

## HARARE SLUM UPGRADING PROGRESS REPORT - November 2012

### Background

The Harare Slum Upgrading 5-Year Project that is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is now transitioning into Year 3. Whilst Year 1 focused on documenting informal settlements in and around Harare and capacity-building for the three implementing partners [City of Harare, Dialogue on Shelter and Zimbabwe Homeless People's Federation], Year 2's emphasis was on undertaking a housing pilot project that showcases densification and affordability principles. However, besides this, the Harare Team [COH, DOS and ZIHOPFE] also undertook crucial activities during the course of Year 2 and the table below summarizes progress and challenges that have been experienced with regard to these activities.



Activity #	Activity Description	Progress	Challenges
6	City Upgrading Strategy - the rationale for this activity was to develop a strategy document that provides a clear policy framework on how the COH would deal with informal settlements or slums in the context of upgrading and urban renewal. The vision around this activity is to provide a progressive mechanism for addressing issues of informality as opposed to evictions without alternatives.	City Slum Upgrading Strategy produced through a consultative process that engaged all the City Departments and communities. The strategy document has now been adopted by Council.	Nil
7	Dzivarasekwa Extension Densification Pilot - the main objective of this activity is to construct 16 house models and infrastructure for 480 families. The goal of this activity is to demonstrate how cities and the urban poor can partner and learn around slum upgrading projects and in this case using an in-situ model. The activity also seeks to pilot increased settlement densities that are realized at affordable costs for the urban poor.	A single low-cost architectural design has been developed and the project is building variations of the same plan for the model units. The 16 house models are almost complete and at different levels of completion. 16 units have been roofed with the major outstanding task being plastering and floors. Water trenches have been excavated and pipes laid. Sewer installation is still in progress with excavation laying of pipes currently underway. Clearing of the first layer of the road was done and the removal on the second layer is in progress and this should then be followed by compaction and depositing of gravel.	Nil

Activity #	Activity Description	Progress	Challenges
8	Slum Upgrading Finance Facility Study - the main thrust of this activity is to enable the project partners to conduct a study on existing financing gaps around low-cost housing as well as recommending a sustainable slum upgrading finance facility that works for the urban poor. The learning-oriented programmes under this activity included reflection and review meetings together with exposure visits. Ultimately, the activity aims to lead to the establishment of a jointly-managed finance facility whose contributions are drawn from the City and the urban poor that has the potential of attracting further investments.	Three workshops were conducted bring together local and international stakeholders. The workshops were attended by Zimbabwe Homeless People's Federation membership, housing co-operatives and financial institutions. Delegates from Slum Dwellers International [SDI] were also part of these discussions including countries like South Africa, Zambia, Malawi, Namibia and Kenya. Exposure visits to countries that have implemented finance facilities similar to the envisioned model were also conducted and the countries visited are Namibia, Uganda and India. All these learnings have produced a proposed finance facility document that has been adopted by Council.	Nil
9	Review of regulations and streamlining of approval processes - the thinking behind this activity is to initiate a process of reflecting on the existing housing regulations with a view of aligning them to current socio-economic realities. The activity therefore entailed city departments and community consultations on the existing regulatory bottlenecks.	An extensive consultation exercise on the current housing regulations and city's capacity challenges was conducted culminating in a report with recommendations that was adopted by Council.	Nil
10	Documentation - this activity involved documenting the project's experiences with the aim of promoting pro-poor slum upgrading processes. The idea was to disseminate this information and more specifically use these documented experiences as tools for influencing changes in urban development policies.	A Slum Profile Report Edition 1 documenting slums that were profiled in and around Harare was produced and officially launched by the Mayor of Harare at the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair in Bulawayo. Two DVD covering the project were earmarked in Year 2 and to date the first DVD capturing the entire project activities has since been produced and the other one focusing on the Dzivarasekwa Extension housing densification project is in progress.	Nil

Activity #	Activity Description	Progress	Challenges
11	Continuation of slum profiles and enumerations - this activity focused on the continued profiling and enumeration of slum settlements in and around Harare. The understanding around this activity is that slums are often invisible hence profiling them will help to bring them onto the city's development agenda. In addition, profiling slums is a recognition that residents have a right to the city as well as a huge step towards building inclusive cities.	A total of 31 slums were profiled in Year 2 adding onto 37 slum settlements that were documented in Year 1. The exercise also involved mapping these slum settlements followed by inputting this data into a GIS-based computer system. Enumeration exercises in Gunhill informal settlement	Nil