Slum Dwellers International is a transnational network of community-based organizations of the urban poor in 32 countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

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1 INTRODUCTION
MISSION

Slum Dwellers International (SDI) is a transnational network of urban poor federations across the Global South. These federations comprise thousands of saving schemes networked at the settlement, city and national level to collectively drive a bottom-up change agenda for inclusive cities. Federations use tools and strategies such as daily savings, peer-to-peer exchanges, settlement profiling, enumeration and mapping to organize a critical mass of urban poor communities in cities where they work. SDI places a special focus on the role of women as key drivers of this change. The savings collectives that form the building blocks of the SDI network provide supportive spaces for women to become active local organizers and later drivers of city transformation that is rooted in gendered, local and community priorities. Achieving scale through systemic change demands organized communities co-produce city-wide change strategies for securing tenure, increasing access to basic services, housing and livelihoods with their governments and play a central role in implementation. The SDI network’s mission is to transform slums into resilient neighborhoods and inclusive cities.

FOCUS OF THE ANNUAL REPORT

This year marks the 20th anniversary of SDI. The journey from a people’s movement founded in India to the largest global movement of slum dwellers in the world has been long and the victories hard won. This annual report will document the work of this past year, while also referencing the two decades of work that brought us to this point. The struggle for secure land tenure, basic services and the ability to contribute to the local and global urban agenda is now being waged by the poorest of the poor in 32 countries.

We dedicate the report to these people. So many have committed their lives to this process and it is impossible to overstate the service they have rendered to their communities and the global struggle. As we reflect on the past 20 years we offer our gratitude and remembrance to those who have passed away during the struggle: extraordinary leaders such as Samina and Medina (founders of Mahila Milan, India), Rosemary Masimba (Zimbabwe), Rufaro Juma (Zimbabwe), Patrick Magebhula Hunsley (South Africa), Mama Iris Limakatso Namo (South Africa), Benson Osumba (Kenya), Greg van Rensburg (South Africa), Father Norberto Carcellar (Philippines). Rest in Power comrades.

In addition, we offer special thanks to the following graduate students from The New School University in New York, who enthusiastically supported compilation of content and managed the report design process as part of their International Field Program: Alexis Butts, Julia Canty, Kate Fisher, Younghyun Kim, and Erin McCarthy.
PHOTOS: CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

This year marks the 20th anniversary of SDI. Here are some photos from our journey.
TIMELINE: HOW WE GOT HERE

While SDI was formally established 20 years ago, the seeds of the transnational movement were sewn back in the 1970s. Here are a few moments from our history. The full timeline can be seen at SDI’s website.

THE SEEDS OF THE SDI NETWORK
1975 – 1985

1975 – INDIA
Formation of Indian National Slum Dwellers Federation (NSDF)

1982 – PAKISTAN
Prof Ahmed Achtar Kan starts the Orangi Pilot Project in Karachi

1985 – INDIA
Partnership formed between Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centres (SPARC) and NSDF

1986 – INDIA
Formation of Mahila Milan (Women Together) and partnership with SPARC and NSDF - the first federation / support NGO alliance

1989 – INDIA
Mahila Milan conducts first horizontal exchange, travelling the length and breadth of India

1991 – SOUTH AFRICA
A South African People’s Dialogue on Land and Shelter is held in Broederstroom. Participants agree to start a national grassroots network. South African delegation makes first exchange visit to Asia

1992 – NAMIBIA
Launch of support NGO in Namibia – Namibia Housing Action Group (NHAG)

1994 – SOUTH AFRICA
Birth of the Homeless People’s Federation and uTshani Fund – a finance facility for the South African Federation

1994 – INDIA
India makes contact with Nepal. 235 million Indians now live in cities with Dharavi classified as India’s largest slum

1995 – INDIA
First Ministerial exchange takes place. First contacts are made with Philippines

1996
Establishment of SDI Secretariat. The first meeting of the Urban Poor Development Fund. (present-day Urban Poor Fund International, or UPFI)

1999
Launch of Federations within three cities of Swaziland, Sri Lanka, and Colombia. Launch of UPFI in Zimbabwe and Namibia

2000
Signing of MOU with Cities Alliance for work in Mumbai, Durban and Manila

2000
According to the United Nations, over 5 million people live in urban slums

EMERGING TRANSCONTINENTAL MOVEMENT 1990 – 1995

1991 – SOUTH AFRICA
A South African People’s Dialogue on Land and Shelter is held in Broederstroom. Participants agree to start a national grassroots network. South African delegation makes first exchange visit to Asia

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Launch of support NGO in Namibia – Namibia Housing Action Group (NHAG)

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2000
Signing of MOU with Cities Alliance for work in Mumbai, Durban and Manila

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES AND ALLIANCES 1996 – 2000

1995 – INDIA
First Ministerial exchange takes place. First contacts are made with Philippines

1996
Establishment of SDI Secretariat. The first meeting of the Urban Poor Development Fund. (present-day Urban Poor Fund International, or UPFI)

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2000
Signing of MOU with Cities Alliance for work in Mumbai, Durban and Manila

2000
According to the United Nations, over 5 million people live in urban slums
2001 - INDIA
SPARC and NDIF drive major rehabilitation of 15,000 slum dweller families’ habitats along the railway tracks in Mumbai

2002 - UGANDA
Kenya, India, and South Africa Federations work with Uganda’s National Ministry and Kampala City Council to launch the National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda

2002 - INDONESIA
South African Federation attends Asia People’s Dialogue II and supports the start of savings groups in several cities

2005
Zimbabwe Federation secures tenure, installs infrastructure, and builds houses for 1000+ families. Zimbabwe Federation responds to large-scale government sponsored forced evictions by helping thousands return to their homes

2005 - SOUTH AFRICA
The South African federation splits. Federation of the Urban Poor (FEDUP) is formed

2006 - INDIA
India Federation expands to 70 cities. Major deals are negotiated for toilet construction with several cities

2006
SDI invited to serve on the Consultative Board of Cities Alliance. SDI formally launches UPF

2009 - GHANA
Ghanaian Federation stops eviction in Accra’s largest slum, Old Fadama

2009
SDI launches international enumeration program and links it to GIS mapping. SDI launches study on protocols for upgrading of mega slums.

2010 - INDIA
SDI President Jockin Arputham and Chair of the SDI Board Sheela Patel receive Sri Padma award from Indian Government

2010 - UGANDA
Uganda federation begins a country-wide slum transformation program in partnership with Cities Alliance and the Government of Uganda.

2010 - ZIMBABWE
Harare signs Memorandum of Understanding with the Zimbabwe Federation to profile every informal settlement in the city

2011
SDI work reaches 1 million households. SDI is involved in land incremental housing and upgrading projects over 150 cities

2012
SDI launches 30 Cities Project, undertaking large-scale citywide slum upgrading across Africa

2014
SDI and Jockin Arputham are nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize

2015
Citywide slum profiling has been undertaken in 6,720 settlements in 115 cities

2015 - SOUTH AFRICA
The SA SDI Alliance and City of Cape Town celebrate the completion of the community-driven re-blocking and upgrading project in Flamingo Crescent informal settlement

2015 - INDIA
Indian SDI Alliance facilitates improved shelter for over 100,000 households
Jockin Arputham became a community organizer in the 1960s when his settlement, Janata Colony in Mumbai, was threatened by demolition. Jockin organized the community and after a 10-year struggle, the community negotiated a relocation. The data they collected about the residents led to all getting a plot of land on which Cheetah Camp was set up. Jockin realized that slum dwellers would need to organize themselves if they wanted to stop forced evictions and influence government policies. He founded India’s National Slum Dwellers Federation in 1975 and began working with Mahila Milan and support NGO, SPARC in 1986. Together this alliance has offered city and state governments all over India partnerships for slum redevelopment. He also helped found SDI, through which federations of slum and shack dwellers in more than 30 countries support each other and learn from each other. In 2000, he received the Ramon Magsaysay Foundation Award for International Understanding and in 2011, the government of India bestowed on him its highest civilian honor, the Padma Shri Award. In 2014 he was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.
HOW HAS THE SLUM DWELLER MOVEMENT GROWN IN THE PAST 20 YEARS?

We started with a few countries. Today we have grown very big! I know when we started no one was thinking of millions of people being involved. Finally we have created a structure for this movement so that the poor from the slums are managing the SDI network themselves. This is a meaningful structure - the Council of Federations [SDI’s central governing body] elects the Board and the community-led Management Committee runs a global social movement solving the world’s problems. We do this without losing the grip on why we started.

HOW DOES SDI MAKE CHANGE?

Many many many many people want to know. Work with poorest of the poor. Do savings that women manage. Stop evictions and secure land tenure. Then do infrastructure and housing. Then comes employment and finally sustainability. We are all working together. We are building new cities where the poor are welcome.

WHERE DO WE COME FROM? WHERE ARE WE GOING?

Today we are very proud of what we have produced. People who have not known a single word of what we talk about in big meetings still go back and start something in their community. We all go back to our own realities and take responsibility. We have to keep doing this for others to take us seriously. How do we show how many we are? How many ministers and government officials do we have to go see to get where we want? I wish we put all our efforts to work for the people because there is no one to work for us. We have had a lot of ups and downs. This is gone, so many things have gone up, and others have gone down. Ministers come and go. But we are still here: still alive and making an impact in the society. I hope we strive together to move forward and forward and forward.
Sheela Patel is the Chairperson of the SDI Board of Directors. She is the founder and present Director of the Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centers (SPARC) India, which is based in Mumbai and works in partnership with the National Slum Dwellers Federation (NSDF) and Mahila Milan (a federation of savings groups formed by women slum and pavement dwellers). NSDF and Mahila Milan are two community-based organizations working on issues of land, housing and amenities for the poor in cities in India.
HOW DID SDI COME INTO BEING?

In 1988, we [the Indian Alliance] met with ACHR (Asian Coalition for Housing Rights) – a network of NGOs supporting people-driven upgrading throughout Asia. At the meeting many communities came along with the NGOs. For us it was very powerful to see the benefits of horizontal communication between ourselves as NGO leaders but more so the communities themselves. In 1991, when the Indian Alliance was invited to South Africa, the invitation was for me. When we realized there would be people from the townships, I knew it would be more powerful to send community leaders instead. We wanted the learning to take place between the community organizers, not the professionals. And so, Jockin Arputham went. This started the relationship between Indian and South African urban poor communities. It was the beginning of the SDI network – a network of community organizations.

I remember the first enumeration the Indians supported in the Piesang River area of Durban. The Indian community leaders taught the South African township dwellers to gather data about their settlements. This was the spirit of peer-to-peer exchange: communities teaching each other. The women in the community were also taught to make house models – to explore what they wanted their houses to look like and to attract the attention of people in the community and start a discussion with government. Gradually, between 1992 and 1996, communities from Zimbabwe and Namibia came to South Africa to check out what was happening in these informal settlements. So then in 1996 SDI formally registered as a network to support the exchanges between communities throughout Africa and Asia. Later, Latin America became part of the network. SDI is exciting because the federations – the urban poor themselves – are the prime members of the network.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PEOPLE?

There are 101 impediments to having meaningful partnerships in which each party is considered an equal. You can’t have growth and scale without those partnerships. For the partnerships to be meaningful the community must be organized. The SDI tools such as savings, exchanges and profiling and enumeration help achieve that.

WHY SHOULD POOR PEOPLE COLLECT DATA?

To get organized in large numbers. If there is not a critical mass the urban poor won’t effectively demand services and housing. Community association is an important vehicle for demonstrating this in practice. SDI’s next ambition is to make the Know Your City campaign [for community gathered city-wide data on slums and local government partnership] part of standard development planning and practice. Two years ago the notes we wrote about a global platform for community gathered data on slums would not have been taken seriously, but today this idea is taken very seriously. For us, enumeration has always been central. The Indian data was digitalized right from the beginning and now it’s our aim to digitalize all federation data. Looking ahead we must be mindful that the volume and sophistication of our data must grow rapidly or we will be swept away by the techies.
Joel Bolnick is co-founder of SDI and Manager of the Secretariat, a post he has held since 1996. He was formerly the Director of People’s Dialogue, the South African affiliate to SDI. He holds a Masters degree in Sociology from the University of California in Berkeley. In his capacity as SDI Manager Joel serves on the boards of several South African and International agencies. He runs SDI’s new finance facility called Inqolobane Trust.
WHY DID SDI START AS A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN INDIAN AND SOUTH AFRICAN URBAN POOR ORGANIZATIONS?

It is not easy to build equal partnerships between formal institutions and grassroots organizations. Many social movements have been hampered by this challenge, with professionals appropriating first the discourse and then the decision-making of the urban poor. There are strong arguments, for example, that the liberation struggle in South Africa was held back in the 1960’s and early 1970’s because white professionals claimed the role of champions of the black oppressed. Indeed the issue of the professionalized leader, whose lived experience is insulated from the shocks and injuries of poverty, has bedeviled the politics of transformation for generations. From the outset SDI has tried hard to avoid this contradiction.

In many ways it was this concern about appropriation that propelled my late colleague and comrade Patrick Magebhula and myself to reach out to Mahila Milan and NSDF in India after we met them in 1991 at a grassroots conference in South Africa. There were many things that we liked about their model. We liked the separation but alignment between professional grassroots movement and professional support organization. We liked the fact women were prioritized because that meant that social and economic change started within the settlements and within the movement itself. We liked their commitment to self-reliance, self-consciousness and self-realization. We liked the financial autonomy of the grassroots movement – an autonomy based on collective savings within and between settlements. We liked all these things because we could see they resonated with many urban poor communities in South Africa. As SDI spread in the years that followed we realized that these approaches were universal in their appeal and their relevance, notwithstanding the importance of contextual differences.

WHY SHOULD POOR PEOPLE BUILD A MOVEMENT AROUND SAVINGS?

Communities organized and networked through savings and self-awareness are catalysts for change – not because they empower poor people to pay their way out of poverty. That is a myth that simply will not go away. Savings plays a catalytic role because it is a key instrument for self-organized community-based development. Savings re-directs financial flows within communities. It builds solidarity and trust and is a highly effective mechanism for leveraging external resources. Savings is not an end in itself but a means to many different ends. Savings has become the DNA of the SDI network. It is the vector by which knowledge, solidarity, advocacy and struggle is collectivized, replicated and sustained in the movement.

WHERE IS SDI GOING?

SDI’s relevance has to grow in the coming years. The urbanization of poverty remains on a dramatic upward curve. We will not be able to reverse the trend unless poor people become central actors in the efforts to turn things around. SDI will never fill that critical space alone, but increasingly it demonstrates to its own constituency and to others that organized and united networks of the urban poor have got to have a seat at the table where relevant development deals are made, whether it be at the level of the settlement, the city, the state or the global stage.
2 SDI AT A GLANCE
WHO WE ARE

The SDI tranational network comprises national federations of the urban poor in Africa, Asia and Latin America. These federations are made up of hundreds or thousands of women-led savings schemes. This model creates a critical mass that is accountable to local demands. Each community federation is supported by a local NGO, which provides technical support to the movement. The network’s Secretariat is located in Cape Town, South Africa and provides logistical support to international exchange, upgrading finance through the Urban Poor Fund International, as well as coordination of a global advocacy agenda.

Organized federations throughout the SDI network profile, map and enumerate their settlements to gather invaluable planning data and catalyze community action and partnerships. This work – now known as the Know Your City initiative - combines hard data, rich stories and collective urban poor capacity is underway in over 500 cities across the Global South, where slum dwellers and governments are working to co-produce solutions for slum upgrading. These projects aim to set precedents for inclusive development and upgrading.

SDI’s commitment to building collaborative partnerships between organized communities and local governments in contexts of deep urban poverty, landlessness and homelessness is one of its most important contributions to participatory, inclusive, pro-poor and sustainable development.

“This is because of SDI – a group of countries working together. If we were just one country, we would not achieve that.”

SAZINI NDLOVU
FEDERATION MEMBER FROM ZIMBABWE
SDI’s network is organized into four regional hubs with a fifth emerging: the Asia Hub, East Africa Hub, Southern Africa Hub, West Africa Hub, and the emerging Latin America Hub. Organizing the federations into regional hubs allows for the building of strong regional alliances of the urban poor that engage in joint learning, planning and advocacy.

This Annual Report will be presented by hub in order to capture the energy and achievement of the global network. Each hub report will describe progress on the ground through organizing and mobilizing, the building and networking of savings groups, profiling and enumeration of settlements and cities and the negotiation, planning and implementation of upgrading projects in partnership with local authorities. This is a cyclical and overlapping process with three main components. The three components, outlined below, will be illuminated through stories and data.

**HOW THE REPORT IS ORGANIZED**

**KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY** This component involves federation building: organizing groups, networking groups, mentoring leaders, building partnerships and community-led monitoring and evaluation of federation growth and impact.

**KNOW YOUR CITY** This component establishes a standardized data set on informal settlements, providing unprecedented levels of robust community gathered data about slums. The data is gathered by organized communities of the urban poor and lays the foundation for collaborative development interventions.

**IMPROVE YOUR CITY** This component interprets how the organizing and information gathering translates into improvements and upgrading of informal settlements into slum friendly settlements and cities.
To be the leading organisation in fighting global, urban poverty
WOMEN-LED SAVINGS GROUPS
Community savings is the glue that binds federations together and the thread that links household finance to development finance. Savings has enormous value as a means of organizing, monetizing the political capital of the urban poor, centralizing the role of women, and creating a change process from the household to the national level.

ENUMERATION & PROFILING
SDI federations have been involved in self-surveying, profiling, enumeration and mapping for decades. Enumeration creates alternative systems of knowledge that are owned by urban poor communities and leads to enhanced control of the development decision-making that affects their lives and neighborhoods. SDI’s profiling and enumeration databases are becoming the largest repositories of informal settlement data in the world and the first port of call for researchers, policy makers, local governments and national governments.

PEER-TO-PEER EXCHANGES
Peer-to-peer exchange is the principle tool for knowledge transfer and strategy sharing given its unparalleled capacity to promote collective learning between urban poor populations. Four Federation Learning Centers are located in: Accra, Cape Town, Mumbai and Kampala and remain at the forefront of SDI exchange on city-wide upgrading, while others centers are emerging for specific project or program interventions and federation building.

URBAN POOR FUND INTERNATIONAL
UPFI is a SDI-governed international financial facility that provides capital through member-based Urban Poor Funds to local savings collectives for housing upgrades and other urban improvement projects. The goal of UPFI is to enable these marginalised communities to have direct control of their capital in order to negotiate with potential implementing partners and leverage resources from the public and private sector.

IN-SITU UPGRAADING
SDI practices new paradigms for slum improvement with an emphasis on in-situ, incremental and affordable upgrading. Focusing on the promotion of urban resilience, in-situ upgrading supports improved basic services, housing and energy security for urban poor communities. SDI experience has shown (and considerable academic research confirms) that incremental and in-situ upgrading is the most viable strategy for inclusive development of cities in the Global South.

PARTNERSHIPS
SDI’s commitment to building collaborative partnerships between organized communities and local governments is one of its most important contributions to participatory, inclusive, pro-poor and sustainable development. These partnerships, especially at the city level, are fundamental to bridging implementation gaps and building a sustainable institutional base for inclusive city upgrading. In order to promote learning on good practices, international exchanges have been supported to catalyze new ideas, projects and partnerships.

FEDERATION-DRIVEN LME
In order to assess impact, while still keeping the affected populations in charge of their own development, SDI has prioritized the practice of community-led Learning, Monitoring and Evaluation (LME). Member federations reflect regularly on the following questions: Where are we now? Where do we want to be? How will we know if we are on track? This process allows for bottom-up adaptation to new challenges and opportunities through step by step planning and outcome-based analysis. The role of local NGOs throughout the SDI network is to support the LME process conducted by communities themselves.

LEADER MENTORSHIP
SDI has a core team of community leadership with considerable experience governing the global movement. These leaders have prioritized the mentorship of a cohort of second-tier leadership at the national level. National leaders, in turn, are actively engaged in the mentorship of a selection of regional and city leaders. In so doing, SDI ensures maximum peer-to-peer capacity-building and the sustainability of the network.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT
SDI recognizes the need to incorporate the talents and strengths of younger slum dwellers who constitute the majority population in many slums. Creating spaces for innovations in organizing and upgrading that respond to the demands of youth has been a key focus for the network in the past two years. Understanding youth as the centerpiece of urban renewal, this initiative combines support for income generating activities, employment skills, drama and cultural activities, enumeration and mapping, as well as video production, story-telling and writing.
THEORY OF CHANGE

SETTLEMENT, CITY, AND GLOBAL TRANSFORMATION

Dominant trends of urban development in the rapidly urbanizing Global South have generated a high degree of poverty, inequality and informality. In order to shift this, the SDI network holds that the urban poor must organize and articulate their own aspirations for urban change and become central actors in transforming their lived environments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SETTLEMENT TRANSFORMATION</th>
<th>CITY TRANSFORMATION</th>
<th>GLOBAL TRANSFORMATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Impacts</strong></td>
<td>Lives of the urban poor improved</td>
<td>Slum-friendly cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outcomes</strong></td>
<td>Improved health and safety; enhanced livelihoods; inclusive and resilient neighborhoods; greater strategic influence of the urban poor</td>
<td>Institutionalized spaces for collaborative planning; pro-poor data driven city development; equitable and resilient urban policy implementation; expanded pro-poor finance instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Outputs</strong></td>
<td>Savings groups; exchanges; loans; leaders mentored; settlements upgraded; youth mobilized</td>
<td>City-wide profiles; Urban Poor funds; MOUs (govt/community); cities upgraded; precedent-setting projects (houses built, basic services extended, improved access to clean energy etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Activities</strong></td>
<td>Mobilization; savings; profiling; learning-by-doing; community documentation</td>
<td>Mentor community leaders; city-wide profiling, enumeration and mapping; planning forums; participatory city planning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SDI currently has 32 country affiliates. As of 2015, there are 16 mature Federations within the SDI network. They are: Botswana, Brazil, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Nepal, Philippines, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe. The definition of a mature federation is any federation that has achieved national or citywide scale and have worked with governments to secure and develop land for the urban poor. In addition, mature federations have representation on the SDI Board and Council.

There are currently 8 emerging Federations. They are Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Lesotho, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal, Swaziland, Togo. The definition of an emerging federation is a group that has started building savings collectives but has not yet federated nor achieved citywide scale and is yet to develop a critical engagement with state institutions and other development actors.

There are currently 8 countries that have solidarity links with SDI and are exploring deeper collaboration. They are Angola, Argentina, Colombia, Egypt, Haiti, Iran, Mozambique, Pakistan.

The secretariat of SDI is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the network, including administration of the Urban Poor Fund International (UPFI), research and documentation, and international exchanges. The head office of the secretariat is in Cape Town, South Africa, though some members of staff are located elsewhere in Africa and Europe.
“My advice for leaders in the federation is to work as a team and love your federation. We are doing this out of love. If you don’t love what you do you would stop. You reach home and you are so tired you don’t eat supper. You make the federation part of you. That is when you mobilize even your husband. When you make something part of you everyone around you, everyone can understand. That way I can’t say it is a burden because it is part of me.”
The Asia Hub includes India, Philippines and emerging federations in Nepal and Sri Lanka. When Sonia Fadrigo, a community leader from the Philippines, reflects on the past 20 years she says: “The first thing I think is I’m getting old! SDI has brought significant value to my life. I have learned more than was in my imagination. I couldn’t believe I could be part of this network. When you’re a leader in an international network - both the Asia Hub and the global network - you have not only to know your own area, but you’re forced to understand many other countries and to be able to contribute. Twenty years ago I was a community leader in my settlement, but I was afraid to speak in bigger meetings. Little by little, SDI molded me into a person who should reflect and be confident. I think SDI has made me a better person. I do not only think of myself. You let go of some of your personal ideas ... You protect [the federation] like your family. I joined the federation because I didn’t have land. I wanted shelter for my children. I could have left once I got them, but ... there were still so many others who did not and I needed to help them.”

**KNOW YOUR FEDERATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cities / Municipalities</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>Nepal</th>
<th>Philippines</th>
<th>Sri Lanka</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cities Profiled**</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slum Settlements</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savers</td>
<td>49,008</td>
<td>1,954</td>
<td>8,679</td>
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<td>59,741</td>
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<td>Savings Groups</td>
<td>694*</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,114</td>
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**KNOW YOUR CITY**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Cities Profiled**</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>Philippines</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cities Profiled**</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Settlements Profiled**</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boundary Maps</td>
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**IMPROVE YOUR CITY  BENEFITING HOUSEHOLDS**

<table>
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<th>India</th>
<th>Philippines</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>9,118</td>
<td>1,652</td>
<td>10,770</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Savings groups in India correlate to settlements that save
** Refers to those on KYC platform using standardized tools
The Mumbai Learning Center plays a critical role supporting the Asian Hub and the SDI network at large. As mentioned earlier, Mumbai’s role as a learning center spans back to the emergence of the global slum dweller movement. Twenty years into the struggle, the SDI network continues to rely on its partnership with the female-led pavement dwellers of Mumbai (Mahila Milan) and the Indian National Slum Dwellers Federation for mentorship and guidance, especially on city-wide upgrading, eviction prevention, management of relocations necessitated by city infrastructure upgrading projects, as well as government and international agency upgrading partnerships.

In its 20-year history with SDI, the Indian Alliance has achieved secure, safe, dignified and durable places to live for over 36,000 households. In so doing, they created and refined a set of organizing tools, rituals, insights and relationships that have had global ripples and are applied in close to 500 cities where SDI affiliates are active today. The Indian Alliance not only has the longest organizing history of any SDI affiliate, but has also reached a scale of operation and impact that firmly situates it as a learning center for the entire network.

Shekar says he has been a federation member since he was a teenager. Now a leader in the global movement, he remembers a time before the Indian Alliance joined SDI. “Before we were only concerned on the Indian process. After the SDI partnership we got a lot of knowledge sharing with other countries. We also learned to talk to government better. When we see them [other federations] talking to government, then we realize we can also do that. In South Africa in 1993 and 1994 we saw ministers come to the community – even the president! We knew we couldn’t get the president, but we could get others.” When reflecting on the role of the learning center Shekar says, “We need to encourage a new generation of leaders to take up the job and continue this process.”

This year the Mumbai Learning Center supported an exchange between Mumbai slum dwellers and those from Kathmandu. This exchange sought to strengthen the work of the federation-building process in Nepal. At a two-day national convention, the learning center hosted communities and their partners from the states of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry and Gujarat, as well as from communities from Sri Lanka. The community convention focused on supporting the federations to make the shift from only savings and credit activities, to developing projects that provide housing and sanitation to urban poor settlements. In addition, the learning center hosted Ugandan slum dwellers and government partners in order to refine and strengthen the Ugandan informal market upgrading agenda. During the course of the year the learning center also hosted Kenyan Federation members and government representatives to guide the planning of a settlement-wide upgrade in Thika, Kenya. Lastly, the South African Federation visited Mumbai to strengthen its project planning capacities. Many government officials have visited this center when they take part in official visits to India.
INdIAN sLUm dWELLERs dEsIGn AND BUIlD HOUSeS IN NAndEd

Nanded is a town located in the south-eastern part of Maharashtra state. In the past year, housing for over 200 families was completed. This neighborhood upgrading project is the latest stage in a collaboration between the federation and local authorities and was carried out in five separate settlements. In 2010, the Nanded Municipality approached the Indian Alliance to help implement the Basic Services for the Urban Poor (BSUP) project, which had run into trouble with communities and contractors (who had virtually abandoned the project). The commissioner of Nanded sent his staff and community leaders to see a similar project in Pune managed by Mahila Milan. As a result, community contractors from Mahila Milan and the National Slum Dwellers Federation were requested to intervene. These community contractors not only completed new houses, but also took on houses at several stages of construction, which had been abandoned by former contractors.

The Indian government has an ambitious program to build subsidy-based in situ housing. The alliance uses projects such as Nanded, but also in Pune, Bhubaneswar and Puri set precedents for community involvement that have resulted in new norms for procurement that allow participation from NGOs and community contractors. These contractors have generated awareness for the need to involve communities in project design and settlement layouts in order to promote ownership and more affordable and suitable upgrades. The Nanded project supports both the state and city to use subsidies in a way that includes communities as partners. Slum upgrading projects with federation participation benefit from the social capital of organized communities. This is essential for project upkeep and continued improvements to lives and livelihoods. SDI assisted this project with UPFI capital as government only provides the subsidy after construction. The value addition of working with the Indian alliance included:

- Capacity building of community members in settlement profiling, including mapping for project planning;
- Facilitating learning exchanges between community members to learn from other similar projects;
- Development of municipal procurement policies to allow for contracting of CBOs and NGOs;
- Technical assistance for community-led construction process;
- Capacity building of community in management, procurement and construction techniques, allowing communities to be contracted by the municipal government for works;
- Technical support to the community based project monitoring unit;
- Strengthening of savings groups to organize communities and improve livelihoods;
- Facilitating design and planning workshops between professionals (architect, planners and engineers) and community members.
The federation in Philippines – a country comprising many islands facing a constant threat of flooding and mudslides – has been a pioneer in mapping the vulnerabilities of informal settlements. This work has ensured poor households are not ignored or overlooked in terms of post-disaster aid and assistance. In addition, this profiling and mapping supports resilience building and climate change adaptation work. Without secure access to land and safe housing communities are caught in a viscous cycle of squatting and eviction, leading to entrenched impoverishment. These communities are particularly vulnerable to climate-related disasters. The Homeless People’s Federation of the Philippines (HPFPI) brings together community organizations of the urban poor in cities across the Philippines, all engaged in struggles for secure land, better services and improved housing. The federation process aims to meet the immediate needs of communities facing disaster, and more importantly to build the resilience required for climate change adaptation in informal settlements through upgrading. HPFPI does not believe that providing free houses is a sustainable strategy for urban upgrading. Instead, they work to make credit accessible and affordable to the poor. Communities can then borrow money and pay it back into a revolving fund. In the long-term this allows many more people to benefit and community resilience to grow.

In January 2015, the federation commenced settlement profiling and mapping in 3 cities: Valenzuela, Davao and Iloilo City. The profiling revealed high levels of insecure land tenure in all 3 cities. Of the 23 settlements profiled, 13 were facing imminent eviction threats. The profiling also revealed flooding and strong winds to be two of the primary risks facing informal settlement dwellers. In response to these findings, the Filipino communities are working to create a risk warning system and to forge collective solutions for securing tenure and building resilience. In Valenzuela, for example, the federation is now in the process of negotiating for the purchase of a 1.2-hectare piece of land in the city. In Davao City a land and housing project is underway and all members are saving daily in preparation for equity. Lastly, in Iloilo City the federation is collaborating with government in the Ati Housing Project in the Western Visayas.

ERLINDA MOSQUEDA
FEDERATION MEMBER FROM PHILIPPINES
“I had a good experience in doing settlement profiling and mapping. I learned how to use the GPS (Global Positioning System) device. Once I saw our settlement in the computer through the GPS device, I felt it was a success.”
The Southern African Hub includes seven federations and is a collection of the most mature federations in the African network. The unique subsidy environment in South Africa and Namibia has enabled these affiliates to reach a scale of housing delivery that is unparalleled in other African hubs. Unlocking these subsidies for the poorest urban residents has been made possible through a long history of community organizing, community savings and negotiation with government. Where subsidies are not available or are insufficient to meet the scale of need, affiliates have explored market-based strategies with varying levels of success. The hub meetings have proven a valuable space for communities to unpack innovative yet complex approaches and evaluate their impact. Struggles for secure tenure continue to plague affiliates in the hub and a regional Know Your City campaign has endeavored to combat this through community gathered data and partnership with local government. The hub has prioritized the mobilization of slum dweller youth and has developed regional strategies to serve this end as well as to boost the daily savings of women-led savings groups.

**KNOW YOUR FEDERATION**

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**KNOW YOUR CITY**

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**IMPROVE YOUR CITY BENEFITING HOUSEHOLDS**

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*Refers to those on KYC platform using standardized tools
The Cape Town Learning Center made major strides in the past year. The provincial minister committed 10 million rand (roughly USD 100,000) to support the South African SDI Alliance upgrading efforts in Cape Town. City level partnerships with communities to deliver in-situ upgrading represent a critical shift in the policy and practice of Cape Town’s local government. Collaborative upgrading efforts have been further expanded through the South Africa SDI Alliance’s work as part of two government tenders to profile and enumerate over one hundred informal settlements.

The information will inform provincial and city government planning using data gathered at both the individual and household level. The process of gathering the data has also supported communities to engage one another, develop organizational capacity and mobilize more communities into social movements. The first tender involved the profiling of 120 informal settlements located in 18 municipalities across the Western Cape Province. The second, in collaboration with the City of Cape Town, enumerated over 18,000 households located in 7 informal settlements along the N2 highway in Cape Town.

“NCEDISWA NOTYWALA
FEDERATION MEMBER FROM SOUTH AFRICA

“I am the leader of a data capturing team with six ladies in our savings group called Ladies with Brains. We’re called this because we have brains to save. I sleep, eat and live data. I like data because it’s people’s lives and it made me see and know that living in a shack does not mean you are useless and lifeless. You can live the normal life as well.”
Blantyre’s sanitation challenges are complex, with limited affordable options for informal residents to choose from. The urban poor are plagued by a lack of access to sewerage treatment or disposal services, poor access to water and a lack of space for sanitation infrastructural upgrades. Community-led data collection shows the gap that exists between the number of residents and the number of toilets in the city’s settlements. Profiles indicate that in many slum toilets are shared by up to 10 families (approximately 60 people) and that slum communities are prone to frequent cholera outbreaks. The data confirms the federation’s sense of urgency to find affordable and practical solutions.

The Malawi Federation has been supporting informal communities to access Ecological Sanitation, EcoSan (dry composting) toilets since 2005 and have built approximately 800 toilets serving 14,400 people to date. Upon seeing the first “precedent-setting” toilet projects, demand among the federation grew and sanitation became a key component of the Blantyre Alliance’s settlement upgrading efforts.

The technology exhibits a number of benefits in comparison to more traditional approaches (e.g. simple or improved pit latrines).

These include:
- The capacity to save space/land: No septic required or need to move pits;
- Cost savings and recovery: Low cost of construction, and Humanure can be used on gardens or be sold;
- Status symbol and prestige: Odorless sanitation facility;
- Durability and safety: Can withstand heavy rains and floods and can be built in rocky areas;
- Water efficient: Use and maintenance.

The current cost of a complete EcoSan toilet (toilet and bathroom) is 150,000 MK (roughly USD 272). Families are required to make an initial payment of 10% and the rest is to be paid over a one-year period (with interest). These costs are said to be affordable for even the poorest residents of Blantyre’s informal settlements. In addition, landlords often incur the cost with tenants (majority of federation members) having to push for the service. The federation has negotiated with these landlords to prevent most them from increasing rents following the EcoSan investment. They have done this by reminding landlords that it is their responsibility to provide a toilet for tenants. Communal EcoSan facilities have also been constructed in a number of markets across Blantyre. These serve approximately 150 people a day and also generate an income for management and maintenance.
This year the Namibian Alliance (Slum Dwellers Federation of Namibia (SDFN) and support NGO, NHAG) and the Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in order to set out respective areas of cooperation.

Both parties to the MOU recognize the importance of sharing information on the urban population and the role this data plays in implementation of the government’s National Development Plan. The MOU seeks to streamline resources and methods to more efficiently and effectively collect and collate data.

Mama Edith Mbanga, a federation leader in Namibia, emphasizes the importance of using community members in data collection. She explains that this “assists in ensuring that the data will reflect the situation on the ground in informal settlements and will assist government and community members in planning for better services and upgrading.”

The provisions of the MOU include:

The NSA shall provide the following technical assistance and support:

- Share resources e.g. maps and required data (spatial or statistical if available);
- Provide training where needed as per the National Statistical System (NSS) framework – e.g. mapping and GPS training;
- Enhance capacity building by involving community members from the federation to participate in field activities within informal settlements;
- Source for updated information from the SDFN/NHAG on a regular basis as updates become available.

SDFN and NHAG shall provide the following:

- Share resources e.g. maps and required data (spatial and statistical);
- Consult the NSA if there are knowledge gaps that require training from the NSA;
- Share information on the growth of informal settlements;
- Provide names of qualifying, competent and dedicated individuals when needed to the NSA for incorporation in fieldwork activities undertaken by the NSA;
- Ensure that data collected from the settlements and supplied to the NSA are reliable and fit to provide evidence-based development planning.

MAMA EDITH MBANGA
NATIONAL FACILITATOR OF THE FEDERATION

“(Data collection) assists in ensuring that the data will reflect the situation on the ground and will assist government and community members in planning for better services and upgrading.”
SOUTH AFRICAN SLUM DWELLERS INCREASED YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

The Southern Africa federations recognize that young people are integral segment of the population they serve – often constituting the majority of the urban slum population. The Southern Africa Hub has begun to actively survey their youth membership, to employ strategies to better incorporate them into the federations and to understand their priorities and strengths. Until last year, the federations did not have a baseline for youth membership. But, since the baseline was established the federations have registered a youth membership growth of 7.7%.

Because youth engagement is vital to sustain and maintaining the relevance of the federation’s work, a number of youth centered programs have emerged throughout the Southern African federations. These programs seek to involve young federation members in profiling and enumeration, settlement mapping, training in clean and just energies and producing video documentaries and films on their settlements. These programs seek to develop a second tier of leadership within the federations, build the voice of the youth and sew the seeds of community organizing amongst this demographic challenge.

The following testimony is from Zandile Nomnga, one of the South Africa KYC TV crew:

My name is Zandile Nomnga, I am 21 years old. I grew up in Upington, where I lived with my grandmother and little cousin. We had a lot of good times with our granny; she is a very nice person who loves her grandchildren. When I lived with my granny I didn’t even feel the space of my mother, because she cared a lot about us, we were like her own children. But when I was about to start high school I had to leave my granny’s and start a new life with my mother in Cape Town. Moving to Cape Town was not an easy decision for me because I was still young, but I had to go to my mother’s to get better education. My life changed a lot. Cape Town is big and the streets are full of people everyday. I was not used to that life, and the situation in the house was not the same again. There were lots of arguments in the house. I had to look after the children and cook everyday, but I did not mind cooking and cleaning because I was the only one. I was young and would come home early, but at least the weekend was a break for me, when I would do homework and my washing.

When I was in grade 11 there were lots of things that I needed for school and as a girl it was hard to get that stuff from my mother. I had to tell my granny first then my granny would shout so I could get the things I needed. At school I wanted to go forward to be a doctor but because of the struggle that I was at I decided to drop out of school, and my dreams just disappeared. I saw myself as no one, and I even decided to kill myself. But my friend, his name is Aphiwe, he advices me about life. I decided to try again, so I joined a savings group that was called Sizabantu and there were lots of youth meetings that I attended that changed my life. I also met James. We first met at a youth exchange that was at Stellenbosch Lodge. At that exchange James was teaching us how to make videos and taking pictures. It was great working with him. There was a training that we were a part of on how to make films and documentaries; to be part of this training was a very good thing for me because it changed my life a lot. To see were am I now, I have the experience of how to make films.

I am part of Know Your City TV and now I see myself as someone that is a producer and have my own company that will be named Zee’s Film School Academy where I will be teaching others how to make documentaries.

“I am part of Know Your City TV...I will be teaching others how to make documentaries. Film making is my passion!

ZANDILE NOMNGA
KYC.TV YOUTH

Photo credit, KYC.TV Youth
The Zambia and Zimbabwe Federations came together to create the Zambezi Charter, which launched a platform for the two slum dwellers’ federations to dialogue and strategize. This decision was made because the two countries share relatively similar economic and social environments. The federations met twice in the past year and the major topic covered was the sustainability of their respective Urban Poor Funds.

In Zimbabwe, a deficit of government finance motivated urban poor communities to organize their own savings, not just for daily needs but also for settlement upgrading through the Guungano Urban Poor Fund. The fund supports the political agenda of the federation by opening space for negotiation with local governments and demonstrating the potential for people-driven urban upgrading. Recently the federation decided to decentralize management of the Urban Poor Fund to regional (Bulawayo and Matabeleland South) and city hubs (Kariba and Masvingo). Decentralization of the UPF has increased ownership and control of the fund at the local level. In addition, decisions about disbursements are also being made faster thereby increasing access. Critically, repayment rates for both housing and livelihood loans have improved through these localized monitoring systems.

Similarly, the Zambia Federation has two funds, a national Urban Poor Fund and a City Fund. The Zambia Federation also manages its fund regionally and extends loans to slum dwellers within and outside of the federation. As such, the fund also serves as an advocacy tool that introduces communities to a savings culture and the organizing rituals of the federation. The Lusaka City Fund emerged from a partnership forged between the federation and Lusaka City Council as part of city-wide profiling and enumeration. Intrigued by the organizing capacity of the federation and the magnitude of informality revealed by the profiling, the city committed itself to pursue city-wide slum upgrading in partnership with slum dwellers. Importantly, this commitment was not merely verbal: the city has contributed land to the federation to undertake upgrading projects. Federation leader Joyce Lungu reflects on the impact the Urban Poor Fund has had on her life, “When I joined the federation in 2001 I was sleeping in a mud house. I managed to save and through the UPF I have changed my life. I now live in a proper house with electricity. I am independent.”

“CATHERINE SIKAI
FEDERATION LEADER FROM ZIMBABWE
“We want to be together with the city—not just us accountable to the city. So we can learn from each other. We will manage these funds together and people will be encouraged to pay back loans that can then revolve. We want to work together to disburse the loans.”

ZIMBABWE AND ZAMBIA SLUM DWELLERS STRENGTHEN URBAN POOR FUNDS

- Peer-to-Peer Exchanges
- Urban Poor Fund International
- Leader Mentorship
- Partnerships
- Women-led Savings Groups

The Zambia and Zimbabwe Federations came together to create the Zambezi Charter, which launched a platform for the two slum dwellers’ federations to dialogue and strategize. This decision was made because the two countries share relatively similar economic and social environments. The federations met twice in the past year and the major topic covered was the sustainability of their respective Urban Poor Funds.
The East Africa Hub is comprised of three federations: Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya. At a recent East Africa Hub meeting the East African federations reflected with pride on the progress of the hub. They noted the significant strides taken in terms of peer monitoring, accurate assessment of federation health and the collaboration of regional affiliates. They noted improvements in the substance of discussion at the regional level, where joint strategy and peer-to-peer accountability are critical. Moving forward, the refined strategy for learning in the region will focus on: 1. Regional documentation and advocacy priorities; 2. Peer support for large upgrading project preparation; 3. Monitoring results of action-based learning. As reflected by federation member from Uganda, Sarah Nandudu, “You can see the progress of this network in our hub meetings. It’s amazing that any time we invite government now they will come. They would not have come for slum dwellers before. Women are also empowered and most of the women we have in the federation have come up with so many ideas. We encourage women to always chair meetings. We think women are the backbone of the development.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KNOW YOUR FEDERATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cities / Municipalities</td>
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<td>Slum Settlements</td>
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<td>Housing</td>
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* Refers to those on KYC platform using standardized tools
EVA MUCHIRI
YOUTH FEDERATION MEMBER FROM KENYA

“Some of the resident who live near the river were left homeless after their houses were swept away by the raging water, carrying with it goats and cows of a big business man called Wachira in the slum who supplies the residents with the milk. Drunkards became sober and tried their very best to reach their homes as soon as the rain subsided. A couple of residents found themselves floating on water as if they were in a Jacuzzi while asleep. They had to be rescued by some youths and taken to nearby clinics for check up.”
With increased urbanization and population growth, informal settlements in Tanzania face key challenges around service provision and tenure security. Data and information that the Tanzania Federation collected will provide communities the tools to engage and dialogue with their local authorities to address these challenges and possibilities for joint slum upgrading. Furthermore, profile and enumeration data provide a concrete reference point as to what and how settlement priorities can be achieved and what benefits would be brought to the settlement dwellers.

**KEY FACTS FROM TANZANIA’S PROFILING AND ENUMERATION WORK**

- A total of 270 settlements are profiled in Tanzania
- The total number of households range from a maximum of 30,150 to a minimum of 94 per settlement
- More than 40 settlements have faced and are under current threat of eviction
- 204 settlements use individual taps as their main source of water
- 242 settlements use individual toilets as their main type of toilet. However of these, only 88 settlements use flush toilet as their main type of individual toilet
- Service map of Tanzania has located a vast array of 1135 service points in the informal settlements, including garbage disposal sites, water points, markets, banks, hospitals, police stations, and schools. These data could be referred to when implementing more scaled-up projects that impact the livelihoods and built environment of informal settlements.

“Twenty years back I was sitting in my house cooking some donuts. I didn’t know how to talk to people. Now I can go to any office of the government to speak about issues from my community. The exchanges happened and I learned to communicate with my other federation members in other countries. SDI empowers women to speak about their needs.”

KHADIJA KINGI
FEDERATION MEMBER FROM TANZANIA

Artistic render of Dar es Salaam service mapping data, KYC
Know Your City TV (KYC.TV) is a media project that resulted from a youth exchange in Cape Town between slum dweller youth from Uganda, South Africa, Kenya and India. The project supports youth from slums to produce compelling video documentation on the lived experiences of the urban poor – whether film, documentaries, or documentation of federation work. Critically, KYC.TV supports youth to tell their own stories, give their own reflections and create their own voice. Youth videographers from SDI federations have been trained to script, produce and edit video footage that captures the true fabric of life in slums. Following the success of training youth filmmakers in Uganda, KYC.TV began new training courses in South Africa and Ghana. The Ugandan youth are producing quality video documentation and creative short films not only for the federation to share its stories, but also for the youths’ own learning and advocacy purposes. This year the KYC crew secured a grant to produce video case studies on collaborative change in six countries to be showcased at Habitat III in October. This production was the first major assignment for the federation TV teams in 2016.

The following testimony is from Allan Mawejje, one of the Uganda KYC TV crew:

Allan Mawejje is my name, I am 25 years old and Ugandan by nationality. I am third out of five children from my mother. I was raised in an extended African family, my father was a man of many wives who produced a lot of children. At the age of four my mum passed on and we were left in the hands of my father. My father could not manage taking care of all of us so he left us with a step-mum. In senior one, my father (who was far away) used to send us school fees through the step-mum. One day my step-mum called me and reported that I will not continue with studies because there was no money for school dues. I said nothing because I had no mandate to ask. So I played football to relax my mind. Football became my everything. I missed the full academic term, eventually I thought of going back to school. I talked to my head teacher about my problems. My head teacher was not an easy man. I organized myself to approach him. He agreed to organise me a bursary. At that time he told me I was one of the most talented boys in football and the school could not miss my service. I was given a full bursary and I passed well. After secondary level I wanted to continue with my dream of becoming a journalist. I approached Nkumba University football coach and asked him to allow me to join his team. This was something I saw as the way that could support me to join university, he granted me the opportunity but under a normal terms and conditions determined by the university leaders. I joined the university for the academic year but the agreement was that I had to pay a half of my tuition with a pass in the football trials. I passed the football trials and I applied for Bachelors, but the challenge remained to pay my half of the tuition. I failed to raise the fee completely. That ended my academic career.

After failing with academics I had to find another alternative for life. I thought that maybe if I organized my community and we worked together it could cause some change in my own life. I organized the youth and we formed an organization at the community level. The initiative formed a group to facilitate each member as they built their individual business. In July 2012 our group was visited by a delegate from the National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda who introduced the slum dwellers concept to us. Since we were also living in slums we decided to join the federations.

I was selected to be part of the delegation of young federation members to attend an international exchange trip to South Africa and train for one week on the Know Your City TV program. All went well with my four other team members and finally we came back. I’m proud of our KYC.TV group for the growing element of teamwork and the relationship that binds us together. I look forward to see myself as a great filmmaker and camera operator. There is a lot I want to achieve in this field, and it has given me a goal in my life. I am very happy with KYC.TV because I now see myself on a journey to a better future.
To prepare for the upgrading of informal markets in Kampala, the Uganda Federation and the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) have partnered to conduct a biometric enumeration of informal vendors. These market upgrading projects aim to combat urban poverty and high unemployment by creating safer and more productive workspaces for vendors. Biometric enumeration of the informal vendors establishes a robust and transparent registration process so that market upgrading projects are suitable, affordable and beneficial for all the vendors involved. Biometric and enumeration data facilitates the transformation of the informal built environment to inclusive and integrated neighborhoods. Using biometric enumeration software installed on electronic tablets, federation members from Kampala began the registration process in Kasubi Market. During the enumeration, data such as each vendor’s national identity card number, market identity card and receipts of stall cleaning were photographed and stored on electronic tablets with the enumeration and biometric data. The effort is part of the continued formal working partnership between KCCA and the Uganda Federation.

Biometric enumeration was also conducted by the residents of Kianuttu slum in Thika Town, Kiambu County, Kenya. The exercise was undertaken in August and September 2015 by a group of 170 slum dwellers and was coordinated and supported by the County Government of Kiambu, SDI, and its Kenyan affiliate, Muungano wa Wanavijiji. The community enumeration is one of the activities underpinned by a Memorandum of Understanding between the County Government of Kiambu and SDI, signed in August 2015. In order to achieve an effective and accurate enumeration, the exercise identified the settlement’s 10,000 shacks and recorded the residents’ tenure status, demographics, employment status and educational details. The enumeration also collected pictures and fingerprints from every household.

By drawing on the best practices from SDI’s global network and on other innovative practices, data collectors captured all the enumeration data in electronic form using Android 6.3-inch touch-screen tablets. The step to invest in tablets was agreed upon in Muungano’s planning meeting for the Kianuttu survey. A simple “back of the napkin” calculation showed that the new technology yielded a 23 percent reduction in cost, as it would mean spending less on survey materials and equipment needed for paper questionnaires. In addition to saving time, the use of tablets also increases accuracy of the community enumeration process.

The Kinawataka Market upgrading project will build upon the work of KCCA to combat poverty and high unemployment by creating safer and more productive workspaces for city dwellers. Kinawataka Market in Mbuya 1, Nakawa Division is on the eastern flank of Kampala. The 2-acre area slated for redevelopment comprises a land use mix of residential and commercial activity. The federation has been organizing in Kinawataka for many years and had earlier constructed a sanitation unit and community hall for market vendors. This led to efforts to upgrade more comprehensively. The local slum dweller community has conducted profiling, enumeration and mapping which guided the collaborative development of upgrading plans by government and community.
“We have decision making powers now. This is true in Uganda and also across the network.”

HASSAN KIBERU
FEDERATION MEMBER FROM UGANDA

Photo credit: Above Shaddy Mbaka. Below James Tayler.
Soweto is a slum settlement in Jinja, Uganda comprised of about 1,200 households. Since its establishment over 30 years ago, Soweto had never been surveyed or enumerated. Because of the very real fear of eviction, residents resisted all attempts by government census takers to enter the settlement. The first enumeration was carried out by the National Slum Dwellers Federation of Uganda (NSDFU) with a team of 32 slum dwellers from Soweto and neighboring settlements who were trained by the federation.

The profiling and mapping information that the enumeration team gathered was compiled by the federation and discussed in a Soweto settlement forum. At this forum, the community, together with representatives from the local authority (including a municipal physical planner and Area Land Committee chairman) and university, examined the city’s development plans for the area and established a settlement re-planning committee to take forward the partnership for collaborative upgrading.

The Soweto enumeration and profile data that the settlement members and federation compiled enabled the formulation common priorities and the allocating of responsibilities within the community. In Soweto, land tenure security was identified as the priority and the settlement planning committee has started processing titles for the residents in partnership with the Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development as part of a national Systematic Land Adjudication and Certification project.

**PRIORITIES AND RESPONSIBLE PARTIES FOR SOWETO**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THEME</th>
<th>ISSUE</th>
<th>STRATEGY</th>
<th>KEY PLAYERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tenure Security</td>
<td>Security of land tenure</td>
<td>Survey land and explore the options (Systematic Land Adjustment and Certification project, private or municipal surveyor)</td>
<td>Area Land Committee Land Owners Jinja Municipal Council Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>Opening of new roads within the settlement</td>
<td>Land owners to offer land for roads rather than seek compensation from the Municipality</td>
<td>Land owners Jinja Municipal Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Provision of hydro-electricity power in areas without electricity</td>
<td>To be placed along the roads</td>
<td>Jinja Municipal Council UMEME (electricity provider in Uganda)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>Health Center</td>
<td>Land for the center to be determined after settlement re-planning</td>
<td>Jinja Municipal Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>Community Market</td>
<td>Consult the municipal planning committee</td>
<td>Jinja Municipal Council Residents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Photo credit, ACTogether Uganda*
The Kenya Federation has the second oldest Urban Poor Fund in the network: Akiba Mashinani Trust. Based on its experience with community upgrading fund management, the federation and its partners in government have developed a detailed proposal for the establishment of a Special Housing Fund for Nairobi. The Special Housing Fund will establish a long-term source of affordable housing finance at the county level.

The Nairobi affiliate identified sources for financing the Special Housing Fund and recommended the use of subsidies and various incentives to help bridge the affordability gap for housing the urban poor. Based on the analysis of profiling and enumeration data, the affiliate illuminated how funds currently circulating in the housing, services and land markets of Nairobi’s informal settlements could be harnessed and leveraged to provide housing at scale for all citizens. For instance, in Mukuru (one of Nairobi’s largest slums), residents pay significant sums for low-quality housing and services, which amount to approximately Ksh. 73.11 billion, or approximately USD 700 million, that the Special Housing Fund could unlock. By unlocking land value, rental incomes and the poverty penalty for water and energy suffered by the informal dwellers, the affiliate estimates that almost Ksh. 4.904 billion per year will be available for upgrading projects – roughly USD 50,000.

The Nairobi Special Housing Fund will unlock land values in high density slums, provide sewerage and water trunk infrastructure and facilitate housing and small business opportunities in excess of 10,000 units (figure is based on Kenya Federation enumerations). By administering a long-term source of affordable housing finance at the local county level, the Special Housing Fund will allow for flexible and tailored solutions and increase accountability to the city’s urban poor majority.
West Africa is the youngest of the African hubs and in recent years SDI’s presence in West Africa has grown exponentially. For almost a year, the region-wide Ebola crisis disrupted planned exchanges and activities in the hub and emergency response projects became a top priority. This past year, however, the hub has resumed its focus on long-term strategic planning. The hub now comprises seven federations: Ghana, Liberia, Togo, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Nigeria and Sierra Leone. One of the driving forces of this growth has been the persistent threat of eviction and the sense from community members that they need new strategies to get ahead of the ruthless displacements that exacerbate the poverty and instability of the most vulnerable. Ghana federation member Janet Adu reflects on how savings is changing women’s lives in the region, “Our savings is also our tool to change our lives and to also continue to pay our children’s school fees. I did not get any grade 12. I don’t want my daughter or my son to remain where I remain. Without this federation I can’t do all this. Most of the women through this also, they have taken these small small loans and they have built their own houses and they are saying … “we are changing our lives”. In our group have moved from the wooden structure houses to the permanent block structure. We are proud of it.”

**KNOW YOUR FEDERATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>B. Faso</th>
<th>Ghana</th>
<th>Liberia</th>
<th>Nigeria</th>
<th>S. Leone</th>
<th>Senegal</th>
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<td>5</td>
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**KNOW YOUR CITY**

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<td>Service Maps</td>
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**IMPROVE YOUR CITY  BENEFITING HOUSEHOLDS**

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<th></th>
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<td>300</td>
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<td>Waste Management</td>
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<td>Re-blocking</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>199</td>
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* Refers to those on KYC platform using standardized tools
Following a series of large scale forced evictions in West Africa, the hub convened a forum in Accra to address the persistent tenure insecurity faced by the region’s urban poor. The forum brought together representatives from all seven federations in the region and also included peers from the SDI Management Committee and Kenyan affiliate who helped to share lessons about navigating the constant threat of eviction from their decades of experiences in SDI.

The link between fighting evictions and negotiating for upgrading initiatives are interconnected and that SDI federations must strategically balance a desire to build relationships with government with the need to take a stand against gross violations such as forced eviction. The discussions also highlighted how protest alone, without building community capacity and negotiating for alternatives, is insufficient. The federations assembled agreed on a set of core strategies for preventing eviction and negotiating alternatives:

**PREVENTING EVICTION AND NEGOTIATING ALTERNATIVES**

1. The need to identify risk and prepare in advance
2. The need to prioritize stopping the eviction in its tracks
3. The need to make noise
4. The need to challenge and partner with government at the same time
5. The need to use the courts strategically
6. The need to support one another
This year the Liberia Federation commenced implementation of the Liberia Country Program. This program seeks to replicate the success of both the Ghana and Uganda Country Programs, funded by Cities Alliance, which bring together organized urban poor communities to partner with local and national government in order to transform settlements of the urban poor and build lasting partnerships for collaborative urban development nation-wide. Through peer-to-peer exchanges, the West Africa Hub and other SDI affiliates have supported the Liberia Federation to prepare for this important turning point in the country’s urban development trajectory.

Despite being one of SDI’s newest affiliates, the Liberian Federation has already commenced city-wide slum profiling and mapping as well as enumeration of Monrovia’s most at risk settlements. In so doing, they set off on a path to transform Monrovia into an inclusive city for all. In West Point, a settlement long threatened with eviction, the federation is giving each house a unique number, which not only becomes a house address and identification number for each household, but is also then linked to the household enumeration data. This data will be used to determine viable upgrading options for residents.

With support from the Kenyan affiliate, the Liberian Federation was trained in the use of GPS devices and is now able to digitize boundary maps and service points – a vital part of the profiling and enumeration process. They were also trained to administer profile questionnaires and household surveys. Moving around the settlement, often over rickety planks that serve as pathways in flood-riddled settlements, the federation meets fellow slum dwellers and explain who they are, why they are gathering information and how that information becomes power in the hands of organized communities. In the process the Liberian Federation grew in size and strength.

The Liberia Federation knows the point of the information gathering is to organize communities, to gather much needed data on slum settlements, to empower communities in their collective planning efforts, and ultimately to improve tenure security, services and housing for the urban poor. As part of the Liberia Country Program, the federation, supported by YMCA Liberia and SDI, will profile and map the entire Greater Monrovia. This will feed the development of upgrading plans, the City Development Strategy and the National Urban Policy and support enhanced dialogue between organized urban poor communities and city and national government.
OVERVIEW OF SERVICES MAPPED IN GHANA

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Streetlight</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Point</td>
<td>1,503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious Institutions</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garbage Collection</td>
<td>50</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
This year, the Ghana Federation is embarking upon its largest and most ambitious data collection process to date – city-wide profiling of seven municipalities in the Greater Accra Metropolitan Area (GAMA). GAMA is comprised of 11 districts, each of which has multiple sub-metros and many neighborhoods.

To date, the federation has mapped all slum pockets in 4 assemblies, which resulted in the mapping over 300 slum boundaries, over 4,000 service points and conducting over 85 settlement focus group discussions. The boundary and service mapping effort constitutes one of the largest citywide profiles within the SDI network to date. The federation is using this data to engage city government to advocate for greater budget allocations to basic service delivery in informal settlements. Federation members have learned to engage the budget preparation process and to ensure the city uses its profiling maps and reports to inform development implementation through city annual action plans.

At present the federation is undertaking an enumeration of Accra’s most at-risk settlement, Old Fadama. Situated in the heart of the city, Old Fadama is plagued by appalling sanitation and waste management, overcrowding, pollution and persistent forced eviction. The federation’s improved relations with the city and national government mean the time is ripe to enumerate the settlement and leverage the partnerships forged under the Ghana Country Program to develop eviction alternatives through in situ upgrading.
Within the past year, the Nigeria Federation has worked hard to strengthen and expand existing savings groups through trainings, mentorship and peer-to-peer exchanges. The Nigeria Federation has continued to expand daily savings and recently exceeded USD 12,000 in daily savings. To support the federation’s growth and meet demands to reach new cities within Nigeria, the Lagos Federation has conducted a series of exchanges to support the Port Harcourt Federation – particularly the waterfront communities where eviction threats are rife.

The Lagos Federation also conducted outreach to Cotonou, across the border in the Republic of Benin. Due to the strong ties between the minority Egun communities in Lagos and Cotonou, reaching across the border was a natural next step, and followed on a groundswell of demand from Cotonou for support from the Nigerian Federation. During the first outreach trip to Cotonou the federation launched 16 savings groups and conducted trainings on the core federation rituals in 3 different informal settlements.

This year also saw the Nigerian affiliate begin to discuss how savings, as fundamental building block of federations, is linked to bigger picture work and goals of the federation, such as in-situ construction projects as well as policy advocacy. The federation is strategizing on how to leverage its savings through the establishment of an Urban Poor Fund and is also engaged in partnerships with local and international academic institutions to address built environment challenges such as, water and sanitation, housing, etc. Maintaining and growing existing savings groups requires concerted effort, including through local exchanges and finding new solutions to existing problems, and also making available new opportunities.

The Nigerian Alliance notes that the federation has transformed over the past year, from a collection of savings groups into a body that is increasingly independent and capable of determining its own priorities and strategies for implementation. As such, it is better equipped to engage other stakeholders, including government actors, universities and other civil society organizations.
The “Pull Slum Pan Pipul” Program is part of a Comic Relief funded Four Cities Initiative that seeks to address the growing challenges of slum growth in Sub-Saharan Africa. As with each of the Four City Programs (the others operate in Kampala, Cape Town and Lusaka), the Federation of the Rural and Urban Poor (FEDURP) plays a major role as the key mobilizer of slum dwelling communities. The Four Cities Initiative seeks to improve the lives of slum dwellers through improved livelihoods, services and participation in urban governance. In the past year the federation has achieved the following, with support from CODOHSA and YMCA Sierra Leone:

**Training of savings and credit groups:** Three refresher trainings were carried out this year to deepen and strengthen the capacity and knowledge of group leaders and collectors especially after the end of the Ebola epidemics. FEDURP was also trained on leadership. A total of 77 (27 males and 50 females) from the saving groups and FEDURP leadership were reached in the training.

**Community profiling and enumeration:** 50 (29 males and 21 female) enumerators received training prior to the enumeration exercise. FEDURP is now trying out a digitalized system for data collection, via smart phones that was developed by CODOHSA. Extensive training was needed for the enumerators to understand how to use the system. The system was pre-tested at the SDI West Africa Hub meeting in Makeni. These suggestions will be taken into account before starting the city-wide profiling for Sierra Leone’s Know Your City Campaign. Four communities (KCG, Susan’s Bay, Marbella and Funkia) were enumerated this year. Sadly, the enumeration exercise had to be conducted twice for Marbella and CKG as the completed questionnaires stored in the FEDURP office in Kroo Bay were destroyed by flash floods in September (before being digitized). This posed the very big challenge of having to redo the enumeration for these communities.

**Tenure security:** Following government announcement to remove all coastal slums in Freetown immediately after the September 16th flooding disaster in Freetown, the federation asked CODOHSA for support in order to hold a peaceful sit down observance protest on World Habitat Day. Moe Wharf, Marbella and Susan’s Bay settlements were supported with a sandbanking project to minimize flood impact. Subsequent floods have revealed these measures were inadequate and alternatives are being explored and will be informed by city-wide profiling.

**Peer to peer exchange visits:** 13 local exchanges were organized in 10 communities in order to build knowledge of FEDURP communities on resilience to disasters and linking this to savings group mobilization. 45 FEDURP members (29 female and 16 males) participated in these exchanges. Four international exchanges were carried out by CODOHSA and FEDURP members this year.

**Savings Groups:** A total of 20 savings groups were mobilized in all 4 cities with a total membership of 287 in this past year. By being members of small daily savings groups, women with the lowest and least stable incomes are able to create a consolidated voice to help bring about the changes they seek in their city. They also realize their capacity to influence and change the nature of leadership and responsibility from individual to collective, within and between communities, and thus effect even greater change. This is the essence of SDI’s Federation-building model: by addressing the needs and aspirations of the city’s poorest women, the rest of the community begins to see meaning in coming together.
SDI’s first engagement in Latin America traces back to the small town of Leticia on the Colombia/Brazil border. With support from SDI, community members organized savings schemes and secured land for indigenous migrant families. Even with the relative success of these programs, Leticia’s isolation meant that replication and scaling up to larger projects with more impact was difficult. Acknowledging these difficulties, SDI reached out to the Brazilian Secretary of Housing to initiate a separate engagement. This interaction led to the formulation of an SDI representative NGO, Interacao, and a small network of women-led savings groups. These partnerships became the driving force in developing the emerging Latin America Hub. This hub presently centers on the relationship between SDI affiliates in Brazil and Bolivia, where federations have taken root.

KNOW YOUR FEDERATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bolivia</th>
<th>Brazil</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Cities / Municipalities</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slum Settlements</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savers</td>
<td>529</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>1,083</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savings Groups</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>49</td>
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</table>

IMPROVE YOUR CITY BENEFITING HOUSEHOLDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bolivia</th>
<th>Brazil</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Water</td>
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<td>4,564</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sanitation</td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drainage</td>
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<td>Waste Management</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>1,209</td>
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</table>
In 2011, the Bolivian Federation, in partnership with Harvard University, launched an initiative called Refresh Bolivia. The partnership has been growing and evolving over the past four years using an integrated approach that focuses on the slums of Cochabamba. The partnership’s main aim is to facilitate improved access to safe water and sanitation in slum communities as a key strategy for promoting better health.

Through these partnerships, collective solutions were developed within the community. An innovative pilot project for sanitary solutions emerged and composting toilets (which require far less water and space than conventional toilets) were installed in Cochabamba’s slums. Through an iterative process, the Harvard students and the federation in Cochabamba held eight health forums to learn about first aid, maternal health, good hygiene and water management.

Over the past year, the partnership produced seven new sanitation units and renovations to three. The Bolivia Federation took vital steps toward developing the capacity to play a central role in urban development in the country, especially centered around improving public health and safety. By organizing and forging partnerships, developing affordable in-situ upgrading solutions and bringing efforts to the attention of government, the federation has shifted perceptions of the role of the urban poor in urban development.

“

MARIA EUGENIA TORRICO
FROM LOCAL AFFILIATE NGO, RED DE ACCIÓN COMUNITARIA
“The partnership between the community and the students produced toilets, but at the heart of the partnership lies a common goal to address much larger community needs around income generation, collective access, and a change in mindsets around the role of urban poor in making lasting change.”
The Brazilian Alliance recently started a partnership with the Brazil Bank Foundation (linked to one of the country’s major public banks), in which the bank is financing community-driven enumerations in 124 housing estates linked to the My House My Life (Minha Casa Minha Vida) program. Most of the dwellers in these housing estates (over 80,000 families) came from different slums and at-risk areas in the city and have little knowledge about their neighbors and the new communities in which they find themselves. Indeed, the My House My Life was itself formulated and implemented in close partnership with the federated savings groups and their enumeration data.

The alliance has had to work hard to assure communities that there is a need for organizing after moving into formal housing. The Brazil Bank Foundation support will facilitate continued community action. Through profiling the new neighborhoods, these communities will identify and collectively solve a different set of problems and begin a dialogue with government where appropriate.

This was an important milestone for the Brazilian affiliate, which works with many communities that already live in formal housing. The organizing challenge for such affiliates is to demonstrate the benefits of organizing after the formal house is constructed in the process of building functioning neighborhoods. Some of the benefits of continued organizing in such formal developments include: condominium management, mitigation of factors leading to depreciation of house values, land regularization, social problems such as drug trafficking and maintaining a strong dialogue with local government.

**INTERAÇÃO**

“The autorrecenseamento is a census done by the residents of an area. It includes information from traditionally present in municipal records, such as demographic and socioeconomic profile as well as data that the community chose to include, such as the number of people with special needs, elderly people with limited mobility, among others. Since decided by the community, both quantitative and qualitative data can be part of this census.”
Over the course of 2015 – 2016, SDI has continued to pursue its global advocacy mandate of promoting a people-centred citywide upgrading approach in the global arena. Our advocacy work remains rooted in the experiences of grassroots federations of the urban poor, and our partnerships and activities at on the global stage are determined by the anticipated impact they will make on federations’ local processes. From this perspective, participation in high-level advocacy events affords federations the opportunity to showcase successes and share lessons learned in order to build citywide, regional and international alliances that escalate impact. SDI continues to develop and nurture relationships with key partners in order to affect greater influence on the policy outcomes of Habitat III and to deepen SDI’s impact going forward. SDI’s key partners in the global advocacy space over the past year include Cities Alliance, United Cities and Local Governments Africa (UCLG-A), Women in the Informal Economy: Globalising and Organising (WIEGO), Huairou Commission and UN Habitat.

In addition, key engagements have included our continued role as a lead partner in the World Urban Campaign (WUC), nomination of community leaders and support staff to serve as expert advisers for two Habitat III Policy Units (The Right to the City and Cities for All, and National Urban Policies) and our nomination to serve as Chair of the Grassroots Constituency Group of the General Assembly of Partners (GAP), a special initiative of WUC to support stakeholders’ engagement and contributions to Habitat III. More details on these activities are included below:

• SDI has participated in meetings of Habitat III Policy Unit 1: Right to the City. Sarah Nandudu, a national community leader of the National Slum Dweller Federation of Uganda, has contributed key policy inputs to the documents emerging from these meetings, ensuring that there is specific mention of the inclusion of the informal sector(s) of the city in policy making and development planning.

• As members of the Cities Alliance Joint Working Program (JWP) for Habitat III, SDI has entered into a partnership with GIZ to produce a collection of multimedia case studies highlighting the work of Cities Alliance members to serve as supporting evidence for the position paper developed by the JWP for Habitat III. The central argument of the position paper is that partnerships between organized communities and national/local government will be critical to achieving consensus-based solutions for urban development that are stronger, more sustainable and more accountable to the urban majority. These case studies, which feature SDI’s work via the Cities Alliance Country Programs in Uganda and Ghana and the Know Your City campaign, highlight ‘true’ partnerships, where organized civil society collaborates with local authorities, and where elements of co-production are evident.

• SDI continues to play an active role in both the World Urban Campaign and the General Assembly of Partners – two key platforms for civil society engagement in the debates and dialogues towards Habitat III. In the past year, SDI was nominated to serve as Chair of GAP’s Grassroots Partner Constituency Group (PCG). As chair of the Grassroots PCG, SDI has played a key role in ensuring that the development priorities of the urban poor are appropriately addressed in the Habitat III outcome document, The New Urban Agenda.

**SDI’s key messages in the Habitat III debates include:**

• Specific mention of the inclusion of the urban informal sector in policy making and development planning;
• The critical role of active partnerships between local governments and organized communities of the urban poor;
• Implementation and monitoring of the SDGs must take place at the local level, and in partnership with organized communities of the urban poor;
• Community-driven data must serve as the basis for these partnerships, and for the monitoring and implementation of the SDGs.
SDI has to move beyond donor dependence, both institutionally and financially. We must take the lead to reformulate roles and relationships that will produce new financial instruments and equity flows.

Through SDI’s global finance facility, the Urban Poor Fund International, we have provided seed capital to land, infrastructure, and housing projects rooted in multi-stakeholder partnerships. These projects demonstrate the catalytic role that organized communities can play in slum upgrading and poverty eradication strategies that are capable of achieving scale.

A handful of federations have now reached a level of maturity where they are able to implement projects that generate net financial returns while simultaneously sticking to SDI’s two core objectives of influencing the political space and providing access to basic services for the urban poor. These projects fall into four broad categories: a) extracting land value; b) providing public services at affordable rates (such as sanitation and energy); c) extracting value along the building materials supply chain through the ownership of the manufacturing and distribution processes and d) including commercial elements in a housing upgrading intervention (e.g. hawker markets, retail space. Moreover, these projects provide a means through which SDI is able to pioneer alternative economies of shelter production in order to shape more inclusive urban development.

In addition, to generating investment capital from new sources of finance, SDI is making investments in a more diverse range of projects with greater capacity to generate financial benefits. In all of these cases, SDI is clear that it has to balance this revenue-generating component with the substantive objectives of the network.
## SDI DONOR INCOME 2015-2016 (USD)

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<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Income (USD)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sida</td>
<td>3,058,861</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norad</td>
<td>1,355,956</td>
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<td>UN Habitat</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,222,947</strong></td>
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### Pie Chart

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- **UNDP**: 50,461 USD
- **Tikva Grassroots**: 40,000 USD
- **UN Habitat**: 20,000 USD
There are many ways to stay involved with SDI's network. SDI is built from the community engagement and you can be apart of that too.

**DONATE**  
Visit our website to donate at sdinet.org

**FACEBOOK**  
Visit our Facebook page and stay up to date with everything we’ve been doing across the globe.  
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