Transforming Slums to Liveable Habitat: Odisha Model

Organiser(s)/ Institution(s)

Housing & Urban Development Department, Government of Odisha & Tata Trusts

Background

The session on Transforming Slums to Liveable Habitat: Odisha Model poor will take place on 12-14 March 2019 at 3rd India and Development Conference 2019. The session is co-organized by the Government of Odisha and Tata Trusts.

Odisha is one of the major states of India, urbanizing at a fast rate. As per the 2011 census, while the total growth rate of population for the state over the past decade was 13.97%, it was 26.8% for the urban areas. Much of this high urban growth rate is due to the migration of poor people from rural to urban areas in search of better livelihood opportunities, and this also contributes to the growth of informal settlements or ‘slums’. This increasing slum population poses high demands on the urban local bodies to provide land for housing and basic services. Lack of legal land tenure has a detrimental impact on their overall quality of life. Without a certificate of residence, they are barred from getting loans for starting businesses, accessing basic services or finding a formal job.

In August 2017, Government of Odisha enacted landmark legislation the “Odisha Land Rights to Slum Dwellers, Act 2017” to enable identifying, securing and transforming of land rights to slum dwellers in all municipalities and Notified Area Councils (NACs). In all stages of the project execution, advanced technology was used to bring in ease of doing this accurately, create transparency in the process, remove discrepancies, reduce the dependency on human interventions and bring in speed in execution. While mapping was done through Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (drones), data collection was done through GIS and digital based applications, and the project was managed through digital networking. This is perhaps the first time that UAVs and other technologies are being used to create high-resolution maps of slums and a household database at such a large scale in India. The project, aiming to benefit a million individuals, promises to cover electricity, healthcare, education, sanitation, anganwadis, skill development needs of these areas But more importantly, provide “self-respect and freedom from the perpetual fear of eviction.

Objective: The objective of the session is to discuss anecdotes of the land rights policy in the state, application of innovative technology, processes and partnerships in the project execution and best practices followed in Transforming Slums to Liveable Habitat.
Season plan

14-Mar-19  Panel 24: Transforming Slums to Liveable Habitat: Odisha Model  11.00 - 13.00 Hrs

Moderator  Pranab R Choudhury, NRMC-CLG

Panellist
Shri G. Mathi Vatham, Principal Secretary, Housing & Urban Development Department, Government of Odisha
Shishir Ranjan Dash, Lead- Urban Habitat, Tata Trusts
Shikha Srivastava, Head, Migration and Urban Habitat, Tata Trusts