



# Global Peer-Learning for Just & Sustainable Cities: Fostering Sustainable Construction in Informal Urban Areas

## Ressource Collection

Based on the discussions and questions raised in our event on March 21, we have compiled this resource collection. This is not an exhaustive list, but hopefully a helpful starting point for further reading.

### Roof over our heads (ROOH):

- Publication about ROOH (campaign, structure, actions on the ground & learnings): <https://campaignforrooh.org/books/>
- Campaign phase 1: Video presenting findings from a learning lab in Surat, India, and documenting the challenges and vulnerabilities faced by the communities due to climate hazards, <https://youtu.be/NSzXsocBUo?feature=shared>
- Campaign phase 2: Video showcasing on the ground implementation of ROOH co-produced by the communities with locally available techniques and materials, easily adaptable and affordable, <https://youtu.be/3mFvqH9NYgo?feature=shared>
- Recording of ROOH event at COP28: Building resilient homes for people living in informality within cities, <https://youtu.be/GZvKIGs08Qw?feature=shared>
- To join the ROOH campaign, you can write to [campaignforrooh@gmail.com](mailto:campaignforrooh@gmail.com) or register via <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScxhA-yskeSSDJQzM890cYALrdTQoK5I2-3zxJzLN5HL08cQw/viewform>

### Further good practices of sustainable construction in informal areas:

- GIZ Cities Challenge 2.0, examples from the Urban Living Labs in Bangladesh, South Africa, India and Mexico: [cities challenge 2.0 - YouTube](#). See further documents for alle Labs here, in the section Cities Challenge 2.0: <https://www.giz.de/en/worldwide/65771.html>

### On land tenure:

- IIED blog article on using community-led spatial planning processes to secure tenure: the Special Planning Area in Mukuru, Nairobi, as an important precedent, <https://www.iied.org/special-approach-slum-upgrading-special-planning-area-mukuru-nairobi>
- UCLG report chapter on Community Action Area Planning in Freetown, [https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/ch9\\_democratizing\\_57.pdf](https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/ch9_democratizing_57.pdf)
- Book on Community Land Trusts in informal settlements, mostly in Latin America: <https://blackwells.co.uk/bookshop/product/Community-Land-Trusts-and-Informal-Settlements-in-the-Global-South-by-Davis-John-Emmeus/9781736275917> (*available for a fee*)
- UCLG report chapter on Community Land Trusts in informal urban contexts, case study from San Juan, Puerto Rico, [https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/ch4\\_commoning\\_9\\_0.pdf](https://gold.uclg.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/ch4_commoning_9_0.pdf)
- Recording of IIED event on securing tenure in informally occupied medium/high-rise buildings, <https://www.iied.org/housing-justice-securing-affordable-inner-city-homes-through-retrofitting>

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#### On building codes/regulations:

- UNECE: Guidelines for the formalization of informal constructions, [https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/technical\\_guidelines\\_informal\\_settlements\\_e.pdf](https://unece.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/technical_guidelines_informal_settlements_e.pdf)
- Journal Article on building codes affecting improvements of occupied buildings in inner city areas <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/09562478241230814> (*restricted access*)
- Global Resiliency Dialogue (GRD) guidelines for resilient buildings and Climate Resilient Building Codes and Standards, <https://www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/global-resiliency/>
- GFDRR Building code checklist for green building codes, reviewing green building provisions in building regulations, <https://www.gfdr.org/en/publication/building-code-checklist-green-buildings>
- International Code Council (ICCDC), a platform for building codes and standards: <https://codes.iccsafe.org/>
- UNDRR report on Principles for resilient infrastructure, <https://www.undrr.org/publication/principles-resilient-infrastructure>
- Building Regulation for Resilience – GFDRR program promoting activities that improve a country or cities' regulatory system and strengthening building regulatory frameworks, <https://www.gfdr.org/en/building-regulation-for-resilience>

#### On building materials, circularity and local value chains:

- Urbanet Article on [The Construction Industry in Rwanda: Opportunities or Challenges for Urban Growth?](#)
- The Guardian article on building with local materials, ['We don't need air con': how Burkina Faso builds schools that stay cool in 40C heat | Architecture | The Guardian](#)
- Kenya Green Building Society (KGBS) handbook on Alternative Building Materials and Technologies (ABMTs), [ABMT Report](#)

#### Further readings and helpful links:

- OECD Programme [Decarbonising Buildings in Cities and Regions: Policy Highlights Report, Global Monitoring of Policies for Decarbonising Buildings Multilevel Approach 2024.pdf](#)
- Build Change study with recommendations for investments in housing resilience, [The Cost of Improving Vulnerable Housing](#)
- Centre for Affordable Housing Finance Africa (CAHF): Open Access Initiative on affordable housing in Africa, <https://housingfinanceafrica.org/projects/open-access-initiative>
- Cities Alliance position paper on a just transition in the built environment of informal settlements, [Can the urban poor afford sustainable construction](#)
- GIZ Study on "Urban Development Agencies: Potentials for the Sustainable Management of Cities in the Global South", <https://www.giz.de/de/downloads/giz-2022-studie-urban-development-agencies.pdf>
- GIZ study on "Climate and employment impacts of sustainable building materials in the context of development cooperation", <https://www.giz.de/de/downloads/giz2021-en-climate-and-employment-sustainable-building-materials.pdf>
- If interested, you can register for the City Diplomacy Lab newsletter here: <http://eepurl.com/iAcuaQ>

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