



9th Asia-Pacific Housing Forum

Enabling sustainable and affordable housing in informal settlements

Event report



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Imagine a world where everyone has a decent place to live. For more than 240 delegates from 32 countries who convened at the ninth Asia-Pacific Housing Forum in October 2023, they did more than that. Delegates from the public, private and people sectors discussed, collaborated and innovated to enable sustainable and affordable housing in informal settlements at the conference in Suwon City, South Korea.

Under four key tracks, delegates tackled critical issues: ensuring adequate housing; navigating climate change's impact; securing financing; and confronting the ever-rising challenges in housing. The ninth Asia-Pacific Housing Forum was organized by Habitat for Humanity in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

In the lead-up to the main conference, local housing forums were held in Nepal, Tonga, Indonesia, Fiji, Hong Kong, Thailand, and the Philippines.

The message was clear: secure, affordable housing opens the door to economic growth, fosters resilience, and lays the foundation for a sustainable future. Discussions centered on innovative solutions for climate-resilient, low-cost housing, and recognizing the power of appropriate technology and materials.

Luis Noda, Habitat for Humanity's Asia-Pacific vice president, highlighted the urgency of having affordable and inclusive housing that can adapt to the socio-economic and climate challenges the region is facing. Keynote speeches by prominent figures like Jonathan Reckford, CEO of Habitat for Humanity International, affirmed the importance of collaboration. The Innovation Awards served as a testament to the region's ingenuity, recognizing creative solutions that are changing lives.

The ninth Asia-Pacific Housing Forum was a collective commitment to building a future where everyone has a safe and secure place to call home.

ABOUT THE 9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

The Asia-Pacific Housing Forum is part of a global series organized by Habitat for Humanity in collaboration with partner organizations in different regions of the world. This year's Forum took place in Suwon, South Korea from October 26-27 under the theme "Enabling sustainable and affordable housing in informal settlements."



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES



The Asia-Pacific Housing Forum plays a catalytic role in engaging practitioners, policymakers and stakeholders to provide access to safe, sustainable housing solutions in the region.

The theme of the 2023 conference, "Enabling sustainable and affordable housing in informal settlements," highlighted the importance of creating inclusive cities that can effectively address the growing challenges faced by informal ecosystems.

During the housing forum, participants learned about successful interventions in the region that are based on evidence and promote resilient cities and communities. The event also showcased innovative housing solutions and technologies, as well as discussions on financing and advancing sustainability in the affordable housing sector.

THEME AND TRACKS

Under the following tracks, eight parallel sessions were organized.



**Adequate Housing
in Informal Settlements**



**Climate Change and
Affordable Housing**



**Financing and
Affordable Housing**



**Addressing the Rising
Challenges in Housing**



BY THE NUMBERS

247
attendees

8
moderators

32
countries

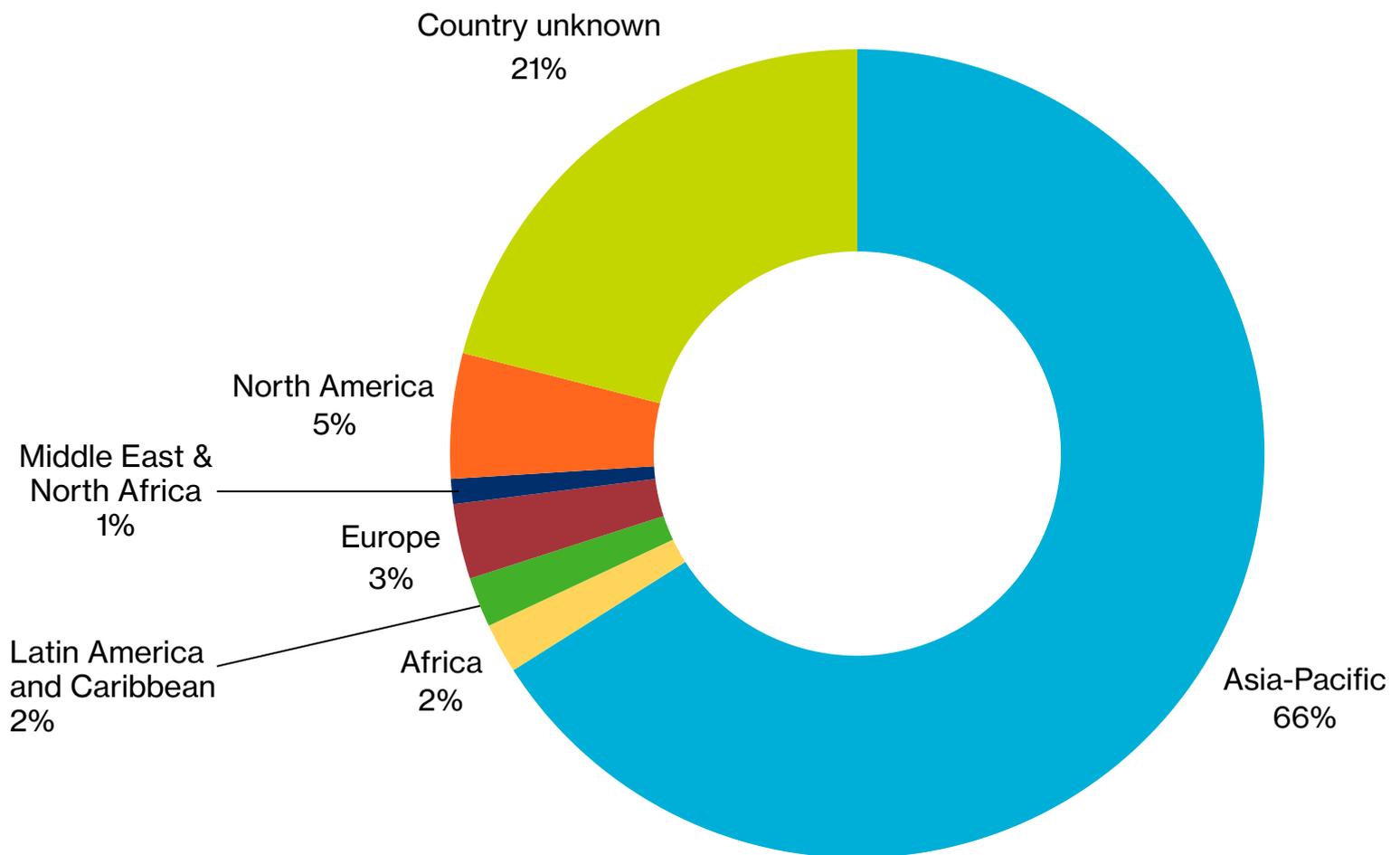
2
plenaries

48
speakers

8
track sessions

BY THE NUMBERS

Breakdown of attendees by region



BY THE NUMBERS

Breakdown of attendees by sector



BY THE NUMBERS

Performance of all posts including non-Habitat platforms with mentions of the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum:

Social media



Mainstream and online media



BY THE NUMBERS

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICITY



The 9th Asia-Pacific Housing Forum aimed to:

- Generate awareness of the importance of housing as a driver of inclusive economic growth, resilience and sustainability for communities, particularly in slums and informal settlements.
- Build up the Forum as a credible sector-wide platform for collaboration among organizations with the capacity to impact and scale up the low-cost, affordable housing sector in the Asia-Pacific region.
- Influence key stakeholders and housing actors to prioritize and invest in sustainable housing solutions in the region.

FORUM IN NUMBERS

HOUSING FORUM: MARKETING OUTCOMES

Overall, we achieved many of our goals for APHF9's marketing and communication efforts, especially in growing our engaged audiences, gaining a strong cohort of applications for the Innovation Awards and Youth Solutions Micro-Grant, as well as reaching our target audiences across digital platforms

4,467

newsletter
subscribers

100

Innovation Awards
applications

10

Youth Solutions
Micro-Grant
applications

1M

people reached via
APHF9-related
content

848,131

reach from
advertising
campaigns alone

42,635

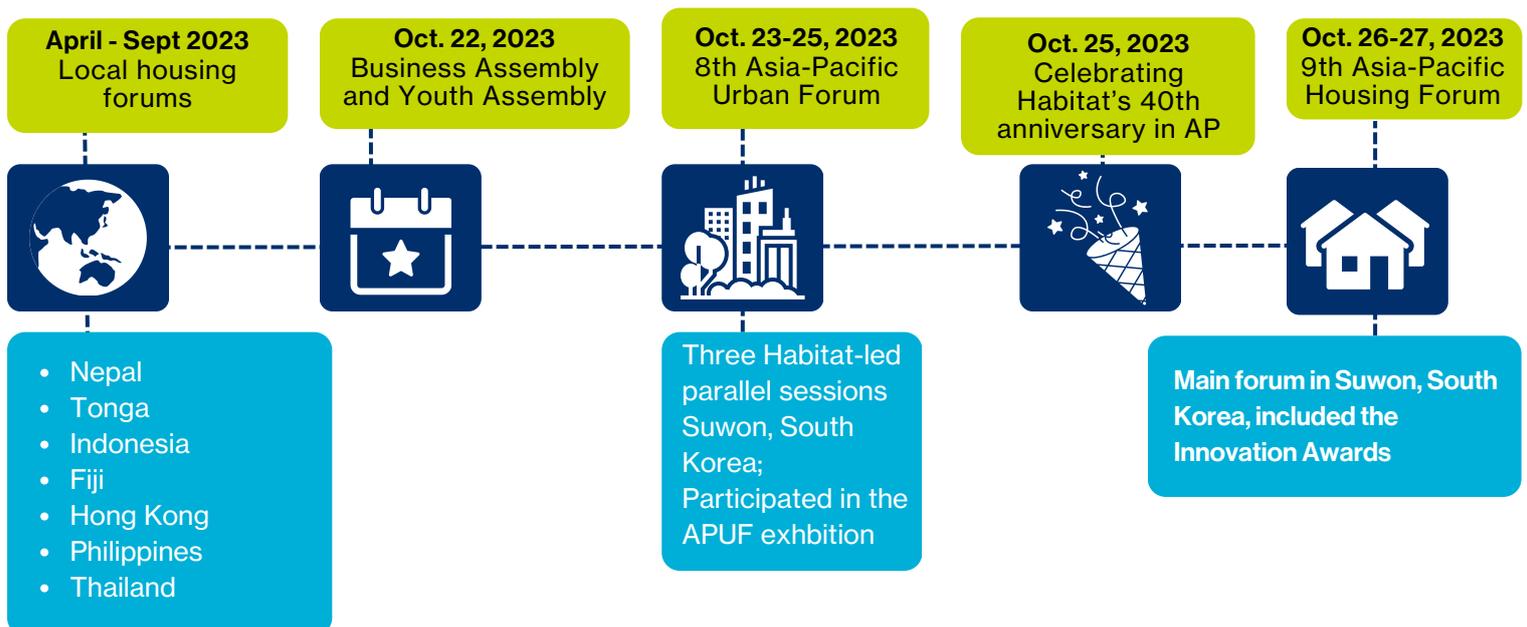
reach from APHF9
website

LEAD-UP TO THE MAIN FORUM

In the months prior to the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum, several Habitat entities in the region organized local conferences with the aim of engaging with communities, and key stakeholders from public and private sectors, academia, and international and local organizations to discuss and find solutions to local and regional housing challenges.

We also supported the ESCAP's 8th Asia-Pacific Urban Forum under the theme "Reforging post-pandemic pathways to sustainable urban development in Asia and the Pacific." The overarching objective of APUF-8 is to accelerate the implementation of sustainable urban development to attain the Sustainable Development Goals in the Asia-Pacific region.

Timeline for the 9th Asia-Pacific Housing Forum



LEAD-UP TO THE MAIN FORUM

Local Housing Forums in 2023

- Nepal Shelter, Housing, and Settlements Forum 2023, April 25-26
- Tonga Housing Forum, May 17
- Indonesia Housing Forum, August 30



Nepal Shelter, Housing, and Settlements Forum



Tonga Housing Forum



Indonesia Housing Forum

LEAD-UP TO THE MAIN FORUM

Local Housing Forums in 2023

- Pacific Housing Forum, September 4
- Thailand Housing Forum, September 15
- Philippines Housing Forum, September 26
- Hong Kong Housing Forum, October 4



Pacific Housing Forum



Thailand Housing Forum



Philippines Housing Forum



Hong Kong Housing Forum

LEAD-UP TO THE MAIN FORUM

Associated events

- Business Assembly, October 22
- Youth Assembly, October 22
- APUF-8 parallel session on Reforming Policies to Improve Informal Settlements in the Post-COVID-19 Asia-Pacific , October 23
- APUF-8 parallel session on Urban Cities's Responses to Climate Challenges in Housing and Settlements, October 24
- APUF-8 parallel session on Harnessing Housing Microfinance for Sustainable Urban Development, October 25



LEAD-UP TO THE MAIN FORUM

ASSOCIATED EVENTS IN SUWON, SOUTH KOREA

Organized by Habitat for Humanity and the UN Global Compact, the Business Assembly sought to communicate the commitment of businesses towards sustainable urbanization in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

Attendees at the day-long gathering on October 22, 2023, consisted of regional corporate leaders, public sector decision-makers, entrepreneurs, environmental, social, and governance experts, sustainable urbanization practitioners, and more. The assembly's objective is to set the tone for positive and impactful discussions at the APUF-8, emphasizing the importance of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly Goal 11: Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.



2023 
**Business
Assembly**

LEAD-UP TO THE MAIN FORUM

ASSOCIATED EVENTS IN SUWON, SOUTH KOREA



2023
**Youth
Assembly**
Empower • Collaborate • Act

The Youth Assembly, convened by Habitat for Humanity in cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, or ESCAP, is a platform specifically designed to engage the youth population in shaping sustainable solutions in urban areas.

The Asia-Pacific region is home to more than half of the global youth population, or about 2 billion people. The Youth Assembly recognizes the importance of actively involving young people in addressing the impacts of urbanization.

Through the event on October 22, 2023, the youth were actively engaged and empowered to contribute to and benefit from sustainable urban development. Harnessing innovative ideas and collaboration, participants aimed to tackle the challenges and opportunities as a result of rapid urbanization in the Asia-Pacific region.

LEAD-UP TO THE MAIN FORUM

ASSOCIATED EVENTS IN SUWON, SOUTH KOREA

Eighth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum, October 23 - 25, 2023

The Asia-Pacific Urban Forum, convened by the ESCAP, serves as a forum for governments, civil society, academia, and the private sector to address urban challenges and promote sustainable development.

The eighth conference, or APUF-8, was an associated event of the ninth Asia-Pacific Housing Forum organized by Habitat for Humanity. APUF-8 focused on issues such as increasing disaster risks, environmental degradation, and inequalities across the region. Through engaging in dialogues, sharing knowledge, and fostering collaboration, participants seek to pave the way for more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable urban futures in Asia and the Pacific.



PARALLEL SESSIONS AT APUF-8

Reforming Policies to Improve Informal Settlements in the Post-COVID-19 Asia-Pacific

This parallel session on October 23, 2023, sparked the discourse on policy reforms that have emerged as a response to COVID-19, as well as the policy changes necessary to respond to the needs of informal settlements across the region. Key topics discussed included:

- Learnings from dealing with COVID-19 and the role of urban territorial planning and spatial design in improving the resilience of informal settlements against pandemics.
- The impact of improving housing conditions in informal settlements and presenting cases of policy solutions from various countries in the region around: basic services, tenure security, and climate-adapted housing technologies.
- Cases of participatory approaches in urban governance addressing the needs of informal settlements and improving resilience against disasters.

Speakers



Eliza Sthapit

Habitat for Humanity
Nepal



Clinton Moore

United Nations
ESCAP



Luis Noda

Habitat for Humanity
International



Lumanti Joshi

Lumanti Support Group for
Shelter/Asian Coalition for
Housing Rights



Ruby Haddad

Philippines Homeless
People's Federation



**Nilesh Prakash
Rajadhyaksha**

National Institute of Urban
Affairs, Government of India

PARALLEL SESSIONS AT APUF-8

Urban Cities's Responses to Climate Challenges in Housing and Settlements

Local government units, especially in cities, are at the forefront given the magnified effects of climate change on urban dwellers driven by rising population and poverty. It is also in urban areas that the potential for meaningful action exists given better capacities to implement climate policies, develop sustainable infrastructure, engage communities, and drive innovation to build resilience and mitigate the adverse effects of climate change.

The session on October 24, 2023, explored the critical importance of the role of local governance, especially urban cities' capacity in tackling climate change from the housing and settlement planning angle. It highlighted key strategies, success stories, challenges, and the transformative potential cities hold for creating climate resilience and sustainable urban communities/human settlements. The goal was to provide an avenue for leaders of local government and cities to present concrete experiences in climate change adaptation and mitigation and its linkage to minimize loss and damage after climate-related events.

Speakers



Prakash Aryal

Ministry of Urban
Development,
Government of Nepal



**Minar Thapa
Magar**

Sindh Housing
Recovery and
Reconstruction
Platform



Joseph Stables

United Nations Office
for Project Services



Puja Sawhney

Habitat for Humanity
International (moderator)

PARALLEL SESSIONS AT APUF-8

Harnessing Housing Microfinance for Sustainable Urban Development

The session on October 25, 2023, showcased the impact of collaboration and partnership among stakeholders and the potential for innovations and trendsetting in the urban housing microfinance value chain. Speakers also delved into the collaborations and partnerships that leverage microfinance institutions and local capital markets in addressing challenges related to affordable housing. It focused on:

- Experiences and best practices from various microfinance institutions.
- Analysis of current trends and opportunities in the urban housing microfinance sector, with a focus on innovative approaches.
- Challenges and potential strategies for resolution.

In the context of rapid urban growth, housing microfinance is an important financial tool to ensure sustainable and inclusive urban development. Through accessible and tailored financial solutions, low-income individuals and communities are empowered to secure affordable, safe, and resilient housing options. This addresses critical housing needs and promotes economic stability and community development and contributes to the overall resilience of urban areas.

Speakers



Roland Pearson

Habitat for Humanity's
Terwilliger Center for
Innovation in Shelter



Kartik Mehta

Pahal Financial
Services Pvt. Ltd.,
India



**Kamrul Hasan
Tarafder**

ASA Philippines
Foundation



Naeem Razwani

Habitat for Humanity's
Terwilliger Center for
Innovation in Shelter
(moderator)

9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

DAILY SUMMARIES

Day One Highlights

The first day of the 9th Asia-Pacific Housing Forum brought together experts and thought leaders to discuss critical topics that are shaping the future of housing and urban development in the region. Here's a glimpse of the key takeaways and insights:



(L-R) Luis Noda, Vice President, Asia-Pacific Habitat for Humanity International; Jae-Joon Lee, Mayor, City of Suwon; Byoung-Kwon Oh, Vice Governor, Gyeonggi Province; and Jonathan Reckford, Chief Executive Officer, Habitat for Humanity International

In the opening plenary, Dr. Renu Khosla, Director of the Centre for Urban and Regional Excellence India, highlighted the potential of integrational infrastructure as a housing catalyst and as a way to empower communities to have a sense of care and ownership of the spaces they live in. She stressed that it is more cost-effective, affordable, self-replicable, and provides a dignified experience for women.

The discussion then moved to encourage a shift towards in-situ development rather than resettlement, emphasizing the importance of balancing scale and localization in housing initiatives.

9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

DAILY SUMMARIES

Day One Highlights

Track 1a: Impacts of Upscaling Informal Settlements on Human Development

This panel focused on the societal and economic benefits of investing in informal settlements – the hidden value of informal settlements that is untapped due to lack of basic services, secure tenure, and security against climate impacts. Panel participants shared their perspectives on:

- Government-led slum upgrading.
- Private sector drivers for informal settlement investment.
- Incremental upgrading versus relocation to new settlements.
- The factors that make up a good housing condition.



“Affordable housing for informal settlers is important to build sustainable urban development.”

Norliza Hashim, chief executive, Urbanice Malaysia



Track 2a: Climate Change Adaptation on a Settlement Level

This session covered different types of improvements, including nature and ecosystem-based solutions, that can be implemented in settlements to make them more resilient to various climate hazards such as wind, flooding, and heat. Hyojung Kim, team manager at Junglim Architecture, stressed the gravity of climate change, emphasizing that even a temperature increase of 1.5 degrees Celsius is a significant concern. He warned that the resilience of the planet is at stake. In Korea, they have set ambitious goals, aiming for carbon neutrality by 2050.

Kim outlined strategies to achieve this objective by 2030, including the mandatory implementation of net-zero buildings starting from 2023-2024, with public buildings expected to follow suit by 2025. He also highlighted the concept of zero energy building, or ZEB, which involves adapting houses to be energy-neutral. Kim discussed the successful commercialization of ZEB projects and the potential for buildings to produce and distribute energy.

9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

DAILY SUMMARIES

Day One Highlights

Track 3a: Trends and Opportunities in the Housing Microfinance Space in Asia-Pacific

This session discussed the role of housing microfinance in meeting the housing needs of low-income households. It cited case studies, best practices, and opportunities and challenges in the housing microfinance industry. Key focus areas included:

- Role of capital markets is development of pro-poor mortgage and microfinance ecosystems.
- Case Studies from Habitat's interventions and technical support for the development of people centered housing microfinance products.

Without proper title documents for their land or existing home, many are ineligible for affordable mortgage solutions. As a result, it can take up to 30 years for some families to complete their home.

Discussions also revolved around the role of government intervention in creating affordable housing, emphasizing that the public sector cannot achieve it efficiently alone.



9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

DAILY SUMMARIES

Day One Highlights

“ **The public sector alone cannot efficiently address the housing deficit.** ”

Mounia Tagma, an international housing policy expert

Track 4a: Leaving No One Behind in the Digital Era

The session covered the risk of potentially exacerbating the inequity in the housing ecosystem brought about by rapid urbanization and digitization.

Digitalization – the use of automated digital technologies to collect, process, analyze, distribute, use, and sell information – is spurring fundamental change in the way housing is produced, marketed, sold, financed, managed, and lived in.

The widening digital divide where poor and low-income homes and communities have little to no access to digital solutions might accelerate and deepen if not addressed immediately in the context of rapid urbanization and digitalization in Asia-Pacific.

Curt Garrigan, ESCAP’s chief of sustainable urban development section, highlighted the growing digital divide and the need for accessible digital solutions. He stressed the importance of developing the infrastructure that supports these digital innovations. The potential of satellite technology to pinpoint pollution sources and the use of satellite imagery for post-disaster and informal settlement analysis were also discussed.

Rushil Palavajhala, co-founder and CEO of Bandhu, drew attention to the challenges faced by women and families from rural areas moving to urban environments, including the need for improved housing, economic opportunities, and social services.

Vijay Jagannathan, Secretary-General of CityNet, called for a transformation of governance through Digital 2.0, emphasizing the need for real accountability in urban development.

Dr. Renu Khosla, director of India’s Centre for Urban and Regional Excellence, expressed her desire for digital tools to empower community voices and enable them to provide solutions to their cities.

9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

DAILY SUMMARIES

Day One Highlights

Track 4b: Influencing Reduction in Housing Deficit Through Policy and System Change

The session covered promising and failed housing policy and systems changes that have emerged in and outside of Asia-Pacific since the last Asia-Pacific Housing Forum.

Johann Baar, on behalf of the Hilti Foundation, highlighted their efforts to modernize vernacular construction technology by conducting research in this field. This approach aims to bring traditional construction practices into the 21st century.

Baar further emphasized the importance of viewing housing as a comprehensive system and identifying the gaps that need to be filled. He described the foundation's role in funding and collaborating with partners to determine how these gaps can be addressed. As a private foundation, their efforts are focused on encouraging collaboration, orchestration, and the facilitation of systems where all stakeholders can work together effectively. This holistic approach is seen as essential in influencing and driving changes in housing policies and systems.

Mounia Tagma, an international housing policy expert, emphasized the need for government intervention in the housing market to produce affordable housing. She pointed out that this intervention doesn't necessarily require direct provision or supply of housing but should be a strategic involvement to ensure affordability. The public sector alone cannot efficiently address the housing deficit.

The first day of the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum was filled with thought-provoking discussions, emphasizing the need for inclusive, sustainable, and resilient housing solutions in the region.

We hope the insights from these sessions will help shape the future of housing and urban development in the region to create more sustainable and inclusive homes.



9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

DAILY SUMMARIES

The second day of the 9th Asia-Pacific Housing Forum brought together experts and thought leaders to continue conversations on critical topics that are shaping the future of housing and urban development in the region – from solutions for informal settlements to climate change adaptation and ways to expand access to affordable housing.



Through urban dialogues, we recognize the need to invest in land banking and expanding microfinance to include housing to ensure more integrated housing solutions.



*Tri Dewi Virglyante
Ministry of National Development Planning Indonesia*



9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

DAILY SUMMARIES

Day Two Highlights

Track 1b: Policy Solutions for Urban Informal Settlements

The experts in this session delved into crucial policy solutions aimed at improving living conditions in informal settlements. The challenges stemming from rapid urbanization have left governments struggling to provide adequate and affordable housing.

Sanjee Singh, representing ESCAP, emphasized the importance of including the needs of youth when addressing the challenges of informal settlements and the need for integrated housing policies that encompass various levels of governance, from local to national. She stressed the significance of a clear policy mandate at the regional level, underlining that some degree of subsidization is necessary, tailored to different income levels.

Prak Angkeara, deputy director general at the Ministry of Land Management, Urban Planning, and Construction, Cambodia, raised the pertinent question of how to make housing accessible for low-income groups, including workers and government officials. He expressed the need for guidelines on housing affordability, considering the limited income of those residing in informal settlements.

Tri Dewi Virglyante, director of Housing and Settlement at the Ministry of National Development Planning in Indonesia, recognized the importance of investing in land banking and expanding microfinance to include housing. This approach ensures more integrated and comprehensive housing solutions.

Track 2b: Affordable Green Technologies and Climate Change Adaptation on a Household Level

This breakout session focused on the role of housing in climate change adaptation and mitigation. Haryo Bektı Martoyoedo, director of Housing Finance from the Ministry of Public Works and Housing in Indonesia, highlighted the challenges of affordability and accessibility in his country.

He also acknowledged Indonesia's position as one of the top carbon-emitting countries. Finding creative financing schemes and working collaboratively with stakeholders were seen as essential to overcome affordable housing challenges.

9TH ASIA-PACIFIC HOUSING FORUM

DAILY SUMMARIES

Day Two Highlights

Track 3b: Use of Financial Technology Solutions to Expand Access to Affordable Housing

This session explored the transformative potential of financial technology solutions in expanding access to affordable housing. Roland Pearson, Habitat for Humanity's Terwilliger Center for Innovation in Shelter, noted that while technology is an enabler, its effectiveness depends on various market factors.

The second day of the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum reinforced the need for holistic policy solutions, climate-resilient housing, and innovative financial technologies to address the housing challenges in the region.



INNOVATION AWARDS



Among the highlights of the Asia-Pacific Housing Forum, the Innovation Awards aims to inspire and empower individuals, organizations, and institutions to push the boundaries of creativity and problem-solving in addressing the housing challenges faced by communities in the region.

A special award on Sustainable Consumption and Production, supported by EU SWITCH-Asia, was introduced to recognize one of the award's finalists that integrates sustainability considerations in an exemplary way.

The SCP award emphasizes the provision of products and services and enabling of lifestyles that minimize environmental impacts while maximizing social and economic benefits. These include resource efficiency and building circularity, emissions reduction / energy solutions, and creating climate resilient, sustainable cities.

WINNERS

From July 3 to August 21, 2023, the Innovation Awards team received over 100 applications originating from 22 countries across the Asia-Pacific region.

The great interest as well as the winning solutions reflect the engagement and commitment across sectors to address the pressing housing challenges in the region.



Policy: Public Sector Housing Solutions

City Government of Manila



WINNER

The Manila Housing Program encompasses housing, disaster resilience, climate adaptation, and social integration, by emphasizing mixed-income communities with amenities, preventing poverty concentration, and ensuring sustainability.



Program: Civil Society Housing Impact

Rujak Center for Urban Studies



WINNER

The program started in 2016, following the eviction of Kampung Akuarium settlement residents. Through advocacy, organizing and other tactics, its residents, together with the Rujak Center for Urban Studies, the Jakarta City Poor People's Network and the Urban Poor Consortium succeeded in pushing for the redevelopment the settlement.



Sheltech: Private Sector Technology

Bandhu



WINNER

Bandhu is an AI-driven tech platform that connects India's blue-collar workers to jobs and affordable housing. It securitizes workers' rental housing cash flows to unlock rental deposit loans and home improvement loans for low-income tenants and landlords, ultimately making the rural-to-urban migration process more equitable for 300 million Indians.

HONORABLE MENTIONS



**Policy: Public Sector
Housing Solutions**

Directorate of Housing Finance, Ministry of Public Works

Pakistan Mortgage Refinance Company

National Society for Earthquake Technology



**Program: Civil Society
Housing Impact**

Planète Enfants & Développement

Community Development Centre

Development of Humane Action Foundation



**Sheltermtech: Private
Sector Technology**

WeavInsight

ECOSTP Technologies (P) Ltd.

Zerund Manufacturing Private Ltd.



OUTCOMES

A research approach based on the mixed-methods research design was utilized. This combined quantitative methods like surveys with qualitative approaches such as desk review and in-person brief interviews during the forum's networking sessions for comprehensive data collection and analysis.

- **First survey (online, 36 respondents):**
Sought insights on the topics of (1) Relevance, (2) Effectiveness, (3) Efficiency, and (4) Future Form
- **Second survey (pen-and-paper format, 14 respondents):**
Condensed the online survey's contents into ten key questions
- **Interviews:**
Six participants were interviewed during the networking sessions

The conclusions derived from the outcome harvesting process are firmly rooted in a meticulous analysis of empirical data. It was found that the ninth Asia-Pacific Housing Forum, or APHF9, has successfully facilitated collaboration, coordination, and networking among diverse stakeholders in the region.



OUTCOMES

The growth in in-person participants, from 203 in the first forum to 2,375 in the seventh conference, highlights increasing interest and expanded networking opportunities. Tangible impacts include academic research partnerships, youth-led approaches leading to organizational partnerships, and collaborations such as NCBI with Republic Cement on affordable housing. Notably, a UN agency values the forum as a platform for evidence-based strategic partnerships with grassroots nongovernmental organizations focused on low-cost housing.

Participants in APHF9 reported a varied impact of previous editions on partnerships. While some, especially first-time attendees, found the question irrelevant, a positive trend surfaced among respondents. Many cited extensive collaborations with entities like Asian Development Bank and World Bank and donors on WASH, health, and housing finance. Several organizations noted direct benefits, such as strengthened partnerships with entities like Habitat for Humanity.

The experiences ranged from those yet to witness direct outcomes to others attributing significant partnerships and collaborations to their participation in previous conferences.



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In appreciation

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SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

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The 2023 housing forum was held in cooperation with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

We are grateful to our sponsors, contributors and supporters for the success of the ninth Asia-Pacific Housing Forum.

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Global Compact



SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Eighth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum



Luis Noda

Habitat for
Humanity
International



Sanjee Singh

Economic and
Social Commission
for Asia-Pacific



Chris Millora

Goldsmiths,
University of London



Eliza Sthapit

Habitat for
Humanity Nepal



**Zylla
Kamarudzaman**
Earoph



Dr. Renu Khosla

Centre for Urban
and Regional
Excellence



Brenda Perez

Habitat for
Humanity
International



Harlan Stone

HMTX Industries

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Eighth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum



Anne Myers

Habitat for
Humanity
International



Ji Yun Gim

Green Environment
Youth Korea



**Piyachart "Arm"
Isarabhakdee**

BRANDi and
Companies



Simiao You

UN Global Compact



Michael Hilti

Hilti Group



Justin Jebakumar

Habitat for
Humanity India



Johann Baar

Hilti Foundation



Angelo Tan

Green EDGE Buildings
International Finance
Corporation

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Eighth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum



Jitendra Balani

Habitat for Humanity's
Terwilliger Center for
Innovation in Shelter



Tina Jabeen

Bangladesh
Women Investors
Network / Startup
Bangladesh Ltd.



Koh How Tze

BSYS Solution



Almas Shakoor

Capacity Building
Diversity Consulting
Private Limited



Lumanti Joshi

Lumanti Support
Group for Shelter/
Asian Coalition for
Housing Rights



Clinton Moore

Economic and
Social Commission
for Asia and
the Pacific



**Nilesh Prakash
Rajadhyaksha**

National Institute of
Urban Affairs



Seunghwan Oh

Habitat for
Humanity Korea

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Eighth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum



Prakash Aryal

Government of
Nepal



Joseph Stables

United Nations
Office for Project
Services



Minar Thapa Magar

Sindh Housing
Recovery and
Reconstruction
Platform



Roland Pearson

Habitat for
Humanity's
Terwilliger Center for
Innovation in Shelter



Kartik Mehta

Pahal Financial
Services Pvt. Ltd.,
India



**Kamrul
Hasan Tarafder**

ASA Philippines
Foundation



Juliet Rosette

Habitat for
Humanity
Bangladesh



Florian Beranek

Central and Eastern
European Chamber
of Commerce in
Vietnam

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Eighth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum



Clarence Almoite

Asia-Pacific Youth
Environment
Network



Puja Sawhney

Habitat for
Humanity
International



Farzana Bijur

Habitat for
Humanity
International



Jo Hayes

Habitat for
Humanity Hong
Kong



Masua Mutua

Habitat for Humanity's
Terwilliger Center for
Innovation in Shelter



Rubina Adhikari

United Nations
Environment
Programme, Nepal

SPEAKERS AND MODERATORS

Ninth Asia-Pacific Housing Forum



Kwang-hoi Lee

Habitat for
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Urbanice, Malaysia

AGENDA

Eighth Asia-Pacific Urban Forum and the Ninth Asia-Pacific Housing Forum

Time	OCTOBER 22	OCTOBER 23	OCTOBER 24	OCTOBER 25	OCTOBER 26	OCTOBER 27
	APUF SIDE ASSEMBLIES Youth Assembly Business Assembly	APUF Session Multi-Solving for Sustainability: Transforming Urban Planning and Finance Partner: SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component	APUF Session: Climate Action and Resilience Urban Cities Responses to Climate Challenges in Housing and Settlements	APUF Session: Urban Finance and Technical Assistance Building Inclusive Communities: Harnessing Housing Microfinance for Sustainable Urban Development	OPENING PLENARY	Parallel Session B
					APUF Session Urban and Territorial Planning Reforming Policies to Improve Informal Settlements in the Post-COVID-19 Asia Pacific	
					APHF	
				APUF PARALLEL SESSIONS		

Time	DAY 1: OCTOBER 26, 2023	
9:00 - 10:30	Opening Plenary	
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break	
11:00 - 12:30	TRACK 1 Adequate Housing for Informal Settlements Session 1A The Hidden Value of Informal Settlements	TRACK 2 Climate Change and Affordable Housing Session 2A Climate Change Adaptation on a Settlement Level
	TRACK 3 Financing and Affordable Housing Session 3A Trends and Opportunities in Housing Microfinance Space in Asia-Pacific	TRACK 4 Addressing the Rising Challenges in Housing Session 4A Leaving No One Behind in Digital Era
12:30 - 14:00	LUNCH	
14:00 - 15:30	Innovation Awards	
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee Break	
16:30 - 17:00	Innovation Awards and Day 1 wrap-up session	

Time	DAY 2: OCTOBER 27, 2023	
9:00 - 10:30	<p>TRACK 1 Adequate Housing for Informal Settlements</p> <p>Session 1B Policy solutions for Urban Informal Settlements</p>	<p>TRACK 2 Climate Change and Affordable Housing</p> <p>Session 2B Affordable Greening Technologies and Climate Change Adaptation on a Household Level</p>
	<p>TRACK 3 Financing and Affordable Housing</p> <p>Session 3B Use of Financial Technology Solutions to Expand Access to Affordable Housing</p>	<p>TRACK 4 Addressing the Rising Challenges in Housing</p> <p>Session 4B Influencing Reduction in Housing Deficit through Policy and System Change</p>
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 - 12:30	AWARD CEREMONY / CLOSING PLENARY	



Enabling sustainable and affordable housing in informal settlements

October 26-27, 2023
Suwon, South Korea

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