

International Policy Workshop on Urban Poverty and Inclusive Cities

24 - 25 June, 2013

Suqian, Jiangsu Province, People's Republic of China

Over the past two decades, many developing countries have grown substantially and graduated from low-income countries to middle-income countries. However while the rise in GDP reduced extreme income poverty; there is still a long way to go to make growth more inclusive, especially, to the vulnerable poor (i.e. those under the \$2 poverty line).

Growth created a double shift in the geography of poverty.

- The vast majority of the world's poor do not live in the poorest countries, but in middle-income countries (approx. 74 percent based on the \$2 per day poverty line).¹ Among these middle income countries, around 35 percent of the world's poor live in India, 16 percent in the People's Republic of China (PRC), and 28 percent mostly in Indonesia, Pakistan and Nigeria.²
- Economic growth and urbanization cross-benefited each other, and poverty is now increasingly evident in urban areas. It is estimated that by 2015 about 48 percent of the Asia-Pacific region's population and region-wide one-third of them—with increasing trend—would be living in slums or unfavorable living conditions within urban, peri-urban and rapidly urbanizing areas. Furthermore, urban poverty by having now also employment and income dimensions, has among others new features related to social entitlements, housing, the environments in which the urban poor live, geography of urban poverty. Cities in Asia become increasingly un-livable cities, especially for the poor, creating problems on people's health, family and psychological stress, and crime.

In Asia's middle income countries, and especially in the PRC, poverty reduction—in the past understood as primarily a rural challenge—is now a rural and an urban issue, in which addressing the impacts of one necessarily involves addressing linkages with the other. It has also become an important urban development instrument to achieve sustainable and inclusive or livable cities.

Urbanization, driven by rural to urban movement, is very diverse. Agglomeration is driving economic growth and mega-cities that in the past rarely reached 10 million are now out-growing each other reaching

¹ See ADB and IPRCC on Social Inclusiveness in Asian Emerging Middle Income Countries, organized by the 5th China-ASEAN Poverty Forum: <http://www.adb.org/news/events/social-inclusiveness-asias-emerging-middle-income-countries-mics>

² Based on the current poverty line of 2,300 yuan for rural China (about \$366 per capita per year), China has 128 million impoverished people living in rural areas (13.4% of the rural population). See John Taylor. *Inequalities in Middle Income Countries: Context, Causes and Recommendations for Reducing Inequalities*. IPRCC Working Paper Series. No. 9, 2012.

20 million and beyond through massive movement and also permanent migration from the country site or other smaller cities.

The Government of the PRC—as part of its new policy—is looking for new approaches to address urban poverty. It is looking for international knowledge exchange and answers to questions such as: What are the implications of urbanization on poverty? What are the new characteristics of urban poverty? What city sizes would favor a more harmonious society? What can be learned from other countries in avoiding and reducing urban poverty? How to avoid lock-in effects and what is important for reaching sustainable and inclusive cities? How do urban growth programs promote the inclusiveness agenda in the cities?

The challenges of urbanization in the PRC for more equal and inclusive development relate—among others—to (i) the creation of new jobs, (ii) the improvement of living conditions (especially in the areas where the poor and floating population live), (iii) effective participatory planning mechanisms, (iv) the reform of social protection entitlements and portability (especially for the floating population), (v) urban-rural relationships (including land and land taxation reforms), and (vi) the encouragement of the private sector following inclusive business models (becoming responsible stakeholders of urban development).

Drawing on Chinese and selected Asian experiences to provide stakeholders with further strategic recommendation, the International Poverty Reduction in China (IPRCC) in cooperation with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and its Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative (RKSI) will organize a policy workshop on proposing how to make urbanization more inclusive.

Objectives of the workshop

The objective of the international workshop is to share knowledge among policy makers, academic scholars and development practitioners on urban poverty and discuss key features of policy recommendations for the PRC on achieving urban inclusiveness and livable cities for the poor.

The discussion topics will cover, among others:

- Overview on issues and challenges of urban poverty.
- The role of floating populations and rural-urban linkages for inclusive urban development strategies.
- Selected cases of addressing urban poverty.
- Key policy challenges and suggestions for the PRC.

The workshop findings will be integrated into another international forum on *rural-urban poverty linkages*, held later in 2013 and organized jointly by IPRCC and ADB as part of the China-ASEAN Poverty Reduction conference series.

Participants

The international policy workshop on *Urban Poverty and Inclusive Cities in Asia* will bring together about 120 experts from central and local governments in Asia, think tanks, universities, and development partners. The workshop will be held on 24 - 25 June, 2013, Suqian, Jiangsu Province.

Contacts

For ADB:

Jin Ran, Knowledge Sharing Officer, Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative (RKSI),
Tel: 0086-10-8573 0909 (ext. 0879); Fax: 0086-10-8573 0808; Email: rjin.consultant@adb.org

For conceptual issues, please contact either Jörn Brömmelhörster, Coordinator of RKSI, PRC Resident Mission, Tel: 0086-10-85730888; Fax: 0086-10-8573 0808; Email:



PRC-ADB Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative

jbrommelhorster@adb.org, or Armin Bauer, Principal Economist, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Tel: 0063-2-6325550; Email: abauer@adb.org

For IPRCC:

Liu Qian Qian, International Relations Specialist, International Poverty Reduction Centre in China (IPRCC) ; Tel: 0086-10-84419642; Fax: 0086-10-84419852; Email: liuqianqian@iprcc.org.cn



Agenda

23 June 2013
Registration

24 June 2013

09:00 - 10:15	<p><u>Opening</u> <i>Moderator: ZUO Changsheng</i>, Director General, International Poverty Reduction Center in China (IPRCC)</p> <p><u>Introduction</u> ZHENG Wenkai, Deputy Director, China State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development YANG Genping, Deputy Secretary General of Jiangsu Province Hamid Sharif, Country Director, PRC Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank (ADB) LAN Shaomin, Party Secretary of Suqian Municipal Party Committee</p> <p>Keynote: Urban Poverty and Livable Cities: New Challenges for Public Policy LU Mai, Secretary General, China Development Research Foundation YU Jiantuo, Division Chief, China Development Research Foundation</p>
10:15 - 10:35	<p>Group Photo /Tea/Coffee</p>
10:35 - 12:05	<p><u>Session I: Issues and Challenges of Urban Poverty</u></p> <p>This session will provide an overview of recent urban poverty issues in Asia and South America. It will discuss emerging drivers and dimensions of urban poverty such as spatial dimensions, demographics and targeting issues, income poverty, social poverty, the environments of the poor, migration, livability, and government programs.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Jörn Brömmelhörster</i>, Coordinator, Regional Knowledge Sharing Initiative (RKS), ADB</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Emerging Trends of Urban Poverty in Asia WAN Guanghua, Principal Economist, ADB: Income Poverty Armin Bauer, Principal Economist, ADB: Social Poverty</p> <p>Urban Poverty in Latin America: Characteristics, Trends and Examples of Key Programs in the Region Jesús Navarrete, Housing and Urban Development Senior Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank</p> <p>Urban Poverty in the People's Republic of China LU Hanwen, Director, Rural Governance and Poverty Reduction Center, Central China Normal University</p>
12:05 - 12:30	<p>Comments and Panel Discussion</p>
12:30 - 14:00	<p>Lunch</p>



14:00 - 15:00	<p><u>Session II: Issues and Examples of Rural-Urban Linkages, Migration and Integration</u></p> <p>This session will talk about the linkages and integration of rural-urban poverty and its impact on land, housing, social protection and employment policies.</p> <p><i>Moderator: Irene Bain</i>, Social Sector Specialist, ADB</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Rural-Urban Poverty Linkages in Thailand Yongyuth Chalamwong, Research Director, Thailand Development Research Institute</p> <p>Rural-Urban Poverty Linkages and Migration in Vietnam Dang Nguyen Anh, Director, Institute of Sociology of the Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences</p> <p>The Challenges on China's Anti-Poverty Policy System from Rural Floating Population LIN Wanlong, Professor, China Agriculture University, Beijing</p> <p>Addressing Rural-Urban Poverty Linkages: The Example of Jiangsu ZHU Jilu, Director, Office of Rural-Agriculture-Farmer Work of Jiangsu Party Committee</p>
15:00 - 15:40	Comments and Panel Discussion
15:40 - 16:00	Coffee/Tea
16:00 - 17:00	<p><u>Session III: Strategies to Address Urban Poverty in Asia</u></p> <p>This session will provide an overview of key policies and programs that aim to reduce urban poverty and to share country experiences.</p> <p><i>Moderator: SUN Yongmei</i>, Professor, Institute of China's Economic Reform and Development, Renmin University of China</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Bottom-up Community-based Neighborhood Improvements: Cases from Indonesia and the Philippines Florian Steinberg, Senior Urban Planning Specialist, ADB</p> <p>Public-Private Partnership in Slum Upgrading and Housing for the Poor Om Prakash Mathur, Distinguished Professor of Urban Economics at the National Institute of Urban Affairs, Delhi, India</p> <p>Urban Poverty in Bangladesh: A Country with Enormous Potentials Salehuddin Ahmed, Managing Editor, the Daily Star, Bangladesh</p> <p>Addressing Social Needs of the Urban Poor in Japan Aya ABE, Director, Department of Empirical Social Security Research, National Institute of Population and Social Security Research, Japan</p>



17:00 - 17:45	Comments and Panel Discussion
18:30 - 20:00	Reception

25 June 2013

09:00 - 12:00	Site Visit to Urban Poverty Areas in Suqian, Jiangsu Province
12:00 - 12:30	Discussions on Key Observations: What are the Challenges for the Urban Poor?
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	<p><u>Session IV: Implications for the PRC</u></p> <p>This session will draw participants' attention on some key policy challenges in making urban living for the poor more inclusive. Such policy issues include – among others, employment, social protection, environment, land title and housing rights, governance and participation, and equitable city planning</p> <p><i>Moderator:</i> LIN Wanlong, Professor, China Agriculture University, Beijing</p> <p>Presentations</p> <p>Social Policy in the Process of Urbanization</p> <p>ZHANG Xiulan, Dean and Professor, School of Social Development and Public Policy, Beijing Normal University</p> <p>ZHOU Xianghong, Professor, Department of Public Administration of Tongji University</p> <p>Livable and Inclusive Cities</p> <p>John Bachmann, City Planner and Director, China Sustainability Center</p> <p>Governance and Participatory Planning</p> <p>WEI Houkai, Deputy Director, Institute of Urban and Environment Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences</p> <p>Inclusive Development and Fiscal Policy Choice of China</p> <p>SU Ming, Deputy Director, Research Center of Fiscal Science, Ministry of Finance</p>
15:30 - 16:00	Comments and Panel Discussion
16:00 - 16:20	Tea/Coffee



16:20 - 17:00	<p><u>Critical Areas for Action in PRC from the Government's Perspective</u></p> <p><i>Moderator: HE Xiaojun, Deputy Director General, IPRCC</i></p> <p>Presentation</p> <p>LIU Shouying, Deputy Director, Department for Rural Economic Development, Development Research Centre of China State Council</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>Armin Bauer, Principal Economist, ADB</p> <p>ZHANG Gu, Director, Poverty Alleviation and Immigration Bureau of Sichuan Province</p>
17:00 - 17:30	<p><u>Closing Session</u></p> <p><i>Moderator: HE Xiaojun, Deputy Director General, IPRCC</i></p> <p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>ZHU Zhihua, Deputy Director, Poverty Alleviation and Development Office of Jiangsu Province</p> <p>Hamid Sharif, Country Director, PRC Resident Mission, ADB</p> <p>ZUO Changsheng, Director General, IPRCC</p>

