

2nd Asia-Pacific Housing Forum

Urban Poverty Housing Solutions

7th – 9th September 2009, Manila, Philippines

Call for Papers and Participation

Overview

More than one billion people around the world live in urban slums and this figure is rising as towns and cities continue to expand. The 2nd Asia-Pacific Housing Forum will examine and propose concrete solutions for housing the urban poor and for dealing with existing slums. The forum will look at alternative approaches and scalable models involving national and local government authorities, businesses and social organizations working together and building on each other's strengths to provide housing solutions.

Slums are particularly vulnerable to fire, floods and other disasters. The forum will provide a venue where major players and stakeholders in relief and development can explore strategies to bridge the gaps between emergency relief and sustainable redevelopment.

Themes and Tracks

A. INNOVATIONS IN HOUSING THE URBAN POOR

This track is practitioner-oriented and focuses on sharing successful, scalable, and sustainable models and cases on urban poverty housing solutions. Academics and practitioners are invited to present research papers and case studies related to the following topics:

- Housing Policy
- Land Tenure
- Housing Technology, Production and Distribution
- Housing Finance
- Community Participation and Empowerment
- Climate Change and Poverty Housing

B. DISASTER RESPONSE: RETHINKING EMERGENCIES

This track deals with the issue of how to effectively address the shelter needs of the urban poor in the context of disaster preparedness and response. It will also look at strategies and models of sustainable relief and reconstruction where rehabilitation efforts are integrated into long-term development strategies. Among the possible topics are:

- Linking emergency response with permanent shelter
- Innovative disaster response financing
- Coordination and protocol in disaster response
- Sustainable relief and reconstruction

C. QUICK GUIDES ON HOUSING THE POOR

Participants are invited to join a training event on the "Quick Guides for Housing the Poor in Asia and the Pacific" as developed by UNESCAP. The seven guides deal on: Urbanization, Low-Income Housing, Land, Evictions, Housing Finance, Community-Based Development, and Rental Housing. Participants can join this training event as a whole track or may select certain training sessions most relevant to them.

D. “LEADERS OF TOMORROW MEET LEADERS OF TODAY”: STUDENT DIALOGUE ON URBAN HOUSING SOLUTIONS

Universities from Asia, the Pacific and beyond are invited to send student representatives to attend the 2nd Asia-Pacific Housing Forum. This will offer an opportunity for the leaders of tomorrow to meet the leaders of today. University students studying housing, urban planning, architecture, property management, development and other related disciplines are invited to attend the forum and hear ideas from top experts in housing solutions. A special platform will offer students an opportunity to study housing issues facing one of the cities within Metro Manila as well as an opportunity to discuss ideas and solutions with forum speakers and housing specialists.

Who Should Attend

The Forum is of interest to all who are concerned and engaged in providing urban poverty housing solutions like architects, academics, developers, urban planners, policymakers, NGOs, donor agencies, researchers, private and public sector actors. We invite you to join us at the September 2009 2nd Asia-Pacific Housing Forum in Manila, Philippines to:

- present a research paper or case study;
- participate in a dialogue or panel discussion;
- showcase your initiative or project;
- join a training event;
- participate in a “Leaders Today & Tomorrow” dialogue;
- be a participant.

Opportunity to Present a Paper

Research papers and case studies are welcomed for the various topics under the tracks on Innovations in Housing the Urban Poor and Disaster Response. For those wishing to present a research paper or case study, please submit your abstract of not more than 500 words to the Forum Secretariat by **31 March 2009**. Each abstract submission should include the name, affiliation and contact details of the author(s) as well as the topic you are submitting under. If submitting more than one paper, please indicate your priority. All abstracts will be acknowledged. Acceptance will be notified by 15 April 2009.

“Leaders of Tomorrow Meet Leaders of Today”: Student Dialogue

Approximately 50 places will be available for students to attend. This will be most beneficial for graduate students and undergraduates in their final year. Universities and tertiary educational institutions wishing to nominate student representatives (up to 5 per institution) should do so by **31 March 2009**. Student participants will be charged a special conference rate (some bursaries will be available) but will be responsible for their own costs to and from Manila. Acceptance will be notified by 30 April 2009.

For more information on the Forum and to register your participation, please contact:

2nd Asia-Pacific Housing Forum - Conference Secretariat
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