

## Side Event by IDFC at UN Habitat III Conference

Quito, October 17<sup>th</sup> 2016

### Investing in Sustainable Cities: Challenges and Opportunities

The IDFC hosted a Side Event at the historic UN Habitat III Conference in Quito, Ecuador on the challenges and opportunities of investing in sustainable cities. Led by CAF-Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), Agence Française de Développement (AFD), and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on behalf of IDFC, and organized in collaboration with the World Resources Institute (WRI), the Side Event's interactive panel discussion explored how collaboration between governments and development finance institutions (DFIs) can support sustainable urban development.

5 Aniruddha Dasgupta, Global Director of WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities, moderated the panel discussion. The panelists were Enrique García, Executive President and CEO of CAF; Koki Hirota, Chief Economist at JICA; Rémy Rioux, CEO, AFD; and Simón Gaviria, Chief Director, National Planning Department of Colombia.

10 The panelists discussed the role of DFIs in sustainable urban development, and highlighted IDFC member initiatives, which provide support for city planning, project development, and coordination, among others. As underscored by Enrique García, CEO of CAF, DFIs are looking to play a catalytic role in creating sustainable cities. The hope is that with these innovations and the continued support of DFIs, cities in developing countries can grow and thrive for generations to come.

15 Habitat III was the Third United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development. The major global summit took place October 17-20 in Quito, Ecuador, gathering a wide range of urban actors and stakeholders to explore how to promote a new model of urban development that integrates sustainable development to foster equity, welfare and shared prosperity.

20 *Highlights of the IDFC Side Event are also featured in a WRI Insights blogpost:* <http://www.wri.org/blog/2016/10/development-finance-institutions-have-role-play-creating-sustainable-cities>