

KGID 2025

Green Growth: The Path to Sustainable Jobs

Korea Green Innovation Days
October 20–22, 2025
Washington, D.C., USA

Day 2. Breakout Session

Session 2-10 Scaling Up Green Affordable Housing

As the global need for new housing surges to 100,000 units per day, scaling up green affordable housing is critical to achieving inclusive urban development and climate goals. This session will explore how the World Bank Group is supporting public and private interventions to overcome supply and demand bottlenecks, drawing on global expertise and Korea's successful green building and housing policies.

Speaker Bios



Angelica Nunez, Practice Manager, World Bank

Ms. Angelica Nunez, a Mexican national, is the Manager for the Urban, Resilience and Land Global Department at the World Bank, based in Washington, DC. Since joining in 2007, she has led urban development operations and policy work across Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and South Asia. Her expertise includes affordable housing and innovative finance. She previously worked in project finance in London and at the Mexican Central Bank, and holds degrees in Finance, Economics, and Economic History.



Catherine Lynch, Senior Urban Specialist, World Bank

Catherine has 25 years of experience designing and implementing complex housing, urban development, and real estate finance projects in Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, East Asia, Europe, and the United States. Since joining the Bank in 2007, she has led multidisciplinary teams on a range of investment operations and analytical engagements in the urban sector. Catherine holds an MA in Urban Planning from Harvard University and a dual bachelor's degree from the Huntsman Program in International Studies and Business at the University of Pennsylvania.



Julia Assaad, Senior Investment Officer, IFC

Julia has over 24 years' experience working in the private sector in banking, and development finance across emerging markets. She has held leadership roles at Barclays Bank PLC, BNP Paribas, and as CEO of Grameen-Jameel Microfinance Ltd. She specializes in retail banking, MSMEs, and housing finance. Julia joined IFC in 2020 from the European Investment Bank and is currently working in the Global Financial Institutions Group Housing Finance Department, based in Washington, D.C. Julia holds a BA in Business Administration from Trent University, Canada. She is also a qualified investment adviser.

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Yan Zhang, Senior Urban Specialist, World Bank

Yan has over 20 years of experience across South Asia, East Asia, Europe and Central Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. She has led investment and policy operations and advisory services, focusing on land management, housing policy, slum upgrading, urban resilience, decentralization, post-disaster housing reconstruction, and cultural heritage conservation. She is currently co-chair of the Land Thematic Group at the World Bank and holds a doctorate in public policy and urban planning from MIT.



Su Jung Song, Urban Specialist, World Bank

Su Jung Song is an Urban Specialist at the World Bank, based in Washington DC, with over 12 years of experience across Africa, Latin America, and Asia. Since joining the Bank in 2016, she has led investment operations and analytical work to address urban challenges, focusing on infrastructure, municipal finance, urban planning and resilience. Previously, Su Jung worked on disaster risk management and climate adaptation with an NGO and a research institute. She holds degrees in urban planning and architecture.