SAVE THE DATE

Harnessing The Potential Of Urbanisation In Least Developed Countries

Monday 17 October 2016 5:30PM to 7:00PM

Conference Room A, One UN Pavilion, Quito, Ecuador

The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) and the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) are organising a side event in the margins of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development.

The population of LDCs is projected to double in size from 954 million inhabitants in 2015 to 1.9 billion in 2050. At the same time, the percentage of urban dwellers is expected to grow from 32 per cent in 2015 to 50 per cent by 2050. In effect, two thirds of the urban space LDCs will have is to be built over the next 35 years. Currently, the opportunity presents itself for LDCs to leverage urbanisation to its benefit to lift millions of people out of poverty and adopt a path to sustainability.

The participants will share country-level experiences and lessons learnt from urban development strategies and consider policies for addressing the growing number of urban management challenges facing LDCs. The event will explore options for expanding infrastructure, connectivity and technology; affordable housing and access to basic services among other areas which are essential to induce structural transformation that is currently lagging behind the urbanisation process happening in several LDCs.

Moderated by: Diana Mitlin, Professor of Global Urbanism, Managing Director of Global Development Institute, University of Manchester.

Speakers: Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and High-Representative, UN-OHRLLS; Ms. Grete Faremo, Under-Secretary-General and UNOPS Executive Director; Mr. Arthur Minsat, Economist, OECD Development Centre; Mr. Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Senior Director of the Social, Urban, Rural & Resilience Global Practice, The World Bank; Representatives from LDCs and their Development Partners, Civil Society representatives.

ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

For further information, contact UN-OHRLLS: Ms. Shifaana Thowfeequ at +1-212-963-4747 or thowfeequ@un.org