

Universitas Forum special issue on Decentralization,
Local Development and Women's Empowerment
at the World Urban Forum in Naples

September 2012

From 1 to 6 September, 2012, the sixth World Urban Forum will take place at the *Mostra d'Oltremare* in Naples, Italy and is organized jointly by UN-Habitat, the Government of Italy, the Campania Region and the City of Naples.

The theme for this year's meeting is *The Urban Future*. Four focus areas are: Urban Planning: Institutions and Regulations, including the improvement of Quality of Life; Equity and Prosperity: Distribution of Wealth and Opportunities; Productive Cities: Competitive and Innovative Cities and Urban Mobility, Energy & Environment.



In parallel with these main dialogue sessions, there will be an additional 160 networking, side and training events and the World Urban Forum exhibition will showcase some of the world's leading cities and innovations in urban development. The exhibition is open to delegates and the general public and is an opportunity to share experiences, best practices and innovative ways to improve cities from all over the globe.

One such informal networking event is being organized by the Huairou Commission and the KIP International School's *Universitas* Programme on **how decentralization reforms and local development can encourage women's empowerment**. The open event will showcase some of the innovative experiences from Africa and Latin America published by *Universitas Forum* in collaboration with the Huairou Commission, UN Habitat, IDRC and UN Women's MyDEL Programme in a special issue on the same topic. It will take place in on **Wednesday, 5 September from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the Huairou Commission Exhibition Booth** (Booth 120 in the World Urban Campaign area).

[For details, see flyer](#)