

TG40 - Informal Settlements

The 2nd Meeting of TG40 took place in Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom on 25th April 2000 in conjunction with the CARDO International Conference on Housing, Work and Development: The Role of Home-Based Enterprises.

Its Coordinator Eng. Liana Arrieta de Bustillos took the opportunity to put up the aim, objectives and scope of the Task Group for discussion.

Useful background information to this discussion was forthcoming from the participants, each of whom reported on the basic characteristics of informal settlements in their own countries and described certain specific projects underway in the areas concerned.

Immediate Objectives

The objectives to be pursued over the next three years were defined as:

- To set up and maintain an information network for those members interested and involved in the development and research of "Informal Settlements".
- To highlight the main aspects of this research and development in each of the topics to be defined with the purpose of assisting those who are working towards the improvement of living and working conditions in "Informal Settlements".
- To produce a best practice Report concerning "Habitat and Income Generation in Informal Settlements". As a means to ensure regular exchange of information, there will be international meetings and a final conference to present the results (see below).

Foci of Attention

Liana notes that the TG will be focussing on the issues of:

- Income Generation
- Education and training of community contractors and technical assistance
- Housing and infra-structure

The Meeting looked at the optimal modus operandi to be followed and decided to elaborate a Questionnaire to collect the information that would be required. Participants compiled a list of common informal aspects of settlements.

The general coordination of the Report will be in the hands of Liana de Bustillos, Graham Tipple (University of Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom) and Mark Napier (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa). Individuals from the different continents were assigned responsibility.

A schedule of future meetings was drawn up as follows:

- 2000 August 21st and 22nd Pretoria, South Africa
This will be within the framework of a major Conference on Strategies for a Sustainable Built Environment
- 2001 October Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
This will be within the framework of the planned VI Congress on Construction Pathology and Quality Control
- 2002 São Paulo, Brazil
This will be an International Conference URVI 2002: Informal Settlements

The Aim

She expressed the Task Group's aim as being:

- To investigate innovative practices which are aimed at enhancing the Quality of Life in Informal Settlements.
- To identify a sustainable methodology for intervening in the built environment by a variety of stakeholders.
- To promote a better Quality of Life and to facilitate social and economic sustainability.



TG40 held in second meeting in Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom on 25th April 2000, Participants at the meeting are shown above



The Task Group meeting was scheduled within the framework of the CARDO International Conference on Housing, Work and Development: The Role of Home - Based Enterprises Conference delegates and TG40 Members had 3 days of fruitful networking and information exchange