



School of Public Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

May 20, 2016

Welcome to the Mountain West Habitat III Convening!

Thank you for your involvement with UN Habitat III, the U.N. Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development. Habitat III convenings bring together leaders and stakeholders from cities around the globe every 20 years to promote socially and environmentally sustainable development and the achievement of adequate shelter for all. The focus of Habitat III is on the comprehensive set of issues surrounding sustainable communities and the development of a New Urban Agenda. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in partnership with the State Department and on behalf of the U.S. government, is leading the U.S. preparations for the Habitat III World Conference which will take place in October 2016 in Quito, Ecuador.

Your participation in the Mountain West Habitat III Convening, hosted by HUD Region VIII and the School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado Denver will broaden the Habitat III process domestically. This convening will foster dialogue around regional policy and practice successes in three main themes: Upward Mobility, Securing Housing Options, and Building Economic Resilience. As such, through participation in the Denver regional convening, local and regional practitioners will see the connection between their work and the U.S. engagement in this global process.

The goal of Habitat III is to begin the conversation about how to develop communities that leave no one behind, ensure urban equity, and eradicate poverty by providing access to physical and social infrastructure while recognizing culture, diversity and safety to enhance livability and quality of life. As we all look to the future, we should understand our contributions to creating the communities we want and deserve.

Again, thank you for attending and your contribution to this effort is invaluable.

Sincerely,

Rick M. Garcia
Regional Administrator
HUD Region VIII

Paul Teske
Dean, School of Public Affairs
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