

INVITATION

Local struggles for housing rights in the context of climate change, urbanization and environmental degradation:

How do we create “resilient” communities
in the face of multiple crises, including COVID-19?

ONLINE SEMINAR AND VIRTUAL LAUNCH OF PUBLICATION

5 October 2020, 15:00 – 16:30 CEST

Please register for the event with a short notice to beate.pohl@misereor.de

PROGRAM

Welcome by Moderator	Ms Lucy McKernan <i>Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</i>
Opening Remarks	Mr Balakrishnan Rajagopal <i>UN Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing</i>
Launch of publication	Ms Clara-Luisa Weichelt <i>MISEREOR</i>
Case Study: Philippines	Mr Bimbo Fernandez <i>Pagtambayayong</i>
Case Study: Peru	Ms Silvia de los Rios <i>Centro de Investigación, Documentación y Asesoría Poblacional (CIDAP)</i>
Reflections on theme	Ms Dunja Krause <i>UN Research Institute for Social Development</i>
Reflections on theme	Mr Robert Lewis-Lettington <i>Chief of Land, Housing and Shelter Section – UN Habitat</i>

The event will have Spanish interpretation.

Contacts

**Global Initiative for Economic,
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The Global Initiative
for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

MISEREOR
IHR HILFSWERK

Local struggles for housing rights in the context of climate change, urbanization and environmental degradation:

How do we create “resilient” communities in the face of multiple crises, including COVID-19?

Across the world, the right to adequate housing is under pressure from climate change, urbanization and environmental degradation. Informal settlement dwellers and people living in poverty are particularly vulnerable to the increasing impacts of the climate crisis. Often poor communities are forced to settle on precarious land on the banks of rivers or hillsides, or land that is subject to flooding. This increases their vulnerability to climate-induced disasters such as mudslides, flooding, extreme storms, heat waves and droughts.

When their homes are destroyed in disasters, those without security of tenure are left homeless. Further, climate change and disaster risk reduction are increasingly being used as excuses for evictions of informal settlements to make way for modernization and development projects, without adequate resettlement programs for displaced persons.

This event will hear from the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to adequate housing, UN agencies and civil society. It will illuminate ground-level experiences from Peru and the Philippines and highlight how community-led initiatives can protect communities and build their resilience to both the climate crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic.

We will also launch the report **“Local struggles for housing rights in the context of climate change, urbanization and environmental degradation”**, published by GI-ESCR and MISEREOR in cooperation with partner organizations:

- Fundación Salvadoreña de Desarrollo y Vivienda Mínima, El Salvador
- Association pour l’Amour du Livre et le Développement Local, Cameroon
- Pagtambayayong, the Philippines
- Community Organizers Multiversity, the Philippines
- Centro de Investigación, Documentación y Asesoría Poblacional, Peru
- Spaces for Change, Nigeria

