlements by letting youth share their personal experiences, document and record federation activities, and contribute to various social impact campaigns. A slum youth conference was prioritized to develop a youth agenda to increase youth engagement and support across the network. In July 2018, the first KYC TV youth summit was held in the Cape Town KYC Resource Centre. This week-long exchange brought 26 youth from the 6 affiliates with KYC TV teams (Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Uganda, and Zimbabwe). The objective of this exchange was to reflect on the KYC TV program to date and jointly develop a strategy to deepen and expand the program across the network. During the week, the youth met inspiring artists and filmmakers from South Africa and abroad, honed their technical skills for shooting and editing, curated the KYC TV YouTube Channel, showcased their work, and made plans for the year to come based on their KYC TV strategy. The youth also prioritized the importance of savings – both as a mobilization tool and the benefits of savings for young people to support livelihood opportunities. Not all KYC TV members are currently savers, as each country has developed its own criteria for membership, but KYC TV teams have decided to emphasize the importance of savings going forward.

During the 2018-2019 year, KYC TV teams from across the SDI network produced over 70 short films. These are all available to watch on the KYC TV YouTube and Facebook pages. Take a look at some of the highlights from the past year below.

### Nigeria: Undevelopment

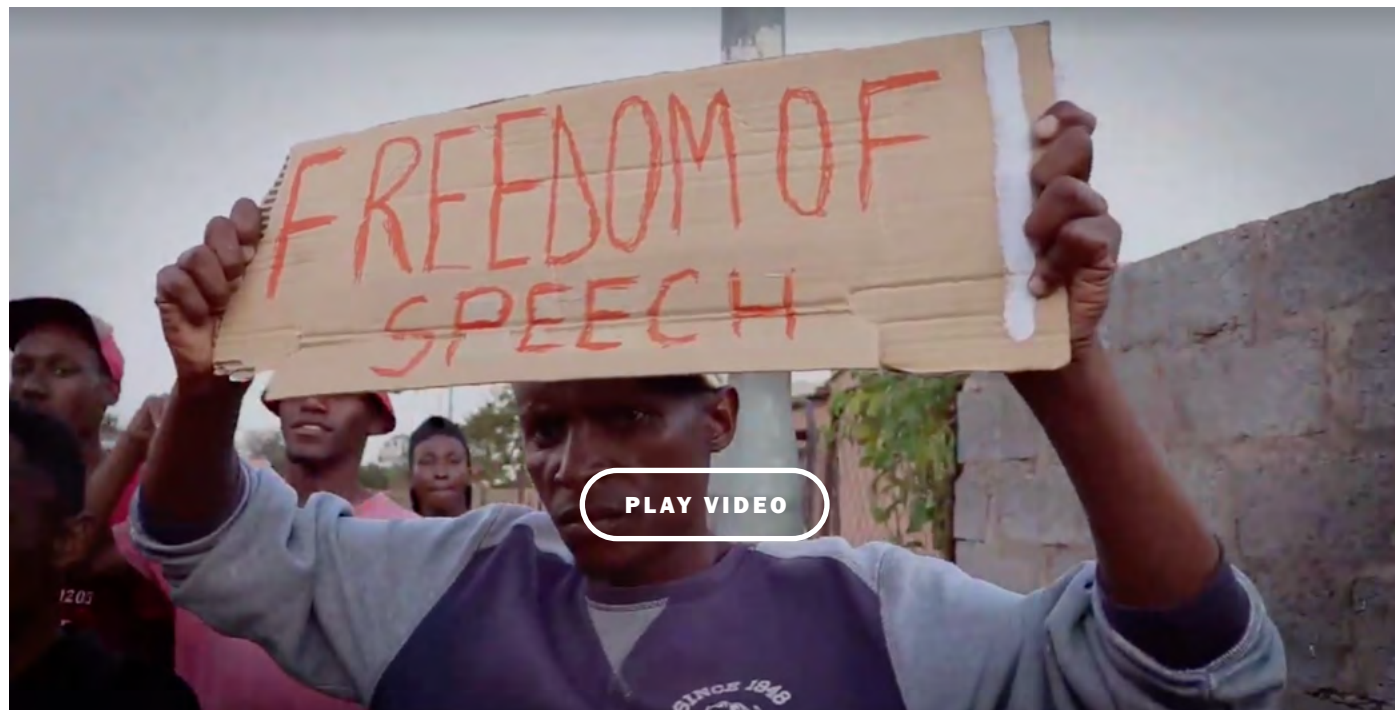


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9W7s4tEfu4&feature=youtu.be>

This video weaves together the stories of eight victims of violent forced eviction in Nigeria to tell the story of life before, during, and after eviction, and to make an appeal for a more inclusive development of Nigeria’s urban centers. This short film was the winner of the CoHabitat Network’s first annual Community-Led Habitat Award in the short film category. The Nigeria KYC TV team was recognized at the 2019 UN Habitat Assembly in Nairobi, and the film will be screened at this year’s SDI Amsterdam Sessions – a week of SDI-hosted events held in a different global city every year.



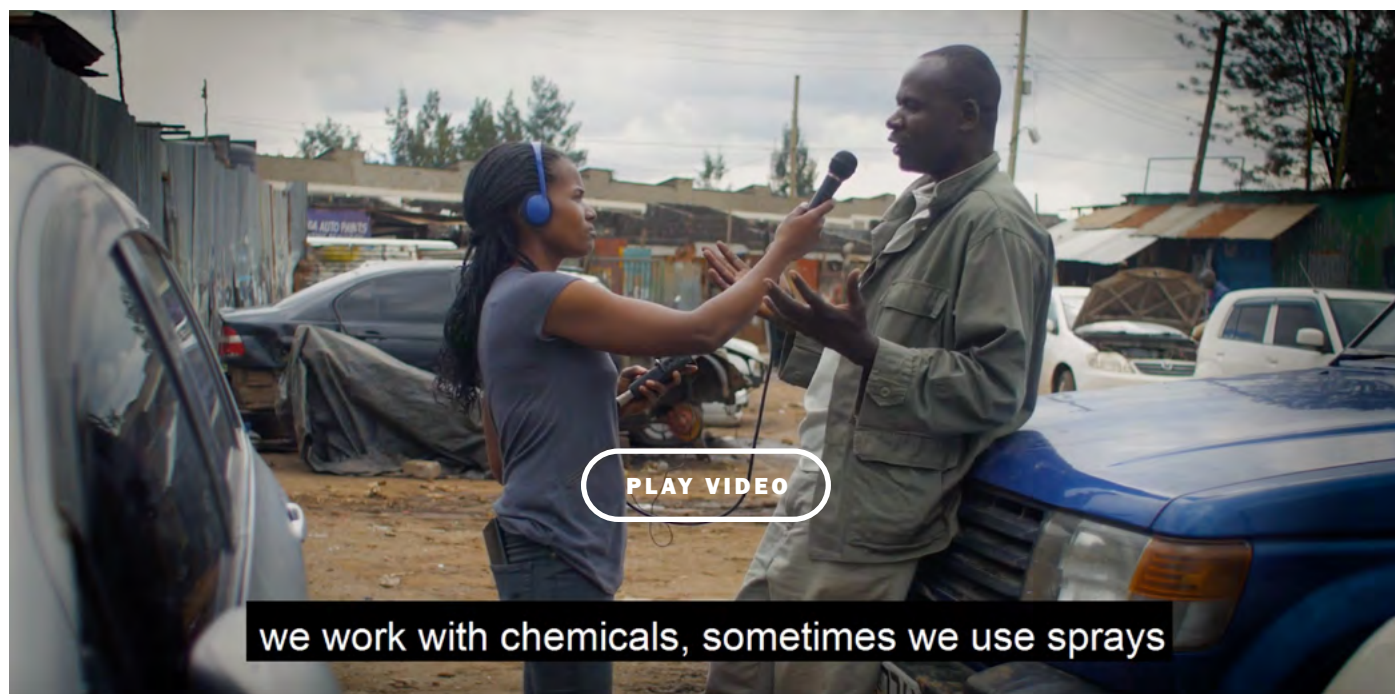
## South Africa: “Amandla!”



<https://www.facebook.com/KYC.TV/videos/1015412102179624/>

A music video about the vibrant youth of Orange Farm was made by a collaborative team of the youth from the SA SDI Alliance. This was the team's first production and served as an important and productive learning experience for the team. The team had a very productive journey throughout the shooting as it was the first production they had worked on.

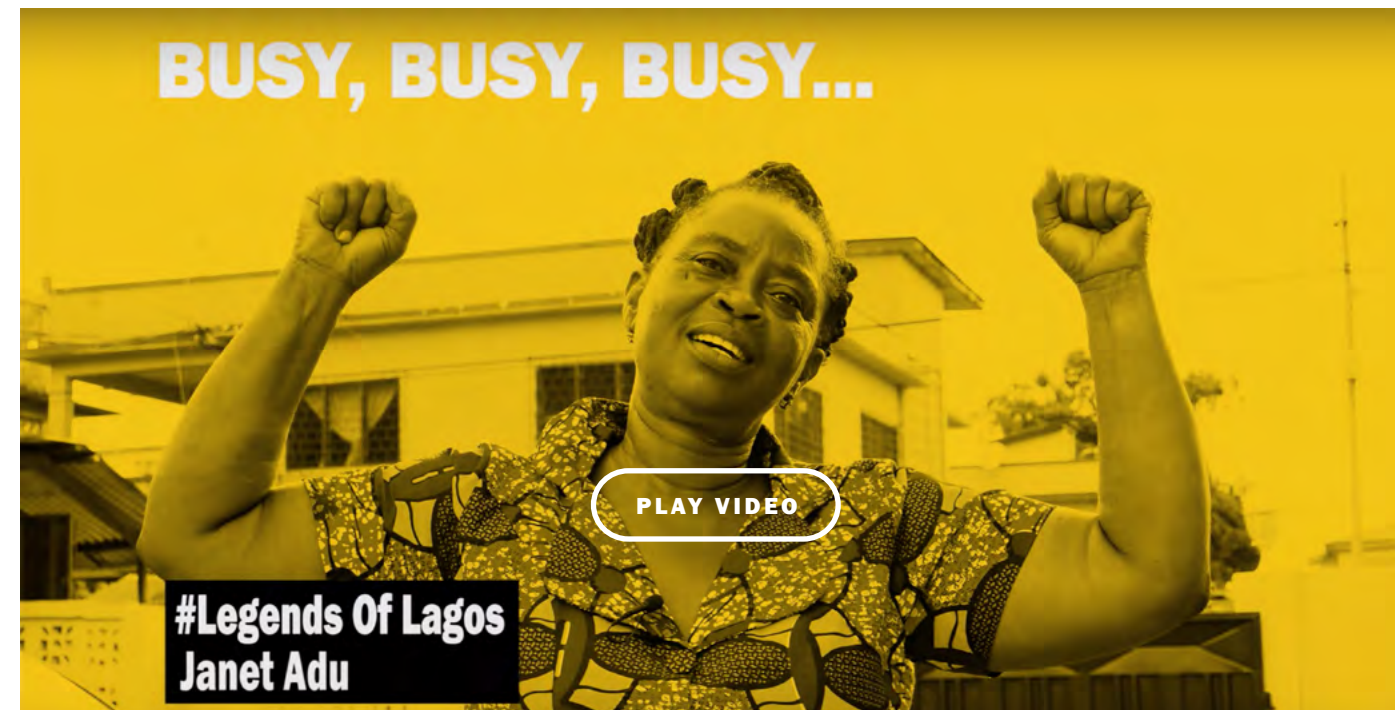
## Kenya: “The Impact of Evictions on My Business”



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JTLxUGrYfM0&feature=youtu.be>

As part of the Legends project, a series of interviews with federation members from across the SDI network, KYC TV Kenya interviewed Anthony, a mechanic who has been working in Kibera for many years. His business was negatively impacted when his workshop was destroyed during recent demolitions carried out as part of the Kibera railway project. Now, he is unable to carry out some of the work due to lack of space, and nearby residents and customers are affected by chemicals from spray paint. These films hope to shed light on the real life impact of evictions and demolitions on urban residents and their livelihoods.

## Ghana: “Busy, Busy, Busy: #LegendsofLagos Janet Adu”



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=786BqeQQnQ&feature=youtu.be>

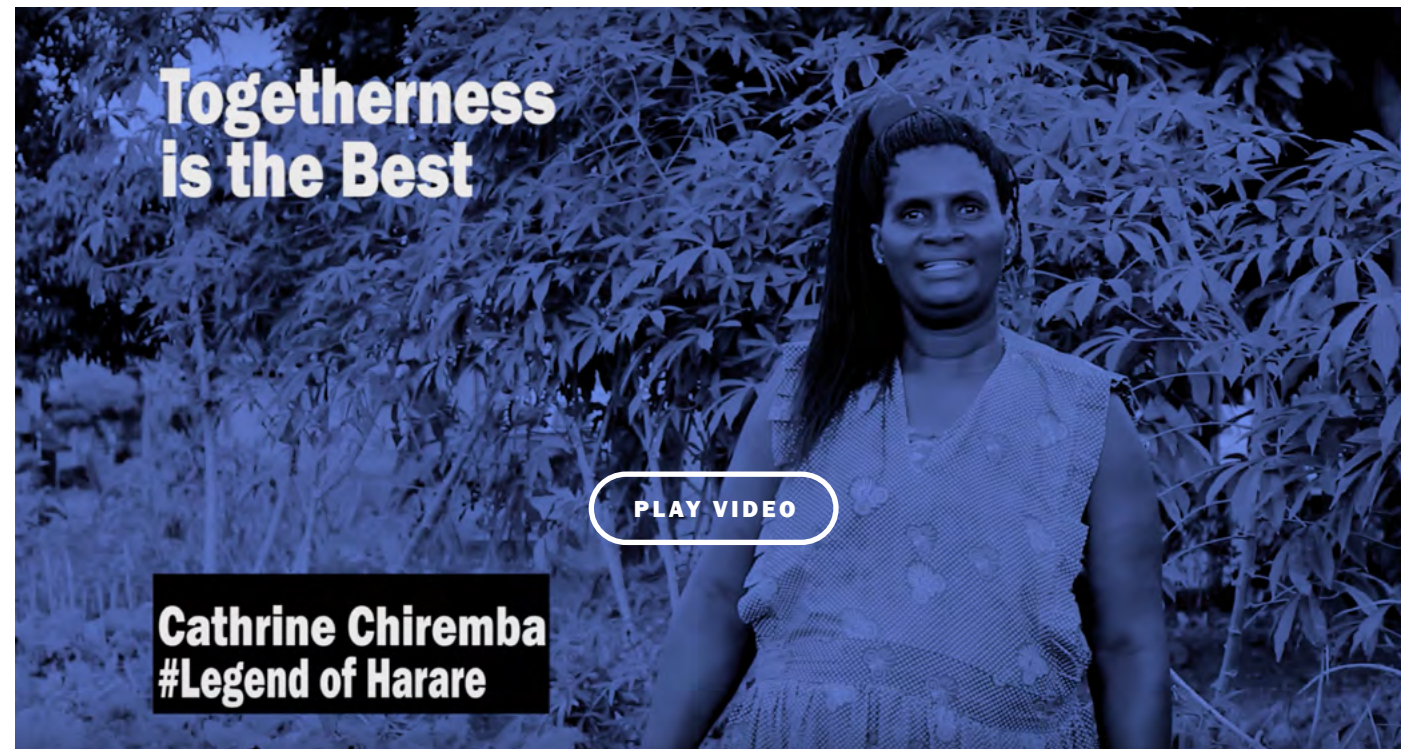
In an effort to capture the stories of SDI's federation leaders from across the network, KYC TV Ghana gave Janet Adu, a national community leader from Accra, Ghana, an opportunity to tell her story in her own words.

**“ I’m a poor woman in the settlements. I don’t have a place to put my head. When SDI came to my community I had to join. I joined to mobilise the women and started saving and these savings have helped me a lot. I have used it to pay my children’s school fees. Now some of my kids are in nursing training and others are at University. It’s important for women transformation in the slums. When we come together we can fight for our own. If you are single you can’t do anything. That’s why we have to come together and have one common goal and common voice and know what we have and what we don’t have in the community. I have learnt a lot from my colleagues and my country from the ministries, government and municipal authorities. I can go anywhere without any fear. So SDI has helped me a lot and supported my family. ”**

Janet Adu, Ghana Federation of the Urban Poor



## Zimbabwe: “Mama Chiremba,”



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yt2JNkYNU&feature=youtu.be>

KYC TV Zimbabwe captures the story of national community leader Sekai Catherine Chiremba. “I was empowered by the federation... With my one dollar alone I was not going to manage this. With the power of the federation I managed to build a house. It was not my power alone; it was working with others.”

## Uganda: “Water crisis in Uganda”



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vFv9NsWFTTM&feature=youtu.be>

Uganda has experienced two decades of economic growth, leading to large population movements from rural areas to informal settlements around urban centres. High population growth – nearly triple the global average – stressed the water and sanitation services that exist. Sixty one percent of Ugandans lack access to safe water and 75% do not have access to improved sanitation facilities. At the same time, access to financial services in Uganda has improved significantly over the last decade, mostly driven by the expansion in mobile-money services. This development, along with the private sector’s interest in including clients living at the base of the economic pyramid, primed the market for expansion of micro finance services to a larger share of the population. Inspired by this, the KYC TV team in Uganda wrote and produced a short film depicting their experience of accessing water in their settlements.

The KYC TV program is also bridging the generational and technical gap between older federation leaders and younger members. Federations have entrusted youth to document their stories, history, and interventions. Through these engagements, historical knowledge is transferred while creating documentation of federations’ vast work over the years. Youth are able to provide a much-needed skill while gaining understanding of the larger federation agenda.

The KYC TV team shot a promo video to launch the inaugural Community-Led Habitat Awards for Africa. The Community-Led Habitat Awards, an initiative of the CoHabitat Network, recognize inspiring community-driven habitat solutions from across the continent with the aim to advocate for the expansion of community-led urban development and housing. Youth KYC TV teams from Kenya, Uganda, and Zimbabwe documented SDI upgrading projects to highlight through the CoHabitat Network and Awards to leverage visibility of SDI’s upgrading projects beyond the network. This targeted mandate to document federation projects has provided a practical space for the KYC TV teams to integrate into the larger network processes and will continue to be used in the coming year at both the local and global level to produce evidence of the impact of SDI’s work.

In Kenya, the youth supported the Alliance’s initiative to document Muungano’s history told by those who were there (<https://www.muungano.net/history>).



**“ With this archive, in film and text, we want to inspire young leaders, activists and change makers across Kenya who are coming up in the movement. A generation without a history is a lost one, and we wanted the younger generations to not get lost...If our new generations of federation leaders can understand Muungano’s history, they can also learn about the different strategies and methodologies the movement has employed over the years. ”**

Joseph Muturi, Muungano National Federation Leader

Settlement level efforts are being aggregated in exchanges that bring together youth from multiple affiliates. In August 2018, youth from Orange Farm, South Africa visited Nairobi, Kenya. Both groups of youth are working on similar projects – the youth from South Africa on street naming and the youth from Kenya house numbering as part of the Mukuru Special Planning Area (SPA). This exchange supported sharing of ideas and strategy between the groups. In January 2019, youth from across network came together for a KYC TV pocket-film school skills building exchange in Uganda. Twenty-two KYC TV youth from Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, and Zimbabwe were trained in story making and editing using only their mobile phones. Additionally, the Southern Africa Hub prioritized the issue of youth and planned a Youth Hub to be held in Zambia in early May.



“

**Gaining a platform where you get to turn your passion into action is an absolute privilege.**

Rose Mutahe, Muungano's KYC TV team

”

The feature film, The Legend of the Vagabond Queen of Lagos, has reached another major milestone with the completion of developing the full script. The inspiration for this story comes from news reports that surface periodically in Nigeria about millions of dollars in cash hidden away by corrupt politicians and officials being discovered in graves and other unlikely places. Although fictional, many of the scenes are based on true events that happened over the course of the violent eviction of Otodo Gbame between November 2016 and April 2017.

The Legend of the Vagabond Queen of Lagos is not a stand-alone film. Rather, it is part of an ongoing, multi-pronged campaign by SDI, the Nigerian Slum/ Informal Settlement Federation, and JEI to fight forced evictions and demand for inclusive urban development. The film will echo across the SDI network of slum dweller federations – from India to South Africa, Kenya to Brazil – who have fought hand-in-hand for over four decades to end forced evictions and co-create eviction alternatives.

Read and watch more

- KYC TV YouTube and Facebook pages
- Youth Forum July 2018 <https://spark.adobe.com/page/lnaCHUZtl7lh/>  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqE\\_SMIKA90](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqE_SMIKA90)
- #LegendsofLagos <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l3e1aJFIbi0>
- History of Muungano wa Wanavijiji <https://www.muungano.net/history>
- Youth exchange from South Africa to Kenya <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cAGWrbyXyuY> <http://knowyourcity.info/2018/09/report-youth-exchange-nairobi-kenya/>
- Pocket Film School <https://www.facebook.com/KYC.TV/videos/249024546000659/>
- 2019 Community-Led Habitat Awards promo: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V\\_9pAhcvXFE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V_9pAhcvXFE)



KYC TV

# City Change Pathway

- a. Table 3: SDI Network City Level Indicators

b. Information is Power! ... If you know how to use it!

c. Partnerships and exchange for inclusive city development

d. Policy and practice shifts towards more resilient and equitable cities

e. Area wide upgrading: Vusi Nsuntsha and Mukuru SPA

SDI has identified four strategic change outcomes under our city change pathway to impact. These include 1) institutionalised collaboration; 2) pro poor data drive development; 3) equitable and integrated urban policy; and 4) expanded pro-poor finance.

Throughout the section, we will use a series of “Significant Change Stories” that draw on projects, partnerships, and exchanges from over the course of the last year to illustrate progress towards these desired outcomes. In addition, we summarize our vision of “what success looks like” when these outcomes are achieved.

What success looks like when settlement level outcomes are achieved

City development is informed by community data collection practices, coproduced knowledge and collective intelligence underpinned by principles of equity, inclusivity and resilience. Knowledge and data are generated by organised urban poor communities in collaboration with city government and used for joint planning and monitoring of urban development. Urban decision makers recognize and value urban poor knowledge and experience as an essential input to resilient development. Such collaboration improves accountability and dialogue between the urban poor and cities. The KYC platform and associated knowledge products are part of the institutional knowledge structure in cities and urban decision makers use it as a first port of call for evidence-based, practical guidance to urban development efforts in cities characterised by informality. KYC supports the role and enhanced capacity of the urban poor and local governments in data collection, mapping, and analysis, informing evidence-based governance and development. City development rests on a shared knowledge base of locally generated and contextual data that is at the same time globally comparable.

City development is implemented in accordance with an urban policy landscape reflecting consensus on resilient and equitable city development. As a result of strong partnerships with urban decision makers, organised communities shape the formulation, implementation, and monitoring of these policies and accelerate pro-poor city transformation. Urban decision makers recognize and value organised urban poor communities for having the skills, knowledge, and data to partner with and implement city- wide solutions for achieving social, economic, and physical integration of slum settlements into the city. Decentralized implementation processes involve a diverse range of local actors (especially community and local government) supported by innovative pro-poor finance instruments that improve the lives of the urban poor and the inclusivity and resilience of the city at large.

City development is increasingly inclusive thanks to an expanded range of pro-poor financing instruments that lever new resources, new thinking and innovative solutions for both informal settlements and cities resulting in improvements in the lives of vulnerable communities and greater inclusivity in cities. New financial instruments for the benefit of the urban poor are developed and implemented to improve equity, inclusion and diversity across cities in general, and help cities absorb, adapt and transform in light of shocks and stresses. In addition, existing financial instruments and rating systems in cities adapt to integrate informal settlements into the mainstream of social and physical infrastructure

Table 3:

## a. SDI Network City Level Indicators

Indicator	Cities where we work	Cities profiled
Baseline	479	142
Achieved 2018 - 2019	527	175



# Significant Change Stories

- b. Information is Power! ... If you know how to use it!
- c. Partnerships and exchange for inclusive city development
- d. Policy and practice shifts towards more resilient and equitable cities
- e. Area wide upgrading: Vusi Nsuntsha and Mukuru SPA

## b. Information is Power! ... If you know how to use it!

In this Strategic Planning period, the SDI network prioritized using community data more strategically to achieve greater influence. Using SDI's Know Your City State of Slums report as a baseline, federations across the SDI network continued to build robust evidence through mapping and profiling of informal settlements in order to inform planning, partnerships, and investment at the settlement and city level. Considerable progress was noted in each of the regional hubs as federations undertook to expand and deepen their work in digital mapping of active settlements, eviction threats, savings groups, and projects in order to increase influence and improve internal monitoring and evaluation.

In West Africa, the year witnessed KYC well and truly land in Monrovia, Liberia where the federation has undertaken an impressive citywide profiling and mapping process that will ground the federation's organizing and upgrading work in Phase 2 of the Cities Alliance supported Liberia Country Programme project and in city development more broadly. The process has been one of learning by doing, with the federation learning as it goes, with support from peer federations in the SDI network and the Secretariat. In turn, the Liberian federation has become a strong mentor federation in its own right. In Monrovia, the federation is increasingly seen as a leading source of knowledge on informal settlements, with members able to recite conditions in specific slums across the city by zone number off the top of their heads. Over 90 settlements have been fully profiled and mapped with a further 23 underway in pursuit of a full slum profile for Greater Monrovia.



Profiling in Namibia

In Ghana, federation data will inform settlement upgrading of communities along the Odaw River, improving resilience to flooding and environmental degradation. The Ministry of Inner Cities and Zongo Development is embarking on nationwide profiling/enumeration activities together with the federation, who will be the primary data capturers. In Senegal, profiling work increased visibility of the community, their issues, and their mobilization process. The Senegalese federation works with local NGO urbaSEN to add further value to their information by overlaying it on base layers generated through drone mapping and through use of GIS tools to analyse key issues. In Sierra Leone, the federation is using its citywide profiling data to contribute critical knowledge to the ARISE programme. This GCRF-funded effort, in which SDI is a lead partner, will undertake implementation research on health and wellbeing in informal settlements over the next 5 years.

In East Africa meanwhile, the Kenya federation's data and maps have been an essential input to planning in the Mukuru SPA. Each of the sectoral plans has been prepared using federation profiling, enumeration, and mapping data as well as knowledge from ongoing dialogue with the community. In addition, enumerations were conducted in three settlements (Kaloeni, Makogeni, and Shiranga), found to be home to 4,383 residents in 1,207 households. The data is being used in discussions between the alliance and the housing secretary to agree on alternatives to forced evictions. In Uganda, KYC has expanded to the registration and mapping of savings groups, which aims to generate a system for monitoring the groups and evaluating their impact on settlement level change.

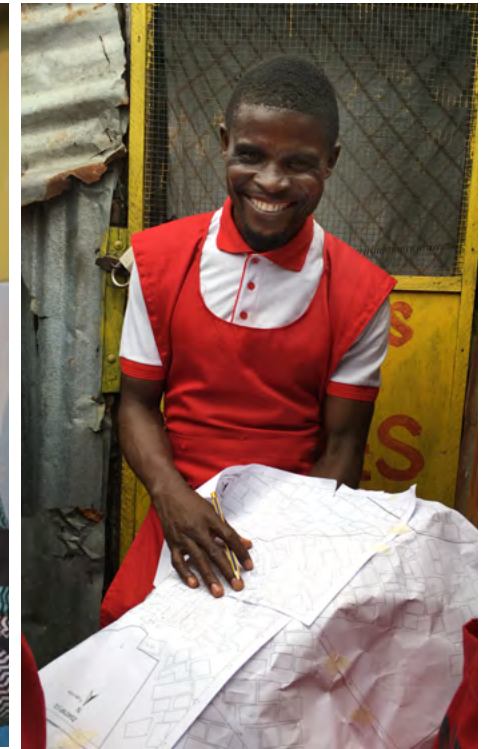
In Southern Africa, SDI saw Botswana's KYC and Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) initiatives come together effectively in support of community-driven profiling and mapping. In Boikhutso the federation's KYC report was presented, alerting community and officials of issues and prioritizing sanitation projects. This meeting was attended by Ward Development Committees, Court President Mr. Letsheleng, and community councillor Mr. Themba Mbambo. In a meeting with Francistown City Council attended by a federation team, physical planners, and community development officers, further discussions of the Boikhusto report took place. It was noted that, through the KYC process, communities were taught city building standards, participated in a community clean-up campaign, sensitized private sector on community projects, and developed bylaws in protecting tenants' rights.



Profiling in Uganda



Profiling in India



Profiling in Liberia

In South Africa, where the federation and Informal Settlement Network (ISN) completed two tenders for government to collect data in the Western Cape, the year saw the SA SDI Alliance move into an upgrading phase informed by the priorities identified during profiling and enumeration. In Zambia, 11 new settlement profiles were conducted in Chisamba district, with the major outcome being enhanced tenure security through issuance of land occupancy certificates for the local communities. Also working on tenure security, the Zimbabwe federation profiled 29 settlements in 3 cities: Harare, Epworth and Bulawayo. The purpose was to assess the extent and impact of evictions as the basis for seeking redress for victims, challenging arbitrary evictions in the High Court, and linking evictees to constitutionally appointed Commissions to ensure that the right to land tenure for slum dwellers is attained. The Zimbabwe SDI Alliance developed a web-based application dubbed ISECAM (Informal Settlement and Evictions Cases Management). The purpose of the app is to enable the collection and analysis of high volumes of profiling and enumeration data, including GIS mapping.

In Asia, the India federation submitted their toilet survey and profiling data to municipal commissioners and ward officers. The data analysis helped Mahila Milan and Federation leaders use their data in engagements with different stakeholders, encouraging them to take up repairs of community toilets as part of ongoing sanitation programs in Mumbai and Pune. The federation has begun the process of settlement profiling of 20 slums in each of the four new cities where they work. In Maharashtra, profiles have already been conducted at a citywide level and the data is in the process of being refreshed in order to inform pilot projects there. SDI has also supported ACHR to extend KYC to Yangon, Myanmar; Yogyakarta and Sleman, Indonesia; Jhenaidah, Bangladesh; Davao, Philippines; and Battambang, Cambodia – with a total of 125 settlements profiled as at January 2019.

In Latin America, KYC efforts aimed at supporting community led action to make settlement and city level change. Over the last year, data work was supported in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Paraguay, and Peru. Communities have used their profiling and mapping to inform home improvements, regularize tenure, undertake neighbourhood planning, map risk, and build social cohesion.

These examples from across the SDI network describe critical ways that SDI-affiliated federations are using community-collected slum profiling data and maps to influence equitable and integrated policy implementation and lead pro-poor data driven development in the cities where they work. Using community-collected data as the basis of partnerships with local government and other urban decision makers, federations are establishing firm foundations for institutionalised collaborations between the urban poor other key stakeholders, ensuring that the hard work undertaken as part of these initiatives is not dependent on any particular individual or political administration.

### Read and watch more

- KYC in Latin America <http://knowyourcity.info/2018/10/know-city-takes-latin-america-storm/>
- Community profiling, mapping, and enumeration in Monrovia, Liberia:  
<https://www.facebook.com/sdinet/posts/10156945581808688>  
<https://www.facebook.com/sdinet/posts/10156948720823688>  
<https://www.facebook.com/sdinet/posts/10156951927608688>
- KYC touches down in Botswana: <http://knowyourcity.info/2018/07/know-city-touches-botswana/>



## c. Partnerships and exchange for inclusive city development

Over the past year, federations and governments have continued to learn together through participation in a host of impactful learning exchanges. Federations' capacity to organise at city scale and position themselves as central stakeholders is clearly represented in the sustained interest from high-ranking government officials to participate in learning exchanges with slum dweller federations. Increasingly and in more and more cities urban poor communities are being recognized by those seeking to learn from and scale up policies, practices, and projects that are proven examples of inclusive city development elsewhere.

One of the greatest values of a networked organization is the capacity for peer support and learning. The benefit of this is that many of SDI's younger affiliates have been able to learn from years of experience from more mature affiliates such as Namibia, South Africa, and Kenya. In addition, mature federations – who can sometimes fall prey to getting stuck in their ways – have the benefit of learning from younger federations who may be more likely to make use of innovative practices and technologies.

Over the past year, a host of notable city level partnerships-building exchanges have taken place. A few of the most notable are listed below.

### South Africa to Kenya: Mukuru Learning Exchange.

In April 2018, representatives from the South African SDI Alliance together with Durban city officials travelled to Nairobi, Kenya to learn from the experiences of the Kenya SDI Alliance and Nairobi city government on the identification of the Mukuru Special Planning Area (SPA). Through extensive research and community-driven slum profiling and enumeration efforts, the Alliance was able to better understand the history of land acquisition in Mukuru. Through this work, combined with intensive lobbying efforts, the Kenya SDI Alliance, with support from local and international partners, has successfully moved from eviction threats to the establishment of a Special Planning Area (SPA) that spans the entire 650-acre belt of slums – home to almost 500,000 people. The SPA does more than provide a legal basis to a slum upgrade: it represents an evolved approach that goes beyond the county government's planning department to incorporate all departments of the county, as well as a multidisciplinary consortia of non-state actors ranging from academia to non-government organizations to community-based organizations such as the federation. During this exchange, city officials from Durban, where the SA SDI Alliance is working with the city to establish a central role for the urban poor in city resilience and development strategies and planning, were exposed to the elements of learning and collaboration evident in the Mukuru case and the power of a public participation model to affect greater strategic influence by and for the urban poor. This demonstrates critical impact of the institutionalisation of collaboration between the urban poor and government.



South African SDI Alliance visits Mukuru SPA, Kenya



Collaborative Urban Resilience Exchange in Cape Town

### Kenya to Tanzania: Sanitation Exchange.

In February 2018, the Water, Sanitation and Energy (WSE) Consortium of the Mukuru SPA project in Nairobi, Kenya travelled to Tanzania for a learning exchange to visit simplified and decentralised sanitation systems. The Water, Sanitation and Energy consortium is one of the eight consortia contributing to the Mukuru integrated development plan and its implementation through the development of water, sanitation, and energy sectorial plan. The WSE identified Tanzania as a country that has achieved significant social indicators on access to hygiene and sanitation services. Together with the host facilitators: Centre for Community Initiatives (CCI), Mwanza Urban Water Sewerage Authority (MWAUSA), Dar es Salaam Water and Sewerage Authority (DAWASA) and BORDA, the group held workshops and field visits. The learning exchange visit participants included representatives from: Nairobi City Water & Sewerage Company (NCWSC), Nairobi City County Government (NCCG), Caritas Switzerland, Akiba Mashinani Trust (AMT), Water & Sanitation for the Urban Poor (WSUP), and Sanergy. The visit to simplified sanitation schemes in Dar es Salaam and in Mwanza exposed WSE members to new and feasible options of sanitation and increased their knowledge on how wastewater can be sufficiently managed where conventional sewerage systems do not exist or are difficult to construct. Lessons learnt during the visit will help the WSE consortium as they develop the water and sanitation sector plans for Mukuru informal settlement. Lessons learnt on approaches used to promote community engagement, participation, and empowerment for sustainability of these initiatives will also be considered and incorporated in the plan.

### Ghana to India: Energy Exchange.

Delegates from Ghana and the SDI Secretariat travelled to Mumbai, India to engage with and learn from members of India's National Slum Dweller Federation and Mahila Milan around a number of their practices and projects. The Indian Alliance's years of experience with large-scale upgrading projects, savings, partnerships, and data collection offers great opportunities for learning for the SDI network. During this exchange, the delegation from Ghana learned about the implementation of solar energy projects in state-sponsored housing projects managed and implemented by the Indian Alliance (read more about these in section 1d of this report). Federation leadership and city officials witnessed daily savings practices and record keeping, and had the opportunity to meet with the local utility company to discuss experiences of implementing net metering in Mumbai.

### Collaborative Urban Resilience Exchange.

Resilience has been identified as a priority area in SDI's 2018 - 2022 Strategic Plan and year one milestones. Resilience building has emerged as an important priority for cities worldwide. With an increasing number of cities developing Resilience Strategies, there is a pressing need to understand how these strategies intersect with issues of exclusion and poverty. Triggered by a collaboration established under the Community of Practice for Resilience Measurement, SDI, 100 Resilient Cities and Itad have begun this work. Given the centrality of peer-to-peer exchange in its learning approach, SDI hosted a Collaborative Urban Resilience Exchange in its Know Your City Resource Centre. As part of the exchange, which took place from July 16th-18th 2018, SDI brought together city officials and community organizations involved in resilience planning and implementation in Cape Town, Accra and Durban. The exchange supported reflection by officials and communities from the three cities about how KYC community-collected data on informal settlements and partnerships between government and organised communities can support resilient city strategies capable of generating more inclusive city development outcomes.



## **d. Policy and practice shifts towards more resilient and equitable cities**

It has been an exciting year for SDI in terms of influencing policy and practice in the arena of resilience and climate change adaptation. SDI elevates the critical importance of ensuring equity and urban poverty reduction are mainstreamed within these agendas.

SDI started the year in Stockholm where it convened a climate seminar to build a coalition to advocate for and secure climate finance for grassroots community organizations. At the seminar, IIED noted that by 2017, only 36.2% of funds committed by the Adaptation Fund and only 6.2% of funds committed by the Green Climate Fund (GCF) have been granted to National Implementing Entities. The remainder has been or will be disbursed through International Implementing Entities such as the multilateral development banks and United Nations agencies. These numbers indicate a clear need to invest more in locally-driven efforts. Those at the seminar agreed that the Green Climate Fund could play a leadership role in financing transformative community-driven action if appropriate policy and operational measures are put in place. The team prepared a draft position paper used to guide joint advocacy and strategy.

**“ How can a city be resilient when so many people don’t have a toilet or water tap? ”**

Charlton Ziervogel, Executive Director, CORC, South Africa

The team convened in Stockholm are now working together as part of the Global Commission for Adaptation (GCA), for which Sheela Patel, chair of the SDI Board, was appointed a Commissioner. Together, the team have been pushing for a Local Action Track for urban climate adaptation work. SDI, Huairou Commission, the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights, and other partners are working in coalition to build an advocacy platform where women-led poor people's organizations frame a collaborative and inclusive approach to bringing climate adaptation to scale (nationally and globally). Supported by IIED, Least Developed Countries Universities Consortium on Climate Change (LUCC), and Oxfam, we plan to convene dialogues with multilateral development banks, funds, governments, philanthropists, and scientific and technical institutions to pinpoint how mature social movements of the urban and rural poor are contributing to identifying and reducing vulnerability to climate threats and how much more they can do with formal roles and resources.

SDI has also worked to deepen its partnership with 100RC over the past year. Working together with 100RC in New York, federations and Chief Resilience Officers (CRO) in Cape Town, Durban, and Accra, and a team from Itad have produced a set of recommendations for city governments and slum dweller federations seeking to partner for the development and implementation of inclusive resilience strategies. At the Collaborative Resilience Exchange convened by SDI and 100RC in Cape Town (described above), community leaders from Accra, Durban, and Cape Town explained how the benefits of SDI's community-led profiling and enumeration extend beyond simply data, to enhanced social cohesion, active citizenship, and empowerment to drive change and address the concerns raised by the data. The community members and officials spoke of the partnerships between city government and SDI affiliated communities and gave detailed accounts of the action-oriented engagements of the past months in each city. ISN leader Nkhokeli Ncambele noted, "Change is happening so quickly on the ground. We [in the settlement forums with city human settlements officials] were not shouting and the city was being honest."

In addition, the delegates even hosted a webinar with CROs from across the 100RC network during which the Cape Town deputy CRO, Gareth Morgan, encouraged all CROs to partner with SDI and harness the convening power of slum dweller federations.

In partnership with C40, SDI has supported development of the Inclusive Climate Action programme and is now engaged in joint-fundraising efforts. As we await funding, we have taken a number of concrete steps toward connecting city adaptation officers and advisors with local federations. We have jointly convened webinars for city officials about the role urban poor communities must play in sustainable and scalable resilience building in cities of the Global South. In partnership with C40, we have also deepened our partnerships for inclusive adaptation planning and implementation. This effort was accelerated after a webinar for city adaptation officers that facilitated connections between local officers and federations in Nigeria, South Africa, Nairobi, Tanzania, Kenya, and Ghana. During the course of the year, SDI also partnered with C40 and IIED to produce research on the adaptation and resilience benefits of informal settlement upgrading using Mukuru as a case study. This work will add an extra quiver in SDI's bow as we apply for climate finance.

At COP 24, SDI was delighted to hear that the findings of the IPCC report brought issues of equity and justice to centre stage and made it clear that sustainable transitions that we need in terms of energy and land are all linked to urban. Likewise, the challenge of informality within the mega trend of urbanization was also given prominence. The science, therefore, clearly supports the call SDI and its partners are making for greater investment in informal settlement upgrading as a path to greater long-term adaptation of our planet to climate change and helps to problematize the push by prominent climate finance facilities to separate the climate agenda from the development agenda.

<sup>7</sup>Colenbrander, S., D. Dodman and D. Mitlin (2018). "Using climate finance to advance climate justice: the politics and practice of channelling resources to the local level." *Climate Policy* (early online): <https://doi.org/10.1080/14693062.2017.1388212>.

As SDI has made tremendous strides to develop a systematized approach to climate, this will continue to be a central focus in the coming year. SDI will continue to capacitate the newly developed Climate Working Group, established at the January 2019 Board & Council meeting and comprised of NGO professionals, federation leaders, Board, and MC members involved in climate adaptation work. This Working Group has already begun to share experiences and knowledge gained locally with peers in other urban centre and on the global stage, and will continue to do so as they increase awareness, build capacity, and bring SDI's messages into these critical debates. There is no doubt that, as capacity deepens within the SDI network, our impact in the climate sector will broaden and deepen to ensure equitable and integrated policy implementation and the institutionalisation of collaborations between the urban poor and government that place urban resilience and climate change adaptation measures at their centre.

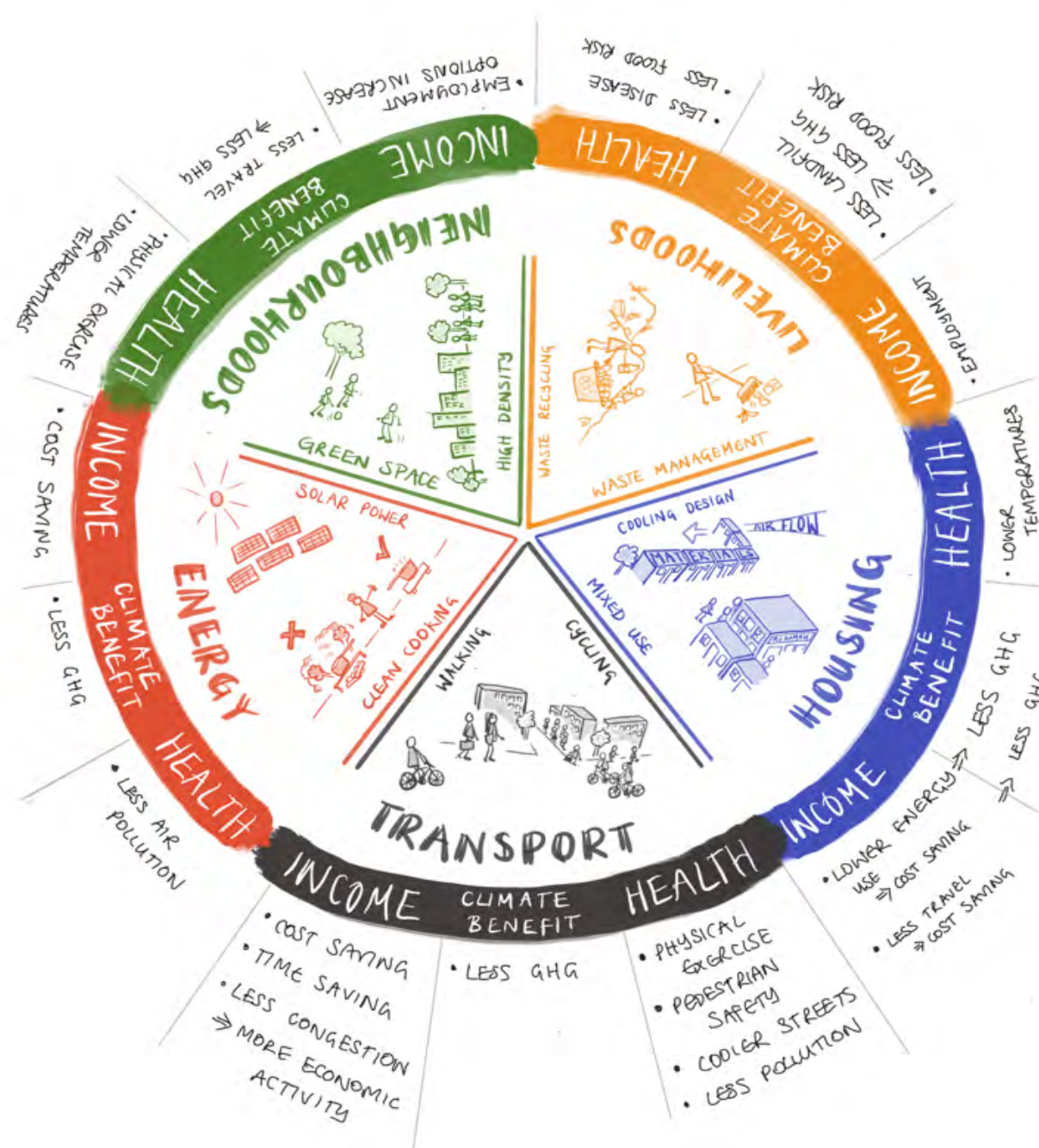


Image credit: Stephanie Ray (IIED) for a forthcoming C40/Joint Working Programme report on urban climate resilience.

## Read and watch more

- Collaborative Urban Resilience exchange: Adobe Spark <http://bit.ly/2I48bHH>  
Video: <https://www.facebook.com/sdinet/videos/10156456155218688/>



## e. Area-wide upgrading: Vusi Nsuntsha and Mukuru SPA

There are two projects that perhaps best highlight the changing landscape of SDI's funding focus from small scale to large scale area wide upgrading. These are considered flagship projects in the network and are the subject of many learning exchanges with each other, with other affiliates, and with government partners throughout the network.

**“ But I do believe, they must not cry so much now. There is hope. There is hope. They must know one day, not long. If you read the book of Mr. Mandela, it says there is a “Long Walk to Freedom” - this is a long walk to freedom for Vusi Nsuntsha. ”**

Lindeka Mysishe, Vusi member



In Cape Town, Vusi Nsuntsha Development, is an infrastructure/upgrading project, that dates back almost 2 decades when the federation purchased a 14.46 ha piece of land in Philippi East with the intent to build homes. The years presented a host of complications for the community and the project was derailed many times. In 2017 the federation undertook a “land swap” – trading their land for a bigger site (27.73 ha) between Jakes Gerwel Drive and the Philippi Horticultural Area (PHA). The swap opened up new possibilities for partnership with the Provincial Government and new opportunities to not only build houses but to plan for an area-wide, mixed-use development and resilient neighbourhood that will house 800 families. Vusi will also include residents from Cape Town's most dense settlement Kosovo, which in turn will create a knock-on effect for the city's continuous upgrading, freeing up land in Kosovo to be developed next.

Vusi community layout plan model.

This project's impact is clearly aligned to SDI's Theory of Change at both the settlement and city pathways. For the community, the development will drastically improve public health and safety through the provision of formal housing, clean water, sanitation, and energy – in sharp contrast to the current situation for most Vusi members who lack adequate access to basic services. The project will provide livelihood opportunities thanks to a strategy to include the local community members in the upgrading and development value chain through the use of community labour, products and services, as well as to develop skills in cases where they currently do not exist. The Vusi development also includes spaces for commercial activity. A critical aim of the project to ensure its integrated development to the city is making sure there are available public transport linkages to the CBD.

The project is using the federation's data to identify beneficiaries and prioritize service and housing typologies. Collaboration between the urban poor and government has been institutionalized through a robust participatory planning process, the project working group (comprising the federation, government, and support NGOs) and various project-linked formal written agreements. Integrated city development is advanced thanks to the central location of the land and densification efforts, which helps to combat the spatial inequality and urban sprawl facing Cape Town.

The Mukuru Special Planning Area (SPA) in Nairobi, Kenya has also registered impressive progress this past year. In 2017 the Mukuru Slums (covering almost 700 acres) was designated a Special Planning Area (SPA) and a two-year participatory area-wide planning process commenced for the development of a Mukuru Integrated Development Plan (MIDP) by August 2019. The final plan will include sectoral policy and planning proposals, a spatial plan for Mukuru at the segment level, short and long-term intervention plans, and finance and implementation recommendations.

The community collected and analysed data that created the foundation to advocate for the SPA showed the many social-economic challenges the Mukuru residents face; housing conditions are extremely poor, inadequate access to water, poor sanitation, flooding and fire outbreaks. The complexity is amplified with contestation over land ownership and entrenched informal systems of education and health care provision. Summary of some of the findings emerging is shown below.

**“ Our drainage systems are a mess. Food waste is often dumped into the drains. ”**

complains one Mukuru resident.

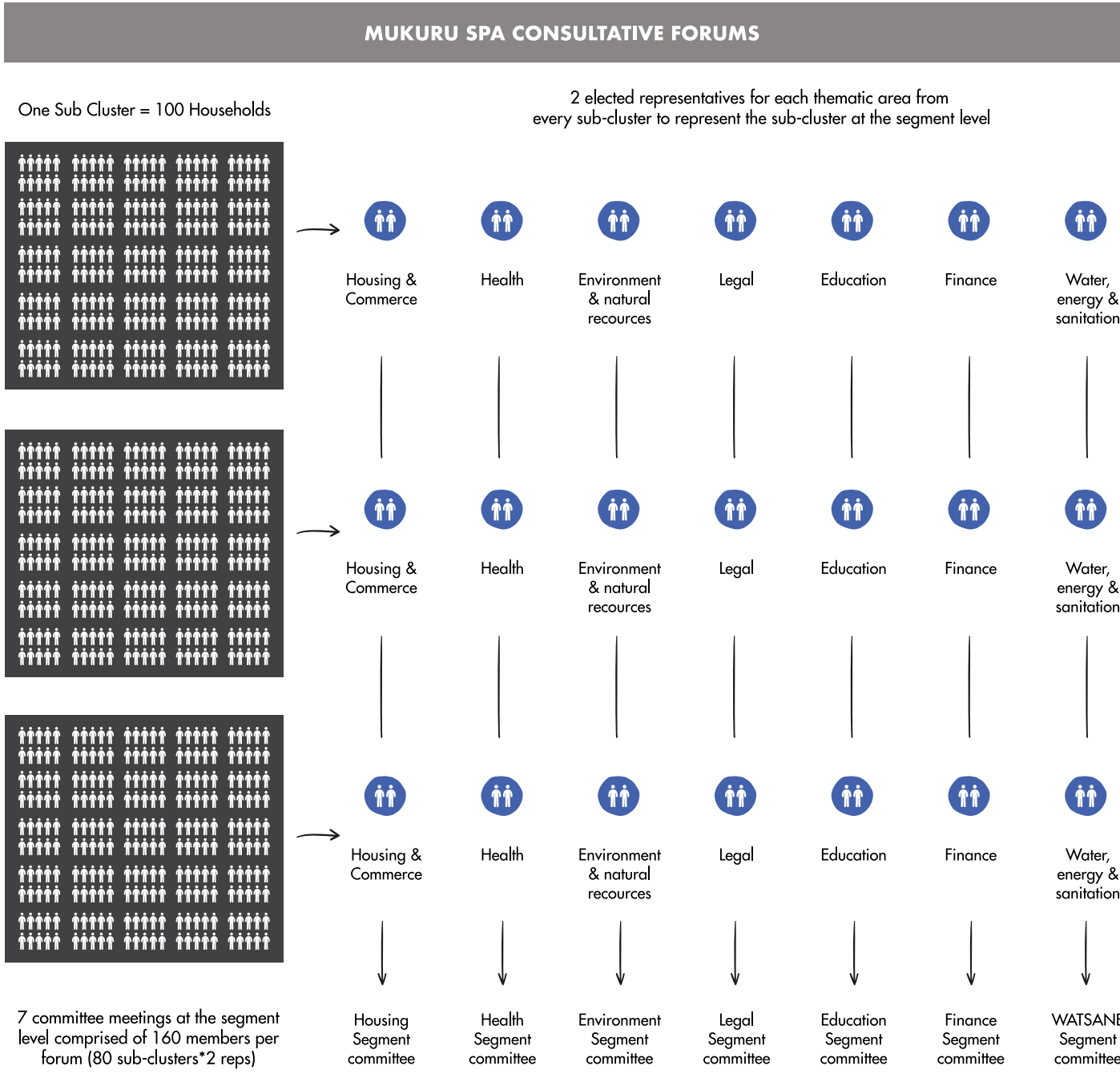
Another resident stated, “When the heavy winds blow, the garbage from bins area is usually blown into our village”.

The plans are developed by eight consortiums looking for solutions to Mukuru's complex challenges. Seven of the consortiums cover the thematic areas of water, sanitation and energy; finance; land and institutional arrangements; health services; education, youth and culture; environment and natural resources; and housing, infrastructure and commerce. Each consists of community representatives, technical experts, local stakeholders, and Nairobi City County Government Officials. The eighth consortia covers Coordination, Community Organization, and Communication. This consortium is led by the Kenya SDI Alliance and ensures that every consortium has meaningful engagement with the community and that the community's voice remains at the forefront of the planning process.



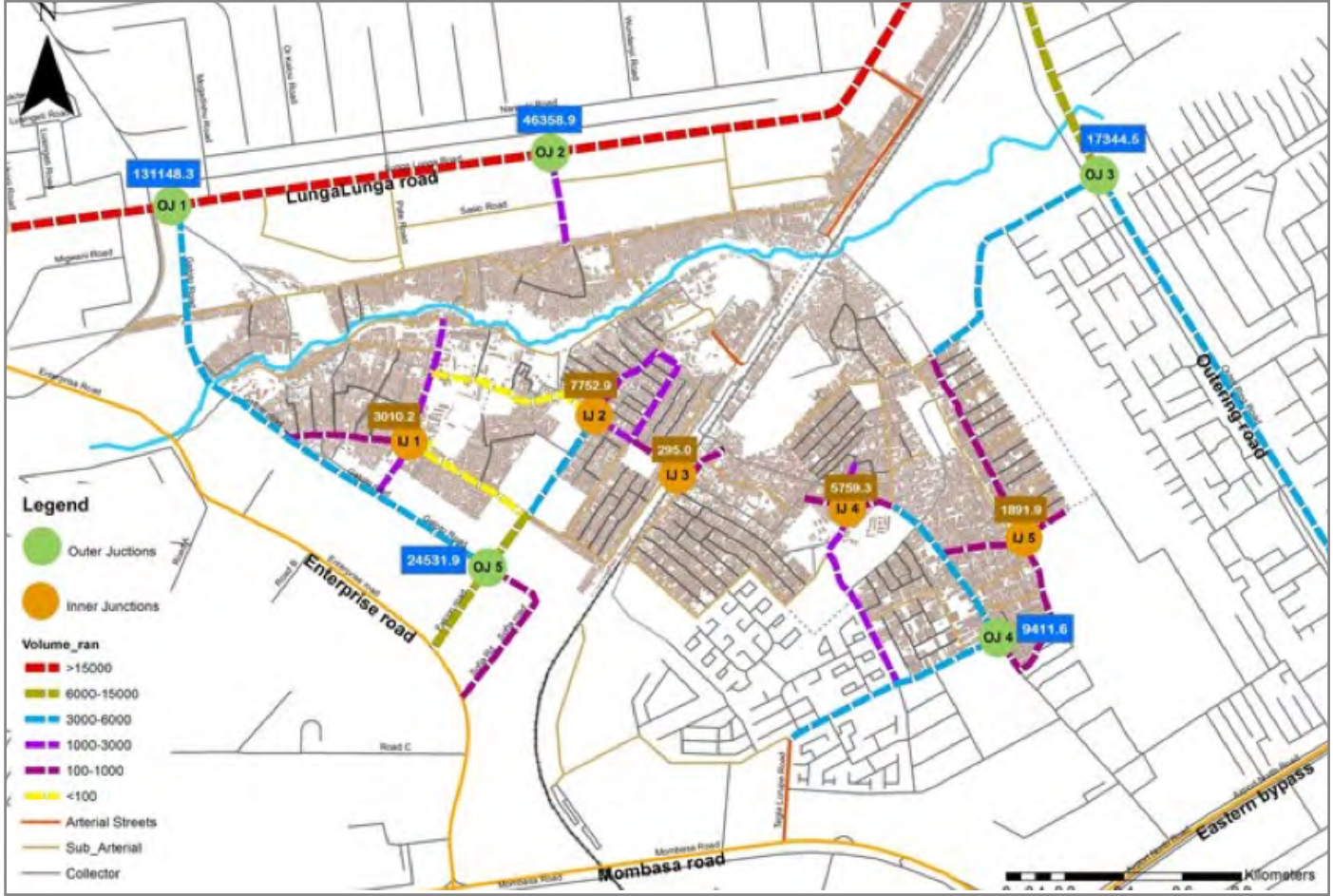


During this year, the coordination and community organizations have divided Mukuru into 13 segments, each composed of about 8,000 families. Within each segment the local organizing unit is the 'cells' of 10 households which are then aggregated to 'clusters' of about 100 households. This was done to ensure that true community engagement and planning could take place beginning from the household level. Each consortium has committed to holding three consultations in each of the 13 segments, all of which are coordinated through one of the consortium teams. This helps to ensure that the vast reserves of community knowledge inform the planning process and that the proposed solutions meet the needs of Mukuru's residents.



The SPA project has been a rare, precedent-setting opportunity for participatory upgrading partnerships at scale. It is a prime example of what SDI's Theory of Change looks like in reality, using community-driven data, identifying the challenges of slums and using a multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral approach to find solutions that in a new way creates settlement and city change. Together the community, the consortiums of over 37 organizations, and all of the county's departments mobilize resources and plan for greater impact. At the settlement level, the SPA has the potential to transform the lives of its residents by improving public health and safety and become an integrated and resilient neighbourhood. At the city level, it has the potential to create the critical institutional frameworks required to achieve inclusive slum upgrading at scale in Nairobi, through institutionalizing the collaboration between the urban poor and the government and showcase pro-poor data-driven development.

As a flagship project, Mukuru SPA has already gained attention and is at the centre of learning on community engagement, large scale integrated development projects, and influencing both government and multi-lateral stakeholders. A series of exchanges have begun between Vusi and Mukuru and have been supported by the Indian Alliance who has vast experience in large scale housing projects. In the coming year SDI seeks to deepen support to these area based projects by leveraging strong technical skills across the network to support emerging large scale infrastructure projects such as the Kampala-Jinja Expressway project.



Planning Mukuru. Image: SDI Kenya.

**Read and watch more**

- Mukuru Special Planning Area: <https://www.muungano.net/mukuru-spa>
- A Special Approach to Slum Upgrading (IIED): <https://www.iied.org/special-approach-slum-upgrading-special-planning-area-mukuru-nairobi>
- Mukuru SPA Situational Analysis Phase 2 Report: Mukuru Kwa Njenga, Kwa Reuben & Viwandani: <http://bit.ly/2I6yGw9>
- South African community leader Thozama Nomnga speaks about Vusi Nsuntsha project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RnXklU631h8>



# Global Change Pathway

- a. Network governance by and for communities
- b. Global Campaigns
- c. Influence global decision making
- d. Climate finance for those who need it most

SDI has identified two strategic change outcomes under our global change pathway to impact. These include 1) global urban decision-making is slum-friendly as a result of collaboration with the urban poor; 2) global public sentiment supports slum friendly cities; and 3) greater global investment in pro-poor urban development.

In this section, we will use a series of “Significant Change Stories” that draw on projects, partnerships, and exchanges from over the course of the last year to illustrate progress towards these desired outcomes. In addition, we summarize our vision of “what success looks like” when these outcomes are achieved.

## What success looks like when settlement level outcomes are achieved

Global networks of the urban poor have the social, human, and political capital to catalyse a paradigm shift in the global urban architecture. The urban poor, organised and networked at the global scale, co-determine global urban policy through institutionalized inclusion in urban development platforms. Resulting implementation plans and practice are inclusive, implementable, and participatory and deliver long-term sustainable improvements to the lives of the urban poor. Additionally, the general public acquires new knowledge and experience, changes attitudes, and promotes civic engagement.

Transparent and accountable financing mechanisms enable effective implementation plans that directly benefit the urban poor. Global urban decision makers commit to restructure existing finance flows to increase access to state grants and subsidies that improve lives of the urban poor. At the same time, global networks of the urban poor work alongside urban decision makers to co-produce new innovative pro-poor finance mechanisms, which may include impact investment opportunities, program related investments, mission related investments, and new innovation challenge funds driven by the poor. Additionally, global urban poor networks successfully institutionalize recognition of the validity and strength of informal financial assets and savings and loans systems.



SDI Urban Poverty Fighter campaign in Stockholm bus stop

# Significant Change Stories

- a. Network governance by and for communities
- b. Global Campaigns
- c. Influence global decision making
- d. Climate finance for those who need it most

## a. Network governance by and for communities



The SDI network’s driving force is a slum dweller movement spanning over 30 countries. This self-organised movement is rooted in the local struggles of slum dwellers and united by a shared understanding of the forces that exclude over a billion slum dwellers globally. The SDI network brings together professional support to this movement, but it is clear that this is intended to augment the investment made in local communities. For the movement to remain rooted in local knowledge, community consensus, and poor people’s priorities, SDI must invest in spaces for collective analysis, strategizing, organizing, mobilizing, consensus-building, and governance. Over the last year, investments have been made in national, regional, and transnational governance spaces as well spaces for joint planning by Secretariat and the federation Management Committee.

As a network guided by a slum dweller social movement, it is critical that organizational management and organizational strengthening investments build the capacities of community leaders and the professional support infrastructure in interdependent ways. Over the past year, SDI federations across the network have deepened their understanding of the roles and responsibilities of federations’ Regional Hub meetings to set the agenda for the annual Council of Federation meetings – SDI’s primary decision-making body that meets annually to review the year’s successes, challenges, and lessons learned and review and set the priorities and agenda for the coming year’s programmes.



As Rose Molokoane, SDI Management Committee member reflects, Regional Hub meetings used to be a space mainly focused on internal federation issues rather than a space to critically engage with how their work was contributing (or not) to the larger objectives of SDI’s work. She reflects that in the past year, Regional Hub meetings have shifted focus. Federations have begun to look beyond SDI’s activities and outputs, such as numbers of savings groups, settlements profiled, or MOUs signed, to a focus on how the federation’s work is impacting their communities and their lives.

In the last Southern Africa Regional Hub meeting, held in early 2019, the federations used SDI’s 2018 - 2022 Strategic Plan to frame discussions and monitor and evaluate the impact of their work. This demonstrates a real shift in the federations’ understanding of their work’s objectives and an increased capacity to lead their communities in substantive discussions that translate the priorities, successes, and challenges on the ground into the network’s agenda for the year.

Joseph Muturi, SDI Management Committee member from Kenya, reflect that East Africa Hub meetings have gone from being “a club for leaders to meet and present numbers” to a capacity building space for new leaders and a space for peer accountability by and for the federations themselves. He reflects that more effective use of the Regional Hub space has meant that requests for exchanges, projects, capacity building and support, has been devolved from the Secretariat down to the Hub level. Leaders are able to articulate their priorities so that work is determined and driven from the ground up. In this way, support can also be called upon from across the network – drawing on capacity from peers in other affiliates rather than relying solely on the Secretariat’s limited capacity.



SDI Board

At this year’s Board and Council meeting, held in January 2019 in Cape Town, South Africa, representatives from Regional Hub meetings were present, and offered feedback on from their regional meetings, including recommendations to Council on issues ranging from integration of youth into federation activities, strategies to improve communication between affiliates in order to increase knowledge-sharing opportunities, requests for support with the development of partnerships with key international stakeholders relevant to activities in their region, specific capacity building requests, and strategies for how to improve the strategic value of Regional Hub meetings. As Joseph Muturi says, “Now we don’t present numbers. We deal with real live issues that are happening in our respective countries. If you look at threats of eviction in Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Kenya – that also becomes a Board and Council issue. In this way, the Hubs are setting the agenda in terms of key challenges, key priorities, and key areas to look at.”

This year, representatives at the Council reinforced the critical role of the Council of Federations within the architecture of SDI as the network’s key decision-making and governing body, with 2/3 of council members being slum dweller leaders, the majority of whom are women. It is the responsibility of the Council to consolidate recommendations and reports emerging from the Regional Hubs for presentation to the SDI Board, who approves and actions these recommendations through the Secretariat and SDI Management Committee (MC). In addition, it is the responsibility of the Council to monitor the rotation of Board members, ensuring transparency and accountability at this level.

The Council also reviewed membership of both the SDI Board and MC, suggesting rotation of members for each body. These were approved and mplemented. In keeping with SDI’s aim to mentor second-tier leadership and integrate younger generations into the fabric of the network, the list incoming Board and MC members is comprised of mostly young federation members and support professionals, most of whom are women.

Read and watch more

- New SDI Board is approved at SDI Board and Council meeting: <https://www.facebook.com/sdinet/posts/10156879222423688>

## b. Global Campaigns

### Know Your City Campaign

Over the past year, SDI took steps to expand its successful and dynamic KYC campaign into Latin America and throughout Asia. SDI has been trying to make in-roads in these regions for the better part of a decade and has faced continued challenges in this regard. However, this year saw these efforts finally bear significant fruit through the partnered implementation of KYC data collection exercises in eight countries in Latin America and five in Asia.

In Latin America, small support grants were issued to a number of organizations for implementation of community-driven data exercises in identified informal settlements in Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru, Mexico, and Paraguay – widening the net of urban stakeholders engaging with SDI’s KYC tools and methodologies. In October 2018, these groups came together in Lima, Peru for the inaugural KYC learning exchange, where groups learned from African SDI delegates about SDI’s governance, tools, and methodologies. Participants were able to build a solid basis for further collaboration in the region, affirming their interest in strengthening peer learning and experiential exchanges with the SDI network. Participants discussed what makes SDI ‘different and attractive’ in its approach to addressing urban poverty, including:

- SDI’s practical approach, with the entry points into community organizing being rooted in concrete actions and practical tools such as data collection and daily savings, as opposed to a political or institutionalized network.
- SDI’s bottom-up approach, whereby priorities are determined based on demand from the communities themselves.
- There is huge potential for intercontinental peer learning through engagement with and in the SDI network. The size, scope, and reputation of the SDI network give credibility and leverage to local struggles.

In the Asia hub, great strides were made on renewed commitments to explore links between SDI and its longstanding partner, Asian Coalition for Housing Rights (ACHR), through the KYC campaign. Over the past year, settlement profiling and boundary mapping exercises have been successfully completed in over 120 settlements across Philippines, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Myanmar, and Cambodia. In addition to this, training workshops were conducted to support the building of tools for citywide information collection and preparation of GIS maps and settlement profiling questionnaires in all five countries, ensuring that data collection activities are contextualized within the larger context of SDI’s objectives for pro-poor city transformation.

In addition to the expansion of the KYC Campaign, SDI has taken strides to support the KYC initiative to reach its largely unmet potential to challenge dominant proprietary data systems built to exclude the urban poor majority from understanding or participating in city decision-making. SDI began to take steps to improve the usability of the KYC platform with the development of the first iteration of sdinet.io, our own in-house platform for slum profiling data, and through various explorations of federation leadership and professional support staff needs and priorities around data analysis and visualisation.

In addition, SDI has begun to work with key partners at the global level to produce evidence for slum upgrading as a key strategy for building resilience, equity, and climate change adaptation in cities and to demonstrate the inverse relationship between evictions and positive city objectives that are intended to influence investment decisions.

Over the past year, SDI has undertaken a number of activities towards this end. In particular, we have focused efforts on 1) scaling citywide profiling and refining metrics for resilience and climate change adaptation in partnership with city governments; 2) creation of new partnerships with city and national governments for use and influence of data and partnerships under KYC; and 3) peer-to-peer exchanges (between communities and government partners) linked to projects and programs that exhibit potential for implementing SDI’s vision. Taken together, these activities have supported SDI’s federations to build robust evidence bases through mapping and profiling of informal settlements that continues to inform planning, partnership, and investment at settlement and city level.



Know Your City campaign expands to Latin America





### The SDI Stockholm Sessions

In May 2018 SDI delegates from across the network travelled to Stockholm, Sweden for a week of seminars, workshops, and partnership meetings with key urban decision makers from across the urban development sector. The aim of this week, named the SDI Stockholm Sessions, was to promote a broader understanding of urban poverty and informality, specifically focusing on why these issues are in fact global concerns that affect urban residents the world over, including in European cities, and how joint actions from different sectors are required in order to ensure a more inclusive and resilient urban future for us all.

One of the critical aspects of the SDI Stockholm Sessions were the various opportunities to engage with current and potential partners and donors. Throughout the week, the SDI delegation had the opportunity to meet with Swedish parliamentarians, the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR), SKL International, and SABO (the Swedish Association of Public Housing Companies).



First Lady of Namibia Monica Geingos and Rose Molokoane at the SDI Board of Governors meeting in Stockholm.

A key event of the week was the SDI Joint Partner Consultation, hosted by SDI and Sida at Sida's offices. Since the aim of the SDI Stockholm Sessions overall was to attract new partners, greater awareness, and new income streams, it made sense to include the annual gathering of SDI's donor partners during the course of events.

For the first time, the donor meeting was broadened to include a much wider variety of SDI's partners, including current and potential donor partners as well as implementing partners, allied grassroots networks, and research institutes working with SDI affiliates on the ground. The delegation from SDI was also larger and more diverse than at previous donor meetings, allowing for in depth first-hand accounts of the work being done on the ground and the impact felt by local communities.

The week's events, offered an important opportunity to present the results of Swedish development cooperation to parliamentarians, politicians, Sida colleagues, other institutions, and the public. The donor meeting, together with workshops held on climate financing and anti-corruption, were good opportunities to engage concretely in areas aligned to Swedish development priorities.

From Sweden, some of the SDI delegates flew on to Amsterdam, where they had meetings with various Dutch engineering and infrastructure companies, as well as potential donor partners such as the National Postcode Lottery. These engagements built a foundation for potential partnerships that will continue to be explored at the next SDI Week to be held in Amsterdam in October 2019.



## Urban Poverty Fighter Campaign

The 2018 SDI Stockholm Session mentioned above was co-hosted by one of SDI's longest standing donor partners, Swedish Sida, and served as an opportunity to reflect on and share experiences from Sweden's decades-long partnership with SDI, and to communicate these to the Swedish public and policy-makers. To reach these objectives, SDI officially launched our "Urban Poverty Fighter" campaign with a widespread campaign featuring posters displayed in Stockholm's metro and on the city's streets.

This was combined with a series of breakfast seminars that were open to the public, aiming to increase awareness of SDI with the Swedish public and attract attention from prospective partners from civil society, academia, government, and the private sector.

Leading on from the SDI Stockholm Sessions, SDI has continued to work hard to implement the branding developed as part of the Urban Poverty Fighter campaign throughout the organization. This includes alignment with some of SDI's sub-brands, such as the well-known KYC campaign, KYC TV, Urban Poor Fund International, and even some of our affiliate organizations who have begun to adopt some of the branding elements. While this may seem periphery to the core of SDI's work, this type of branding work serves to create a cohesive identity for SDI and its affiliated organizations, making it significantly easier for new partners to get a clear picture of the breadth of SDI's work and influence.

While the Urban Poverty Fighter campaign has only raised about USD 2,800 to date, it has begun to build a steady donor base that we anticipate will continue to grow as we expand the SDI Week model to a new city each year, starting with Amsterdam in October 2019. In this way, SDI hopes to create its own key event on the international urban development calendar that is organised for and by the urban poor, with their voices positioned squarely at the centre.



SDI posters in Stockholm bus stations and on the metro





# c. Influencing global decision-making

At the close of SDI's last reporting and strategic planning period, we noted significant achievements towards our objective to ensure that the voice of the urban poor is heard and taken seriously in global urban development policy debates and decision-making processes. SDI is now a critical actor in global urban development debates and decision-making processes, holding leadership positions in civil society engagement platforms and serving on advisory committees and boards in some of the sector's leading agencies and organizations. In 2018, SDI noted that our next challenges would be to make more substantive demands in the spaces where we have become a household name and to broaden our reach into new sectors in the development world and beyond, specifically noting the private sector (impact investment) and the climate sector as areas of growth.

Over the past year, SDI has made great strides in its efforts to use our tested methodologies to effect change. Capacity building and mentorship of community leaders and professional support staff has been undertaken, with an increasing number of leaders and support staff representing SDI on the global stage.

Following on from SDI's successful engagements at World Urban Forum 9, where SDI was asked to represent the grassroots constituency on the WUF9 Advisory Committee, SDI has to deepened existing relationships towards policy influence and been asked to serve on newly established platforms engaged in some of the key areas of interest identified last year. SDI now holds positions on a number of advisory and decision-making bodies playing influential policy-setting roles on the global stage.

## • UN Habitat Climate Change Task Force.

SDI has taken a key role in UN Habitat's 'Building the Climate Resilience of the Urban Poor' initiative, assuming the role of working group co-anchor on three out of six working groups, including 'Data and mapping,' 'Climate adaptation in vulnerable communities,' and 'Advocacy and mobilization of support.' SDI's participation in these working groups, and in the initiative overall, will support the production of pro-poor policies, plans and research that translate into direct impact on local processes at the city and settlement level.

## • Global Commission on Adaptation.

The Commission, which is led by former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, Bill Gates, and CEO of the World Bank Kristalina Georgieva, seeks to accelerate adaptation action and support by elevating political visibility of adaptation and focusing on concrete solutions. Following the appointment of Sheela Patel, chair of the SDI Board, to serve as a Commissioner, SDI has taken up a key role in the cities and local actions track of the Commission, playing an influential role in creating connections between city and local governments and the communities they serve, thereby reinforcing the prioritization of partnerships that resource local efforts to implement slum upgrading interventions.

## • UN Habitat Global Land Tools Network (GLTN).

This year Sarah Nandudu, incoming co-chair of SDI's Board, was elected to serve as Co-Lead of GLTN's Urban Cluster. SDI has a longstanding relationship with UN Habitat's GLTN. Many of SDI's affiliates have had experiences utilizing GLTN's Social Tenure Domain Model as a means of working together with their local governments towards attaining security of tenure for their membership and beyond. For example, this year SDI's Uganda federation expanded on previous work done with the Mbale Municipality to continue to bring Uganda's urban poor into land tenure debates. Using STDm, they are able to incorporate different layers of land rights into land use records. This allows for a more accurate representation of informal settlements in land use records and in subsequent city development plans. SDI's objective is that, with the election of Sarah Nandudu to the role of Urban Cluster co-lead, we can continue to institutionalise spaces for grassroots voices within the global urban development architecture in order to ensure the prioritization of their needs and priorities in these global processes.

## • New Climate Economy.

Sheela Patel also sits on the Board of Advisors to the New Climate Economy, a major international initiative that examines how countries can achieve economic growth while dealing with the risks posed by climate change. Sheela has used her role to influence initiative's advice to high-ranking government officials and finance ministers on issues related to urban informality, advocating for the inclusion of organised communities of the urban poor in climate change financing, partnerships, and local city development.

## • Mukuru Spatial Planning Area (SPA).

The Mukuru Spatial Planning Area in Nairobi, Kenya is developing an innovative bottom-up, multi-stakeholder, spatial planning methodology for large informal settlements. This ground-breaking citywide settlement planning initiative represents an evolved approach that goes beyond the county government's planning department to incorporate all departments of the county, as well as a multidisciplinary consortia of non-state actors ranging from academia to non-government organizations to community based organizations such as the federation.



Sarah Nandudu, SDI Board Co-Chair, Uganda

In addition to the above, SDI continued to work with European partners such as Duurzaamheid and Human Cities Coalition to influence private sector investment in cities of the Global South, particularly in the form of large infrastructure projects that historically have served to dislocate large populations of urban poor residents in the name of development and growth. SDI has also continued to work jointly with various international partners to institutionalize partnerships between federations and their city governments. Work with Cities Alliance on country programmes in Uganda, Ghana, and Liberia has ensured that federation work is increasingly embedded into city development frameworks. In addition, partnerships with C40 Cities and 100 Resilient Cities have continued to link city governments and their resilience strategies to federations in order to ensure that needs and priorities of these most vulnerable communities are incorporated and even form the foundation for city's resilience planning.

## Read and watch more

- Road map to attaining security of tenure in Kampala through implementing social tenure domain model (video): <https://youtu.be/8Tum4OgM8tU>
- Sarah Nandudu speaks at GLTN Partners Meeting in Nairobi: <https://www.facebook.com/sdinet/posts/10156251811443688>
- Sheela Patel speaks on UN Habitat panel at COP24: <https://www.facebook.com/sdinet/posts/10156796499238688>



## d. Climate finance for those who need it most

“Anytime it rains there’s a loss in property and lives.”

Federation member, Ghana

SDI’s KYC data paints a dire picture of the climate-related challenges communities across the network face. More than half of the profiled settlements in Uganda experience flooding more than 10 times a year. In Kenya, 136 out of 151 settlements profiled are experiencing natural disasters attributed to climate change. Impacts are amplified by settlement conditions – and worsened even further as firefighters and ambulances struggle to reach people in need. Settlement profiles in Liberia identify flooding as the main challenge, especially in West Point “where the water is everywhere,” and we see cascading risks on the community’s health, such as water-borne diseases due to little to no solid waste management services in settlements.



Profiling and mapping in Monrovia, Liberia

Over the past year, SDI’s efforts to improve the situation have been on multiple levels: policy and practice, accreditation process of the Green Climate Fund, and entering partnerships to access climate finance for large scale resilience project. We have also piloted a small scale resilience project in Malawi to demonstrate the potential of community-driven resilience project with greater access to climate finance.

### Accreditation for the Green Climate Fund

SDI’s preparation to submit an accreditation application for the Green Climate Fund started years back with the organization’s various efforts at institutional strengthening. At first the possibility of accreditation for these type of funds seemed distant and the barrier high as requirements are not designed for organizations like SDI that operate largely in the informal sphere. It has been critical for SDI not to conform to something that would jeopardize the effective way we work, but rather to open a dialogue, explaining the rationale behind SDI’s specific practices and systems. We are confident that we will finalize our application for accreditation to access readiness funding by October 2019.

### Entering partnerships to increase access to climate finance

Whilst SDI is exploring several avenues of partnerships that could lead to climate finance, two partnerships in particular have been prioritized. The first is UN Habitat’s initiative Building the Climate Resilience of the Urban Poor, which will seek funding at the 2019 Climate Summit in September to coordinate and deliver transformative projects. Here SDI is partnering with UN Habitat, University of Twente, IIED, Cities Alliance, and 100RC among others. The second opportunity is with the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), from which SDI secured funding through the ARISE project during 2018. The proposal, led by IIED, will look at the multi-hazard and systemic risks facing settlements in West Africa. The project will include settlement-based research as a basis to seek climate finance, and will commit funds to resilience projects in these settlements.

### Demonstrating what localized climate resilience projects could look like:

A case study from the Malawi affiliate

The affiliate in Malawi has regularly supported communities in post-disaster rehabilitation. In an effort to be proactive rather than reactive, the Malawian affiliate is implementing a resilience project to address some of these challenges. The project aims to build community-driven disaster resilience in seven of the affiliate’s the most disaster-prone settlements and is divided into three phases. This initial phase will build the foundation by mapping the disaster-prone areas, setting up Community Managed Funds (similar to the UPFNs) and undertake studio planning sessions, in collaboration with local universities, to design pilot projects to mitigate risks identified by the mapping exercise. These pilot projects will be implemented in the second phase, while the third phase will scale up successful projects using the Community Managed Funds that leverage funds from government and climate finance.

So far, the project has mapped all seven settlements and received a great deal of attention from government. A city council representative is included in the Project Management Team, which has provided access to internal government information such as Disaster Risk Management Plans and committees. The Ministry of Gender and Child Welfare has included the Malawi Alliance in the Disaster Risk Cluster, which is responsible for disaster response actions and building community resilience. The Department of Housing allocated time for the Disaster Risk Management desk officer to support the project with training, particularly related to resilient construction methods, as well as with posters (of the value of USD 2,800) on resilient construction methods for awareness raising in the targeted settlements.



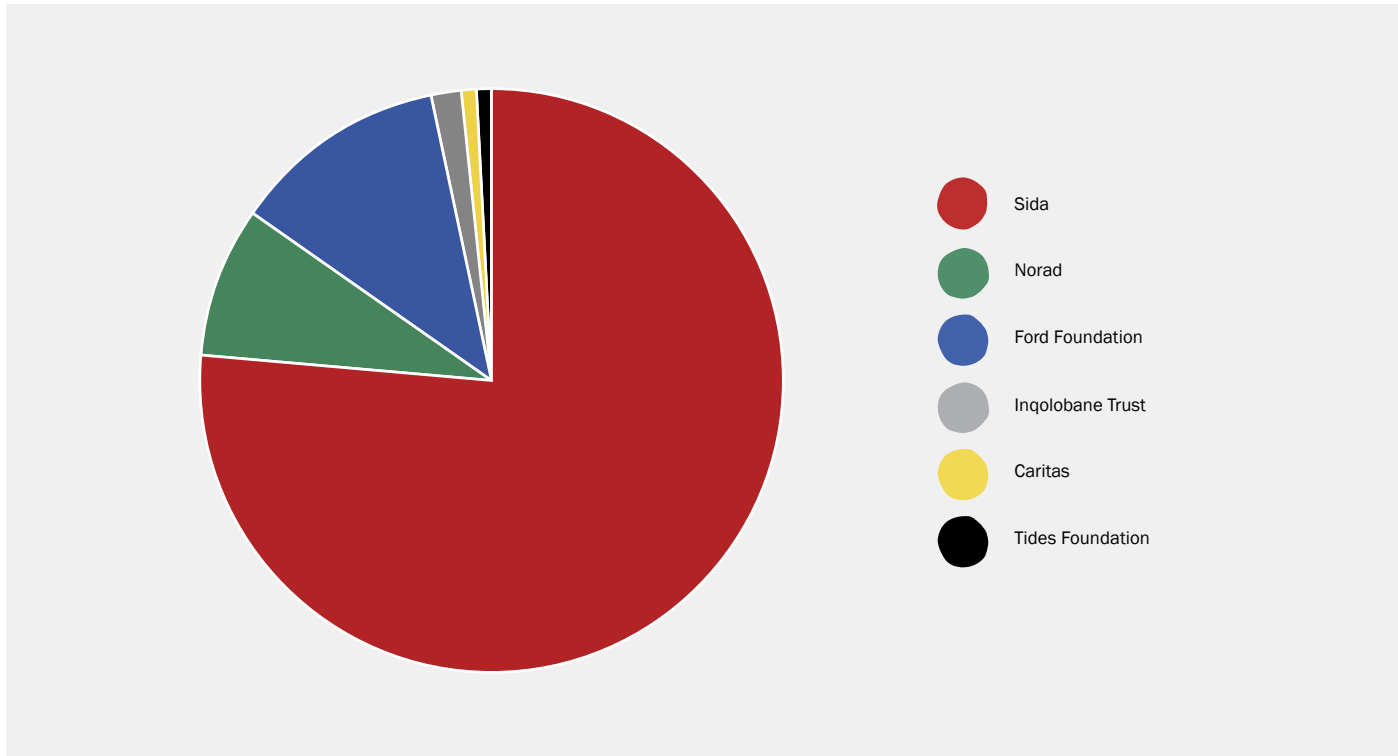
### Read and watch more

- SDI & Climate finance: Getting climate finance to the local level, collaboration with IIED Climate <https://www.iied.org/delivering-climate-finance-local-level-gungano-urban-poor-fund>
- Transforming aid for urban areas: <https://www.iied.org/transforming-aid-for-urban-areas>



# SDI Financial Summary

Donor	Amount (USD)
Sida	5,121,640.00
Norad	557,579.00
Ford Foundation	808,555.00
Inqolobane Trust	97,781.00
Caritas	73,318.00
Tides Foundation	40,000.00
TOTAL	6,738,873.00



# Our Partners







[www.sdinet.org](http://www.sdinet.org)