Seoul 2024
INCHEON

THE
FOURTH
LAUSANNE
CONGRESS

GAP 20: URBAN COMMUNITIES

Driving Question for Collaborative Design

How might Christians in the church, parachurch, and workplace collaborate to reach and disciple people living in cities and urban slums, often with a precarious, busy, and noisy existence?

Description

Currently over 50 percent of the global population live in urban areas, with an increasing number of individuals living in informal urban settlements, or slums. Although there are regional differences, this general trend toward overall urbanization within an often very low-quality built environment has caused subsequent changes in access to healthy environments, family structures, personal identity, community formation, working patterns, civic services and more. Such factors affect openness to the gospel and expression of Christian discipleship amidst what is often a precarious, noisy, and complex existence.

Acknowledging these shifts, and their implications for outreach this conversation prayerfully explores:

Collaboration Questions

- How do we wisely reach and disciple urban individuals?
- How do we wisely reach and disciple people living in informal settlements?
- What commercial, social venture and organizational collaborations could aid in this?
- How can Christians (individually and corporately) best contribute to the shalom of cities and urban communities/informal settlements therein?

Sub-Topics

- Wise practices for integral mission and outreach in urban settlements
- Urban community formation and disciplemaking
- Reaching and serving people living in informal settlements
- Partnership with civil organizations
- Workplace and social venture initiatives

Preparation before Seoul 2024

Please read these sections of the State of the Great Commission Report:
- Introduction from the Theology Working Group
- Part I, on the State of the Great Commission globally, captured by text and graphics
- Part II, with the article on 'Urban Communities'
- Part III for your particular region in which you primarily work or serve in church or parachurch