Title of the Campus: The Importance of Land, Economy and Housing Rights for Women in Urban Areas/Cities
Organizer(s) Names: Huairou Commission
Partner Organization(s): Circles of Hope, University of Zambia Law Clinic, Lusaka City Council, Zambia Homeless and Poor Peoples Federation, Katuba Women Association.
Date and Location: Friday 3 November, 2017 / YMCA Kalingalinga Compound, Munali Constituency, Lusaka District, Munali / Zambia
Urban Thinkers Campus in figures:

Executive summary:
Introduction to the Campus:

This Urban Thinkers Campus is the first ever to have been hosted in Zambia, in the city of Lusaka, with a special emphasis on grassroots women. Hence the purpose of this campus is to lay the conceptual foundation to change the perception of grassroots women from mere political campaign tools in our city to potential partners in the context of urban development. It also aims to highlight both the constitutional and internal human rights of grassroots women.

Summary of all session:

The campus was well attended by all invited, including one representative from each congregation of the Munali constituency. The campus was conducted in a collaborative manner with interest to note that grassroots women with little to no education brought attention to issues of concepts of urban economic development, which should be guided by the principles of equity and not merely economic growth. However, the lack of safety, inadequate safety measures, the fear of sexual violence, and socially imposed restrictions prevent these women
from being able to fully enjoy the benefits of urban areas. As a result, their movement is limited or restricted to one particular area, which hinders their ability to acquire vital information on urban development and participation.

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**Key outcomes:**

The technical aspects of urban planning are given more salience than social and gender sensitive requirements such as safer transport, safer city areas and adequate family for grassroots women. Grassroots women are marginalized in policy-making, and many policy decisions are not beneficial to both genders. The plans and policies may be technically efficient but not necessarily socially efficient and are based upon patriarchal models of economic growth, which essentially means growth without equity. Grassroots women have, through various organizations and forums, campaigned for their empowerment and rights using the advantages of urban areas to mobilize communities and movement with greater ease. This has an impact in neighborhoods, and these women still identify with the “helping” roles within families and communities.

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**Conclusion & Way Forward:**

The urban setting creates challenges and at the same time provides opportunities for grassroots women. However, their contributions need further attention in the following areas. Most studies are gender sector specific and studies at city level are needed. Studies should also look beyond the current emphasis of the city, urban slums and young, able-bodied grassroots women to look at smaller areas of the city and differently-abled grassroots women across all age groups. Mobility and safety in the city is also overlooked when planning for urban areas. It appears that the influence of gender budgeting and social audits is limited because of the lack of a centralized, coordinated approach that covers the entire urban spectrum. More documentation is required on grassroots women-led initiatives centered on urban sustainability, and these should be included in the post-SDG agenda.
**Recommendation:**

Grassroots women, particularly within urban slums, face a higher risk of violence, diseases, poor sanitation, lack of information, sexual harassment, and all forms of human rights abuse. The following recommendations should a starting point:

1. The impact of rapid economic development on family structures needs to be incorporated into discussions on urban development with gender focus,

2. The issues of grassroots women's "voicelessness" in urban areas need further examinations. It is also essential to study the role of grassroots women within the dynamics of urban households, such as the ways in which they are able to combat the challenges they face. Here, it is important to observe the role of social media and information technology in this context.

**Monitoring & Reporting:**

The campus invited seven participants from each of the seven constituencies of Lusaka District who will promote the Urban Thinkers Campus in their respective constituencies and facilitate the creation of sub-support groups. These groups will be providing accurate updates on the achievements and progress in the implementation of the campus including indicators and overall success. Reports will be submitted quarterly on short-term bases and annually on long-term bases.

**UTC key speakers:**

1. Mr. John Masuwa, Director, Circles of Hope, Zambia
2. Mrs. Chipo Nkhata, Lecturer, University of Zambia School of Law, Zambia
3. Ms. Felicity Kalunga, Lecturer, University of Zambia School of Law, Zambia

List of participants:

1. Dorica Syakabila
2. Justina Kasonde
3. Alice Simango
4. Elizaberth Lungu
5. Catherine Mwalongo
6. Joana Kasuba
7. Chileshe Lukwanda
8. Dainess Banda
9. Mary Musonda
10. Yvonne Malupenga
11. Mary Zulu
12. Sarah Mwanza
13. Bridget Masuwa
14. Sarah Daka
15. Agnes Kafunda
16. Angela Mwewa
17. Gloria Matipa
18. Ivy Mulenga
19. Martha Mpundu
20. Bester Chungu
21. Noria Phiri
22. Charity Mtonga
23. Ketty S. Lungu
24. Chibwe Kaoma
25. Anna Chilufya
26. Susana Muyaba
27. Prudence Syachaluza
28. Eliza Zulu
29. Christine Mkandawire  
30. Maureen Zulu  
31. Felista Tembo  
32. Agness Njovu  
33. Everina Nyirongo  
34. Laila Gubi  
35. Veronica Chipanta  
36. Beatrice Nyawari  
37. Debora Syakotela  
38. Gladys Muchimba  
39. Gladys Phiri  
40. Docas Mweetwa  
41. Sofia Mugala  
42. Constance Situmbeko  
43. Hilda Mulalala  
44. Precious Miyanda  
45. Michelle Teo  
46. Daisy Katongo  
47. Charity Muchiliba  
48. Dando Sakutemba  
49. Georgina Maki  
50. Juliet Musialela

List of organisations represented:

1. University of Zambia School of Law  
2. Zanimuwone Women  
3. Lusapila Women

List of partner groups represented:

1. Civil Society Organizations
2. Grass-roots Organizations
3. Women
4. Children and Youth
5. Older persons
6. Persons with disabilities

List of countries represented:

1. Zambia