AkzoNobel’s Human Cities initiative is an active expression of our company purpose to make people’s lives more liveable and inspiring.

- Urbanization is set to continue at a rapid pace: By 2050, 70 percent of people will live in cities
- Human Cities initiative in 2016: 300+ projects, impacting over nine million people
- Contributing to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Our key partners

We are proud to work together with a variety of organizations and initiatives in ways that increase our positive societal impact on a global level.

**Spotlight**

**Plan**

We have worked with the Plan NGO since 1994. Together, we have helped tens of thousands of children and young people in developing countries to fulfill their potential by improving the quality of education and supporting their employability via vocational training.

**Human Cities Coalition**

We recently co-founded the Human Cities Coalition to focus on realizing UN Sustainability Development Goal 11 on sustainable cities. It is a public-private partnership of Dutch and international organizations from government, NGOs and business which aims to make a positive difference in the world’s cities.

**Some highlights**

Our societal impact 2016:

More than 300 projects 7,200 volunteers €7.9 million invested 9 million people benefited

Community Program since 2005:

More than 2,500 projects 20,000 volunteers Almost €17 million invested

“Let’s Colour” program since 2010:

More than 2,100 projects 46,000 people trained 11,000 volunteers 1,300,000 liters of paint used Almost 70 million people benefited

Human Cities is a way to make a difference, and at the same time position ourselves as leaders, generate business opportunities and innovations, be seen as an attractive employer and build sustainable partnerships.

Ton Büchner, CEO
3 inspiring Human Cities projects

Vertical garden in Quito, Ecuador

Our Specialty Chemicals business showcased the power of urban gardens and micronutrients at the 2016 United Nations Habitat III conference by installing a vertical garden which helped transform a bleak expanse of concrete into a colourful and attractive space for local residents. The garden grows without soil using a hydroponic system, for which our micronutrients are essential.

Our presence in Quito confirmed our leading position as a supplier of chelated micronutrients, and a leader when it comes to more sustainable answers for a growing population

Wout Neleman
Business Director Micronutrients, Ethylene and Sulfur Derivatives, AkzoNobel Specialty Chemicals.

Santa Marta favela, Brazil

Our Coral paint brand has planted the seeds of preservation and conservation in more than 400 homes in Santa Marta. Through our global Let’s Colour initiative, over 25,000 thousand liters of paint have been used, dozens of newly trained painters have joined the labor market and more than 1,800 volunteers have been involved.

I can say that this project, bringing color to people’s lives and transforming their homes, still makes a complete business model that can be duplicated worldwide

Daniel Campos
Managing Director for Decorative Paints, Latin America.

Dulux Academy, UK

The Dulux Academy at our Slough site in the UK is helping to expand the capabilities of 4,000 decorators and apprentices every year, while addressing skill gaps in the industry. By 2020, we will have trained and upskilled around 10,000 people.

The massive skills shortages in the UK are putting future housing projects in jeopardy. We have a great opportunity to equip people with skills to satisfy the increasing demand in the construction market and raise standards across the industry

Matt Pullen
Managing Director, Decorative Paints/UK & Ireland.