



**HOW PEOPLE FACE EVICTIONS
Istanbul, 4 – 7 February 2010**

DRAFT PROGRAMME: EXCHANGE SEMINAR, UPDATE 22/1/09

I. BACKGROUND

Forced evictions have been dramatically increasing worldwide. Despite the fact that evictions are taking place, some people-based initiatives are reducing the number of evictions, and some are quite positive to learn from. One of the key lessons from the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions to the Executive Director of UN-HABITAT, is that people-led movements are a key ingredient for successful solutions to forced evictions. However, work documenting actual practices and strategies is quite limited, and usually carried out by NGOs and advisory groups, but rarely give a full voice to the people active on the ground. In addition, the existing people-led networks have few opportunities at the global level to exchange experiences.

The 'How people face evictions' project is carried out in collaboration with social movements and organisations struggling for their right to housing and to stay in the places they live, in eight cities around the world: Turkey (Istanbul), Egypt (Dakhaliyah and Buheira), China (Huangzhou), Argentina (Buenos Aires), Brazil (Porto Alegre), Dominican Republic (Santo Domingo), Pakistan (Karachi) and South Africa (Durban). The project and this exchange seminar seek to hear people's voices on how they face evictions, to exchange, and mutually learn from one other in our practices and experiences.

The project is being conducted by the Development Planning Unit (DPU) – University College London, supported by the Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) in the UK. This exchange seminar is being hosted by the Coordination for Housing Rights (CHR) in Istanbul.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE EXCHANGE SEMINAR

1. To present the results of the documentation of experiences for each city involved in the project.
2. To exchange concrete experiences and strategies in facing evictions.
3. To draw out lessons on what these various forms of resistance have in common as well as lessons on the causes of evictions.
4. To support and strengthen the social organisations resisting eviction in Istanbul.

III. EXPECTED RESULTS

It is hoped that by the end of the exchange seminar the following results will be achieved:

1. That all participants will learn from one other's experiences on how people face evictions in different parts of the world.
2. An increased knowledge and understanding of the current struggles taking place in Istanbul.
3. A consolidation of the lessons learned.
4. A review of each of the documented experiences for the final report.
5. Possible strategies for the future.

IV. EXPECTED DOCUMENTS FROM THE EXCHANGE SEMINAR

1. Eight updated case studies.
2. PowerPoint presentations on the experiences of each organisation.
3. A final report in three languages.

V. METHODOLOGY

This international seminar represents the second part of the Project, following the documentation of the experiences. It will take place over three and a half days and will include the following:

- Presentations of the experiences: 40 minutes each, with 20 minutes for discussion.
- Plenary sessions.
- Meetings with residents and representatives of various organisations in Istanbul who are committed to the right to housing, the resistance to evictions and the construction of alternatives.

VI. PROGRAMME

The exchange seminar will take place in Istanbul, from 4 – 7 February 2010

Wednesday 3	Arrival of International participants in Istanbul
Day 1, Thursday 4	
9h00-9h30	Welcome from CHR, BSHF, DPU/ULC
9h30-10h30	Introduction of participants and expectations for the seminar
10h30-11h00	Coffee Break
11h00 -13h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the programme for the seminar• Evictions and resistance: lessons learned <i>Coordinated by: Yves Cabannes</i>
13h00-14h30	Lunch
15h00- 20h00	Presentation of the experiences (part 1) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Istanbul• Porto Alegre• Durban• Karachi Lessons learned
20h30	Dinner
Day 2, Friday 5	
9h00-13h00	Meeting with social organisations in Istanbul – European side: Alibeykoy-Karadolap
13h00-14h30	Collective lunch

15h00-20h00	<p>Presentation of the experiences (part 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Huangzhou • Santo Domingo • Egypt • Buenos Aires <p>Lessons learned</p>
20h30	Dinner
Day 3, Saturday 6	
9h00-13h00	Meeting with social organisations in Istanbul – Asian side: Gebze-Cumhuriyet Mahallesi
13h00-15h00	Lunch
15h00-19h00	<p>Housing Rights Forum: International gathering of participants and social organisations in Istanbul. Open mass event. Coordinated by: CHR, DPU/UCL, BSHF</p> <p>Location: Haldun Dormen Theatre, Ergenekon Cad. İdil Pasajı No: 60 Feriköy / Şişli. Tel: 0 212 230 67 51</p>
Evening	Dinner
Day 4, Sunday 7	
9h00-12h00	<p>Plenary session Lessons learned (introduction: Yves Cabannes) Evaluation and ways forward (Alp Antinors) Close of the event</p>
Afternoon/evening	Departures

VI. VENUE

The exchange seminar will take place at the Chamber of Architects in Karakoy (*address to follow*)

VII. PARTICIPANTS

- Representatives of each of the participating cities
- Participants from BSHF and UCL/DPU
- Representatives of grassroots organisations in Istanbul

Buenos Aires, Argentina

- Carlos Cesar Armando, President, Federation of Informal Settlements and Low-income Neighbourhoods (FEDEVI)
- Cristina Reynals, International Relations and Capacity Building, FEDEVI

Durban, South Africa

- Zodwa Nsibande, Abahlali baseMjondolo

Huangzhou, China

- Eva Pils (to be confirmed), School of Law, The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- No representatives from local communities

Istanbul, Turkey

- Köksal Dogan, Coordinator, Coordination for Housing Rights
- Alp Antinors, Coordination for Housing Rights
- Participants (around 10/15) from different social organizations engaged in eviction resistance.

Karachi, Pakistan

- Suneela Ahmad, Urban Research and Design Cell, DAP-NED-UET
- Tariq Aziz, Activist and Social Leader, Hasan Aulia Village

Porto Alegre, Brazil

- Gilmar Xavier Avila, National Movement for Housing Struggle (MNLN)
- Eduardo Solari, Utopia and Struggle autonomous community
- Edymar Cintra, National Coordination, MNLN

Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

- Pedro Franco, Coophabitat – People's Urban Network
- Juana Iris Rivera, President of the Board of Residents of Nueva Dimensión / CODECOC

Dakhaliyah and Buheira, Egypt

- Hassanein Kishk, National Centre for Social and Criminal Research
- Basheer Sakr, Solidarity Committee with Agrarian Reform Farmers

DPU/UCL, United Kingdom

- Yves Cabannes, Professor, Chair of Development Planning
- Cassidy Johnson, Lecturer | MSc Building and Urban Design in Development
- Yasar Adanali, DPU Associate

Building and Social Housing Foundation (BSHF), United Kingdom

- Silvia Guimarães Yafai, Head of International Programmes

VIII. ACCOMMODATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

The international participants will be staying at the following hotel:

Art Hotel: 16 Mesihpaşa Caddesi, Mesihpaşa, İstanbul, Turkey. Tel: +90 212 638 8390

The hotel is very well located, in the historic centre of Istanbul, with good connections to public transport, which will take us to the various neighbourhoods.

IX. ORGANISATION AND LOGISTICS: COMMUNICATIONS

The event is being organised locally by the Coordination for Housing Rights, in coordination with UCL/DPU and BSHF.

Any queries regarding the exchange seminar can be directed to:

- **Alp Antinors, CHR, Istanbul:** Tel: +90 539 416 20 47 / Email: farabundo_marti@hotmail.com
- **Cassidy Johnson, UCL/DPU:** Tel: +44 20 7679 1110 / Email: cassidy.johnson@ucl.ac.uk
- **Yves Cabannes, UCL/DPU:** Tel: +44 20 7679 1114 / Email: y.cabannes@ucl.ac.uk

• **Silvia Guimarães Yafai, BSHF:** Tel: +44 1530 512 447 / Email: silvia@bshf.org

X. WORKING LANGUAGES

English, Spanish and Turkish. Consecutive translation to Arabic will also be provided.

XI. ANNEX

Guidelines for PowerPoint presentations of the experiences and lessons learned
(*guidelines to follow*)