



GLOBAL STUDIO I

Future Directions Declaration 2005

We, the Global Studio participants assembled in Istanbul to encourage the involvement of architects and planners in placing their practical skills at the service of the urban poor:

Given the positive reception of Global Studio and People Building Better Cities at the XXII UIA Congress in Istanbul, Turkey, student, academic, professional and para-professional participants affirm the importance for design professionals to assist in implementing the Millennium Development Goals by 2015/2020, through the application of their knowledge, wisdom and skills, and through encouraging the wide participation of present and future generations of architects and planners in this effort. A key element is participatory planning and design involving a closer collaboration between professionals and communities of the urban poor;

To this end participants resolve that Global Studio be established as a not-for-profit foundation with an International Steering Committee, working with the Millennium Project and its follow-up activities, and relevant international, national and local institutions and bodies. To achieve these objectives, Global Studio participants resolve to promote the following:

- An architectural and planning education that specifically includes improving the lives of the urban poor- i.e. slum dwellers, low-income inner-city residents, the homeless and displaced persons;
 - A professional education and practice that places the poor at the centre of development, and acknowledges that they must be active agents in shaping their future, in line with the recommendations of the UN Millennium Project's Task Force report 'A Home in the City';
 - Dialogue with governments, legislators and indigenous institutions in order to promote and influence the radical policy changes needed to implement the above objectives;
 - A UIA focus on educating its members to participate more effectively in promoting futures that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable for the urban poor- and acknowledge that a multi disciplinary approach is required to achieve this end. Specifically and urgently we call on UIA to establish a registry of professionals, educators, practitioners and community based and not-for-profit organisations committed to working to improve the lives of the urban and rural poor. Such registry is intended to serve as a resource to assist people displaced by forced evictions, natural and manmade disasters and those needing emergency and longer term rehabilitation and reconstruction. The registry will be an essential tool to encourage pathways into this type of work for entering as well as experienced professionals;
 - Constructive and equitable national and international partnerships between educators, practitioners, community members and governments, with a view to scaling up the effectiveness of participatory approaches to improving the built environment;
 - That the Global Studio and People Building Better Cities be adopted as a sustainable model for creating awareness, building friendships and peace, network and capacity building at major international professional events;
- That Global Studio work with governments, international organizations, academic institutions, NGOs and CBOs, professional and community organisations as appropriate: eg World Urban Forum, Vancouver 2006, future UIA Congresses in 2008, 2011, United Cities and Local Governments meetings connected to the Millennium Cities Campaign, etc;
- That the opportunities for innovation in participatory education, research and community engagement of relevance to the urban poor be at the heart of curricula development in all schools.

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C/- Anna Rubbo

Anna.rubbo@sydney.edu.au