

Luanda Urban Poverty Programme receives prestigious UN Habitat Dubai Best Practice to Improve the Living Environment Award

UN Habitat Best Practice and Local Leadership Award was presented in Dubai on 29th March 2011 to the Luanda Urban Poverty Programme - LUPP. The Awards are announced every two years. This is the highest international award possible for such work.

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT, is the United Nations agency for human settlements. It is mandated by the UN General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. The Municipality of Dubai sponsors this **UN Habitat Best Practice and Local Leadership Award** as testimony to the significant impact and results achieved by the Luanda Urban Poverty Programme and that it is “a concrete solution to the problems faced by communities”.

The Best Practices and Local Leadership Programme (BLP) is a global network of institutions dedicated to the identification and exchange of successful solutions for sustainable development.



The Luanda Urban Poverty Programme began 1999 as a consortium of NGO partners lead by Development Workshop Angola, CARE International, Save the Children and One World Action. The consortium presently supports the Luanda Urban Poverty Network which carries on the work of LUPP in all of Luanda's municipalities.

The Best Practices and Local Leadership Programme partners' network identifies initiatives in such areas as housing, urban development and governance, the environment, economic development, social inclusion, crime prevention, poverty reduction, women, youth, infrastructure and social services.

The Dubai International Award for Best Practices to Improve the Living Environment, a biennial environmental award established in 1995 by the Municipality of Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Best Practices are initiatives which have made outstanding contributions to improving the quality of life in cities and communities around the world. The original call for Best Practices was launched during preparations for the Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) as a means of identifying what works in improving living conditions on a sustainable basis. Those initiatives meeting the criteria for a Best Practice are included in the Best Practices database. The lessons learned from selected best practices are analysed in case studies and guides and transferred to other countries, cities or communities.



Together with the Global Urban Observatory (GUO), BLP forms UN-HABITAT's facility for monitoring global trends in sustainable urban development and evaluating progress the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, Agenda 21, and the MDGs. The policy implications and lessons learned from Best Practices are incorporated into Habitat's State of the World's Cities Report series and the Global Report on Human Settlements.

The Luanda Urban Poverty Programme - LUPP has become a catalyst for participatory urban planning on the ground, with people engaging in issues of importance to their lives and livelihoods and to influence urban planning and management. LUPP has been successfully laying the foundations for active citizens to become part of shaping their futures at Municipal, Provincial and National level in Angola.

Since 1999, LUPP has been working with local authorities and citizens to address issues of urban poverty in Luanda. LUPP is being implemented in four municipalities of Luanda --

Cazenga, Sambizanga, Kilamba Kiayi, and Cacuaco. LUPP works to influence pro-poor policies and best practices for Angola for poverty reduction in urban Luanda. The programme has demonstrated and promoted effective, sustainable, inclusive and replicable strategies (models, messages and approaches) for basic service delivery, livelihood support and poverty reduction more generally.

A key to LUPP's success is the recognition by government and other partners that their lessons and advice are rooted in solid experience and practice. LUPP partners have demonstrated their credibility through their development and testing of solutions to critical urban problems such as water, sanitation and livelihoods problems. Models that LUPP have developed are robust and advice given is based in local knowledge and research. LUPP's basis of local level research and practical pilot projects has given a place at the table where urban strategies are discussed.



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