



25th SESSION OF THE
GOVERNING COUNCIL
17 - 23 APRIL 2015 ♦ NAIROBI

Tuesday, 21 April 2015 – Venue: Conference Room 9
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
Nairobi, Kenya

SIDE EVENT

Global Partnership on Promoting Urban Rural – Linkages

Ax:son Johnson Foundation

Background

Urban - rural linkages ties together a broad range of themes and an equally broad range of actors. Bringing together these actors can create a clear, structured approach to the issue. This will consequentially assist UN-Habitat in achieving sustainable urbanization. As such, with the thematic diversity relevant to urban-rural linkages, the best approach to promoting and carrying out projects is arguably to establish a global partnership that in its totality encompasses expertise on all relevant topics.

In order to mobilize resources and support for advancing the urban-rural linkages agenda, it is important to establish an initiative encompassing all stakeholders. One such approach might be the establishment of a 'Global Partnership on Promoting Urban-Rural Linkages'. UN-Habitat, UNDP, IFAD, FAO, UNCRD, UNEP, IIED, OECD and several other development entities have made significant progress in raising the awareness and understanding of urban-rural linkages. Bringing together these actors can create a clear, structured approach to the issue.

Purpose

The proposed sub-theme of 25th UN-Habitat GC: Enhancing urban-rural linkages across the continuum of human settlements to harness the transformative power of urbanization for sustainable development reaffirms the necessity to move away from dichotomizing the discussion of sustainable development into rural and urban. The theme also shows the importance of how partnerships, collaboration and unity in action, can yield dividends for all citizens, regardless if they live in urban or rural areas.

Objectives

- Identify various thematic issues in urban – rural linkages;
- Establish dialogue in relation to various thematic areas in urban – rural synergies;
- Provide clear directives and action items for policy, legislation and planning agencies amongst partners; and
- Establish a partnership on urban – rural linkages.

Target Audience

- The event will bring together partners from different organisations that have been engaging on issues of Urban Rural Linkages including:
- United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
- United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)
- African Centre for Cities
- Cities Alliance
- Ax:son Johnson Foundation
- Republic of Uganda

Programme

- ❖ Key note presentation by one of the partners or Executive Director [tbc] (10 Minutes)
- ❖ Presentation of a Southern and Northern Perspective (10 minutes)
- ❖ Discussions by panelists and plenary steered by chair of the session (20 minutes)
- ❖ Concluding remarks by chair of the session (5 minutes)

Organizers

Ax:son Johnson Foundation