

U20 Side event: International Symposium

– Visionary cities, Inclusive cities –

May 20th 2019, Monday 13:00 to 17:00 at World Bank Tokyo Development Learning Center (TDLC)

The Conference:

The World Bank Group (WBG) is hosting a Side Event for the U20 Mayors Summit, an International Symposium on Visionary cities, Inclusive cities. The conference hosted with support from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) and the Government of Japan aims to serve as a forum for countries to come together to learn from each other and from Japan, on how to solve complex problems of exclusion of vulnerable groups in cities.

Overview

Social inclusion has catapulted to become one of the most challenging and urgent agendas for both OECD and non-OECD countries. It is intrinsic to the “Leave No One Behind” philosophy that underpins the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Japan has made huge strides in advancing social inclusion. From an impressive reduction of poverty to provision of basic services for all, to care and attention for the needs of the elderly and persons with disabilities and ensuring that post-disaster programs benefit all, Japan can show many other countries, a way forward. City governments have been at the forefront of actions towards social inclusion, and policy and program innovations at the city and prefecture level abound in Japan and show the remarkable diversity of the country. These innovations have tread a fine balance between state-of-the-art responses and being in tune with the culture and values of the country and context. Yet, Japan is committed to doing more in this area, including by providing support to other countries. At the city level, similarly, mayors are committed to identifying local and regional social issues and to addressing them through mix of local, national and international expertise.

Like Japan, the World Bank’s Platform on Social Inclusion, is also committed to enhancing social inclusion for all its client countries. Rooted in the twin goals of the World Bank Group (WBG) – that of ending extreme poverty and boosting shared prosperity –the Platform includes a mix of activities that range from research, to technical assistance and financing projects. It also has a strong network of practitioners affiliated to it, both internally, within the WBG, as well as externally. Its objectives resonate with the philosophy of the SDGs and with specific goals and targets therein.

The World Bank Group [defines social inclusion](#) as:

- The process of improving the terms for individuals and groups to take part in society, and more specifically as,
- The process of improving the ability, opportunity, and dignity of those disadvantaged on the basis of their identity to take part in society.

The WBG flagship report [Inclusion Matters: The Foundation for Shared Prosperity](#) argues that social inclusion can be planned and achieved. The WBG moreover acknowledges that while social inclusion is a moral imperative, there can be serious costs to not addressing it front and center.

About Urban 20 (U20):

Urban 20 (U20) is a city diplomacy initiative launched on December 12, 2017. It seeks to highlight the expertise of cities in addressing a range of global development challenges and to develop a joint position and collective messages to inform and enrich the discussions of national leaders at the G20 Summit through unique urban perspectives.



Agenda

Registration (12:00-12:30)		
13:00 13:10	<i>Opening Remarks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tsuyoshi Yamamoto, Special Advisor to the Governor on International Affairs, Tokyo Metropolitan Government
Key Note		
13:10 13:40	<i>Building visionary cities</i> <i>Social inclusion in a changing world</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, Senior Director, Global Practice for Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience (GSURR), WBG
Plenary Session		
13:40 14:55	<i>Plenary: How can cities be at the frontier of achieving social inclusion?</i> Communities that leave no one behind: What are the roles of state and non-state actors? What is the role of policy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mayor Jan Vapaavuori, Mayor of Helsinki, Finland Mayor Ahmed Aboutaleb, City of Rotterdam, Holland Councilor Nkosenhle Madlala, Councilor of Durban, South Africa Ellen Hamilton, Lead Urban Specialist, WBG Moderator: Maitreyi Das, Global Lead of Social Inclusion, GSURR, WBG
14:55	<i>Break</i>	
Technical Session: Building Economically, Spatially and Socially Inclusive Cities		
15:05 16:15	<i>Panel Discussion 1: Leaving no one behind –in the city – Enabling citizens</i> What would be the process of improving the terms for individuals and groups, and the ability, opportunity, and dignity of those disadvantaged based on their identity to take part in society?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Anis Baswedan, Governor of Jakarta, Indonesia Secretary Luiz Alvaro Salles Aguiar de Menezes, Secretary of Sao Paulo, Brazil Aya Abe, Professor, Tokyo Metropolitan University Toshimichi Takemura, Senior Officer, The Nippon Foundation Moderator: Sameh Wahba, Director, GSURR, WBG
16:15 17:20	<i>Panel Discussion 2: Expanding opportunities for the urban poor - what do inclusive cities look like? What can the city government do?</i> How can cities build resilience and inclusion? How can inclusion be reflected in spatial planning? How can the city ensure connectivity to job markets? To services? To spaces?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chief Resilience Officer Santiago Uribe, Medellin, Colombia Masako Okuhira, Special Advisor, General Affairs Department, The Sasakawa Peace Foundation Soumya Kapoor, Social Inclusion Advisor Toshio Mizuuchi, Professor, Osaka City University Moderator: Horacio Terraza, Lead Urban Specialist & Urban 20 Lead, GSURR, WBG
17:20 17:25	<i>Closing Remarks</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ede Ijjasz-Vasquez, WBG