Integrated strategies that promote health and health equity on the national and local levels in low-income urban settings

Breakout Group #1 (Jason Corburn)

Key Themes

1. Community Engagement
2. Building a Local Workforce
3. Data and Informatics
4. Moving Research into Policy
5. Prioritizing Urban (slum) Health in existing Institutions

Community Engagement

- Different definitions of 'community' need to be considered
- Community members as valued experts
- Different models & practices for meaningful community engagement
- Make explicit structural drivers, such as racism and segregation
- Engage with people & place-based social, cultural & environmental issues

Building a Local Workforce

- Build local capacity & leadership
- Create employment opportunities for orgs/groups, such as youth & community health workers
- Local economic development as part of grants & interventions

Data and Informatics: Gathering More Data on Slums

- Develop urban slum-specific, national data systems
- Use broad definitions of 'slum'/informal settlement
- WHO/other international orgs support & mandate
- Identify incentives & build capacity within local government
- Longitudinal data and explore 'natural experiments'

Bridging the Research to Policy Gap

- Do we understand which policies act as opportunities & barriers for health
- Engagement with non-health policy makers to link to urban health
- Where is the WHO Urban (slum) Health Programme?

Changing Existing Institutions: A Renewed Focus on Urban Health

- For academic institutions, refocus training around urban health: Very few academic institutions teach urban health in a holistic, interdisciplinary, and organized fashion
- For sponsors, consider rerouting funding and resources based on real areas of need (connected to the improved gathering of data and community involvement)
- Many disciplines must be included in an interdisciplinary approach, such as: Anthropology, medicine, epidemiology, public health, sociology, economics, civil/environmental engineering, urban planning, geography, microbiology, data science, demography, modeling, policy-making, education/knowledge translation, law, ethics, media/communication, and community mobilization