SIDE EVENT 2:
Human rights - a transformative framework for the achievement of SDG 11 and the New Urban Agenda

PRESENTATIONS

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Human rights - a transformative framework for the achievement of SDG11 and the NUA


Organized by: OHCHR

Moderator: Ms. Afsrin Ali, PIDF

Speakers:
- Mr. Robert Vaughan, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR
- Ms. Sabira Coelho, Project manager IOM
- Mr. Mark Borg, Team Leader Programme Management, PIDF
- Mr. Jeffrey Fine, UNDRR
- Ms. Genevieve Jiva, Programme manager OXFAM

The 2030 Development Agenda aims to elevate all individuals and communities throughout the world, this will be attainable for ‘all’ if an inclusive transformative framework is adopted. Sustainability of cities and communities (SDG 11) can be achieved with a human rights-based approach. A human rights framework allows all individuals, particularly those in situation of social, environmental and economic vulnerability as well as marginalized groups to express their opinions and take ownership in the decision-making process, in order help create inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities and communities.

That is why both the SDGs and the New Urban Agenda (NUA) have put human rights and the principle of “leave no one behind” at their center. Principle 11 (human rights) of the New Urban Agenda (NUA) ‘seeks to promote inclusivity and ensure that all inhabitants, of present and future generations, without discrimination of any kind, are able to inhabit and produce just, safe, healthy, accessible, affordable, resilient and sustainable cities and human settlements to foster prosperity and quality of life for all’. This goal can only be achieved in the Pacific when also seen through the lens of a climate change context and Principle 12 of NUA, because of the future potential impact’s climate change and extreme weather conditions will have on Pacific based States.
GOAL: PACIFIC GREEN CITIES

Mr. Mark Borg, Team Leader Programme Management, PIDF

“Green City is one that is more environmentally friendly and brings to mind walking spaces, clean non-fossil fuel vehicles, a city economy powered by renewables, plastic free shopping and eating, abundance of trees and other biodiversity... human rights are behind many of these features, and others, of green cities. It is certainly in our interest to have a healthy lifestyle which many of these changes would contribute to...”
PORT VILA
“a focus on green buildings, offering better, safer shelter to all, gives people affordable healthier buildings free from toxins and with environmental features such as better aeration, better use of sustainable materials, uses natural paints, net zero carbon concrete, self-sustainability in their energy needs through proper deployment of renewable energy.”

NUKU’ALOFA
“the focus would be on creating Green Jobs and transitioning those jobs already in existence to greener models of themselves. This implies that the jobs would be safer and fairer. In the long run all this would lead to a fairer more balanced economy that benefits everyone and not just the few.”
PORT MORESBY

“a Green City needs to deal with its waste in much smarter ways. The target needs to be zero waste leading to the closure of our waste landfills... Waste of one sector or industry needs to become a resource for another... leading to a circular economy with zero waste.”