

Title of the presentation	Strengthening of livelihoods and the informal economy during Informal Settlement Upgrading with link to the green economy – An examination by the Participatory Slum Upgrading Program (PSUP)
Sub-theme	Green Economy
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Abstract	<p>The Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme is politically supported by the ACP Secretariat, financed by the European Commission (EC) and implemented by UN-Habitat. Since 2008 the program is being implemented in 35 countries, out of which five are in the Caribbean (Antigua and Barbuda, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago). The PSUP methodology looks at informal settlements in a holistic way aiming at improving the lives of slum dwellers on environmental, economic, social and physical spheres.</p> <p>Through data collection and analysis PSUP has a good overview of the economic realities in informal settlements as well as needs for green informal settlement upgrading. Evident became the important productivity and livelihood dynamics operating in informal settlements which not only provide livelihoods to the informal settlers but also have key links, contributions and relevance for the overall urban economy. Therefore PSUP is aiming at mind set changes with urban administrators that informal settlers are valuable elements of the urban economy. PSUP advocates for integration of ecological as well as economical and livelihood improvements beyond the classic physical upgrading during informal settlement upgrading. In ideal cases informal settlement upgrading should contribute to formalization of economies, improved livelihoods and job creation as well as improved direct and overall city environment and climate resilience.</p> <p>In its submission PSUP will share its findings on economic and environmental statuses of informal settlements such as income levels, economic activities, the role of the informal economy, environmental risks and damages. From there conclusions on realistic informal settlement upgrading scenarios which link physical upgrading of provision of security of tenure, water and sanitation with ecological and economic opportunities for the poor urban neighbourhoods as well as the city as a whole. Further it will be shown how PSUP can be a useful methodology and tool to contribute to towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (particularly SDG 11 “Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable”) and the New Urban Agenda; in particular its focus on poverty reduction and inequality reduction. Therefore PSUP findings are also relevant for Caribbean countries in localizing and implementing the SDGs and NUA as well as giving valuable contributions into the discussion around a Caribbean Urban Agenda.</p>