

**WUF 11 BUSINESS ASSEMBLY**  
26 June 2022

**1. Session proposed title**

WUF 11 Business Assembly

**2. Subtitle of the session/tag-line (if any)**

Co-creating and Inclusive, Safe, Resilient, Sustainable Urban Future

**3. Focal Point(s) (Name and email)**

Dyfed Aubrey, Sub-Programme Coordinator (UN-Habitat) [dyfed.aubrey@un.org](mailto:dyfed.aubrey@un.org)  
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**5. List of Partners contributing to the session, if any**

UN Global Compact; Government of Poland

**7. Key words**

ESG Investing; Co-creating; Transformation; Impact; Scale; Private Sector; Responsible Business

**8. Objectives of the session (max. 150 words)**

- Showcase the contribution of business to the sustainable development of cities in key business sectors; analyse and learn from emerging good practices
- Identify policy and systemic changes needed to harness the potential of business to drive urban transformation at scale
- Discuss the needs for business engagement in recovery and reconstruction of Ukrainian cities
- Identify enablers including good practices for sustainable urban recovery, legislative frameworks and de-risking mechanisms to ensure

**9. Brief Summary – abstract (max. 300 words)**

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) investing is estimated at over \$20 trillion in assets under management and is growing. It has seen billions of dollars channeled into climate action in the last decade as countries set net zero carbon targets and has brought about

innovation in rethinking the way we live, move, build and power our cities. And while there is still so much to do on this front, it is important to also ask, are we placing as much emphasis as we should on the “S” – the Social Dimension of ESG?

The city envisaged by the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is one that leaves no-one behind; where economic growth drives shared prosperity – benefitting everyone; where basic services are distributed equitably, where adequate housing is a right and available to all, and where people have a say in decisions that affect them. The SDG City is not a hopeless dream. The SDGs are backed by 193 countries, yet it’s achievement must be accelerated. The business community has a key role in facilitating the step change needed. The unmet cost of delivering SDGs in cities worldwide is still in its trillions. Meeting this gap relies on the scaled-up engagement of international and local businesses working with city authorities and communities.

The Business Assembly will bring business leaders together to review how business can transform our cities for the better in line with the SDGs. It will focus on key industry sectors, including mobility, technology, housing and real estate, and finance, and will demonstrate how businesses working in these sectors can help facilitate a more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable resilient urban future. The Assembly will also identify bottlenecks in getting there and game changers needed to facilitate business to play a greater role in accelerating the transformation we need in cities.

Then, in the context of the conflict in Ukraine, the Assembly will review the role of business in meeting the additional needs of cities that are hosting refugees, and in the future reconstruction and recovery of destroyed urban areas. It will hear from affected mayors of their priorities, learn from global approaches and good practices in engaging business in urban recovery, and discuss legislative frameworks and de-risking mechanisms that can unlock the potential of businesses to respond to urban crisis and to support the recovery process.

#### **10. Guiding Questions for discussions**

- How has the global demand for ESG transformed business priorities?
- How can your business sector make cities more inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable?
- What are the systemic bottlenecks that need to address to unlock a greater role of business in urban transformation
- What are the legal frameworks and derisking mechanisms needed to facilitate the role of business in Ukraine urban recovery?

#### **11. Expected outcomes and impact (max. 50 words)**

- Increased awareness on the role of business in accelerating the achievement of SDGs in cities and in urban crisis recovery
- Identification of systemic bottlenecks that need to be resolved to unlock this potential of business

- identification of solutions and actions that should follow, including in political processes such as Habitat Assembly 2023 and through the UN Global Compact

## **12. Outline the format of the session (max. 150 words)**

Opening

1100 – 1110

Opening statement: Minister of Funds and Regional Policy, Grzegorz Puda

1110-1120

Introducing the Business Assembly: Kamil Wyszowski, Country Director, UN Global Compact

### Segment 1: Accelerating SDG implementation in cities through business partnerships

1120-1140

Panel 1: Businesses Transforming for SDG Impact [*Moderator Dyfed Aubrey UN-Habitat*]

- Sanda Ojiambo, Executive Director UNGC. *Corporate Identity – mainstreaming social and environmental sustainability in business performance*
- Preeti Sinha, Executive Secretary, United Nations Capital Development Fund. *Unlocking ESG capital for sustainable development in cities*

1140 -1210

Panel 2: Businesses Transforming Cities for SDG Impact [*Moderator Alice Gugelev, Director, Global Development Incubator*]

- Roland Schatz, CEO UNGSII/CEO MediaTenor. Business performance on SDG 11
- Global businesses demonstrating impact in SDG 1,3, 4, 8, 11

*[discussion]*

1210– 1320

Panel 3: Urban Showcase [*Moderator: Alice Gugelev, Director, Global Development Incubator*]

*Mini-Panel: Housing, Real Estate and mixed use development*

- Ian Shapiro, CEO, REALL. *What is decent housing and how can the private sector make this available for all?*
- Andre Yche, President, CDC-Habitat. *Can Decent Housing be Affordable?*
- Isabelle Putseys, SWECO. *How are large scale urban development projects made environmentally and socially sustainable, while still driving profit for the developer?*

Mini Panel: Mobility

- Stephanie Holzwarth, Chief, Mobility Unit, UN-Habitat. *How is urban design and mobility planning making our cities more prosperous, equal and environmentally sustainable?*
- Edwin Mhede, Chief Executive of Dar Rapid Transit Agency, Tanzania. *How is the Dar Rapid Transit System making Dar Es Salam environmentally sustainable*

*[Discussion]*

Mini Panel: Technology

- James Donovan, CEO, Adec Innovation. *What are the major tech breakthroughs that are accelerating sustainable cities and what are the major risks that need to be overcome*
- Raphael Auerbach, CEO, Capcade. *How can intelligent data systems facilitate effective capital flow into SDG projects in cities*

Mini-Panel: Finance

- Dariusz Kacprzyk, Head of Public Sector & Financial Institution, BNP Paribas, Polska. *How is the banking sector enabling local businesses to partner more effectively with cities to deliver infrastructure and services?*
- Neil Khor, Chief of Staff (ai), UN-Habitat.. *How is the Cities Investment Facility able to channel finance from diverse sources into private sector-led urban interventions?*

*[Discussion]*

1325-1330

Concluding Remarks: UN-Habitat.

1330 - 1430 Lunch

Segment 2 Building Back Better: The role and potential for business to meet the additional needs of refugee hosting cities, and to accelerate urban recovery and reconstruction in line with the SDGs.

1430-1450

Opening statements

- **Jakek Sasin, Minister** of State Assets, Poland
- Paweł Borys President of the Management Board of the Polish Development Fund

1450 – 1455

- Overview of the afternoon session, Dyfed Aubrey, UN-Habitat. *Businesses supporting cities in crisis*

1455-1540

Hearing from Mayors

*This session provides the opportunity for Mayors from Ukraine and Poland to share priorities and to outline how business can help meet demands*

- Marcin Krupa, President of Katowice, Poland
- Jacek Zbigniew Sutryk, President of Wrocław, Poland
- Vitaly Kim, Governor of Nikolaev
- Ihor Terekhov, Mayor of Kharkiv
- Borys Filatov Mayor of Dnipro, Ukraine
- Olena Petranych, Vice-Mayor of Truskawiec, Ukraine

*[Discussion]*

1540 - 1630

Reflections on lessons learnt in Urban Crisis Response and Recovery

*The session will discuss approaches to ensuring people-centred sustainable urban recovery.*

- Nigel Fisher, Former UN Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General – *leaving no-one behind in urban crisis response*
- Filip Decorte, Branch Coordinator, UN-Habitat - *applying people-centred approaches to the urban recovery process*

- Maitreyi Das, Practice Manager, Urban, Disaster Risk Management, Resilience and Land Global Practice, World Bank – *applying results based financing in fragile settings*
- Jasmin Ademovic, Chair of the City Council Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina – *local government working with local private sector - lessons learnt*

*[Discussion]*

1630-1645 Break

1645 - 1815

Experience sharing by the business community on successful people-centred business approaches and frameworks to support cities in crisis. *Questions: how have businesses partnered effectively with local authorities to meet the needs of the city; how has the business community worked effectively in housing construction in a way leaves no-one behind; how have business collaborated effectively with local entrepreneurs; what are our metrics for “building back better”*

- Jacek Piechota President of Polish-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce
- Cezariusz Lesisz - President of the Board - Industrial Development Agency
- Dorota Macieja, CEO PZU, Poland
- Jerzy Kwieciński, vice CEO Pekao SA, Poland
- Przemek Gdański CEO BNP Paribas, Poland
- Katarzyna Zawodna Bijoch, CEO, Skanska CEE, Poland
- Daniel Bienias, Managing Director, CBRE, Poland
- Mateusz Bonca CEO, JLL
- Andrzej Dopierała- Vice President of the Management Board of Asseco
- Jacek Kędzior CEO, EY
- Eduard Shevchuk, KievMiskBud
- Representatives from Polish, European and Global Real Estate Funds

*[Discussion]*

1815-1830

Wrap Up and Close UN-Habitat and UN Global Compact

1830

Cocktail Reception

**14. Indicate any necessary facility and equipment**

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**15. Comments/Additional information**