



CAPABILITY STATEMENT

2022





About Us



Our Story

UrbanEmerge LLP is a UK-registered sustainable and inclusive urban and regional development consultancy established in 2017.

As a core group of partners and consultants with an extensive network of affiliated experts, located in multiple countries, UrbanEmerge advises public and private sector clients in areas related to low-carbon, inclusive and resilient economic growth, sustainable cities, circular economy and responsible investment.

These areas are supported by our cross-cutting expertise in enabling technologies and digital solutions.

Our services include: sustainable urban systems and the circular economy; strategies for resilience and adaptation; value chain analysis, enhancing urban-rural economic linkages and climate smart and resilient livelihoods; inclusive and accessible urban environments; and guidance and strategy for sustainable and responsible business operations.

Our clients include the World Bank Group, the Economist Intelligence Unit and global NGOs including Humanity & Inclusion, WeltHungerHilfe (WHH) and the Danish Refugee Council (DRC). Clients gain access to global and local expertise as our network of affiliated independent experts extends to countries and cities all over the world.

Our clients also benefit from excellent value for money as our network model means that we have very few overheads and operating costs.

High quality deliverables and client satisfaction are assured by the UrbanEmerge Partners and our network of Senior Advisors, available to review and quality assure outputs.

UrbanEmerge has well developed systems that allow teams to work remotely from each other and the client, making full use of shared folders and online communication and collaboration tools such as Team-up, Trello and Zoom as well as UrbanEmerge's shared folders.



Our Vision



At UrbanEmerge, three guiding principles define our work and our vision of sustainable development.

Inclusive

Access + Good Governance + Agency

In a globalised world of growing inequalities, the consideration and inclusion of all is crucial for sustainable economic development. Fair and affordable access to products and services is essential. Governance processes must ensure that the perspectives of all stakeholders are included in strategies and decisions. Equitable collective impact can be achieved when agency is shared by all.



Ecological

Climate + Ecology + Waste

Environmental sustainability debates have importantly focused on climate change. We believe that two additional considerations are vital when working towards sustainable development: the impact on the ecological systems of our environment and the minimisation and management of the waste that we generate and process.



Circular

Design + Process + Behaviour

Circular economies are designed and managed to reduce virgin output by keeping materials in use beyond their conventional end-of-life through innovative forms of recycling and re-using. Genuine sustainable development is based on closed-loop processes that generate products and services with continuous lifecycles.



Our Clients





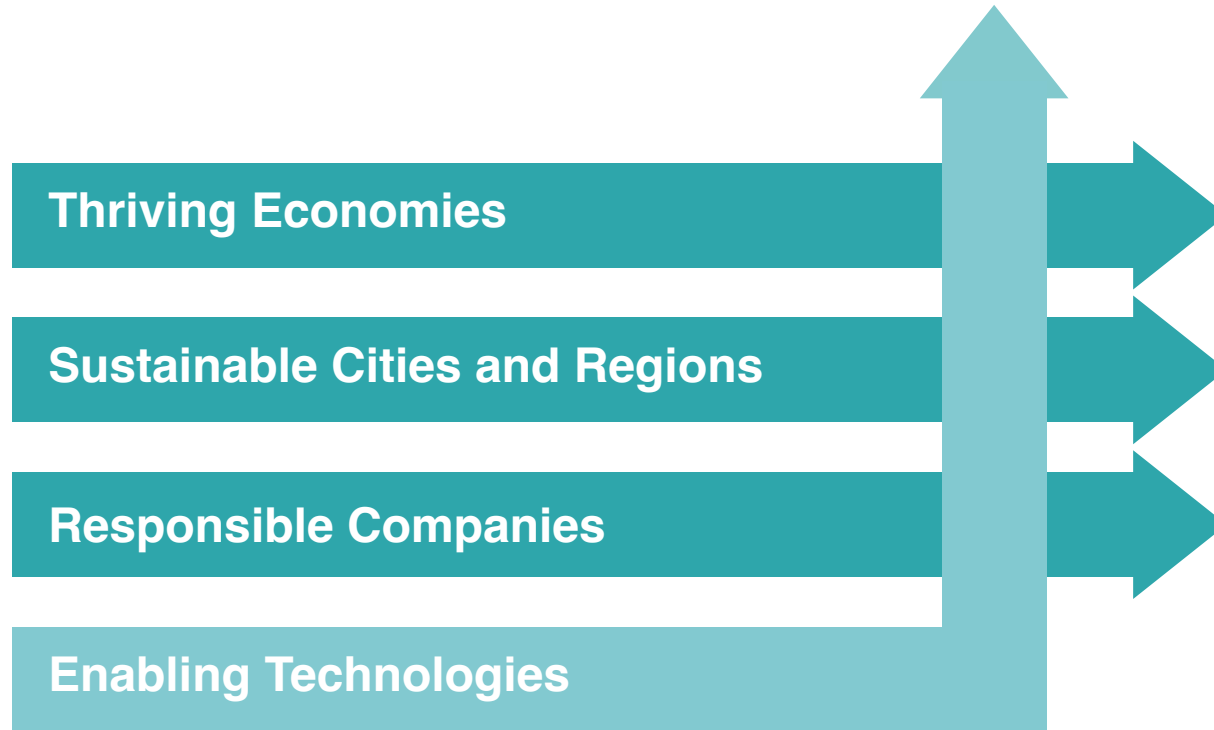




Our Service Areas



Our Service Areas





Thriving Economies

As urban populations grow and evolve, there are significant challenges in developing sustainable and inclusive economies that can employ large youth demographics and are resilient to stresses and shocks.

The public sector's role differs from city to city, but crucially, city and regional governments should aim to provide a suitable enabling environment for business while supporting sustainable growth through aspects such as transport and power infrastructure, information and communication technology (ICT) and high-quality urban environments. It is also vital to sustainable development that economic development is low-carbon and the resulting jobs are accessible to all, including persons with disabilities.

Our Services:

- Urban economic development planning.
- Value chain analysis, enhancing urban-rural economic linkages.
- Climate-smart and resilient economic sectors.
- Inclusive access to services, education and employment.



Department
for International
Development

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning for the Sustainable Urban Economic Development (SUED) Programme, Kenya

2018 - 2022

UrbanEmerge is part of the Itad consortium providing the monitoring, evaluation and learning for this five-year, £75 million programme to help secondary cities and towns in Kenya to better plan and implement climate smart and inclusive economic growth.

It includes a £35 million seed fund to help de-risk investment. We are leading the Learning component, responsible for facilitating regular learning workshops and researching and producing Learning Products that bring external learning to the SUED team or showcase SUED evidence and learning to a wider audience.



Support on Climate-Related Urban Infrastructure Development and Subnational and Municipal Finance

2021

UrbanEmerge is providing flexible, demand-led support to GIZ's city sector project which aims to promote socially equitable, climate-friendly and resilient urban development – especially in rapidly growing small and medium-sized cities. The project provides advice to the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) on mainstreaming sustainable urbanization and integrated urban development in German development cooperation.

It supports reforms within BMZ's sustainable urban development field of action and develops core topics such as 1) integrated urban planning, 2) sustainable building and 3) municipal finance.



Knowledge Economy City, Sectoral Strategy and Economic Impact Assessment (Madinah, KSA),

2020

UrbanEmerge conducted research for JLL for the Knowledge Economy City Master Plan in Madinah, including an Economic Assessment and Economic Impact Assessment, informed by fieldwork and interviews in the city.

We identified the sectors of interest, translated those into specific actionable guidance for informing the Master Plan, and developed an Economic Impact Assessment of the KEC project. The KEC is the third of four economic cities being implemented by the Saudi Kingdom to diversify the economy away from fossil fuels. It covers 6.8 million sqm and will generate over 20,000 permanent jobs.



Programme Development - Technical Support for Poverty Alleviation and Inclusive Development in Sindh Province, Pakistan (PAIDAR)

2021 - 2022

UrbanEmerge developed a Poverty Graduation Strategy informed by international best practice for UNIDO. We are providing expertise in sustainable and inclusive regional economic development in Sindh Province, with a focus on assessing economic sectors and clusters and advising how the programme can be designed to support greater rural productivity, urban-rural market and infrastructure linkages, including digital solutions, and climate resilient development.

Our approach places ecology, circularity and connectivity at the heart of a Poverty Graduation Strategy, to be rolled out in a series of pilot projects by the Government of Sindh, with technical assistance from UNIDO, subject to EU approval.



Sustainable Cities and Regions

There is an increasingly urgent need for integrated and participatory strategic planning and sustainable systems for cities and regions that enables sustainable development. Integrated planning that takes into account all aspects of social, environmental and economic capital enables us to create places that offer a high quality of life and access to services and opportunities for all inhabitants.

Cities are also the testing ground for emerging ideas and solutions in areas such as waste management and the circular economy.

Our Services:

- Strategic infrastructure planning to maximise sustainable and low-carbon development impact.
- Strategies for urban and regional adaptation and resilience to climate related shocks and stresses.
- Sustainable urban systems and the circular economy.
- Climate finance strategy and learning.
- Inclusive and accessible urban environments.



Assessment of the State of Circular Economy in Qatar

2022 - 2023

The Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) works closely with the Government of Qatar and commissioned UrbanEmerge to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the state of play of circular economy in Qatar.

UrbanEmerge is working alongside NetPositive labs, and Qatar University to establish the challenges and opportunities for circular economy approaches across multiple sectors in Qatar, with the aim of helping achieve economic diversification, climate action, pollution prevention, and resource efficiency in Qatar. The study will help lay the foundations for integrating the principles of circularity and sustainable consumptions and production into national development planning and implementation processes as well as corporate strategies and operations in Qatar.



Guide for Small and Intermediary Cities on Preparing Bankable Climate Infrastructure Projects

07 / 2022 – 11 / 2022

Delivering a study for the Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA's) Project Preparation Working Group (PPAG) to understand barriers to climate finance presented by low creditworthiness in small and medium cities in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) and strategies that can be implemented in the current context to overcome such barriers, including via project preparation support.

UrbanEmerge is conducting desk research and interviews to set out the barriers, the potential strategies and appropriate case studies that demonstrate valuable learning. The team is also drafting a concise guidance document for CCFLA members and city governments on this topic, including 15 case studies to illustrate what works.



Understanding the Vulnerabilities of Informal Sector Waste Workers and Exploring Opportunities for Social Entrepreneurship and Livelihoods Options from Plastics Circularity in the Philippines

06 / 2022 - 10 / 2022

UrbanEmerge is supporting the World Bank to investigate the vulnerabilities that impact by informal waste sector workers with a particular focus on the specific challenges faced by women and children in the plastic waste sector. The team's objectives are to identify, map, and assess livelihood models that exist in the informal sector and evaluate initiatives that can achieve a "closed loop" recycling system or circularity. A comprehensive literature review is complemented by in-depth field research at four waste management sites in the Metro Manila area. The results will support the Bank's wider 'Waves of Change' programme on reducing ocean plastic.

UrbanEmerge is responsible for overseeing the outputs to the World Bank, remotely managing the fieldwork and overall operational management of the consortium.



Making Cities Inclusive: Learning and Advocacy Material for Safe Mobility for Persons with Disabilities in Developing Countries, Humanity & Inclusion

2018

UrbanEmerge led an assignment to support Humanity & Inclusion (HI) to define best practice and lessons learned in HI projects relating to the development-transportation-accessibility-inclusion nexus in low-income countries. Extensive consultation with HI project staff and key partners and stakeholders such as Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and local CSOs and DPOs led to an understanding of what worked, what failed and what can be replicated.

Findings fed into a Policy Brief and several Thematic Factsheets, which supported HI advocacy to decision-makers at the *UN's 2018 High Level Political Forum (HLPF)* in New York, to review progress on the SDGs. Field work was undertaken by the Team Leader in Nepal and Lao PDR and remotely managed in Kenya, DRC, Burkina Faso and Haiti.

Advocacy material available [here](#).



Responsible Companies

At UrbanEmerge, we also support businesses who wish to increase their positive environmental and social impact; we can provide the insights, approaches and tools to help make it a reality. Private sector companies have an important role to play in their investment decisions and business operations now, to help reduce environmental degradation, improve human development and reduce the catastrophic impacts of climate change over the coming decades and beyond.

Being a responsible business doesn't have to come at an additional cost. It is possible to integrate sustainability into business with knowledge and planning. In addition, customers and clients are starting to normalise responsible business activities and circular economy solutions can lead to efficiencies and cost savings.

Our Services:

- Assessments of sustainable and responsible business practice and operations.
- Guidance and strategy support on mainstreaming the SDGs and net zero targets through business operations.
- Circular economy innovation and solutions for the private sector.
- Advisory services for impact investing and fund management.



Scaling Innovation and Supporting Entrepreneurship Ecosystem across the Indo-Pacific

2022

Working with The Hungry Lab, UrbanEmerge supported a group of entrepreneurs in the Indo-Pacific to improve their business model and technology utilisation with a view to making them more impactful and more sustainable.

UrbanEmerge supported nine entrepreneurs to scale the sustainability component: Integrating sustainable approaches into commercial models; defining opportunities for sustainable social and environmental impact; exploring Web 3.0 applications such as blockchain to support verification in the voluntary carbon market and offering comprehensive business services advice from technology and software, commercial and legal aspects, digital identity and data security. Start-ups included ATEC in Cambodia, TraSeable in Fiji and Greenovator in Myanmar.



Developing Guidance for CSOs to Operationalise Environmental Sustainability

07 / 2021 - 09/ 2021

UrbanEmerge was commissioned by Mannion Daniels, who manage the UK Aid Direct platform, to develop comprehensive and practical guidance in operationalising environmental sustainability for civil society operations (CSOs) that apply for and implement programmes UK Aid programmes.

Practical recommendations, guidance and tools were developed for CSOs, with focus on the importance of environmental responsibility in direct operations and wider programmes, within a framework of climate change, ecology and waste management and with a focus on the interlinkages between environment and poverty.



Development of a Frontier Issues Paper on Circular Economy Trends to Guide British International Investment

2021

UrbanEmerge assessed trends and provided recommendations to British International Investment (BII - the UK government's impact investment arm) on the rationale, the benefits and the challenges of circular economy approaches for BII investments in Africa and South Asia. This is guiding their Code for Responsible Investing and their sustainable investment strategy over the subsequent five years.

Circular economy approaches are vital to decouple resource inputs from economic growth and can be achieved across a wide range of sectors including water and sanitation, plastic waste management, food and agriculture, manufacturing and construction.



Research for the UK Digital Catapult on the Role of Digital Technologies in Sustainability: Focus on Digital Manufacturing and Creative

2021

UrbanEmerge carried out research for the Digital Catapult on the role of digital innovation in the UK's digital manufacturing and creative industries to help contribute to a more sustainable future.

The study also evaluated how sustainable the technologies themselves are in terms of GHG emissions and social impact, bearing in mind the UK's net zero targets of 2050. Recommendations were made for UK business on how to harness digital tech for more sustainable operations. Technologies covered by the study include immersive (VR/AR), AI/Machine Learning, 5G, Internet of Things (IoT), and Distributed Ledger Technologies.



Enabling Technologies

Innovative technologies have an increasingly profound impact on the way we live, work and travel —particularly in the urban context, where digital and smart solutions are revolutionising the way cities are planned, managed and experienced. They can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and can enable a much broader range of people to access cities, infrastructure and services.

Emerging green technologies are also increasingly deployed in cities, where they can be tested and improved.

Our Services:

- Research and advisory services on digital and mobile-enabled solutions that enable sustainable development.
- Advisory services on how digital solutions and new technologies can enable inclusion and empowerment.
- Linkages between emerging digital technologies and climate finance.
- Feasibility studies and market sounding for low-carbon technologies.



Study for GSMA on the Role of Digital and Mobile-enabled Solutions to help address Climate Change (Mitigation and Adaption/Resilience)

2021

The Central Insights Unit of the GSMA Mobile for Development (M4D) programme commissioned UrbanEmerge to undertake a study to understand the current and potential role of digital technologies in addressing climate change in LDCs.

GSMA will use the findings of this research to i) influence external stakeholder such as mobile network operators (MNOs), innovators and tech companies, investors and government policy makers, and ii) to help the M4D team take stock of their involvement in climate related work and refresh their strategy, selecting or validating a set of interventions that address areas of high impact and best reflect the GSMA's comparative advantage. [Report Link](#)



Research for GSMA on Digital Solutions for Plastic Waste Project

2020 - 2021

UrbanEmerge was commissioned by UrbanEmerge has recently conducted research for the GSMA M4D CleanTech team on digital innovation that can improve plastic waste management in LMICs. A global overview of relevant organisations and solutions was carried out followed by deep-dive research in seven countries in Africa and Asia to gain a detailed understanding of plastic waste value chains and the opportunities and constraints, as well as issues related to inclusion and e-literacy.

The research is also designed to understand how MNOs can support more effective plastic waste collection, through initiatives such as providing airtime credit in exchange for plastic waste materials. [Report Link](#)



Mobile and Digital Solutions for Early Warning Systems in the Philippines

2021 - 2022

The Philippines is among the countries at greatest risk from climate-related hazards and as these are increasing in intensity and frequency, enhancing early warning systems has never been more crucial. Within this context we conducted research for GSMA's Mobile for Development on The Role of Digital Technologies in Strengthening Early Warning Systems (EWS) for Disaster Preparedness in the Philippines.

Our team of experts in disaster resilience and digital solutions for sustainability conducted interviews with relevant stakeholders in the Philippines to understand current EWS systems and gaps and opportunities for enhancement by digital and mobile-enabled solutions. We also explored and applied learning from other examples of digital and mobile solutions for inclusive and effective EWS across Southeast Asia.



Mobile Big Data for Urban Climate Resilience Industries

2021

UrbanEmerge, with support from Resurgence, conducted research for the GSMA Climate Tech team on the role of mobile Big Data to improve urban resilience to climate related hazards in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

This research is being funded by Swedish development aid (Sida) and captured and documented global trends, demand-side needs, barriers, benefits, gaps and examples of best-practice for using mobile big data to build urban climate resilience, with a particular focus on improving the resilience of populations that are most vulnerable, including women and those in poverty. Deep-dives in Kenya, Indonesia and Mozambique identified local climate risks, mapped key stakeholder groups, and developed high-level use cases and partnership models.



Our Team

Managing Partners



Andreas Beavor
Managing Director
andreas.beavor@urbanemerge.com

Andreas has 15 years of experience as a consultant and manager in the international development sector and is a co-founder of UrbanEmerge. He provides expertise in linkages between urban resilience and climate adaptation, infrastructure planning including the role of nature-based solutions, low-carbon and resilient buildings, circular economy solutions, gender equality and social inclusion, access to green space and basic services, the role of digital technologies and climate finance strategy. He is experienced in project scoping, design, management, evaluation and learning, and in carrying out research and analysis that leads to a rigorous understanding of how an urban programme or strategy can deliver maximum impact, including via co-benefits. He is experienced in stakeholder engagement and in producing well written reports, guidelines, case studies and learning products. Andreas has worked globally for a range of public, private and civil society sector clients including UN ESCAP, FCDO, GIZ, CDC Group, GSMA, Cities Climate Finance Leadership Alliance (CCFLA), the Asian Development Bank, Cities Alliance, the European Commission, Humanity and Inclusion and Global Green Growth Institute. Andreas is based in Hangzhou, China.



Naji Makarem
Managing Partner
naji.makarem@urbanemerge.com

Naji specialises in inclusive and sustainable urban economic development, with a focus on circular and ecological regional approaches. An academic and consultant specialised in inclusive, low-carbon and resilient urban economic development with over 20 years of professional experience (seven years of which has included consultancy in sustainable economic development, conducting research projects). Naji is also co-Director of the MSc. in Urban Economic Development, since 2015, at the renowned Bartlett School of Planning at UCL, and Associate Professor in the Political Economy of Development (Joined UCL in 2013 as a lecturer). He has co-authored a renowned book with emeritus Prof. Michael Storper, titled “The Rise and Fall of Urban Economies: Lessons from San Francisco and Los Angeles”. Naji is based in London, UK.



Core Team



Jonathan Wilkes
Financial Director

Jonathan is a seasoned finance professional with 20 years of CFO roles in the UK. Originally an Economics graduate of University of Bristol, he trained as a Chartered Accountant at PwC in London. Jonathan works with a portfolio of SMEs as their flexi-CFO, working collaboratively with owner-managers to grow and structure their businesses, raise funds and realise strategies. Jonathan is based in West London and operates mainly in the South East of the UK. He is a keen cyclist and occasional triathlete.

“I really enjoy being able to apply my professional training to helping entrepreneurial people achieve their potential. Every day brings new problem-solving challenges and fresh insights so there is never a dull moment. And it is great to work with people who are so passionate about what they do.”



Prof. Allen J. Scott
Senior Advisor

Allen J. Scott is a Distinguished Research Professor at the University of California – Los Angeles. He is the author of numerous books and scientific papers on issues concerning urbanisation, regional development, the cultural economy, and globalisation.

He has won many awards and prizes, including the Vautrin Lud Prize (the “Nobel Prize of Geography,” 2003), the Anders Retzius Gold Medal (presented by King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, 2009), and the Sir Peter Hall Prize (Regional Studies Association, 2013).

He has worked as a consultant for international organisations and governmental agencies in many different parts of the world.



Core Team



Samia Khan
Consultant

Samia Khan is a consultant at Urban Emerge. She has a diverse professional background to support projects that align with her vision for a sustainable, inclusive and just future for the world. Samia is curious about urban processes, particularly the influence of spatial and social relations in the built environment.

She is educated as an architect and completed her MSc Building and Urban Design in Development from The Development Planning Unit, the Bartlett, UCL. She has comprehensive experience in the public and private sector across Europe, UK, the Middle East and South East Asia. Urban Economies: Lessons from San Francisco and Los Angeles”.



Fizza Fatima
Consultant

Fizza Fatima is working as a consultant at Urban Emerge. She is an architect and urban planner from Pakistan, passionate about community upliftment and supporting sustainable urban environments.

After pursuing a double-degree Master’s in International Cooperation in Urban Development at TU Darmstadt and UIC Barcelona, she gained expertise in community-based planning, slum upgrading, disaster risk management and resilient infrastructure. She has worked with research institutes and development organizations such as UN-Habitat, Friedrich Naumann-Stiftung Für Die Freiheit, Urban Health Games, etc., on topics including economic resilience, sustainable mobility, smart cities and digital technologies.



Core Team



Ashley Richardson
Business Development Lead

Ashley is UrbanEmerge's Business Development Lead. Ashley has experience implementing and managing strategic projects and working with multi-level stakeholders. Throughout her career, she has led on trailblazing projects and has pushed boundaries to ensure effective and efficient delivery.

Ashley's work is multifaceted. She has experience working with both public and private companies searching to enhance opportunities for the urban poor and reduce inequalities. She also has a good understanding and knowledge of the social enterprise sector and has developed and supported the growth of many businesses with missions serving both the local and international markets.



Anna Koch
Junior Consultant

Anna is a junior consultant at UrbanEmerge. She has years of volunteering experience working with various NGOs in London, Budapest, and internationally as well.

Anna is very passionate about sustainable development and human rights issues. She has recently finished her MSc Sustainability and Environmental Management degree at Middlesex University with a great focus on exploring the relationship between climate change and human migration, especially in Southeast Asia. To further engage with this topic, she is now pursuing an undergraduate certificate in International Relations at the University of Cambridge.

An aerial photograph of a city skyline, likely Bangkok, featuring numerous skyscrapers and modern buildings. In the foreground, a large, lush green park with dense trees and some open spaces is visible. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds, and the lighting suggests it's either early morning or late afternoon.

Our Network of Experts



Lead Consultants

Some of the experts from our much wider network of associates:



**Federica
Chiappe**

Development economics and climate finance

Federica is a development economist, with extensive expertise in climate change policy, finance, and sustainable development in more than 20 countries across the globe over the last 14 years. Federica is currently Team Lead with PwC of the Climate Finance Accelerator (CFA), a large BEIS-funded programme operating in middle-income countries to increase finance flows to climate change projects.



John Ward

Development economics and climate finance

John has over 15 years of experience in economic strategy and analysis, the last ten of which have focused largely on the economics of climate change, energy and sustainability and development. As Managing Director of Vivid Economics, John has overseen the company's rapid growth, leading projects for clients around the world including with a wide range of private sector clients, as well as organisations such as the World Bank, United Nations, EBRD, and an array of UK government departments.



**Joshua
Palferman**

Solid waste management and circular economy

Joshua is a waste management, recycling and WASH specialist with sound knowledge of integrated solid waste management planning, technology and infrastructure design, municipal service planning, and private sector development. He has twelve years of professional experience and a geographic speciality in East, Southern and West Africa and Southeast Asia. Demonstrated ability to design, lead and monitor complex technical programmes in Team Leader roles, supported by technical competencies in environmental engineering, GIS and CAD.



Lead Consultants

Some of the experts from our much wider network of associates:



Asma Jhina

Inclusive cities and infrastructure

A high calibre international economic development, cities and urbanisation, climate resilience and diversity, equity and inclusion consultant with a passion for social, economic and environmental justice. Asma has extensive experience of policy, strategy and communications; governance and risk management; stakeholder engagement; and, a proven track record of building effective relationships and strong consensus across sectors and tiers in the public, private and third sectors.



Azim Manji

Sustainable cities and infrastructure

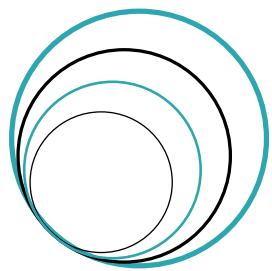
Azim is an accomplished Team Leader for various IFIs. Expertise in Fund Management, Social Protection, and Resilient Infrastructure. Worked in over 30 countries and 63 cities for donors and other agencies including USAID, the Rockefeller Foundation, DFID, the World Bank, UNDP and AusAID. Azim has technical skills in infrastructure development with 25 years of experience in urban and regional infrastructure development, environmental management, political change and social transformation issues related to societal betterment and poverty alleviation.



Bian Li

Digital solutions for sustainability

Bian Li is an award-winning thought leader, futurist and educationist, and a pioneer of applying regenerative ecological principles to building a regenerative economy, long before Covid-19 accelerated the global shift in this direction. Her work breathes life into world-changing ideas at the intersection of technology, social innovation and entrepreneurship. Bian founded The Hungry Lab, a holistic, Regenerative Ecosystem to future-proof and incubate the next generation of problem solvers - REshape, REimagine and REbuild a better future in the face of daunting global challenges.



UrbanEmerge

Inclusive & Sustainable Development Consulting

To know more about our work please visit www.urbanemerge.com

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