



Society for International Development
Washington Chapter

FY 2021

ANNUAL REPORT

Infrastructure & Urban Development Workgroup

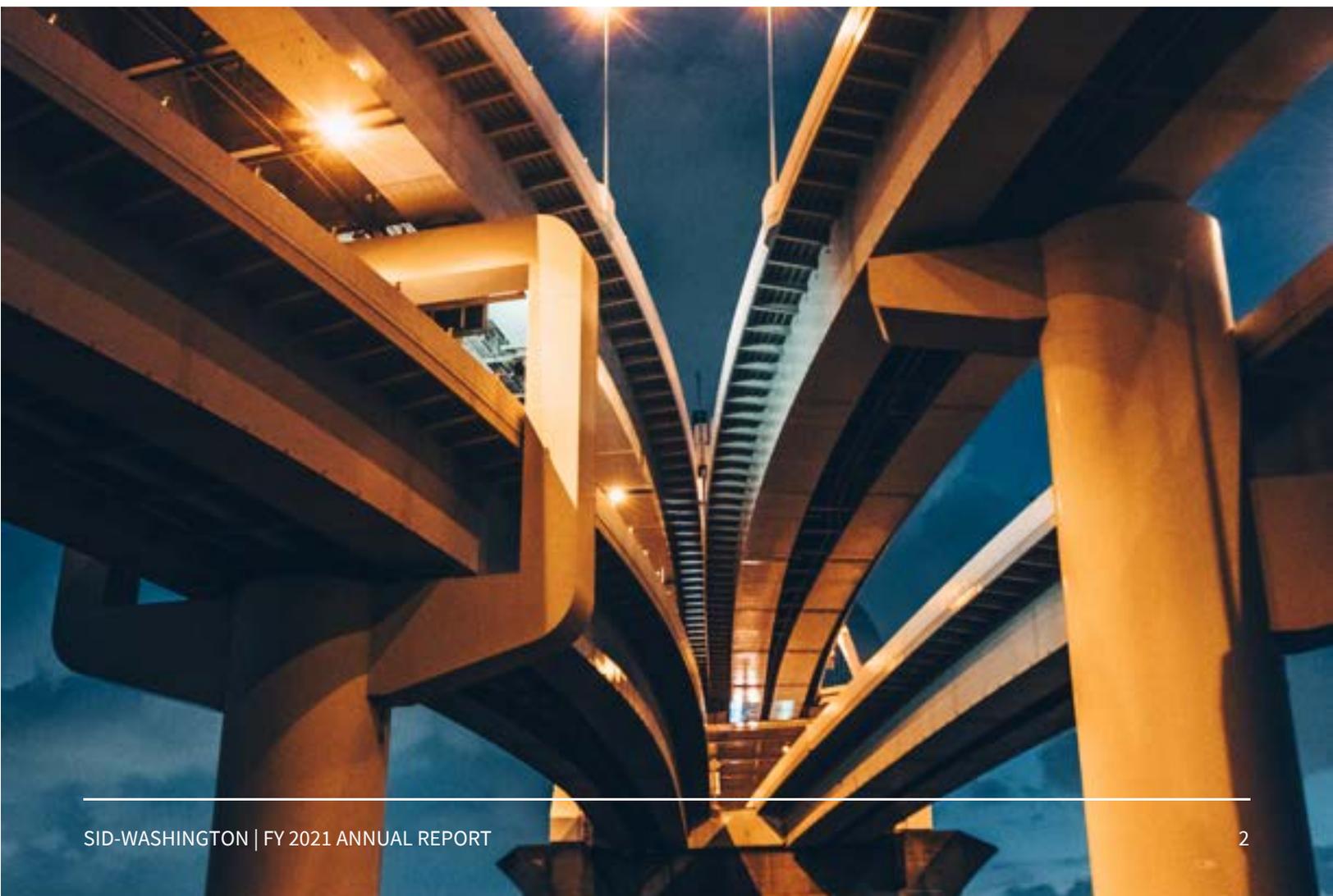
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INFRASTRUCTURE & URBAN DEVELOPMENT WORKGROUP

The SID-Washington (SID-W) Infrastructure and Urban Development Workgroup is a group of individuals actively engaged in the improvement of developing cities and urban centers, as well as infrastructure issues. With events ranging from developing resilience in cities to how cities can attract private investment, this workgroup aims to discuss infrastructure and other issues that affect urban development and the strategies for and importance of developing better and stronger urban centers.



Dear Members of the Infrastructure & Urban Development Workgroup,

We are happy to report that we had another productive year, with programming that was entirely virtual! As we reflect on the past year, the Workgroup produced several great events, such as **Private Sector Engagement in Sustainable Urban Development** and a planning meeting. We are currently working on a new and exciting slate of events for FY 2022, so stayed tuned for more information!

We would like to thank outgoing Co-Chair **David Painter**, who put on many fantastic events during their tenure. We wish them well in their future endeavors!

After 5 years with our team, Paul Sherman, our Director of Programs, will be stepping down from his role to pursue graduate studies. Paul is still involved with SID-Washington as a Consultant. Thank you, Paul, for your effort and commitment to the Workgroups and their programming!

Stepping into Paul's role, we would like to welcome **Malavika Randive** as our new Program Coordinator. Malavika will be working closely with our Co-Chairs in planning events for the Workgroup.

Thank you for your continued interest and support of the Workgroups. We hope to see you at future SID-Washington events! If you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to send an email to events@sidw.org.

Best regards,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katherine Raphaelson".

Katherine Raphaelson



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Malavika Randive".

Malavika Randive

FY 2021 WORKGROUP CO-CHAIRS



**Deepa
Karthykeyan**

Co-Founder and Director,
Athena Infonomics

Deepa Karthykeyan is Co-founder and Director at Athena Infonomics, a consulting firm that specializes in combining data, ICT and social science research to support policy design and programing. Deepa leads the Governance and Service delivery practice at Athena Infonomics. She has led and delivered assignments in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa on urban sanitation, water governance, affordable housing, decentralization reforms and green financing. Deepa has worked in over 15 countries and served as team leader and research director on various interdisciplinary urban programs funded by the World Bank, UNICEF, UNDP, ADB and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation among others. She currently serves as Technical Advisor to the United Nations Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data and is a India country representative to the W-20, a G-20 working group focused on gender. She holds a Master's in Economics from the University of Madras and the National University of Singapore.





**David
Painter**

Independent Advisor

David Painter is an independent advisor with over 35 years of experience on the financing of urban development. He provides advice on policy, strategy and investment operations to organizations such as the World Bank, the Global Platform for Sustainable Cities (GPSC), Evensen Dodge International (a public finance advisory firm), the Public Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF), the Cities Alliance, the International City Management Association (ICMA), USAID, and others. David focuses on policy reform for promoting long-term financing of urban infrastructure as well as strategies for mobilizing long term capital in developing countries. Among his recent assignments he has been:

- Senior advisor to the World Bank “City Creditworthiness Initiative”, including delivery of City Creditworthiness Academies in Ethiopia, Kenya, Korea, India, Indonesia, Tanzania and Turkey, and advisor to the World Bank’s Water Global Practice on adapting the Creditworthiness Initiative to serve water utilities;
- Senior advisor on “Financial Sustainability” for development of the GPSC Urban Sustainability Framework;
- Author of the chapters on “Urban Infrastructure Financing” and “Institutionalizing Improved Urban Management” in the USAID/India Developing Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Infrastructure: A Guidebook for Project Implementers and Policy Makers;
- Principal advisor on the reform of urban infrastructure financing for the China Urbanization Study prepared by the World Bank and China’s Development Research Center in 2013;
- Author of “Financing Sub-Sovereign Infrastructure Through The Turkish Debt Market: A Diagnostic Review” for Evensen Dodge International, Inc.; and
- Developer of a Municipal Finance Diagnostic Tool for the Sub-National Technical Assistance Program of PPIAF.

David is a former member of the Senior Foreign Service of the United States and Director of the USAID Office of Housing and Urban Programs, where he implemented the agency’s urban strategy, “Making Cities Work”, and helped create the USAID Development Credit Authority partial credit guarantee mechanism (DCA). He was directly involved in efforts to reduce the impact of poverty in developing cities, and responsible for the design, development and implementation of complex loan guarantee programs that mobilized over \$800 million dollars from private investors for housing and basic urban infrastructure. Among his overseas assignments, David directed the operations of two USAID Regional Housing & Urban Development Offices; one based in Asia (Bangkok), and the other in the Near East/North Africa (Tunis). As the senior USAID officer in those offices, he was responsible for negotiations with top level country officials on development policies and the use of USAID resources to leverage local investment. David’s leadership of the two regional offices was recognized with USAID’s Superior Honor Award for “his extraordinary and sustained creativity in promoting reforms in urban policy across Asia and the Near East”.

David earned an M.P.A. in Economic Development Studies from Princeton University, and a B.A. in Economics and Political Development (magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa) from Colgate University.

Friday, September 11, 2020

3:00PM - 4:00PM | Online via Zoom

Infrastructure & Urban Development Workgroup
Planning Meeting

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

12:00PM - 1:30PM | Online via Zoom

Private Sector Engagement in Sustainable Urban
Development



Infrastructure & Urban Development Workgroup Planning Meeting

Workgroup **Deepa Karthykeyan**, Co-founder and Director, Athena Informatics
 Co-Chairs: **David Painter**, Advisor, Independent

Event Description: SID-W's Infrastructure & Urban Development Workgroup will meet on Friday, September 11, 2020 at 3:00 PM to plan events for the group in the next year. In recent months, the group organized events on topics such as The Impact of Climate Change on the Urban Poor and Their Development Prospects: A Peek at Recent USAID Research. All members are encouraged to join and to bring ideas for event formats and topics.

Key Takeaways:

Workgroup Co-Chairs **Deepa Karthykeyan** (Athena Informatics) and **David Painter** (Independent Advisor) began the event with introductions, inviting each participant to say a few words. Karthykeyan and Painter presented reviewed data from a survey that was sent out before the event. Based on this information, the Co-Chairs and attendees proposed the following topics:

1) Topics proposed by the Co-Chairs

- COVID-19: Lessons and opportunities for urban governance
- Affordable Housing: Thinking outside the box
- City-wide Slum Upgrading: What's new?
- Delivering services to urban migrants: Data, Policy and Implementation
- Journey to Self-Reliance: Approaches used to activate private sector engagement in delivering urban services
- Intersection between reliable service delivery and economic opportunities and how that can leverage greater participation and do things (such as) countering or preventing violent extremism

2) Topics proposed by participants

- Construction quality specifically regarding stand alone contracts and quality control plans
- Approaches to infrastructure design that increases resilience to extreme weather
- Possible meeting to assist others with research and professional matters

To best gauge interest, the Co-Chairs and SID-W staff will send out a survey so that participants can indicate their preferences for future events.

3) Next Steps

Based on the discussion and the surveys, Karthykeyan and Painter will compile the feedback from the meeting and coordinate with SID-Washington staff to roll out exciting events over the course of the next year.

Private Sector Engagement in Sustainable Urban Development

Moderators: **Deepa Karthykeyan**, Co-founder and Director, Athena Informatics
David Painter, Advisor, Independent

Speakers: **Judith Hermanson**, President and CEO, IHC Global
Ella Lazarte, Sr. Water and Sanitation Advisor and PSE Lead, USAID

Event Description: USAID and other international development actors have become increasingly focused on “Private Sector Engagement” as an essential part of the effort to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. PSE can involve different approaches to activate and expand the role of the private sector in delivering critical urban infrastructure & housing. This event was designed as an interactive session to present and share experiences and reflections on the role of various international development actors to activate/expand the role of private sector in urban development, by drawing on examples from the water, sanitation and affordable housing. In short, climate change is overtaxing the urban infrastructure that more and more people depend upon. For some, this problem is an inconvenience or even a major inconvenience. For others, especially the urban poor, the threat is literally existential. USAID is well aware of the many impacts of climate change on development, but is always striving to understand the implications in more detail. Matt Jelacic of the USAID Office of Energy & Infrastructure has been leading a multi-country study on the impact of climate change on cities. During this Workgroup event, he gave us a look at some of his initial findings about the way that climate.

Key Takeaways:

1) The private housing sector can be more systemically engaged in the delivery of affordable housing

Judith Hermanson (IHC Global) provided an in-depth overview of Private Sector Engagement in Sustainable Urban Development, specific to the topic of affordable housing. Affordable housing was defined as being decent housing where owners can afford the rent and cost of keeping the house, their cost of commuting, and still have the ability to maintain the house with sufficient funds left over to sustain their health and wellbeing. Hermanson concluded that there are several different avenues to engage the private sector and that it is key to engage the property market, ensure property rights, and to increase the security of tenure and confidence in housing ownership.

2) Overview of USAID’s Cases for Private Sector Engagement Approach for Delivering Water and Sanitation Services

Ella Lazarte (USAID) provided a sense of what USAID has done in the past to provide the participants a better understanding of the practices and high-level strategy.

Case 1: Supporting Public-Private Partnerships in Secondary Cities in Mozambique.

Lazarte recounted that USAID was able to increase water services by piloting three water systems to be managed by private owners after the World Bank contracted the management and construction of the systems.

Case 2: The Role of Small Private Water Providers in Peri-Urban Mozambique. In this case USAID supported growth by assisting the National Directorate of Water Supply and Sanitation but realized that there needed to be formal thinking of who is licensed. USAID found success in providing capacity building on technical management, financial management, business planning, business expansion, and mobilization of financing.

Case 3: Mobilizing Finance for Private Water Operations (PWO) in Cambodia. USAID supported helping PWOs prepare business plans and helped by working with different stakeholders by facilitating dialogue with financial institutions.

Case 4: Scaling up Finance to Expand Urban Sanitation Access in Senegal. USAID learned that government commitment and public procurements for sanitation services drives market creation, and that government-created markets are important but do not fully address financial shortfalls and therefore require a combination of public and private funds. Lazarte reinforced that strengthening corporate governance and financial management among sanitation providers is necessary to access finances to expand Urban Sanitation.

3) Affordable Housing Breakout Room Discussion

Participants in this breakout session reached a consensus that it is not simply the private sector, but that within a broader

frame the government in addition to the private sector each have a role to play in providing affordable housing, when roles are delineated and those incentives are aligned that's when there will be greater private sector engagement in affordable housing delivery. Participants mentioned that to ensure social inclusion and equality in the field of affordable housing there were several things to keep in mind including; the use of existing stock, planning for land use, and security of tenure. It was discussed that to develop a well-functioning housing sector with affordable housing it is essential to understand the different forms of tenure, rental housing, as well as knowing how the actors work together.

4) Water and Sanitation Breakout Room Discussion

Participants in this breakout session discussed their thoughts on service metrics and how to delve deeper to rethink the analysis of existing metrics to go beyond the numbers and indicators to look at the overall results and systems approach. Participants discussed the need for strong regulatory frameworks, especially when the private sector is involved, to have clear rules of game to provide security and incentives for the private sector. The importance of capacity strengthening and looking into how one manages the quality and performance of actors in both the private and public sectors was discussed in this breakout session as well.





SID-Washington Staff

Katherine Raphaelson - President
kraphaelson@sidw.org

Malavika Randive - Program Coordinator
mrandive@sidw.org

For any inquiries, please reach out to us at events@sidw.org.

FY 2021 Workgroup Co-Chairs

Deepa Karthykeyan - Co-Founder and
Director, Athena Infonomics

David Painter - Independent Advisor

Photo Credit

Screenshots from various SID-W events

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Acknowledgement

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**Society for International Development
Washington Chapter**

2300 N St NW, Suite #350
Washington, DC 20037
+1-202-331-1017

@SIDWashington | #SIDWLive

