

Removing Unfreedoms

Citizens as Agents of Change in Urban Development

For the first time Amartya Sen's concept of 'Development as Freedom' is applied to the challenges of urban governance across the globe. This book re-evaluates existing approaches to urban development by assessing degrees of freedom rather than relying exclusively on measuring poverty. While early ideals of urbanization focused on economic valuation, the provision of services and city design, here the concern is directed toward the individual citizen's ability to live the life they value leading. Thus, by identifying and then removing 'unfreedoms', global urban strategies ensure the citizen's role as an active agent of change. *Removing Unfreedoms* documents sessions with Amartya Sen, working in collaboration with the authors and many others, and provides a shared policy framework for project design in urban development and governance programmes.

"I am very happy and impressed to see this new book *Removing Unfreedoms*. It is a significant contribution to urban development policy from a freedom-oriented perspective. I very much hope it will receive the attention it deserves."

Amartya Sen

"This excellent study underlines the importance of linking urban recovery with advocacy for change. Freedom is seen as both the means and end in the process of shaping urban development policies."

Luis Monreal, Aga Khan Trust for Culture

"I am impressed and pleased ... clearly translates the profound ideas of a Noble laureate into a practical change agenda for urban development."

Robertson Work, United Nations Development Programme

"a useful and practical review of the range of multi-dimensional approaches to urban poverty reduction in international development"

Tony Lloyd-Jones, Maxlock Centre University of Westminster

"We find the book a very valuable contribution to urban development thinking and practice, the methodology proposed is innovative and can be very inspiring and powerful and complementary to UN-HABITAT's work."

Rafael Tuts, Urban Governance Section, Human Settlements Programme, UN-HABITAT

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Edited by Jane Samuels

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Foreword by Mrs Anna Tibaijuka, Executive Director of UN-Habitat

"Impressive ... an significant contribution
to urban development policy"

Amartya Sen

