HOW TO MAKE A

COLLABORATIVE CITY

What becomes possible when **cities share power?**

Urban development challenges are complex and cannot be solved by any one actor alone. Cities thrive when governments, civic organizations, businesses and local communities share knowledge, responsibility and decision-making power.

Collaborative cities create space for participation, inviting residents, workers and institutions to co-design solutions and shape the places they live. By breaking down silos and building trust across sectors, **collaboration unlocks new ideas and collective energy.** When cities work together with the people who know their concerns best, they can create solutions that are more responsive, enduring and impactful.

Projects featured:

Move As One, by **WeSolve Foundation, Inc.**
Manila, Philippines

Book Bunk, by the **Book Bunk Trust**
Nairobi, Kenya

Warwick Junction, by **Asiye eTafuleni**
Durban, South Africa

The Urban Wage Employment Initiative—MUKTA, by the **Housing and Urban Development Department, Odisha State**
Odisha, India

For more information about the projects featured here, scan this code:

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PRIZE FOR CITIES

WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE | ROSS CENTER

Hixon Center for Urban Sustainability
Yale SCHOOL OF THE ENVIRONMENT

WESOLVE FOUNDATION, INC.

By the People, for the People

In Manila, **Move As One** started as a citizen petition and grew into a coalition that **brings everyday commuters into transport decisions.** Working closely with government while staying independent, it has influenced billions in funding for bike lanes, bus systems and worker protections. The movement now spans the Philippines, changing how—and for whom—transport policy gets made.

Manila, Philippines

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, ODISHA STATE

Building Community Resilience—Together

In Odisha State, **MUKTA** put communities to work when COVID-19 wiped out livelihoods. City and state governments partnered with women's groups and local organizations to build public projects—like water and drainage, and climate-resilience upgrades—in 114 cities. What began as emergency relief is now a **permanent urban jobs program.**

Odisha, India

BOOK BUNK TRUST

Transformative Listening

In Nairobi, **Book Bunk** works with Nairobi City County to restore neglected libraries as safe, dignified "Palaces for the People." Deep listening with residents **aligns community priorities with the organization and the city's goals,** employing residents in the rehabilitation effort and shaping the programming offered. A nationwide map of 1,000+ library sites is now guiding how the model can scale beyond Nairobi.

Nairobi, Kenya

ASIYE ETAFULENI

Markets Built Together

In Durban, **Warwick Junction** treats street vendors as partners in shaping the city's busiest informal market district. Working with city agencies, traders helped redesign public spaces to improve safety and basic services while safeguarding the right to work. The approach has become a reference for **more equitable market planning** in cities where informal trade sustains daily life.

Durban, South Africa