



# Sustainable Development of the Poorest Cities in the United States

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# 11 Reasons the UN Should Make Cities the Focus of Its Forthcoming Sustainable Development Goals

- We are an urban planet
- Billions of new urbanites will need to forge a path to opportunity and a better way of life
- Cities will need to become even more productive and generate much-needed jobs
- Reducing inequality and achieving greater equity must be a worldwide effort
- Poverty and slums are a global issue as well as a local one
- Slum dwellers are ready to help themselves
- A global effort can help reduce prejudice, hate, and violence
- Cities play *the* central role in reducing climate change and improving the environment
- Better research and data-gathering is needed to make cities more effective, so that we can establish a true "science of cities"
- The world needs better urban leadership, strategy, and policy
- Development money needs to be flowing in the right direction







The image shows the upper portion of a building's facade, featuring two large arched windows with intricate murals. Each mural depicts a central bearded face surrounded by winged figures and classical motifs. Below the windows is a large, curved sign with a blue, weathered background and gold-colored lettering. The sign is flanked by three horizontal bars on each side. Below the sign is a dark storefront with a yellow banner. To the right, a vertical sign is partially visible.

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# How to pursue sustainable development amidst urban poverty

- Sustainability & development
- Aspirational sustainability
- Sustainability not enough