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BUILDING A BETTER WORLD: THE CRISIS AND OPPORTUNITY OF COVID-19

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Joseph Kimani is a trained community organiser and holds a master's degree in Community Economic Development from the Open University of Tanzania. Joseph has worked with civil society organisations for the last 16 years, first in the human rights sector where he trained community human rights defenders, conducted peace trainings, and was involved with theatre for development. He later joined the development sector, working with various organisations on projects in informal settlements. Since 2015, he has worked with Slum Dwellers International (SDI) Kenya as a programme manager where he is currently overseeing the implementation of projects and programmes at the community level.

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Mary McCarthy is currently Nutrition Lead in the Development Cooperation and Africa Division of Ireland's Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), previously leading the Research and Learning portfolio. With 18 years' experience as a specialist in education and global citizenship policy and practice, in Ireland and overseas, she was Director of WorldWise Global Schools (2013–17), and a member of the Advisory Board for Ireland's National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development. Having been a teacher and teacher trainer in Rwanda (2005–07), she worked with Suas Educational Development and Léargas on formal and non-formal global education programmes, and as a freelance facilitator and trainer.

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Jessica Meeker is a public health nutritionist with research interests in malnutrition in all its forms and nutrition-sensitive approaches. She is a member of the Health and Nutrition Research Cluster, IDS, working on research projects in nutrition and agriculture and most recently the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO)-funded Covid Collective.

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Kilion Nyambuga is a Graduate Urban and Regional Planner (University of Nairobi). Since 2013, Kilion has been a Programme Officer in charge of Data Management and Planning for Slum Dwellers International (SDI) Kenya. He has supported the SDI network (including 17 countries in Africa) in its transition to digital data collection and management. Kilion has also supported peer-to-peer learning exchanges in 17 cities in Kenya and five SDI countries. Kilion has focused on ensuring access to accurate data on slums for planning. He is currently working with Nairobi City County and Mukuru Community members to help develop a Mukuru Integrated Development Plan.

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