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Slum Upgrading Programmes in Nairobi

Introduction—Part II: Taking Action in Slum Upgrading Projects in Nairobi

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Introduction—Part II: Taking Action in Slum Upgrading Projects in Nairobi

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- 1 Part II of the publication focuses on methodological approaches and tools used by different stakeholders in the implementation of slum upgrading projects, with a particular focus on Nairobi. It looks at the strategies that experts, professionals and the international institutions (donors) are currently pursuing in the accomplishment of housing and sanitation projects in slums. The studies assembled here raise important questions and give key recommendations for resolving such challenges.
- 2 This section reviews the various approaches of slum interventions in Nairobi that have been undertaken by the Ministry of Housing of Kenya, the Italian Development Cooperation, Pamoja Trust, Umande Trust, etc. The discussion shows the governmental initiatives carried out from 2004 such as the Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme (KENSUP) and the Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project (KISIP) in order to improve the living conditions of the urban poor in Nairobi. The review highlights the achievements of the KENSUP programme to date and focuses on the pilot public housing project in Kibera Soweto East in Nairobi. Here, an analysis of the process of temporary relocation of Soweto East Zone A residents and the effect of this relocation on the residents is given in detail.
- 3 The series of papers also illustrates, the different challenges that the local authorities and the donors have faced in implementing Slum Upgrading Projects (SUP) in areas such as Huruma and Korogocho. Other innovative solutions to the slum sanitation problem in low-income areas such as Kibera, Kisumu and Korogocho are also discussed. With this regard, the provision of ablution blocks (bio-centres) and training are presented as new ways to grant access to basic urban services, for income generation and as tools of empowering the slum inhabitants.
- 4 In almost all cases, the authors underline the key role of different actors in developing solutions for the serious problems of housing and sanitation accessibility. In this

context, the active participation and involvement of slum residents in decision making is considered crucial for effective problem solving.

- 5 Finally, this second part of the publication also explores why slum interventions do not succeed and how future policy directions can improve the situation of slum dwellers.
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