

Section: Our Projects
Sub Section: Urban Land
Title: Cultivating Community Capability:
making participation meaningful in
informal settlement upgrading
Source: UL Team / Practice Brief

Resources/product name (title): Cultivating Community Capability: making participation meaningful in informal settlement upgrading (2015)

Description: This practice brief argues that if significant and lasting change is to take place in South African cities, it is necessary that urban residents take ownership of development interventions, and participate in these as active co-creators. However, participation remains an unattainable ideal for many because they are not equipped with the necessary insights or techniques. Community capability must therefore be recognised and actively cultivated in informal settlement upgrading. The practice brief shows that community capability is a complex concept that consists of multiple dimensions (including skills and competencies, information, assets and values and orientations), and considers the benefits and challenges of enhancing community capability for informal settlement upgrading. It concludes with a consideration of the tools and methodologies through which community capability may be cultivated.

Type: Practice brief

Practice area: Urban land

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Keywords (filters): Informal settlement upgrading, community of practice, participation, incrementalism, Khayaletu Initiative, community capability